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THE
PAST AND PRESENT
OF
VERMILION COUNTY
ILLINOIS

ILLUSTRATED

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“Biography is the only true history.”—EMERSON.



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PAST AND PRESENT OF VERMILION COUNTY.

By G. C. PEARSON.

"The Past and Present of Vermilion County with that of Danville its County-seat" is an excellent title for a volume devoted to historical facts as well as to biographical sketches of those who were prominent in founding and shaping the conditions existing at present. Few realize the true significance of what the past embraces in a field no wider than that of Vermilion county. We need go no farther than the fall of 1810, when a company of five men, Blackman, Beckwith, Treat, Allen and Whitcomb located at Salt Springs, a few miles west of the present city of Danville. They were pioneers, promoters, and speculators, in search of what was at that time more esteemed than gold or silver—salt—since it was an essential in the domestic economy of the early settlers and was difficult to obtain.

It is not our purpose to offer a detailed narrative or repeat that which has been so well presented by a historian of acknowledged ability and research, who in his able work has rendered it easy to follow the discoveries and early explorations of the French missionaries, the first Europeans to

invade the vast territory drained by the Mississippi and its tributaries, and by the chain of lakes and rivers from Chicago and Duluth to Quebec.

Illinois, Vermilion county and Danville are especially considered in the history referred to which furnishes matter of special local interest. These French missionaries were in many respects remarkable for their tenacity of purpose in making geographical explorations and gaining a knowledge of the country and in securing the coveted wealth in the large amount of peltry, which they obtained of the Indians, at prices dictated by themselves. Another motive which stimulated them greatly was that of extending their church propaganda, by which they hoped to Christianize and control the numerous war-like tribes of Indians who were never at peace, but were continually carrying on wars which resulted in the extermination of one or both contestants. Another and no doubt as great a stimulus promoted these explorations. It was that by the right of discovery the vast expanse over which they travelled as well as all contiguous territory was theirs or rather their sovereign's or

ruler's, who could control, convey and dictate terms relating to these territories regardless of the rights of the aboriginal owners who were dispossessed of their homes regardless of justice or equity.

Is there in the catalogue of crimes anything comparing with the treatment and dealings of the civilized white man with the aboriginal barbarian, from the first landing of the Christianizing Spaniards in the West Indies to the present congressional donation of rights of way to railroads and opening up for settlement by whites of the lands in Indian reservations to which they had been assigned when driven from their birthright homes, east of the Great River? Injustice and robbery of the Indians has been the rule.

Illinois as it is at present bounded was admitted into the Union December 3, 1818, by an act of congress April 18, of that year. The first state constitution was adopted that year remaining in force until March, 1848, when a new one was adopted. The most important feature of this was a clause ordering an annual two mill tax to pay off the state debt. This constitution answered for twenty-two years, when August 8, 1870, the organic law was adopted when radical changes followed, which have been of great value to the people. With fifty-six thousand square miles of land in her boundaries, Illinois has one hundred and two counties. Vermilion county ranks fourth with a thousand square miles; La Salle county with a thousand and eighty miles is next; Iroquois with one thousand and one hundred; and McLean with one thousand one hundred and fifty square miles is the largest.

Vermilion county topographically considered as well as agriculturally is not surpassed by any portion of the state which is

noted for its superiority in these respects. With the artesian out-pour of pure water in unlimited quantities in the northwestern portion of the county; with two and three six and seven foot veins of excellent bituminous coal underlying the west and southwest portion of the county; clay, sand and rock deposits favorably situated for utilizing at minimum expense, all well distributed throughout the county, such advantages are to be considered when determining upon locations for manufacturing and the investment of capital and enterprises, the success of which depends upon economical material and the conversion of same into what is desired. Vermilion county is especially favored in regard to its freedom from climatic extremes. The reason for this is that located as it is midway in the thermal belt between the thirty-ninth and fortieth degree of latitude, outside of the great air currents which follow the mountain ranges on both sides of the continental valley through which flow the water arteries north and south from the Arctic circle to the Gulf of Mexico—there is a lessened liability of barometrical disturbances which variations in pressure are primarily the cause of tornadoes, cyclones, gales and all of the variously named winds which benefit or injure mankind. The relation of climate, more especially the weather, to health, is an inquiry deserving of consideration. It will be found from statistics that this section of the state compares with the most favored, not only as regards diseases of the respiratory system but is free from annual malarial diseases resulting from marshes and poorly drained alluvial soils.

In the early part of 1827, Guy W. Smith and Dan, W. Beckwith donated land to the county for a county-seat. Danville occu-

pies that and much more land at present. It was a fortunate as well as an ideal location. As the plainsmen have it, "there was an abundance of wood, water and grass" all easily obtainable. No danger of floods, matters not if a repetition of Noah's time occurred; excellent and economical drainage, yet easily accessible from all directions. Evidences of the Indian's appreciation of the beauty and advantages of this site was to be seen by the pioneer, their camping grounds and former village sites extending from the crescent banks of the main Vermilion river on the south, along the billowy shaped bluffs on the west, which defined the course of the North Fork to the abrupt Denmark Hills. Eastward Stone Creek, which was a rapidly flowing stream of clear cold water, was the boundary. Remember, too, that this plateau, level as a floor, was free from underbrush until long after the advent of the whites. A beautiful forest of sugar maple was in the southeastern part, while oaks, walnuts, elms and other varieties of deciduous trees clothed the northern portion. It would be useless to attempt a pen photograph as it would in nowise furnish a picture of the natural beauties of the original landscape before it was marred and destroyed by the ruthless hand of man; ready to sacrifice any and everything for gain. I doubt if there exists a nature so barren of sentiment, so lacking in all that elevates mankind above the brute that has not some fondness and love of the beautiful. Can imagination, poetically inspired though it be, present and form any type of beauty compared with spring, clothed in her varied shades of the bursting; buds of trees and shrubs trimmed with garlands of flowers of every color; the summer of hope and anticipation; followed then by the season of

fruition; succeeded by grim visaged winter which was, however, a time of warm hearted hospitality in pioneer days. The latch string of their log cabins was out to all who desired to enjoy good cheer—letters of introduction, creed and party played no part in invitations to take a chair and make oneself at home by the hospitable host. The deep broad fireplaces, the width of one side or end of the cabin, with its back-log and pile of maple or hickory wood gave both heat and light—a cheerful place it was for family or stranger when the day's work was done, to gather in front of the bright blaze, recount the happenings of the day, discuss politics (papers and books were few and far between in those days) plan for the morrow's deer hunt or wolf drive, and not infrequently do some "sparking" if there was an uncoupled young woman in the house. Modern formalities were unknown, matrimonial as well as other proposals were direct and easily understood. A couple intent on a better or worse program "mounted a nag" and were soon wedded by a minister or squire at an outlay often times of not more than a "thank you squire" or "much obliged, Mr. Dominic." Efficient police were unnecessary for guarding presents or reporters needed for blazoning to the public the folly as well as names of friends. It would sound strangely at the present time, if it was given out to the ubiquitous reporter by a pork packer, that he intended building a boat at the foot of Vermilion street with gunwales and plank from trees cut on the flat east and adjoining and loading this boat for New Orleans with hams and bacon from hogs butchered on the ground over which the Wabash railroad now passes on the north end of the bridge. This has been done, however, that to within the memory

of by no means the oldest inhabitant. Equally strange to the well fed citizen of this day is the fact that a little flutter mill on the North Fork, near the ground occupied by Beard & Custer's icehouses, furnished the meal for mush and pones in 1834-5-6, for not only most of Danville's citizens but the country round about. The amount that an individual could get ground was limited to a bushel, half bushel customers had the preference, although the rule of succession was as arbitrarily enforced as it is at a popular and first class barber shop. Waiting for hours in sunshine or in rain to get a half bushel of corn mashed or cracked (it never was bolted) would not suit present customers who demand immediate attention in supplying their request by telephone and complain of the tardiness of the grocer or butcher if they fail in material or time.

A matter which may be forgotten if not noted is this: there was a time in Danville's history when there was no butcher shop or place where provisions could be obtained at all times; beef was killed on the square after having been thoroughly tested for milk sickness; if affected it was shown by violent trembling which gave the disease the name it was generally known by (trembles) it was the cause of many deaths among the early settlers. Milk, butter or beef from towns or country northeast of the city was regarded with suspicion. An English family of seven who had recently settled in Danville on the southeast corner of Hazel and North streets died in a week from eating butter coming a mile or so northeast from the junction. The father was a positive man who said there was not a bit of truth in the sickness coming from eating butter, that there was no such thing as milk sickness, that he would show the Hoosiers that

he was right. Poor fellow, his family and himself might have escaped a fearful death had he been willing to accept facts and not stubbornly ignored them. This milk sickness is something which has eluded investigation; that it is the result of poison taken into the system from beef, butter or milk is accepted by medical men whose practice has given them opportunities for investigation and treating it. Danville's fair name was clouded for years by the reported milk sickness and from the reputation it gained in the business transactions at the land office which was located there. A reputation smirched is like a name with a bar sinister, difficult to put aside or overcome. With bright prospects for the future let us hope that all tending to detract from Danville's fair name is forever buried and will be forgotten.

Accepting the proposition that effect follows cause and is dependent upon it, we have briefly outlined that which is termed history in the organization of Vermilion county, with incidental reference to those who gave to Danville the county seat an existence as such. An attempt to antedate the Indian occupancy when discovered by the whites or Europeans takes us into a field of unlimited speculation, one in which anthropologists as well as archaeologists have signally failed in determining.

As has been previously stated in this preface, France by right of discovery of the Padres (priests) claimed the Mississippi valley as also the territories adjacent to the lake from the Atlantic to the Rocky Mountains. In a work of this kind, however, an extended and detailed account of occurrences prior to the time of occupancy of those whose biographies are given, would be of no special interest to them, their relatives

or personal friends. The pressing needs supplied by such a work as the "Past and Present" is recognized when we look around and note the absence of the many familiar faces who but a short time ago were prime factors and participants in every department and phase of life. How soon are they, and will we be forgotten! Not a pleasant subject for contemplation for those whose lives have been and are a continuous struggle to attain some desirable aim—money, position, or office for themselves and children. No one, matters not how lacking they are as regards public estimation while living, who does not crave for their families and friends some record of their existence—information which in years to come will be treasured and referred to, if not by the world at large by those who are directly interested—children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren—often by descendants of many times removed.

The territory embraced in Vermilion county was a part of Crawford county, then of Clark county, which extended as far north as the Kankakee river. Edgar county followed in the sequence of county creations and was taken from Clark county in January 1823. By an act of the legislature January 18, 1826, Vermilion county was created from part of Edgar county and its boundaries defined which were subsequently altered by subtractions and additions. In 1833 Iroquois was formed; Champaign county was given a goodly strip from the west side; Livingston county, organized in 1837, came in for another slice from the northwest corner of Vermilion county; Grundy county in 1841. Will county, Iroquois, and Kankakee counties all had more or less and yet Vermilion county was

left territory enough to make her rank as fourth in size of the one hundred and two counties in the state.

The early immigration into this territory was from the southeast, the Carolinas, Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky, southern Ohio and Indiana, furnished a majority of those who sought new homes and enjoy the free elbow room existing where neighbors were few and stock range unlimited. From the present standpoint it is not possible to have a correct understanding or idea of pioneer society. Environments differing essentially from what existed fifty years ago necessarily effect not only society but everything connected with and related to it. Attempted descriptions as ordinarily given are simply extravaganzas or caricatures. What would fashion's devotees of the present think if called upon to card, spin, weave, dye and make the linsey woolsey for their dresses and underwear—knit theirs and the stockings for the household from yarn, every thread of which from the sheep's back had passed through their busy fingers. The hum and whirr of spinning wheels large and small, the thud-thud of the loom—was the music of the drawing room, reception room, parlor, and kitchen all in one and not "E-Pluribus-Unum", as it is now when evolution's requirements declare for comfort and ease which cannot be thoroughly enjoyed without an unlimited number of apartments and servants many therewith. What think you would one of those pioneer grandmothers have said if such a notice as the following had come under her eyes: "Girl wanted, two in family, no washing, two days out, good wages. Apply at once, Room 1903, Flat B". Here it may be well to also state that first class girls equal in

every respect to those employing them were paid twenty-five and fifty cents per week—were regarded as companions and treated as such, not as inferiors, drudges unworthy of notice. The socialistic sentiment existing then was productive of genuine friendship which lasted through life. The feudalistic idea of inherent nobility or blue-bloodism imported from Europe in later years would not have been tolerated in a true democracy.

The government land office for this district was located in Danville in 1831-2. Samuel McRoberts (afterwards United States senator) was the first receiver; J. C. Alexander the first register. This office remained until the public land or most of it was disposed of. This required some years, many receivers and registers serving in these responsible positions faithfully and well. Latterly, however, the office was used by out-siders for personal profit to the detriment of its reputation which reflected upon Danville's reputation and retarded its growth. Gold and silver coin alone was accepted for land by the government. This coin was stored in boxes and stacked up on the floor of the office until the joist would bend and the floor sag under the weight. When deposits were made at the sub-treasury in Chicago, a wagon load of money was sent with no guard or protection except the driver and a citizen perhaps, who had business in the Lake City, one hundred and twenty-five miles distant, most of the way through a sparsely settled country. What an opportunity for present professionalists to burglarize vaults, safes and strong boxes, terrorize whole communities, and hold up railroad trains with impunity.

A fortunate thing has it been for Danville escaping as it has, all the booms except

that of 1836 when it was slightly effected. It has been called old fogish, a one-horse place, by town-site promoters and speculators whose boom cities have gone to the wall long ago, while Danville like the tortoise has won the race. Progress based upon established business in process of developing interests which long experience has shown to be necessary and profitable, with assurance of continuance, attracts capital and investors notoriously shy and conservative. Another thing which favors the future welfare of Danville, as well as that of Vermilion county, is the awakening of the citizens to the necessity of utilizing the latent sources of wealth which have remained undisturbed until recently.

Danville's first railroad was the Great Western of Illinois in 1859. Consolidated with the Wabash was effected in June, 1865, when a division was made from the state line to Danville, making Danville the terminal for east and west divisions. In December, 1869, the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western was built into Danville from the west and from Danville east to Indianapolis in December, 1870. Chicago, Danville & Vincennes Railroad was completed to Danville in December, 1871; the shops, engine house etc., during 1872. What is known as the Collett road from Terre Haute to Danville (a part of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois system) was completed into Danville December, 1871. The Paris & Danville Railroad (a portion of the Big Four system at present) was built in 1872.

It is scarcely necessary to trace the development of the street car system of Danville from the day when two rats of mules with tinkling bells to warn pedestrians as well as others to clear the track for the

swiftly moving car in which the company could have guaranteed a sound snooze between any of the parks, the Junction, public square and transfer office. Wonderful changes have been brought about by that agency, electricity, not in locomotion alone but everything else in civilized life, viewed from the present standpoint.

The lives and experiences of the earliest pioneers would furnish material for volumes of greater interest by far than the creations of authors without the personal experience which alone gives true relish to recitals of border life. Simple statements of every day life filled with constant danger of robbery, murder and the many contingencies of attacks by Indians and worse still by the refugees and desperadoes that lived upon the borders of civilization. There was a number of genuine trappers and hunters living in the vicinity of Danville—men of the Daniel Boone order. One well remembered by the writer was Captain Jim Clyman, a genuine frontiersman, hunter and trapper, tall, spare in flesh, keen deep-set blue eyes, face and hands as bronzed as the color of smoked buckskin; hair that fell upon his shoulders; mouth that closed like a steel trap, surrounded by a heavy beard which with his hair was the color of dried grass. Habited in a composite dress of linsey woolsey wamus, buckskin pants, and foot wear, a coon skin cap worn when in the settlement. His long full stocked flint-lock rifle, tomahawk and knife were never out of reach except when he was in the house of a friend, which was seldom. He had crossed the continent a number of times; years before the gold excitement he trapped and hunted on the head waters of the Columbia, Missouri, Yellow Stone and other rivers on the

western side of the continent. He had crossed the Sierra Nevadas into Sacramento valley; was thoroughly acquainted with the topography of California, its mild climate and abundance of game but knew nothing of the gold which lay exposed upon the slate bed rock of creeks and rivers on the western slope of the mountains. This, however, is not so strange when Fremont with his corps of scientists traversed these ranges over the same ground no doubt which Clyman had hunted, and not a word was said in his reports to government about gold. A pioneer California gold prospector is skeptical to the merits of the so called scientists who if they knew did not report it. Clyman's remarkable individuality attracted all who came in contact with him. At times when in conversational mood he could keep listeners spell bound by narrating his personal experiences among the Indians; of the many hair-breadth escapes from capture, which meant death by torture, practiced only by the Indians; of his contests with mountain lions, panthers, grizzly bears and other wild animals which furnish the furs so much in demand and are captured at such hazard to life. Settling finally in Napa Valley, California, this man of adventure passed the autumn of life in peace and plenty, dying at the ripe age of ninety-two. Space is given to this man Clyman as one of the very first pioneers of Vermilion county, and yet it never mentioned as far as the writer knows, in prose or poetry, eulogy or censure.

Trails and foot paths blazed through the woods were the only roads in the early days; bridges there were none; rivers, creeks and sloughs must be forded or ferried; in time of high water and floods, delays were necessary until the water subsided. Traveling

was done on foot or horse back by both men and women. Short as well as long journeys were made that way. Old and young women were proficient in equestration. It was not at all uncommon for journeys of several hundred miles to be made by them on horseback with their out-

fit fastened to the back of their saddles. Independence of thought and action characterized the women pioneers. What they lacked in scholastic acquirements was made up in practical knowledge upon a basis of good sense.



BIOGRAPHICAL

JUDGE JOHN PEARSON.

Judge John Pearson probably took as active part in the development of Danville as any other one man, and his efforts were not alone along one line. He did not merely contribute to the business growth of the city, but gave liberally of his means to the support of churches, and moreover he shed around him much of life's sunshine, because of his kindly, benevolent spirit, his ready sympathy and his tired and true friendship. Thus it was that Danville loved and honored him and readily acknowledged her indebtedness to him for what he accomplished in her behalf.

Judge Pearson was born in Avon, New York, in January, 1802. His forefathers came from England to America, settling in Connecticut, and at an early day representatives of the family became residents of Avon, being among the first settlers of western New York. The first of the name in this country was Rev. Abraham Pearson, who came from Yorkshire, England, in 1639. His son, who was also Rev. Abraham Pearson, was the first president of Yale College, and died in Killingworth, Connecticut, in 1707, at the age of sixty-one years. John Pearson, the father of the Judge, was the

sixth child born to Ephraim and Hannah Pearson, his birth occurring in the town of Tolland, Connecticut, in 1765, while he died in western New York, at the age of forty-seven years. He was a pioneer merchant of that part of the state and a very wealthy man. He married Rebecca Watrous, whose first husband was General Hull, a Revolutionary soldier; her second, John Pearson; and her third, Colonel Samuel Blakeslee, also a hero of the Revolution. She survived all, dying at the age of ninety-six years.

Judge John Pearson was a graduate of Princeton College, of New Jersey, and read law with Judge George Hosmer, of Avon. There in 1826 he married a daughter of George S. Tiffany, an attorney of Schoharie, New York, of a wealthy and aristocratic family, all of whom were in the professions. After his marriage Judge Pearson came to what was then the far west and began practicing law. His brother-in-law, Rev. Henry Storrs, was then in Ravenna, Ohio, and the Judge located in that town. He later started for Chicago, stopping en route at Detroit to visit relatives, named Truax. At that place he took a sailing vessel for Chicago, arriving early in June, 1832, and as there was then no harbor the

vessel had to anchor out in the lake and the passengers were taken ashore in yawls. Major Whistler was in command of Fort Dearborn during the Sauk war of 1832, and, as he was a friend of Judge Pearson and his family, he had the Judge bring his family into the fort. The father, in looking around Chicago, found it was unsafe to remain there unless one was in the fort, so he came to Danville, the nearest point of safety, a company of rangers being stationed here. The Judge came here on horseback to look at the town. During his absence the first steamer arrived at Chicago, bringing Scott's troops, but it also brought the cholera and a regular exodus was made from Fort Dearborn. Mark Beubean took the family out to the summit and there waited until the father returned with a wagon to transport them. They were one week in making the trip, having to follow an Indian trail through Joliet, and quite a panic was caused by a lot of Indians who came up to them, but they were found to be not hostile, but in search of food because they were starving.

Judge Pearson began the practice of law in Danville and was appointed by the legislature to the office of circuit judge, his circuit comprising Cook, Will, Iroquois, Du Page and De Kalb counties, and he made his home in Joliet, while filling that office. He served on the bench until elected to the state senate, when he resigned the judgeship, and later he resigned as senator in favor of Joel Matteson. His wife died June 4, 1842, and in 1843 he married Katherine Passage, of Princeton, New Jersey. He then located in New York city, where he remained until 1846, but he did not like it there and besides his property was in the west, he having large landed interests in

Chicago and in Vermilion county. In 1849 he made the overland trip to California, where he engaged in selling goods, taking out a fine outfit. He would not enter into politics there and after selling out his store at Bidwell's Bar, California, he went down among the Yumas on a trading expedition and his partners were killed. Although he escaped with his life he lost all his possessions and soon after he returned to Danville, where he spent his remaining days, having a fine property here and large landed interests in the state.

Judge Pearson was a strong Democrat and G. C. Pearson now has a cane which was cut at The Hermitage and given to his father by Andrew Jackson. He was noted for keeping the first carriage and horses here and his first wife and the children drove thus to Detroit in 1836, passing through Illinois, Indiana and Michigan. He was always an advocate of progress and was quick to introduce anything which tended toward advancement along lines proving of benefit to the community. He gave his attention to the supervision of his landed interests, and had extensive property holdings in this state. He at one time bought eighty acres of land south of Twelfth street in Chicago, of G. S. Hubbard, for seventeen dollars per acre, and forty acres on the west side, west of Halstead street, taking it in part payment for property sold in Danville, but not considering it of any value he paid no attention to it and did not record the deed of sale. He figured prominently in many events which had much to do with shaping the development of the state. His control of property interests not only led to business activity and to the reclamation of wild land for purposes of civilization, but he was also an active factor

in assisting many other measures for the general good. Churches received his generous support, and he was a man of very charitable and benevolent spirit. One of his predominant traits was his loyalty to his friends. He held friendship inviolable and was ever ready to assist a friend in any way possible. This naturally increased the circle of his own friends, and it is safe to say that no man in Danville was held in greater regard by a wide circle of acquaintances than was Judge Pearson, the honored pioneer, who passed away in June, 1875.

GUSTAVUS C. PEARSON.

Gustavus C. Pearson, a capitalist of Danville, became a resident of this city July 4, 1832. Hardly another resident can claim personal recollection of the county at that remote period. Many events of importance, however, have in the interval shaped the life history of Mr. Pearson, who was one of the argonauts who went to California in search of the "golden fleece" on the discovery of the precious metal on the Pacific slope; who was one of the early board of trade men of Chicago; and was also largely engaged in promoting the trade interests of the Pacific coast. Prospering in his undertakings, he has largely placed his money in that safest of all investments—real estate—and is to-day accounted one of the capitalists of Danville, to which city he was brought in his boyhood when this was a frontier settlement.

Mr. Pearson was born in Ravenna, Ohio, July 17, 1827, a son of Judge John and Catherine (Tiffany) Pearson. In childhood he came to Illinois and obtained

attended Bishop Chase's Jubilee College near Peoria and Allegheny College at Meadville, Pennsylvania, and took up the study of law under the direction of Josiah McRoberts in Danville in 1845-6. He afterward went to Joliet and at the age of seventeen years had charge of the extensive business of Joel Matteson, with whom he remained until going to California. He left Joliet March 25, 1849, proceeded to St. Joseph, Missouri, and up the Platte river and thence across the country to Salt Lake, becoming well acquainted with the Mormons during his three months stay there, at which time he was engaged in hunting. He cut five and a half acres of wheat with a sickle, threshed it with a flail and cleaned it by means of the breeze from Salt Lake, which always blows in the afternoon. He sold his produce to a Mormon bishop, receiving Mormon gold in exchange. With others he had been persuaded to stay until too late to go by the usual route—the Humboldt—to California, and then they were told to go by the southern route or else become Mormons, so the former alternative was accepted, the demand being made by Brigham Young in open meeting, it being his intention from the first to make them the explorers and openers of the southern route. Mr. Pearson gave up his wagon two hundred and fifty miles before reaching California. He had one of the finest outfits in his party but he turned it over to a starving family who were to deliver it to him in California. Ten of them then took their packs upon their backs and traveled night and day until they covered one hundred and thirteen miles, having no water during this time. The place has since been called Death's Valley. Two of the men went crazy from thirst. They had constantly to be on the lookout and a new trail had to be

made for there was none. They finally reached Mohave and from there broke their way through the snow and over the mountains, crossing at the foot of San Bernardino mountain. Continuing on for two and a half days without anything to eat they reached Cocomongo ranch. Jackson, a former hunter of the Rocky mountains, who was major-domo in charge there, recognizing their condition, put them into a cellar, locking them in and then gave them weak wine and a little beef broth. This undoubtedly saved their lives for had they been permitted to eat in their half-famished condition, they would undoubtedly have killed themselves by eating too much. However, Jackson gradually increased their rations until they could partake of a regular meal. A beef was driven into the court and killed for the Indian employes daily and after a few days Mr. Pearson and his comrades were allowed to cut off from this beef as much as they wanted to broil.

From the ranch they went to Los Angeles, a Spanish hamlet, and on the first night there was a ball. A southern gambler who had been north was shot down by one of a party of gamblers, with whose girl he had danced, yet nothing was done to him, as such occurrences were too common to cause much attention. The next morning the party of gamblers, wanting amusement put four negro American seamen in a corral enclosed by a seven foot wall and then shot at them with revolvers from the top of the wall. The negroes later escaped to San Pedro and went north on a vessel named Honolulu, a boat which had been built for the king of Honolulu. Mr. Pearson, William Richardson and father, from Kentucky, were also passengers on that schooner, which landed them at San Francisco. Our subject possessed eighty dollars in Mormon

gold with which he tried to buy a pair of boots, but found their price was one hundred dollars. He obtained a position in a wholesale store, receiving his board and one hundred dollars per month and after two weeks he met his father and went with him to Marysville. From there they went by wagon to Bidwell's Bar, where the father had a store. One evening with the boys from the store, Mr. Pearson went to a gold bar and about twenty minutes later they had seven dollars and a half in gold dust. They played poker for this, using beans as chips, and our subject winning, he invested it in things to eat for the party.

After leaving the bar, Mr. Pearson erected a half dozen tent houses but lost on this venture. The town of Eliza, where they were built, is now twenty feet under debris from the washings of the Yuba and many who now live in that locality never knew that a town existed there. Great changes have taken place and a pear orchard now grows over the site of the old town. Mr. Pearson engaged in prospecting in Nevada City with his brother, but not being satisfied he went to Poor Man's creek, being one of the first to discover it. The first hour he picked up seventy-five dollars in gold nuggets on the slate bar. There were ten in his party and they took up part of the creek and divided it into twenty-two claims and then turned the course of the creek. The numbers of the claims were put into a hat, shook up and then drawn by the members of the party, each taking two, but out of the twenty-two claims only No. 3, the one Mr. Pearson drew, paid anything of value. He and his brother, however, realized well from this, taking out as high as five hundred and fifty dollars to the pan. He afterward bought a claim on the South Yuba, but it was unprofitable, and as winter

came on he went south to the dry diggings, while his brother returned home. Mr. Pearson took a stock of goods down from Sacramento to Dry Creek, south of Maccosmes. There he was taken ill with the mountain fever and was the only one of those who became sick with the fever to recover. However, he lost everything he had but a mule and four hundred dollars in gold dust which he had under his blankets. He next went to Owsley's bar on the Yuba river and he and his father operated two or three quicksilver machines for fine gold, making fair wages. The father then went into the cattle business and the son then went to Rich bar, on the east fork of Feather river, spending the summer there. He next went to Downeyville, doing well on Durgans Flat, and in October he went up the mountain, passing "Three Fingered Jack," one of the Joaquin robbers. Mr. Pearson's party left the trail to eat and get water and losing their way they were off the trail for several miles and when they did reach it they found out that between the place they left and the place they returned to it, thirteen men had been killed by the robbers that day.

Mr. Pearson returned to Illinois, making the journey by boat in 1852. The following year he was in Chicago or else traveling over the country. He then took some goods to California and there he secured some land and set out the first fruit trees on the red lands, southeast of Sacramento, where General Sutter said fruit could not be made to grow. In 1855 he engaged in mining on Sherlock's creek in the Mariposa grant. In August, 1855, he with a party of ten others discovered the Yosemite valley and with them laid claim to the valley. He afterward sold goods in

the mountains and in the fall returned to Chicago. He had an office at No. 170 South Water Street, and at the northwest corner of Clark and Water streets, then known as Rumsey's corner, a few of the men would gather to buy and sell, for there was no board of trade in the city then. After the railroads were built and grain was shipped to the city the board was organized and Mr. Pearson was one of the first members. He did a general commission business in Chicago until 1860, also erected buildings there and owned considerable real estate on Halstead street and in Hyde Park. He was a personal friend of Lyman J. Gage. His brother, George T. Pearson, was secretary of the Old Settlers Society of Chicago, and at his death, our subject, who had the records of the society, donated them to the Historical Society.

Going out of business in Chicago in 1860 on account of bronchial trouble he returned to California. Mr. Pearson took men with him and built the first grain elevator there, at Vallejo and helped form the board of trade of San Francisco, for grain dealing. With his partner, A. D. Starr, he also built a big mill at Vallejo with a capacity of two or three thousand barrels per day and this is still in use. After ten years of effort he got the warehouse law passed and it is now recognized as a most beneficial law for California. He drew up the bill, which was opposed by the Jewish merchants on account of the sack business which was controlled by them, but after a decade of unremitting efforts it became a law. Selling his mill Mr. Pearson traveled extensively. He became convinced that vineyards would pay in California and went abroad to study the question. He shipped much wine in this way and also shipped the

first thousand barrels which was sent from Marysville across the continent. He has traveled broadly, not only in this country but also in South America and in Europe. At length he disposed of his business interests in California and partly for the purpose of educating his children returned to the east, locating in Danville about 1879. He has since been a resident of this city, and is now widely known as a capitalist.

In September, 1864, Mr. Pearson married Miss Hattie Brown, a daughter of Judge Anthony Brown, of Ogdensburg, New York. Her father was a leading attorney in that city and her brothers were prominent in railroad circles. Mr. and Mrs. Pearson have three children: John A., of Danville; Fannie, wife of James A. Meeks, of the firm of Kimbrough & Meeks, attorneys of Danville; and Nomen N., now in the United States coast artillery, stationed at San Diego, California. Mr. Pearson is a member of Blaney Lodge, F. & A. M., of Chicago, and was formerly a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he belongs to the Old Settlers Society of Chicago and of California. Few men have so wide and accurate knowledge of the development of the two states, California and Illinois, whose marvelous growth has been among the wonders of the century, but personal experience has closely associated Mr. Pearson with this.

JOHN W. DALE.

Few men have contributed in larger measure to the material upbuilding and substantial improvement of Danville and this portion of Illinois than has John W. Dale,

who through his real estate interests has not only promoted his own individual prosperity but has also contributed to the general good, the progress and prosperity of the community in whose welfare he has manifested a loyal and public-spirited interest and his fellow townsmen respect him as a man worthy of the confidence and good will of those with whom he has been associated. Since 1860 he has resided in Vermilion county and is therefore among the early settlers.

Mr. Dale was born in Clark county, Ohio, January 15, 1842, and is a son of John J. Dale, whose birth occurred in Maryland in 1800. The paternal grandfather was Jacob Dale and the family is of Scotch lineage the first representative of the name in America having become pioneer settlers of Maryland. Jacob Dale died when his son was a small child and the latter afterward went to Philadelphia, where he learned the merchant tailoring business, following that pursuit for some years. He was wedded in South Charleston, Clark county, Ohio, to Elizabeth Davison, who was born in that county and was a daughter of Isaac Davison, one of the early settlers who removed from Virginia to Ohio. After arriving at years of maturity John J. Dale took up his abode at South Charleston and began business there as a merchant tailor, successfully conducting his establishment for a number of years. In 1850, however, he severed all business relations connecting him with Ohio and removed to Warren county, Indiana. Upon a farm there he made his home for a few years and in the spring of 1860 came to Vermilion county, Illinois, purchasing land in Ross township. The tract of which he became owner was broad prairie but with characteristic energy he began its cultivation



Very truly
John W. Drake

and improvement and soon transformed it into a good farm which he operated for a number of years. He afterward removed to Rossville where he lived in retirement from labor until his death, which occurred in 1877. He was elected and served in various positions of honor and trust and was regarded as one of the leading and influential men of his neighborhood. His wife survived him for a number of years and passed away in 1809 at the age of eighty-four years. In their family were four sons and five daughters, all of whom reached years of maturity with the exception of one daughter, and three sons and three daughters are yet living: Sarah, the eldest, is the wife of Isaac Neer, of Clark county, Ohio; Jacob is living in South Dakota; Martha became the wife of William M. Ross and lived in Vermilion county for sometime but afterward removed to Indiana, where Mrs. Ross died; Daniel was a member of Company B, Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war and was killed in the battle of Stone river; John W. is the next younger; Isaac is a minister and presiding elder in the Methodist Episcopal church and is now located at South Bend, Indiana; Margaret A. is the wife of Abraham Mann, of Ross township; Mary died at the age of fourteen years; Emma resides with her sister, Mrs. Mann.

John W. Dale of this review spent the first fourteen years of his life in the county of his nativity and then came with his parents to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he assisted in the work of the home farm and in cultivating its fields until the spring of 1861. He acquired a good education in the public schools and after the war he was a student in an academy at Thorntown, Indiana, under the direction of the famous historian, Ridpath.

On the 1st of June, 1861, Mr. Dale joined Company B, Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry and was assigned to the army under the command of General Curtis. The first engagement in which he participated was at Pea Ridge, Arkansas. Later he was sent to Corinth, Mississippi, and soon afterward his regiment joined the Army of the Cumberland and participated in the battles of Perryville, Stone River and Chickamauga. In the latter engagement he was wounded, losing his left arm. A gun-shot pierced that member and so injured it that it was necessary to amputate it in a hospital at Nashville, Tennessee. When he had sufficiently recovered Mr. Dale returned home and later had to have a second operation on his arm, another portion of it being amputated. He was mustered out and received an honorable discharge in September, 1864. Before being mustered out he was in several hospitals and he experienced all the hardships and rigors of war.

Returning home Mr. Dale determined to further continue his education and spent about two full years in school. He was afterward elected assessor and collector of Ross township, serving for two or more terms. In the fall of 1869 he was elected county clerk and by re-election served for three consecutive terms in that important office, discharging his duties with ability and fidelity. He retired from the position as he had entered it—with the confidence and good will of the public. He has since served as assistant supervisor and commissioner of highways, likewise as a member of the board of education. In politics he has ever been a stalwart Republican and he has frequently been a delegate to state conventions. In whatever position he has been found he has ever been a faithful and efficient officer. His first ballot was cast for Abraham Lin-

coln in 1864 and he has never yet wavered in his allegiance to the party. On the expiration of his service as county clerk he engaged for a time in the manufacture of buggies and has for some years operated in real estate, largely handling lands in Vermilion county, Illinois. In connection with Mr. Cunningham he purchased nine hundred acres of land adjoining Danville, laying out an additon known as Vermilion Heights, which is now a very attractive suburb of the city and includes many manufacturing interests there.

On the 26th of June, 1873, in this city, our subject was united in marriage to Miss Harriet E. Hicks, a native of Perrysville, Indiana, who was reared and educated there, her father, George I. Hicks, being one of the leading business men of that place, and one of the pioneer pork packers of the Wabash Valley. Mr. and Mrs. Dale are the parents of four children: Elizabeth, who is at home; Katie, who died in childhood; Georgia and Nellie, who are still under the parental roof. The parents hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at Danville and fraternally he is identified with Danville Lodge, I. O. O. F., in which he has filled all the offices and is a past grand. He also belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and to the Grand Army of the Republic, this last membership enabling him to maintain pleasant relations with his old army comrades. During forty-two years Vermilion county has been his home and therefore he has been a witness of its growth and improvement. He belongs to that class of progressive American citizens who while promoting individual success also find time and opportunity to advance the general welfare by hearty and active co-operation in all measures for the gen-

eral good. He is to-day as true to his duties of citizenship as when he followed the starry banner upon the southern battle-fields.



MORTON W. THOMPSON.

Since 1883 Morton W. Thompson has been a practitioner at the bar of Vermilion county, where he has won distinction as a most able lawyer because of his learning, his careful preparation of cases, his keen analytical mind and his strength in argument. He is now filling the position of circuit judge and upon the bench he has added new laurels to his already creditable life record.

Mr. Thompson is one of Vermilion county's native sons, his birth having occurred on the 23d of May, 1858. In the paternal line he is of Irish and Scotch ancestry. His father, John R. Thompson, was a native of Greene county, Pennsylvania, and from there he removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, in the year 1853, driving across the country with a drove of three thousand sheep, which he pastured here that season and then drove to the Chicago market. The following year he returned to Pennsylvania, again secured a large flock of sheep and once more brought them to Vermilion county, where he fattened them for the city markets. He was pleased with this locality and its prospects and he resolved to make his home here, continuing a resident of Vermilion county throughout his remaining days. He was an extensive stock-raiser and farmer and prospered in his business undertakings. In Champaign, Illinois, in 1856, he was united in marriage to Elizabeth A. Wright, who was born in Vermilion county and was of German lineage. Her birth occurred in



JUDGE M. W. THOMPSON.

1837 and her death in 1897, while the father of the Judge, who was born in 1832, passed away in 1896. They reared a family of seven children, namely: Morton W.; David L.; Anna, the wife of E. J. Boorde; Nellie; John R., who is proprietor of the Thompson restaurants of Chicago; Ulysses S.; and Gertrude, the wife of R. S. Swaine.

At the usual age Judge Thompson entered the public schools and after mastering the common branches of English learning he further continued his studies in the Danville high school, in which he was graduated with the class of 1879. He then returned to the home farm, where he remained for a period of two years. Subsequently he entered the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, pursuing a law course there, and in 1883 he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. Returning to his native county he established his office in Danville and acted as assistant states attorney under W. J. Calhoun. In 1889 the law firm of Calhoun & Thompson was organized and this connection was maintained until 1896, when Mr. Calhoun went to Chicago as attorney for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company. The following year he was elected judge of Vermilion county at a special election to fill out an unexpired term, and in November, 1898, he became the regular nominee of the Republican party for reelection for a full term. Such is the personal popularity and such is the confidence reposed in his judicial powers by the public that the Democrats placed no opposing candidate in the field. It was a merited tribute to his capable service during the period in which he was filling out the unexpired term. In September, 1902, Judge Thompson was appointed by Governor Yates to fill out the unexpired term of the late Judge Bookwalter, of the circuit court, and immediately entered

upon the duties of that office. He has just been nominated for the full term as circuit judge of the fifth judicial circuit by an overwhelming majority, which is equivalent to his election next June. A local paper said of him:

"While in active practice Judge Thompson was engaged in some of the most important litigation in this county, and was always considered an honorable, honest and careful lawyer. In 1897 he was elected county judge of this county to succeed Hon. John G. Thompson, who resigned to accept the office of assistant attorney general of the United States at Washington. During his term as county judge he was always courteous and accommodating and ready at all times to explain any business in his court to all who might inquire, as well as to advise those who sought information in reference to the business of the office—in fact, the affairs of the county court of this county were never conducted more ably and carefully than by him, as thousands of people in this county will cheerfully testify. One of the highest recommendations of Judge Thompson's ability and honesty is the fact that not a dollar was ever lost to the widows and heirs of estates while he was county judge, and it was almost universally regretted by the bar and people generally when he announced a year ago that he would not accept a renomination to that office.

"Judge Thompson was frequently called to other counties to try important cases. In Chicago he has tried some of the most important cases in this state, notably the State street and Cottage Grove avenue special assessment cases, and the tax cases of Cook county tried by him under the new revenue law of 1898, involving millions of dollars. In the big tax cases all parties interested agreed upon Judge Thompson and requested

him to come to Chicago and try that docket, and so ably did he succeed that the supreme court of this state affirmed his decision in every case.

"Last September Governor Yates appointed him to fill out the unexpired term of the late lamented Judge Bookwalter and he at once assumed the duties of circuit judge and held the October term of our circuit court, which has just closed. For the past three months Judge Thompson has held court every day, and succeeded in disposing of every case ready for trial, and his manner of holding court and promptness of disposing of the business and his uniform courtesy and fairness has won the respect and confidence of the bar as well as the people of this county, and proved him to be one of the most popular and fair-minded judges in this part of the state."

The Judge was united in marriage to Miss Mollie W. Steen, a daughter of Captain E. D. Steen, of Danville, the wedding having been celebrated in 1887. Fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias, with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and in the Masonic fraternity he is a Consistory Mason, having attained the thirty-second degree. In private life he is found as a genial, courteous gentleman, who has a very wide acquaintance in the county of his nativity and is not only esteemed and honored but has that warm personal friendship which arises from kindness and deference for the opinions of others. The practice of law has been his real life work, and at the bar and on the bench he has won marked distinction. A man of unimpeachable character, of unusual intellectual endowments, with a thorough understanding of the law, patience, urbanity and industry,

Judge Thompson took to the bench the very highest qualifications for this responsible office of the state government, and his record as a judge has been in harmony with his record as a man and a lawyer, distinguished by unswerving integrity and a masterful grasp of every problem which has presented itself for solution.

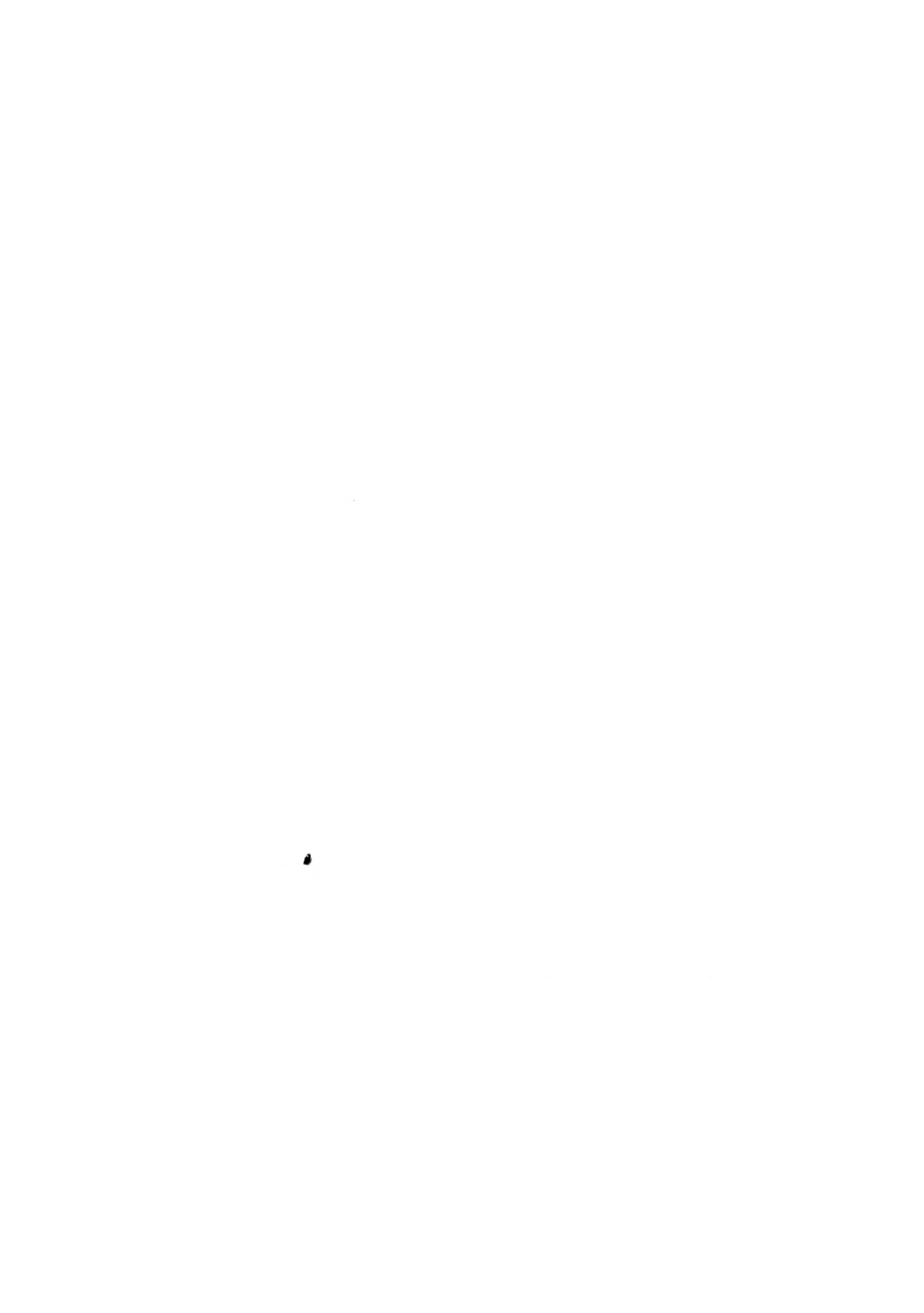
JOHN H. HERRON.

The broad prairies of Illinois have furnished splendid opportunities to the agriculturist and in connection with this business the grain trade has become a leading enterprise of Illinois. Mr. Herron is extensively engaged in dealing in grain in Sidell and other towns of the state, his business having now reached large proportions and in the control of it he has displayed excellent capability and discriminating judgment.

A native of Illinois he was born in Monticello, Piatt county, on the 5th of July, 1808. His father, William G. Herron, was a native of Ohio, born in Madison county, near London, on the 6th of April, 1829. The grandfather, Gardner Herron, was a native of Maryland and served as a soldier of the war of 1812. He wedded Maria Moraine, also a native of Maryland, and, removing westward, became one of the pioneer settlers of Madison county, Ohio, where he was engaged in farming until his death, which occurred in 1855. William G. Herron spent his youth in Ohio, being reared upon his father's farm in Madison county, where he remained until twenty years of age. He then came west to Illinois, but for some years was connected with a stock trader in driving stock to this state and Ohio and



John H. Herron



Pennsylvania. In 1855 he married Evaline Robinson, also a native of Ohio. They began their domestic life in Piatt county, Illinois, where Mr. Herron carried on general farming and stock-raising for about five years. In 1860 he took up his abode in Monticello, purchasing an interest in a mercantile business and was there engaged in trade for several years. In 1881 he came to Allerton and in connection with Samuel Allerton was extensively engaged in farming and in the grain and stock business, this relation being maintained for a long period. Mr. Herron is an earnest and stalwart supporter of the Republican party, active in the local ranks of the party. He was nominated for the position of representative in the state legislature and, being elected by a good majority, served for one term in the house with considerable distinction. He and his wife are devoted Christian people, having long held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and for eighteen years he served as superintendent of the Sunday-school of Monticello. He is a most effective and earnest Sunday-school worker, his labors in this regard being far-reaching and important. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Herron were born nine children, to whom they gave good educational privileges, fitting them for life's practical duties. Having laid aside business cares, the father of our subject is now living a retired life in Sidell in company with his wife and they are numbered among the most highly esteemed residents of the community.

John H. Herron of this review came to Vermilion county in 1881 with his parents. His early education was supplemented by a high school course and by two years of study in Columbia College of Washington, D. C. When he had completed his educa-

tion he returned to Vermilion county and took charge of the elevator and grain business of Samuel W. Allerton, at Allerton, Illinois. In 1890 Mr. Allerton established a bank there and for six years our subject acted as its manager and cashier. In 1896 he came to Sidell, where he became a partner in an extensive grain business, the company controlling the grain trade at nine stations and owning and operating five elevators. They have just completed a large transfer and grain depot at Mount Vernon, Illinois, with a capacity of two hundred thousand bushels. Mr. Herron has manifested marked determination, enterprise and capability in the control of the branch of the business at Sidell and other places and he has contributed in no small degree to the success of the company. A man of resourceful business ability, his efforts have not been limited to one line. He is interested in whatever tends to promote public improvement and progress and advance the welfare of the people and Sidell has largely profited by his efforts in its behalf. He was one of the promoters of the electric light plant at this place, is one of its largest stockholders and is now the manager and secretary of the company. He is also the president of the Building & Loan Association.

An important event in the life of Mr. Herron occurred in 1893, at which time was celebrated his marriage to Miss Florence, a daughter of John W. Cathcart, a prominent business man of Sidell, but after a happy married life of six years Mrs. Herron passed away in May, 1899, and was laid to rest in Woodlawn cemetery at Indianola. She left one son, Alexander C., who finds a home with his maternal grandparents.

Aside from business affairs Mr. Herron has been a citizen of worth in Sidell and is

widely recognized as one of the leaders of the Republican party, taking an active interest in local elections. In 1898 he was elected supervisor of Sidell township and has since been re-elected to the office, in which he is now serving. In 1902 he was chosen chairman of the county board of supervisors in which capacity he is also serving and he exercises his official prerogatives in support of all measures for the general good. In his life he exemplifies the humanitarian spirit upon which the Masonic fraternity is founded. He belongs to the blue lodge at Sidell in which he has filled all of the offices and is now serving as master. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp and of the Elks Lodge at Danville. A life-long resident of Illinois he is deeply interested in progress and advancement of the state and he has seen much of the growth and development of Vermilion county, being identified for a number of years with its institutions, its prosperity and its people. He is well known throughout this portion of the state as a man of business integrity, of broad and liberal views, charitable and public-spirited. His salient characteristics are such as command respect and confidence in every land and every clime and in Vermilion county they have won him many warm friends.

W. T. JOHNSTON.

W. T. Johnston is a representative of the Johnston Company, photographers of Hoopston. A young man, enterprising, wide-awake and alert he is thoroughly conversant with the business to which he devotes his energies and has considerable artistic talent which, combined with his com-

prehensive understanding of the principles of photography and his capable business management, is bringing to him creditable and well merited success. He was born in Lafayette, Indiana, on the 28th of September, 1877, and is a son of J. W. Johnston, who now resides in Hoopston and is a traveling salesman, representing the W. D. Messinger Company, of Chicago. In his family were four children: W. T., of this review; Anna; Thirza and Dell. In the year 1879 the father removed with his family to Chicago, where he spent seven years and then came to Hoopston, which place has since been his home.

W. T. Johnston of this review was a lad of about nine years when brought by his parents to Hoopston, and in the public schools here he pursued his education. He took up the study of photography in the College of Photography at Effingham, Illinois, where he remained for nine months and then went to Chicago, being in the employ of Gibson, a celebrated photographer of that city, for two months. He was next in the employ of Parrett, the president of the Indiana State Photographers' Association. On leaving him he came to Hoopston and for six months was in the employ of Mr. Schwab, at the end of which time he purchased his gallery, having been here since the 1st of May, 1892. The business is now carried on under the name of The Johnston Company, with our subject as manager and practical operator. Their patronage increased so rapidly that they needed more room and bought the E. S. Hall's Studio on South Market street, an established business of twenty-five years. The company is to-day the only photographic firm in Vermilion county to own their building. Mr. Johnston has always been

deeply interested in photographic work. Prior to the time that he embarked in the business as a life work he was much interested in amateur photography and manipulated a kodak, and he has to-day become a leader in his line in this part of Vermilion county, keeping in touch with the marked progress and advancement which are being made in the profession. He is thoroughly familiar with the latest improvements concerning the development, printing and finishing of pictures, and added to this he has an artistic eye which enables him to pose his subjects to the best advantage to secure life-like and natural results. He is a young man of unflinching courtesy, genial disposition and pleasant manner, and he has won a host of friends throughout this locality. All who know him esteem him highly for his genuine worth and he is very popular in social circles. His political support is given to the Republican party.

NORBOURN NEVILLE.

Norbourn Neville, who is engaged in the bakery and confectionery business in Fairmount, was born in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, September 17, 1847, and is a son of George N. and Mary S. (Throckmorton) Neville, who were natives of West Virginia, and on the paternal side the family is of Scotch descent. Unto the parents were born twelve children and those now living are: Mrs. Anna C. Taylor, of Fairmount; Norbourn; Mrs. Mary E. Collins, of Catlin; S. V., of Fairmount; Mrs. Ada Calfee, of California; and Mrs. N. Owen, of Fort Smith, Arkansas. Of those who passed away Delia died in infancy. George W., who enlisted in Company D, Twenty-fifth

Illinois Volunteer Infantry, was in the service for three years and was wounded in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, his death resulting from his injuries. Lucy also died in infancy. It was in the year 1854 that the father of this family came to Vermilion county accompanied by his wife and children. Upon arriving here he purchased the north half of section 10, Vance township, and cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers finding that everything around was new and wild, the land unbroken and the grass so high that when a boy our subject climbed upon a cabin in order to see where the cattle were. The father first purchased an old log schoolhouse that stood on the Sandusky place, and lived in it for a year, after which he built a more substantial house, constructing it from lumber hauled from Covington, Indiana. Mr. Neville of this review has witnessed the development of the county from a wild condition when there was not a fence for miles upon the prairie, to its present state of progress and improvement. The father continued his farm work devoting to the cultivation of the fields his time and attention also engaging in the raising of stock, until about 1885, when he retired to Fairmount and put aside business cares. His wife passed away August, 1880, and he died about sixteen months later, on the 8th of January, 1891, at the age of seventy-one, his birth having occurred on the 2d of February, 1820.

The ancestry of Mr. Neville is traced back to the land of the thistle, his paternal grandparents emigrating from Scotland to Virginia in time for his great-grandfather, Joseph Neville, to take part in the Revolutionary war as a brigadier general. Unlike many of those who crossed the Atlantic at that time, he came fortified with ample means, which he invested largely in

lands, comprising a valuable plantation, worked by slaves whom he liberated at the time of his death. Among the sons of General Neville was George, the grandfather of our subject, who was the youngest of a family of twelve children. He studied law at Winchester, Virginia, under Abram Lock, was admitted to the bar and tried one case, but then gave up the law for medicine, which he followed throughout life. He married Elizabeth Wolfe, of Winchester, Virginia, who was a daughter of Lewis and Catherine Wolfe, natives of Germany. George N. Neville, father of our subject, was one of seven children born to Dr. George and Catherine Neville.

Norbourn Neville was the fourth child in his father's family and was reared and educated in Vermilion county, working on the farm during the summer months while in the winter seasons he attended school. He remained at home until he was seventeen years of age and then offered his services to the government, enlisting in Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-third Illinois Infantry, in 1864, under Colonel Phillips and Captain Somers. He served for five months, having been mustered in for one hundred days, and was then honorably discharged. After leaving home Mr. Neville rented a farm for a few years and then purchased a small tract of land, devoting his energies to general farming and stock-raising. Throughout his entire life he has been identified with agricultural pursuits and he now owns one hundred acres in Vance township well improved and tilled, and supplied with good buildings. In 1901 he embarked in the bakery and confectionery business at Fairmount and having the only exclusive bakery in the town he is enjoying an extensive trade.

In September, 1870, Mr. Neville was united in marriage in this county to Miss Elizabeth J. Price, a daughter of John and Mary E. (Perritt) Price, who were pioneers of Vermilion county. Mrs. Neville was born in Fayette county, Ohio, October 31, 1850, and was the eldest child of her parents. She has no children of her own but has reared an adopted son, William F. Neville, who is a graduate of the Fairmount school and also completed a business course in Quincy, Illinois. He now assists his father in the store. He was married January 25, 1902, to Miss Edna Cox, who was born September 12, 1883, a daughter of J. A. Cox. They have one daughter, Elizabeth Neville, a bright little girl born June 30, 1902. Mr. Neville of this review is a Republican in his political affiliations, believing firmly in the principles of the party, which he endorses by his ballot. He has never been an office seeker, however, preferring to give his time and attention to his business affairs in which he has met with signal success.

DR. WALTER DWIGGINS.

Dr. Walter Dwiggin, who is now so successfully engaged in the practice of osteopathy in Danville, was born in Waytown, Indiana, July 17, 1874, his parents being John C. and Susannah (Fouts) Dwiggin, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume. They were married in Indiana, where the father was engaged in business as a stock dealer until failing health caused his retirement and he removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1880. In March, 1901, he came to Danville, where he

now makes his home, enjoying a well earned rest, free from the cares and responsibilities of business life. In his political affiliations he is a Republican. He is the father of four sons but one died in infancy. The others are Howard, a resident of Danville and the secretary of the shoe factory at Gibson City, Illinois; Charles, a grain dealer of Newport, Indiana; and Walter.

The Doctor acquired his early education in the public schools of Crawfordsville, Indiana, and later attended the public schools of Selma, Kansas, and Rossville, Illinois, graduating at the high school in the latter place in 1893. Later he matriculated at the American School of Osteopathy, where he was graduated in 1900. He first opened an office at Terre Haute, Indiana, but at the end of two months he came to Danville and has since engaged in practice at this place with most gratifying success, having a nice office in the Temple block. He thoroughly understands his chosen profession and although his residence here has been of short duration he has already secured a liberal patronage which is constantly increasing. Fraternally he is an honored member of Lodge, No. 527, F. & A. M., and Vermilion Lodge, No. 432, K. P., both of Rossville, and politically he is identified with the Republican party.

WALLACE SPERRY.

Among the native sons of Vermilion county still living within its borders, is Wallace Sperry, the popular and efficient postmaster of Muncie. He was born October 23, 1841, and is a son of Erastus and

Ruth (Reese) Sperry, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Indiana. Their marriage, however, was celebrated in Vermilion county, Illinois. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Wallace Sperry, who came to this county in the early '30s and cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers. He took a very active part in the work of early development and improvement. Both he and his son Erastus were farmers by occupation and were Whigs in political faith. They were also members of the Methodist Episcopal church and were accounted representative men of this locality. The father of our subject died in 1852, and the mother, still surviving, makes her home in Potomac, Illinois. In their family were three children, the eldest being Wallace Sperry of this sketch. Arminda is the wife of John W. Goodwine of Potomac; and Amanda is the wife of Samuel B. Demude, also of Potomac.

Wallace Sperry pursued his education in the district schools at Higginsville, Vermilion county, and at the age of fifteen put aside his text books, after which his time and energies were devoted to farm work, in the employ of others until he had attained his majority. He then began farming on his own account, leasing his mother's land. He was married on the 26th of September, 1872, in Blount township to Miss Mary Bloomfield, whose birth occurred in this county on the 1st of January, 1854. The lady is a daughter of Reuben Bloomfield, who here engaged in farming and who exercised his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Republican party. He died in 1873, while his wife passed away in 1890. In their family were four children: William, who is now de-

ceased, while his widow resides in Missouri; Cinderella, the deceased wife of J. C. Tevebaugh, a resident of Danville; Mary, the wife of our subject; and Samuel, who has also passed away. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Sperry was blessed with four children, but they lost the first three. Charles, their first born, having died at the age of eight years, while the next two died in infancy. Minnie, the surviving child, is now the wife of Orrie Dalbey, of Muncie, and they now have one child, a daughter, one and one-half years old.

Mr. Sperry carried on farming operations until 1882, when he abandoned the plow and turned his attention to merchandising in Higginsville, remaining there for one year. He then went to Blue Grass, Vermilion county, where he conducted a similar business for three years and on the expiration of that period he arrived in Muncie, where he opened a general store that he has since conducted, a growing trade proving the confidence reposed in him by the public. In 1897 he was appointed postmaster and holds that position at the present time. In politics he is a Republican and at one time was town clerk. Here he belongs to the Christian church and in all life's relations is found true to duty and loyal to trust and confidence reposed in him.

J. S. McFERREN.

Prominent among the energetic, far-seeing and successful business men of eastern Illinois is the subject of this sketch. 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 enterprises and industries have been a decided advantage to this section of Illinois, promoting its material welfare in no uncertain manner. But not only has Hoopeston profited by his labors and his ability: many districts of the south have received an impetus to growth and commercial development through his efforts and his life-work has had a wide scope and been far-reaching in its influence.

Mr. McFerren was born in Warren county, Ohio, in 1846, a son of William M. and Eliza (Snyder) McFerren. The father, a native of South Carolina, died in 1894, but the mother, whose birth occurred in Ohio, is now living in Hoopeston. In their family were two daughters: Alvira B., the wife of Ed Griffith, cashier of the First National Bank; and Mrs. Mary Hewey of Hoopeston; while the brother of our subject is Pingree McFerren.

When a young man of twenty-five years J. S. McFerren sought a more western district than that in which he had been reared, as a field of business activity, realizing that the new but rapidly developing sections of the country offered the best opportunities to the ambitious young man. Accordingly he came to Hoopeston in 1871 and from that date to the present the town has been largely indebted to him for its promotion. Not only in business matters, but as its chief executive and as a private citizen has he labored for her welfare, interested in all that has promoted advancement along material, social, intellectual and moral lines. At the same time he has controlled business affairs of magnitude. He first became associated with T. W. Chamberlin in 1882 in founding a private bank in Hoopeston and later, pur-



J. S. McFerson

chasing his partner's interest, he has since been its president and owner and has made the institutions one of the most reliable financial concerns in this part of the state. It would be impossible to give in detail the history of his achievements but mention of some of his business interests will serve to show the scope of his undertakings and to indicate the ability which has enabled him to successfully handle so many and so varied interests. He to-day individually owns thirty-four hundred acres of land near Hoopeston. He became a member of the real estate firm of Moore, McFerren & Seavey, whose real estate operations through the year following March, 1874, amounted to three hundred and thirty thousand dollars. Mr. Seavey having withdrawn from the partnership the firm of Moore & McFerren still exists and has large landed interests in the south, scattered in the states of Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee. These comprise twenty-seven thousand acres and represent six hundred thousand dollars of invested capital, for the firm has largely improved their lands, have established industries thereon and have secured transportation facilities through the building of railroads. Their landed possessions in Arkansas comprise thirty thousand acres and they are now constructing twenty miles of railroad from Luxora, Arkansas, to Big Lake, called the Mississippi, Big Lake & Western Railroad. This will furnish an outlet for their lumber and will also be a part of the trunk line from Joplin, Missouri, to the Mississippi river. Their sawmill at Luxora has a capacity of thirty thousand feet of lumber daily and in connection with Mr. Moore our subject also owns a sawmill at Pitman's Island and another at Woodstock, Mississippi, each having a capacity of twenty-five thousand feet per day, while three other sawmills which

they own turn out twenty thousand feet of lumber each per day. Their most extensive lumber industry, however, is located at Memphis, Tennessee, where they have a double-band sawmill, with a capacity of fifty thousand feet per day, and the plant was erected at a cost of seventy-five thousand dollars. They also have a large box factory at Memphis. Mr. McFerren was one of the founders of the Union Tin Can Company and since it has been merged in the American Tin Can Company he is still a stockholder. In connection with A. H. Trego he owns and operates the Hoopeston Canning Factory, which is engaged in the canning of corn exclusively. His property values in Hoopeston real estate amount to two hundred thousand dollars and include the bank block, office buildings, the opera house block, store buildings and other structures.

Mr. McFerren was Hoopeston's first mayor nor was that his only term in the office, for several times has he been chosen to the position. During his first incumbency he drove the saloons out of the village and there has never been a saloon since the town was incorporated. He is now the chief executive of Hoopeston, honored and honorable, putting forth strong effort for the good of the community and its substantial improvement. Much of the street paving has been done while he has been in office and many improvements have been made during his administrations. Churches and benevolent enterprises have received his support and his aid is withheld from no enterprise for the general good.

Mr. McFerren has been twice married. He first wedded Miss Lida A. Shultz, who died in 1894 leaving two sons, William and Donald. In 1897 Mr. McFerren Lottie L. Shultz, a sister of his first wife. His present

home, erected in 1885, has been improved until it is now a handsome property worth twenty-five thousand dollars.

Mr. McFerren gave evidence of his love for Hoopeston by his generous gift to the city of a fine park. For this purpose he purchased the old fair grounds of thirty acres, at a cost of six thousand dollars, and tendering this to the city, it has since been maintained as a park. Mr. McFerren has also made liberal donations to the public library and to other concerns of public benefit and pride. His name is synonymous with improvement and progress in Hoopeston and is so interwoven with the history of the city that it forms a most important chapter in the annals of Hoopeston. He stands as the highest type of American citizenship, capable and discriminating in business, patriotic and loyal in citizenship and with conscientious regard for the rights and privileges of his fellowmen. Socially he is deservedly popular, as he is affable and courteous in manner and possesses the quality of making friends readily and of strengthening the ties of all friendships as time advances.

JOHN R. SMITH.

The life history of John R. Smith is one which shows a career of enterprise and business activity crowned with deserved rest. He is now living retired in Rossville after years of close application to agricultural interests. He is a native son of Vermilion county, his birth having occurred March 1, 1836, where Fithian station now stands. He is a son of William W. Smith, a native of Clark county, Ohio, born about 1800. His paternal grandfather was one of the first settlers of that county and there W. W. Smith was reared and after arriving at

years of maturity married Catherine Yazel, also a native of Clark county. They began their domestic life upon a farm and a daughter was born unto them ere their removal to Illinois in the year 1830. Emigrating westward they settled in Vermilion county, Mr. Smith entering and purchasing land until he became the owner of one thousand acres in the western part of this county. Much of this he broke and improved, opening up a good farm, upon which he spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1851. His first wife died in 1845 and he afterward married again.

John R. Smith was the fourth in order of birth in a family of four sons and a daughter and all reached mature years with the exception of the youngest son, although John R. and his brother William are the only ones now living. After the death of his father our subject resided with his brother-in-law, Thomas Armstrong, who lived near Rossville. There he remained for five years, assisting in the farm work. He had fair common-school advantages, supplemented by a term of study in the Danville high school and one term in Knox College. When he had reached man's estate he joined a brother at Grand View and acted as a clerk for him for two years in a general store. While there he returned to Rossville and was married here on the 3d of March, 1839, to Josephine R. Stewart, who was born in Danville and was reared upon the farm where her marriage was celebrated. Her father, James R. Stewart, was a pioneer settler of Danville, representing one of the pioneer families that came from Connecticut to Vermilion county. He opened up a farm which is now within the corporation limits of Rossville and became an influential and representative agriculturist of the community.

After his marriage Mr. Smith engaged in conducting a hotel in Rossville for three years, after which he spent a similar period in agricultural pursuits. He then returned to the town and established a grocery store, which he conducted for twenty-three years. During three years of that time he was also engaged in buying and shipping stock and both branches of the business proved profitable. He had a well selected line of groceries always on hand and his straightforward business dealing, his earnest desire to please his patrons and his enterprise brought to him well merited success. In course of time he had accumulated a handsome competence which now enables him to live retired. He built a large, neat residence on a part of the old Stewart farm and with his family has occupied this for a quarter of a century.

In January, 1885, Mr. Smith was called upon to mourn the death of his wife. There were four sons and a daughter by this union: Ellen Minerva, the wife of George S. Smith, who is living retired in Rossville and by whom she has one son, Jean, who was born in 1889; Alfred F., a farmer of Los Angeles, California; Herbert Y., who became his father's successor in the grocery store in Rossville and is married and has a daughter, Helen; Jesse R., who occupies a position in Rossville; and Dick, of this city. In Potomac, Vermilion county, on the 26th of June, 1889, Mr. Smith was united in marriage to Mrs. Sarah J. Parlow, a widow. She was born in this state and is a daughter of James Duncan, who came from Kentucky to Vermilion county at an early day.

Mr. Smith is unwavering in his allegiance to the Republican party, which he has supported since he cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. The

honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him as he has preferred to give his time and attention to his business affairs. He has served, however, as constable and deputy sheriff and is now filling the office of assistant supervisor. His entire life has been passed in Vermilion county and he has witnessed the wonderful growth and development of this portion of the state. He has seen great flocks of wild geese and other wild game and also herds of deer in this locality. Much of the land was swampy and unfit for cultivation, but it has been drained and placed under a high state of improvement. Roads have also been laid out, homes built and farms developed and thus the work of progress has been steadily carried forward both in the city and in the country until now one of the richest sections of Illinois is that comprised within the limits of Vermilion county. Mr. Smith takes a just pride in what has been accomplished and in his community has ever borne his part in the work of advancement.

JOHN W. FISHER.

John W. Fisher has lived a life in harmony with the laws of nature. It certainly seems that man was intended to enjoy a season of rest after years of active labor. In youth one is possessed of great energy, bright hopes and strong determination and in more mature years these are guided by judgment and experience. Through this period of early and more mature manhood there is ample opportunity, if one rightly directs his energies, to gain a competence for the evening of life and while Mr. Fisher is still in the prime of life he has so guided his efforts that he is now enabled to

live retired in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. Having always made his home in Vermilion county where he has gained a wide acquaintance, his life record cannot fail to prove of interest to many of our readers. He was born January 25, 1840, in Carroll township, on the old Fisher homestead which he now numbers among his possessions. His father, David Fisher, was one of the pioneers of this county who located here when the prairies were largely uncultivated and when there was still much wild game; wolves and other wild animals were also frequently seen and the conditions were those of a frontier settlement.

David Fisher was born in Brown county, Ohio, in 1809, and his parents, William and Cynthia (Watt) Fisher, were natives of Pennsylvania, the former of German parentage and the latter of Irish lineage. They removed from the Keystone state to Ohio at an early day and afterward located in Rockville, Indiana, where they were pioneer settlers. There they lived until called to the home beyond. When a young man David Fisher accompanied his parents to Park county, Indiana, remaining at home with them through the period of his minority. In 1832 he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he secured a tract of land from the government and engaged in farming. Having thus made preparations for a home of his own he was married in 1833 to Miss Jane Weaver, a daughter of Michael Weaver. Throughout his entire life he devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits. The first home to which he took his bride was a log cabin with a puncheon floor, a mud chimney and a huge fireplace, but as the years passed his labors enabled him to surround his family with the comforts and conveniences of modern life and he became

well-to-do. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fisher were born five children: Michael, who is engaged in the hardware business in Indianola and is mentioned elsewhere in this volume; John W., who is living retired in Indianola; Mary Jane, the deceased wife of Monzo Hill; George W., a resident of Nebraska; and Lucinda, the wife of L. C. Green, of Sheridan, Wyoming. The parents were members of of the Baptist church and in politics Mr. Fisher was a Democrat, but never sought or desired office. He died upon the old home farm in Carroll township, lacking but one day of reaching his seventy-second year. His life was passed in the quiet pursuits of the farm, and all who knew him respected him for his genuine worth while his enterprise and untiring labor brought to him creditable and gratifying success.

John W. Fisher was educated in the primitive schools of his day, pursuing his studies in a log building which stood on the banks of the Swanks creek. His first teacher was a man who liberally used the rod in maintaining discipline, but was also a capable instructor. Mr. Fisher had the privilege of attending for only about three months each year and during the remainder of the time he was busily engaged in farm work. However, he thus pursued his studies at intervals until about seventeen or eighteen years of age. Life has, however been to him a school in which he has learned many valuable lessons, his reading and experience largely broadening his knowledge.

On the 12th of September, 1861, at the age of twenty years, John W. Fisher was united in marriage to Miss Mary L. Dye, a native of Kentucky and a daughter of Lawrence and Mary Ann (Van Tries) Dye.

The father was a native of Bourbon county, Kentucky, where the family was established at an early day. He was married there and all of his children were born in that locality with the exception of one. In 1841 he came with his family in a covered wagon to Vermillion county, settling in Georgetown, which was then a small village. He farmed in Elwood township and lived to be seventy-one years of age, while his wife reached the age of about sixty years. Of their eight children five are now living, namely: Martha, the wife of John Jones, who resides near Georgetown; Elizabeth, the wife of David Sconce, of Indiana; Angeline, the wife of David McDonald, who resides near Catlin, Illinois; Mrs. Fisher; and Blanche the wife of Joel Cooper, of Oakland, this state. Those who have passed away are Hiram, Mrs. Phoebe Jones and John.

In 1859 Mr. Fisher went to Kansas and engaged in farming near Emporia, but tiring of that country he returned and rented a farm of his father, also purchasing forty acres of land from him. At the time of his marriage he removed into a little log house that James Branham had built on a forty-acre tract. It was a two roomed cabin, unsealed, and it remained their home for a couple of years, when Mr. Fisher purchased another house and moved it to his place. As time passed and his financial resources increased he added to his farm until he now has twelve hundred acres in Vermillion county and also owns three hundred and sixty acres near Monroe City, Missouri, for which he paid nineteen thousand eight hundred dollars. When upon the farm he devoted the greater part of his attention to stock raising, making a specialty of beef cattle which he sold at good prices in the city markets. There has been nothing sensa-

tional in his career. He worked along legitimate business lines, earning his competency through persistent purpose and marked energy.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher was blessed with eight children. Charles, who resides in Iowa and owns farms in both Carroll and Greene counties, married Jennie Myers, by whom he has seven children: John Austin, Nellie, Lelia, Charles, Everett, Maude and Dean. Edward, who is still living in Indianola and is a farmer of Carroll township wedded Ida Maddox and has two daughters, Eva Dell and Gertrude Gail. Armada is the wife of Douglas Miller, a farmer of Carroll township and has three children: Winona, Delmar and Everett. Josephine is the wife of Frank Carter, of Indianola and has two daughters, Helen and Mabel. Jacob G., a graduate of the Rush Medical College of Chicago and now a practicing physician of Catlin, Illinois, married Jessie Matkins. The three children of the Fisher family who have passed away are Everett, Olive and Mattie, all of whom died in childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher are consistent members of the Presbyterian church and people of the highest respectability. In politics he is independent, voting for the candidates whom he regards as best qualified for office without giving attention to party lines. Upon his home he erected a large fine residence and his place is one of the best improved in eastern Illinois, in fact it is a splendid property. The large and commodious buildings are surrounded by well tilled fields and rich pastures in which are seen fine grades of stock. In 1897, however, Mr. Fisher purchased town property and removed to Indianola, where he is now living in retirement from further business cares. The county as he views it

to-day little resembles the district in which he was reared, for turkeys, prairie chickens and other wild game were abundant and deer were still seen, wolves were often killed by the settlers and all this indicated the unsettled condition of the country, but as time passed the land was reclaimed for the use of the white race and in this great country there is no richer farming district than that of eastern Illinois. Mr. Fisher may take pride in the fact that he has been identified with its development and he certainly deserves great credit for what he has accomplished in the business world.

THOMAS FRANCIS CHRISTMAN.

Thomas Francis Christman, cashier of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank of Danville, was born June 7, 1858, in Warren county, Indiana. He is a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Gundy) Christman, natives of Ohio, and on the maternal side the ancestry can be traced back to Jacob Gundy, the great-grandfather, who was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. Emigrating westward, he became a resident of Vermilion county at an early date, settling upon the north fork near the old town of Myersville. The grandfather, Joseph Gundy, was a charter member of the Masonic Order of Danville. By occupation he was a farmer and stockraiser, being connected with agricultural pursuits in this county at a very early day. The father of our subject was taken by his parents to western Indiana when four years of age and was reared in Vermilion county. He, too, became a farmer by occupation and established his home in Ross township, where he carried on farming for three years.

He then returned to Indiana, where he remained for several years and then again came to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he resumed farming. He is now living a retired life, making his home in Rossville at the age of eighty years, his birth having occurred in January, 1823. His wife, who was born in the same year, passed away in 1882. They were the parents of nine children, of whom Thomas F. is the seventh in order of birth.

In the district schools of Indiana and Vermillion county Thomas Francis Christman pursued his education, continuing his studies until nineteen years of age. Throughout the greater part of his business career he has followed farming, save for a brief interval of a year or two that he was engaged in clerking. When he first came to Vermilion county he purchased land in partnership with his brother, and together they owned about two sections, but eventually Mr. Christman of this review sold to his brother. He then became cashier of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank, which is capitalized for one hundred thousand dollars. He is now a leading, reliable and respected representative of the banking interests of this part of the state, thoroughly understands banking business and methods in every detail, and has contributed in no small degree to the successful control of the institution with which he is connected.

In 1900 Mr. Christman was united in marriage to Miss Anna Broody, of Williamsport, Indiana, and they have many warm friends in Danville, where their own home is justly noted for its hospitality and sociability. Mrs. Christman is a daughter of Thomas Broody, in whose family were six children. Mr. Christman is a member of the Masonic Lodge of Rossville and in poli-



L. Christman

tics he is a stalwart Republican. He needs no special introduction to the readers of this volume, because almost his entire life has been passed in this locality and his history is largely familiar to those who know him. Without ostentation or undue display of his good qualities he has commanded the respect and confidence of his fellow men by reason of his sterling worth and is to-day a leading and honored representative of business interests of Danville.



JOSEPH CUNNINGHAM.

Joseph Cunningham made his advent into Vermilion county in a "prairie schooner." People of the present century can scarcely realize the struggles and dangers which attended the early settlers, the heroism and self sacrifice of lives passed upon the borders of civilization, the hardships endured, the difficulties overcome. These tales of the early days read almost like a romance to those who have known only the modern prosperity and conveniences. To the pioneer of the early days, far removed from the privileges and conveniences of city and town, the struggle for existence was a stern and hard one, and these men and women must have possessed indomitable energies and sterling worth of character, as well as marked physical courage, when they thus voluntarily selected such a life and successfully fought its battles under such circumstances as prevailed in the Mississippi valley at the time the Cunningham family was here established. Few indeed are the residents of Vermilion county who can relate tales of the pioneer days in which they were participants, but this Mr. Cunningham can

do and his reminiscences are very interesting.

He was born in Cynthiatown, Harrison county, Kentucky, February 27, 1828, a son of William and Mary (Humes) Cunningham. The father was born in Pennsylvania about 1778 and died in Vermilion county, May 11, 1852, while his wife, a native of the Keystone state, has also passed away. They were married in Pennsylvania and after living for a time in Kentucky they came to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1829, when our subject was a year and a half old. They settled on the prairie in Newell township at what was known as the Cunningham grove. There were no railroads and the family traveled in a prairie schooner, drawn by oxen, much time being consumed in making the trip. In the family were twelve children, Christine, eldest, was married and had three children—Squire, Alfred and Margaret, who became the wife of Joe Osborne. John, the second of the family, married Nancy Lindsey, and their children were: William David, deceased; Mary Jane, wife of David Clapp; John L., who married Hannah Swisher, who after his death became Mrs. Hannah Justus and is now a widow; George Washington, who lost his right arm while fighting for the Union; Emily, wife of Mike Fury; and Sarah, who married Philo Knapp. After the death of his first wife John Cunningham married Elizabeth French and they had four children: Thomas, who married Maria Lane; Samantha, wife of Jeff Allison; Humphrey, who married Josephine Campbell; and Perry, who married Lou Duncan. James Cunningham, the third member of the family of William and Mary Cunningham, wedded Mary Ann Andrews and their children were: Hannah C., wife of John Allison; A. E., who married Polly Ann Lockhart; William O., whose first wife

was Mattie Chandler and his present wife Etta Clem; and James A., who married Anna Whoops. Nancy Cunningham, the fourth child, became the wife of William Barger and had two children, John and William. Isaac was the next of the family. Washington, the sixth, was drowned in North Fork. Thomas married Jane Ann Starr and had one child, Mary, wife of Noah Young. William became a cripple at the age of fifteen. Malinda, the ninth, married W. R. Chandler and had five children: Mary, who became the wife of Lew Young, while her present husband is Andy Claypool; Emma, wife of R. Hoover, of Dakota; Rose, wife of Howard Hicks; Josephus Chandler, deceased; and Ella, deceased, wife of Howard Hicks, who since her death has married her sister Rose. Joseph Cunningham, whose name heads this sketch, was the tenth in the father's family. After the arrival of the family in this county two more children were born. Humes married Elizabeth Wining and has a son, William, who wedded Ora Albright and has three children—Thomas, Oren and Willard. Jarrett, the youngest of the family, died in the army at Nashville, Tennessee.

Joseph Cunningham is the only survivor of his father's family. He shared with the others in the hardships as well as the pleasures of pioneer life. He was educated in a subscription school, his first teacher being James Davis, who taught in a log school-house furnished with slab benches. Mr. Cunningham first plowed with two horses hitched to a plow with a wooden mold board. The second plow was a single-shovel affair and he cut grain with a sickle. The first trading point of the family after their arrival here was Chicago, where groceries were given in exchange for the farm products

and Mr. Cunningham frequently drove oxen to that village. The old homestead was on section 11, Newell township. He has worked in the snow up to his boot tops, making fences out of rails cut in the timber. The country was filled with prairie wolves and there were also many black timber wolves and wild games of all kinds, including deer. It was necessary to pen up the domestic animals at night for their protection. It is impossible for the citizen of Vermilion county to-day to realize what were the hardships and trials endured in those early times, when this district was cut off from the comforts of the older east and when the settlers had to depend upon what they could raise on the farms for nearly everything which they enjoyed. Our subject began farming on his own account in 1849 and for forty-seven years was identified with agricultural pursuits and stock-raising in this locality. He has shipped many car loads of cattle to the Chicago market and sold hundred of car loads of grain. On the 15th of October, 1863, he suffered loss by fire, which destroyed his frame house, but with characteristic energy he began to build a larger and better home, erecting a two-story brick residence twenty-six by thirty-six feet, which was ready for occupancy on the 13th of December and still stands on the home farm. In 1878 he built a barn, thirty-six by forty feet, and erected other substantial and commodious buildings, making his a model farm. The corn crop usually yields about fifty bushels to the acre and oats thirty-eight bushels.

Joseph Cunningham was united in marriage to Mary A. Swisher, who died April 7, 1902, after a long and happy married life. In their family were nine children:



P. A. Cunningham

Mary E. died when about twelve years of age. Cleantha became the wife of Zack Starr, and died leaving three children, Effa, Irvin and Arthur. Malinda is deceased. John I. married Ella Bentley and they have three children: Forrest, Harry and Stirling. Nora is the wife of Erson French; William L. has also passed away. Edward married Anna Clem. Ida M. is the wife of C. B. Jackson and they have one child, Helen L. and Joseph S., who married Grace Leonard, is a practicing physician of Danville. They have a son, born November 7, 1902. Mrs. Cunningham, the mother, was born in Vermilion county, March 28, 1832, and on the 5th of April, 1849, gave her hand in marriage to our subject. She was the eldest in a family of eight children born unto Louis and Elizabeth (Starr) Swisher, who came to Vermilion county in company with the Cunningham and Chandler families.

In public affairs Joseph Cunningham has been very prominent and influential. He has served in every township office with the exception of that of justice of the peace and supervisor and his labors to promote the public welfare have been far-reaching and beneficial. He helped to build the Walnut Corners church and has done much to promote the moral welfare of the community. The first services of the Christian church in this county were held in his father's log cabin. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham became consistent members of that church, to which their children also belong. All the children are still living in Newell township with the exception of Ida. For a number of years Mr. Cunningham served either as a deacon or elder of his church and was also one of its trustees. In 1896 he retired to private life, putting aside all

business cares, and is now living with his son, Dr. Cunningham, in Walnut street of Danville. He is still the owner of two hundred and forty acres of the best improved farm land in the county and likewise has town property, which is the visible evidence of his life of industry and toil. He stands to-day as one of the most honored pioneer settlers of the county, having witnessed almost its entire growth and development and is classed among those who have laid broad and deep the foundation for the present progress and prosperity of this portion of the state for he has been found as the advocate of all measures for improvement and for the development of the community and his influence has ever been on the side of the right.

J. A. CUNNINGHAM.

Varied and important are the business interests which have claimed the attention of J. A. Cunningham, of Hoopston. He is one of Vermilion county's native sons and one whose career reflects credit and honor upon the place of his nativity. His birth occurred in the year 1843 and his parents, James and Mary A. (Andrews) Cunningham, were natives of Kentucky and New York, respectively. The father was a farmer by occupation, carrying on that pursuit until sixty years of age, when he put aside business cares and lived retired, passing away at his home in Stateline, Indiana, at the age of ninety-one years. He had survived his wife, who also died at Stateline in 1885.

His parents having become residents of Vermilion county at an early day, J. A. Cunningham was here reared and in the schools of his native county and of State-

line, Indiana, he pursued his education, receiving instructions from Professor Marshall in the latter place. In his youth he assisted in the operation of the home farm and early became familiar with the best methods of cultivating the fields. In the summer of 1864, when twenty-one years of age, he offered his services to the country as a defender of the Union, enlisting in the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry under Captain Stewart, but he was rejected on account of physical disability. Being unable to become a soldier he therefore undertook the task of winning success in the business world and entered the grocery trade at Stateline, Indiana, conducting his enterprise with good success until 1866, when he took up his abode near Hoopeston. Here he began dealing in stock. He purchased two hundred and forty acres of land at twenty dollars per acre. As time passed and his financial resources increased he has made very judicious investments in real estate, continually adding to his land until he now owns thirty-six hundred acres. About sixteen hundred acres of this lies in Indiana but the greater part is Illinois property. In 1894 Mr. Cunningham became interested in the banking business, being connected with the Bank of Hoopeston conducted under the firm name of Hamilton & Cunningham, and of this institution he is now the president. He is also one of the stockholders of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank recently organized in Danville. A man of resourceful business ability, he has extended his efforts into other fields of activity and to-day he has a half interest in the Illinois Can Factory, with which he has been associated for about sixteen years. For several years he looked after its farming interests and the raising of corn, also the work of

delivering this product to the factory. He was one of the organizers of the Illinois Can Company, which in 1900 was merged into the American Can Company, in which he still retains stock. He was formerly owner of the Cunningham Hotel and is one of the six men who own and conduct the Hoopeston horse nail factory. His sound business judgment and keen discernment have been important factors in many interests which have proven of value to the public by promoting commercial activity and at the same time have returned to the stockholders a good profit on their investment.

In 1865 Mr. Cunningham was united in marriage to Miss Mary R. Scott, the wedding being celebrated in the house which stood upon the prairie and which yet stands to-day as one of the landmarks of that early time. The lady was reared by Thomas Hoopes, a wealthy pioneer of Vermilion county, and was liberally remembered in his will. Five children have been born of this union: Frank H., who married Dora Dove and carries on agricultural pursuits; Anna S., the wife of D. B. M. Brown; Bert M., who wedded Nettie Bond and is an agriculturist; Harry R., who married Allie Eades and is living in Chicago; and Walter, who died at the age of six years. Since the spring of 1894 Mr. Cunningham and his family have resided in Hoopeston. They now have a beautiful home on Penn street—the old Hoopes residence.

Politically Mr. Cunningham is a stalwart Republican and for several years he efficiently served as a member of the board of supervisors. He was also a member of the State Board of Agriculture for five years and for a quarter of a century he was the president of the County Fair Association which he aided in organizing, becoming one of its

stockholders. He is one of the men of means and enterprise who have made Hoopes-ton an enterprising and progressive western city. He has been very liberal to all measures for the general good, contributing freely of his time and means for the promotion of objects of general interest and improvement. Socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the blue lodge, chapter, commandery and council, and of the last named he is a charter member. The career of Mr. Cunningham has ever been such as to warrant the trust and confidence of the business world, for he has ever conducted all transactions according to the strictest principles of honor and integrity. His devotion to the public good is unquestioned and arises from a sincere interest in the welfare of his fellow men. What the world needs is such men—men capable of managing extensive business concerns and conducting business on terms that are fair alike to employer and employe—men of genuine worth, of unquestioned integrity and honor, and then the question of oppression by capitalists and resistance and violence by laborers will be forever at rest.



ALMOND NORTON LE NEVE.

Almond N. Le Neve comes of a family which has ever been loyal to America, her institutions and her welfare. He was born in Newell township, east of the J. D. Campbell farm, March 9, 1837, and is a son of John and Rebecca (Newell) Le Neve. The Newells were the earliest settlers of the township and it was named in honor of the family. The Le Neve's were natives of Kentucky. The father of Almond N. emi-

grated to Vermilion county in 1823, when the country was wild and unimproved and Indians were numerous. The paternal and maternal grandfathers of our subject were soldiers in the Revolutionary war and fought valiantly in the cause of independence. The maternal grandfather enlisted in Halifax, Halifax county, Virginia, and went through the entire war without receiving a wound. As he signed his name on the muster roll he made this remark: "Because of the kind treatment of the colonies I will give my life and if necessary cement it with my blood." The paternal grandfather enlisted under General La Fayette and gave up his life on the altar of his country, being killed in the battle in which La Fayette was wounded. When La Fayette returned to America, the women met him spreading shawls for his feet to tread, in honor of his charity and devotedness to the men in the field, for he spent a princely fortune upon the colonies, giving of his means to feed and clothe his men. John Le Neve, the father of Almond N., was born in Tennessee, in 1803, and died in 1882, while his wife was born in Kentucky, in 1805, and died in 1882, three months after the death of her husband. When he came with his parents to Illinois John Le Neve settled in Lawrence county on Ellison prairie, west of Vincennes, Indiana, and remained there with his parents until 1823, when he came on to Vermilion county, Illinois. Here he married Rebecca Newell, reared their family and spent the remainder of their days. John Le Neve had a brother, Obadiah, who was born in 1799, and died in 1884. He was a man of charity and public spirit, and was kind to the widow and orphan. When he butchered he would kill enough stock

so as to give to those who were unable to purchase meat, and was always ready to help any one in distress that would apply to him. He was widely known throughout the country and loved by every one. No one went unclothed or hungry from his door and he was ever trying to uplift mankind. One Saturday he visited the home of our subject and entered into a religious conversation. Previous to this he had never made any religious profession, although his views were liberal and his life was in accord with the teachings of Christianity. In this conversation he spoke of the life to come and was content concerning the same. He was called away the following Monday night, departing this life at the home of Mr. Le Neve.

John Le Neve and his wife were the parents of the following children: Samuel P. married Adeline Wilson and lives three miles north of Danville; Isabel Martin is deceased; William married Emma Smith who died in Champaign county, Illinois. They had two children, Samuel Perry and Marshall Ney. William married again, his second union being with Minerva Mills. By this marriage seven children were born: Sanford, now a school teacher; Emma, deceased; Lilly, Thomas, Samuel, and Laura and Nellie, twins, all at home. The father of this family, William Le Neve, died March 16, 1902, leaving to his family an untarnished name and the heritage of a life well spent. His death occurred at his home in Indiana, where he had removed about 1808 or 1809. John Le Neve is now deceased. Seraphine is the wife of John S. Webber, a retired farmer of Paxton, Illinois, and their children are: Perry, deceased; Almond Flavins, who married Hattie Harnett; John L., Charley and Lincoln. Julia, the

sixth member of the Webber family, is the wife of Henry Corbley, of Champaign county, Illinois. Nettie L. is now Mrs. Ewell, and has one son. Ross is the wife of Stanley Sutton, an attorney, of Indiana. They have one son. The sixth member of the family of John Le Neve is the subject of this review. The seventh, Mrs. Mary Leonard, is deceased, leaving two children, Perry and Belle. John Wilson died in September, 1886. Thomas, the youngest child, died in infancy. John Le Neve came in a prairie schooner with his parents from Tennessee. He began his active business career with a capital of one hundred and thirty dollars and fifty cents. He entered eighty acres of timber and wild prairie land, paying therefor one dollar and a quarter per acre. This took one hundred dollars of his capital, and when he began housekeeping he had just thirteen dollars and fifty cents left. He made rails to pay for a cow and he drove pins in a log and laid a board across as a place to put their dishes. They ate their meals from a puncheon table, in the old log house where the subject of this review was born. During his life-time he was an enterprising farmer, and also a great stock man, raising and selling a good grade of stock.

Almond N. Le Neve was reared upon his father's farm and attended the district school during the winter season, while in the summer he assisted his father upon the farm. He supplemented his early education with one year in the Danville high school and after he left home he taught a term in Champaign county, Illinois. He then engaged in general farming and stock raising, always raising his own cattle and horses. He remembers the introduction of the crane, in 1850, and when the first cooking stove was brought into the neighbor-

hood. He relates how they used to build fires before matches came into use, with flint and knife, and how the pioneers used to bake "Johnny Cake." He remembers the first two augers which came into use in the neighborhood, the first known as a seven-quarter auger and the other as a one-quarter inch auger. Augers were so scarce then that they were obliged to carefully put away any boards which they might find with a hole in, for use in emergency. Part of the neighborhood could not farm until the hickory bark would peel, from which they made tugs, hames and shoe strings. On his own home farm they used to shuck corn in an old Virginia box. They had to make boxes so the ears would not roll out and had to repair the boxes each load. Their first plow was a wooden mold board, the next a single shovel. They cut grain with a reap hook and when the cradle came into use they considered it a great improvement. He remembers the first two carriages in that locality. Peter Starr owned one of these and Joe Cunningham's father the other. The people would gaze at these carriages in astonishment, regarding them as being "wonderfully and fearfully made." In these primitive times grease lamps and dip candles were in use. When later kerosene came into use it was regarded as being very dangerous. Many a time has Mr. Le Neve pursued his studies by the light of a fire. He also broke prairie in Champaign county, using plows that would cut from twenty-four to twenty-six inches. He and his brother William "batched" in that county during one summer in company with their father.

Almond N. Le Neve started on his business career in his twentieth year and remained in Champaign county, Illinois, until

after his marriage. The lady of his choice was Nancy J. Ford, who was born in Shelby county, Indiana, a daughter of William and Sarah (Louden) Ford, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Le Neve were born eight children. Louis died in infancy. Jerome, of Danville, married Grace Marple, and they have two children, Russell and Marguerite. Emma Belle, a bright little girl, died at the age of seven years. Fannie is now Mrs. Charles Young, of Newell township, and has four children, Don, Ross, Mary and Harriet Ruth. Hattie is the fifth member of Mr. Le Neve's family. Roy married Grace Coffman March 26, 1902. They have one child, Paul Reagan. She was born March 5, 1877, and is a daughter of Rev. William and Mary (Betzer) Coffman, of Indiana. Jerry assists his father on the home farm. Jennie May, the youngest of the family, died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Le Neve are members of State Line City Methodist Episcopal church, in which Mr. Le Neve was class leader for several years, also acting as Sunday-school superintendent. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Le Neve is permeated by Christianity, the entire family being active and earnest workers in the church. The children have all been reared under the influence of the good mother and father, and Miss Hattie has been identified with evangelical work for about six years. While in New York she spoke at A. B. Simpson's church and later went to Asbury Park, New Jersey. She is fitting herself as a missionary and expects to go to foreign lands to labor in the cause of Christianity. In September, 1895, Sister Mershon, an evangelist, held several meetings, during which Mr. Le Neve and his family were converted and sanctified. At

the close Miss Hattie Le Neve felt the calling of the Master to take up his work and gave expression to her feelings by singing with Sister Mershon. She has continued in this work since and is well fitted for it, having taken training at Nyack, New York, a missionary training institute. Roy Le Neve and his wife are also preparing for the same kind of work. Mrs. Grace Le Neve is a musician of remarkable talent, being able to sing and play any piece of sacred music, although she has never taken lessons along that line. The Le Neve family have a happy home and on the walls are inscribed many lines from the scripture. They have meetings held at their home twice a week. On the death of William Le Neve, the brother of Almond N., Miss Hattie Le Neve preached the funeral sermon. She had been previously requested to do this by William Le Neve. The service was very touching and was the means of bringing many to Christ. The Le Neve family is noted for its members being of such an upright and honorable class. The children of Mrs. John S. Webber, the sister of Almond N., all married into highly educated and cultured families.

Mr. Le Neve of this review has helped to establish the schools and nearly every church of this locality, and while living in Champaign county he also took an interest in public affairs. With his brother William he removed to Champaign county, Illinois, in 1858. In the panic of 1873-4 he lost heavily, but he did not become discouraged. He began life anew and by good management he again acquired a competence. He has always lived a Christian life and he feels that by reason of this he has prospered. He at one time owned one hundred and ninety acres of well improved land. Of

this he sold ninety acres or divided it among his children. He now has one hundred acres of the very best farm land, on section 24, Newell township. On this place he has lived for fifteen years. His son Roy was in the First Regiment, Illinois Light Artillery, Battery A, under Major Williston, Captain Yeager and General Brook. The regiment was sent to Porto Rico, but never was in battle, although some of the infantry and cavalry were called into light skirmishes. Mr. Le Neve of this review has seen the city of Danville develop from a hamlet to a thriving and flourishing city, and has been identified with the interests of Vermilion, his native county, all his life. He began life with no capital and through right principles of honesty and integrity he has prospered and stands to-day among the highly respected and substantial citizens of Newell township. In politics he is a Prohibitionist and gives his best efforts to the support of that party. Always public-spirited, he has served as commissioner of highways and school director for many years in Vermilion and Champaign counties, and he served as superintendent of two different schools during one summer. All movements for the general welfare have his hearty support and co-operation and no one is more highly regarded in Vermilion county than Almond N. Le Neve.

A. H. TREGO.

In whatever relation of life Mr. Trego has been found he has been respected for his sterling worth, his fidelity to principle and to duty and his enterprising and progressive spirit. He was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, on the 16th of June, 1838. He



A. H. Tracy.

is a son of Curtis D. and Mary G. (Gilbert) Trego, both of whom were natives of the Keystone state and were members of the Society of Friends, in which faith our subject was reared. The father was a farmer by occupation and during the greater part of his life carried on agricultural pursuits. In 1856 he went to Galesburg in order to provide his children with better educational advantages and was there engaged in conducting a grocery store. At the time of the Civil war he was engaged in purchasing horses for the post at Gallatin, Tennessee. He resided in Orion, Henry county, Illinois, for several years after the close of the war and the last ten years of his life were spent in Cass county, Iowa, where both he and his wife died. This worthy couple were the parents of nine children: Elizabeth, now deceased; A. H., of this review; Jacob R., who is living in Cass county, Iowa; Helen R., the wife of Joseph Engle, of that county; Letitia, the wife of A. Clark, of Earlham, Iowa; Lavinia, the wife of D. D. Hall, of Norfolk, Nebraska; Fred, of Cass county, Iowa; Frank, who died in Galesburg, Illinois; and Emma, who died in Henry county, Illinois.

In the common schools A. H. Trego began his education which was completed by graduation in Lombard College, of Galesburg, Illinois. He completed the collegiate course in the month of June, 1862, and in July of the same year he enlisted in the Union army as a member of Company C, One Hundred and Second Illinois Infantry, under Captain Frank Shedd and Colonel McMurtry. He served for three years and was on the staff of General E. A. Paine, holding the rank of first lieutenant for a year. As Captain Shaw was on detached duty, our subject took command of the company in the

Atlanta campaign, serving thus from Chattanooga until they reached Atlanta, as a member of Sherman's forces. He acted as aide de camp on the staff of General Harrison, who commanded the First Brigade and Third Division, Twentieth Army Corps, from Atlanta to Savannah during Sherman's march to the sea and continued as acting assistant adjutant general on the staff of Colonel Case, of the One Hundred and Fifth Illinois Infantry from Savannah to Goldsboro. After Harrison's return to his command Mr. Trego still acted as assistant adjutant general until after the troops reached Washington. He was mustered out in June, 1865, returning to his home with a record for gallant and meritorious military service. He was slightly wounded in the hand and again in the shoulder, but otherwise escaped uninjured.

Returning to Galesburg, Mr. Trego remained for a short time at that place and then went to Rock Island, Illinois, where he was engaged in the grocery business with his father for a year. He next occupied a position as bookkeeper in a commission house in Chicago and in 1867 he embarked in the produce commission business on South Water street of that city. There he carried on operations until 1871, when his business was destroyed in the great fire which swept over the city, the insurance company paying him only ten cents on the dollar. After this disaster he did not have money enough to buy himself an overcoat. With strong purpose and unconquerable determination, however, he began work in a lumberyard as a sorter. There he remained until the spring following, when he became shipping clerk, acting in that capacity until 1876, when he removed to Hoopston and established a retail lumber business, which he conducted with

success until 1888, when he sold out. Since that time he has been connected with agricultural pursuits and with the canning business. He was one of the three organizers of the Hoopeston Canning Company, which was capitalized for fifty thousand dollars. In this enterprise he was associated with J. S. McFerren and A. T. Catherwood, the latter now deceased. This business is still conducted by Mr. Trego and Mr. McFerren and since 1890 our subject has had the management of the plant. He was one of the eight organizers of the Union Can Company in 1894, which in 1900 was merged into the American Can Company of which he is a stockholder. He acted as president of the Union Can Company until the last year of its existence. He is a director of the First National Bank and is the president of the Hoopeston Horse-Nail Company. He owns valuable land in Benton county, Indiana, to the extent of four hundred and sixty acres and is equal owner with Mr. McFerren in fourteen hundred acres of valuable land in Grant township, this county. He also has real estate in Chicago, including some residences on Indiana avenue, with considerable realty in Hoopeston, including three or four hundred lots. His own attractive residence here, built in 1881, is situated at the corner of Fourth and Washington streets. He is the president of the Illinois-Cuban Land Company, owning twenty thousand acres of land in Cuba near the city of Santiago.

In Chicago, in October, 1868, Mr. Trego was united in marriage to Miss Frances C. Reed, a native of Fulton county, Illinois. In the family were eight children, five sons and three daughters, of whom four sons are yet living: Charles H., who is associated with his father in farming interests; Edward F., who is bookkeeper for the canning com-

pany; and Walter and Gilbert C., who are in school. The mother died April 28, 1897, and on the 8th of November, 1900, Mr. Trego was married to Miss Florence Honeywell, a daughter of Alba Honeywell, who is represented elsewhere in this work.

For thirty-four years Mr. Trego has been a member of the Universalist church and superintendent of the Sunday-school. He is also chairman of the board of trustees of the church and is deeply interested in everything pertaining to the upbuilding of the cause and to the extension of its influence. He is trustee of Lombard College, of Galesburg, Illinois, and for the past seven years he has served as president of the Hoopeston Public Library with the exception of two years when absent from the city. He is also secretary of the board of trustees of Greer College. In politics he is a stalwart Republican and for a number of years he served as an alderman of Hoopeston and was mayor of the city at the time the water-works system was inaugurated. He has ever been active in defense of measures pertaining to the general good. Socially he is connected with the Grand Army Post at that place, of which he was the first commander. He belongs to Hoopeston Lodge, No. 115, F. & A. M., and the chapter and commandery at Paxton. He arrived in Hoopeston in 1876 and has resided here continuously since.

The entire life of Mr. Trego has been one of unusual activity and industry and he is a self-made man in the fullest sense of that so frequently misused term. Holding important business positions, controlling vast interests—this speaks louder than words of his executive and business ability. His methods have always been in keeping with the highest principles of honorable and fair



W A Evans

dealing and with conscientious regard for the rights of others. He has a clear and comprehensive mind and is able to conceive not only large projects but also to execute well directed plans. Although he has been closely identified with extensive enterprises his time and attention have not been given wholly to them. He has been very prominent and helpful in business affairs and also in matters of public importance. He likewise has rare social qualities and delights in good fellowship and lacks none of those personal traits of character which are indicative of the warm hearted and high minded gentleman.



JUDGE D. D. EVANS.

Perhaps there is no part of this history of more general interest than the record of the bar. It is well known that the peace, prosperity and well-being of every community depend upon the wise interpretation of the laws, as well as upon their judicious framing, and therefore the records of the various persons who have at different times made up the bar will form an important part of this volume. A well known jurist of Illinois said: "In the American state the great and good lawyer must always be prominent, for he is one of the forces that move and control society. Public confidence has generally been reposed in the legal profession. It has ever been the defender of popular rights, the champion of freedom regulated by law, the firm support of good government. In the times of danger it has stood like a rock and breasted the mad passions of the hour and finally resisted tumult and faction. No political preferment, no mere place, can add to the power or increase the honor which belongs to the pure and educated lawyer."

Judge D. D. Evans is one who has been honored by and is an honor to the legal fraternity of Illinois. He stands to-day prominent among the leading members of the bar of the state,—a position which he has attained through industry, energy and marked ability.

The Judge has passed the seventy-third milestone on life's journey, his birth having occurred on the 17th of April, 1829, near Ebensburg, Pennsylvania, his parents being David and Anna (Lloyd) Evans. As the name indicates, the Evans family is of Welsh origin. His paternal grandfather was a native of the northern portion of Wales, while the grandmother was born in a southern district of the rock-ribbed country. In childhood they crossed the Atlantic with their respective parents, who located in the Keystone state. The maternal grandfather of the Judge was a leading and influential resident of Pennsylvania at an early day and was instrumental in the formation of a county there, which he called Cambria, the ancient name of Wales. He also laid out and founded the county seat of the new county, which he named Ebensburg in honor of a deceased son. Not only was he active in the material development of his portion of the state but was a man of much influence as the promoter of its moral progress, being a minister of the gospel.

David Evans, the father of the Judge, was reared in Pennsylvania, became a stonemason and contractor and aided in the construction of the famous portage road across the Allegheny mountains in Pennsylvania. That was at an early epoch in the history of railroads and the work was considered a piece of wonderful engineering. The money which he earned in this way Mr. Evans invested in farm land and then turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. It was thus

that Judge Evans became familiar with farm labor in his youth. The advantages and privileges which he enjoyed in his early youth were few. He did not enter a school-room until he was ten years of age, and then spent only two months in each year for a few years as a student there. He had a love of learning, however, that prompted his acquirement of knowledge through reading and study at home, and in this way he became qualified to teach, and for one or two terms followed the profession of teaching, whereby he acquired means sufficient to enable him to continue his own education at Hiram, Ohio. His capital was also supplemented by his earnings in the harvest field during the summer vacations. On leaving that institution he made his way to southern Ohio and for five or six years continued his work as a successful teacher. During that time he also spent one term as a student in the Normal Institute of Lebanon, Ohio. Forming the determination to become a practitioner at the bar, while still pursuing his educational work as an instructor he took up the study of law, and in 1860 he matriculated in the law department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and was there graduated in 1863.

In the meantime the country had become involved in civil war, and with patriotic loyalty Judge Evans offered his services to the government, but almost immediately after his enlistment he was taken ill with typhoid fever and was thus forced to return home. In November, 1864, he became a resident of Danville, and has since been numbered among its valued and honored citizens. Here he entered upon the practice of his profession in connection with John A. Kunkler. Older practitioners were in the field and the amount of legal business at that

time was not great. He found it difficult to obtain a foothold that would bring him sufficient pecuniary returns to meet his expenses, and, while gaining a start in his profession he again engaged in teaching for a year, and showed himself a successful teacher. He also became a factor in journalistic circles, and, in connection with Judge Clapp, became the owner of the *Chronicle*, which was consolidated with the *Vermilion County Plaindealer* and became the *Danville Plaindealer*, Judge Evans acting as editor of the new paper. All this, however, was but the means of tiding him over and after a year spent as editor of the *Plaindealer* he again returned to the practice of law as a partner of M. D. Hawes, and when Mr. Hawes withdrew from the legal profession after four years, Mr. Evans was then alone in business for two years. He then formed a partnership with Charles M. Swallow, this being continued for four years, when the Judge was again without a partner. In the meantime, however, he had demonstrated his ability to successfully cope with the intricate problems of jurisprudence, had displayed broad and comprehensive knowledge of the law, had shown force in argument, strength in reasoning and clearness and capability in the presentation of a cause. His ability attracted to him the attention of the leaders of the Republican party and in 1881 he was nominated on that ticket for the office of county judge.

In speaking of this part of his life a contemporary biographer has said: "When Judge Evans came to the bench he found the affairs of the court in a deplorable condition, owing partly to the long-continued illness of his predecessor, Judge Hanford, and partly to the loose and wholly inefficient methods which had prevailed in the conduct of the

office. * * * He found cases on the docket ten, fifteen and even twenty years behind, * * * and grave abuses and neglect of duty were evident, not the least of which was the practice of allowing guardians, executors and administrators to settle at such times as they might elect, with their wards out of court, and such settlements had been accepted by the court in direct violation of law, which requires such settlements to be made under oath, in court, with an itemized account of all transactions pertaining to the estates or other property in trust. Judge Evans insisted upon changing all of this. It is probably that the history of the entire state would fail to show such a complete and radical reformation and transformation in so short a time as was wrought by him during his first term in this office. He radically revised the methods in vogue in probate matters, and as rapidly as possibly under the circumstances, took up, straightened out and disposed of the old cases which had so long been lingering on the docket; required all guardians, administrators, executors, assignees and conservators to account for their trusts in the manner prescribed by law; developed the common law term from practically nothing to three terms per year of several weeks each, or in short he made the county court of almost equal importance to the circuit court. He appointed over two hundred executors and administrators, and about one hundred and fifty guardians and conservators, all of whom he required to account regularly in court as the law required. He gave his undivided attention to the duties of the position to which he had been chosen, and gave careful consideration to each case as it came up; and as a result of this care and as evidence of his knowledge of law

and sound legal judgment he achieved the proud distinction of having but one finding revised and but a single one reversed by the higher courts during his term of service.

Upon the expiration of his first term, Judge Evans was again elected to the same position, and for four years more presided over the court, the standing of which he had done so much to establish and elevate.

"It must not be supposed that the methods adopted by Judge Evans met the unqualified approval of all people in the community, although no one could speak aught against him personally, for his honor, integrity, ability and all that goes to constitute the ideal judge he was above reproach; yet there were many malcontents. There were those who had been thriving off the estates in trust, who found their occupation gone; the machine politicians were not in love with him, for he was not the kind of man they could approach, much less handle, for the furtherance of their schemes; and when it came time to nominate a candidate for the third term Judge Evans busied himself with the duties of his office instead of wire-pulling for the nomination, with the result that he awoke one morning and found another Richmond in the field. Then it was that the better element of the other political party—the Democratic—formed plans, and without consulting him and entirely without his knowledge, and of course without his consent, either directly or indirectly, placed his name on the ticket as their candidate for county judge. They justified their action in this matter partially by citing the fact that during his first candidacy for the office they had placed no candidate for the office of their own against him but had instead placed his name on their ticket, thus making him virtually the candidate of both political

parties; and now, when the machine element in his own party had succeeded in getting him put aside, the Democrats placed his name on their ticket from consideration of the able and impartial manner in which he had for eight years conducted the affairs of this important position. This action of his friends—undoubtedly kindly meant—placed Judge Evans in an awkward position. He could not without wounding the feelings of his friends preemptorily spurn this indorsement and in fact and truth he had no opportunity of “declining the honor,” as he was never consulted in the matter; so he simply let matters take their course. His enemies worked persistently and desperately, while he made no move and gave no utterance in his own behalf. The result was that he was defeated at the polls by a small majority. This may have been poor “politics,” and undoubtedly was from a practical standpoint, but Judge Evans was never a practical “politician” in the sense that term is used in the present day. He has none of that “all-things-to-all-men” sort of qualification which is the principal stock in trade of the average latter-day politician. He is modest, dignified and reserved, and scorned the practice of going into the field and actively soliciting votes for himself. The result was that his opponents called him an aristocrat without sympathy with the common people, and said he was a party turncoat because his name appeared on the Democratic ticket. By these and other like methods enough votes were secured to retire him from the office he had done so much to dignity and honor. He accepted his defeat gracefully, and at once took up again the practice of his profession.”

While the practice of law has been the real life work of Judge Evans he has at the

same time been connected with some very important business affairs and with public interests. In 1892 he became an equal owner in The Wabash Milling Company, but in 1894 a disastrous fire destroyed the plant, which was only partially insured, and thus a large loss was sustained. In matters pertaining to the general good the Judge has always been found on the side of progress, improvement and reform. He has been a member of the board of education in Danville and the cause of the schools have found in him a warm and helpful friend. He has never wavered in his allegiance to the Republican party and has been recognized as one of its leaders in his district, serving as chairman of the Republican central committee. In 1876 he was made a delegate to the Republican national convention, which nominated Hayes for the presidency and again and again he has been sent as a delegate to the state conventions of his party. He has ever been fearless and outspoken in defense of his honest political convictions, yet is not bitterly aggressive, however, no one has occasion to question his views. It is doubtful if he ever weighed an act of his life in the balance of political policy. He is an incorruptable patriot and deserves the homage that commanding ability wins from all men. In the press by his own pen he has denounced false methods and has ever believed in the office seeking the man rather than the man seeking the office.

In 1867 occurred the marriage of Judge Evans and Mrs. Edwilda A. Sconce, whose maiden name was Cromwell. They became the parents of three children, but only one is now living, Waldo Carl. The Evans household has ever been noted for its gracious hospitality, this home being the favorite resort of the citizens of Danville and its

social features are most enjoyed by the friends of the Judge and his estimable wife. As an orator, Judge Evans is not one of prominence, but is clear and forceful. He has been a student not only of political issues but of social and economical questions and from his pen have come able utterances on many subjects, covering a wide range of thought and investigation. There is nothing narrow or contracted about him and he cannot accept narrow creeds or dogmas but his is a religion which believes in the uniform laws of the universe and the brotherhood of man. He is a member of no church but his morals and integrity are unquestioned. He is a follower of facts rather than faith and is a believer in the freedom of thought. Few lawyers have made a more lasting impression upon the bar of the state, both for legal ability of a high order and for the individuality of a personal character, which impresses itself upon a community. Of a family conspicuous for strong intellects, indomitable courage and energy, he entered upon his career as a lawyer, and such was his force of character and natural qualifications that he overcame all obstacles and wrote his name upon the keystone of the legal arch. In his private life he is distinguished by all that marks the true gentleman. His is a noble character,—one that subordinates personal ambition to public good and seeks rather the benefit of others than the aggrandizement of self. Endowed by true nature, with high intellectual qualities, to which he has added the discipline and embellishments of culture, his is a most attractive personality. Well versed in the learning of his profession, and with a deep knowledge of human conduct, with great sagacity and extraordinary tact,

he stands to-day as one of the most distinguished members that has ever practiced at the bar of this portion of Illinois.

SAMUEL COLLISON.

Samuel Collison, the president of the First National Bank of Rossville, was born on the 1st of August, 1853, in Pilot township, Vermilion county, near Collison station, which was named in honor of the family. His father, Absalom Collison, was a native of Ohio and arrived in this county in 1828, when Danville was a mere hamlet upon a broad and almost unbroken prairie which stretched away for miles in every direction. He settled in what was then known as Higginville, entered land from the government and turned his attention to farming. The advantages which the county offered to her early settlers were utilized by Mr. Collison, who purchased land when it was cheap and extended his possession until he had about one thousand acres. This he improved and cultivated and the fields responded liberally with excellent crops. He also erected substantial and modern buildings upon his farm, including one of the finest residences in this part of the state, hauling the lumber from Indiana. He was not only abreast with modern improvement but was a leader in advancement along such lines, and the early development of the county was due in no small measure to his efforts. He married Mary Chenoweth, a native of Ohio, who became a resident of Vermilion county about the same time as her husband. They became the parents of twelve children, of whom seven are now living. The father

passed away when about forty-eight years of age and the mother afterward became the wife of John Smith.

In the district schools Samuel Collison acquired his early education, which, however, was of limited character, for his training was much more extensive in farm work and his time was largely given to the labors of field and meadow. His father died when the son was less than one year old, and when he had reached the age of nineteen he left home and began earning his own living. Soon afterward he purchased eighty acres of land in Champaign county and for five years resided thereon. During that time he was married, in November, 1874, when twenty-one years of age, to Nancy Lindsay, a native of Vermilion county and a daughter of David Lindsay, an early pioneer and farmer from Kentucky, who settled near Mr. Collison's farm. After about six years in Champaign county our subject sold his land there and returned to this county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of partly improved land. This he tilled and improved and to it he added a half section, thus becoming owner of a valuable farm of four hundred and eighty acres, constituting one of the finest and best improved farms of the county. He was extensively engaged in the buying and shipping of cattle for twelve or fifteen years, in addition to general farming, and became well known as a very successful stockdealer. In 1893 he became interested in the banking business as a stockholder in a private bank with which he was associated for seven years. In this enterprise he was connected with his nephew, Fred Collison. In 1890 he purchased the interests of Messrs. Cunningham and Christman in what was known as the Citizens Bank, which on the 1st of July, 1900, was organized under the name of the First National Bank, and is

capitalized for thirty-five thousand dollars. Mr. Collison is now the president of the institution, with Mr. Crays as cashier, and the officers, together with P. Cadle, J. W. Fagher, W. T. Cunningham, J. T. Christman, Ora Greer, and O. P. Stufflebeam constitute the board of directors. The institution has prospered, becoming one of the reliable moneyed concerns of the county, and the capable management and enterprise of Mr. Collison are accountable in a large degree for this desirable result.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Collison have been born two daughters, Mary and Olive. Socially Mr. Collison is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and politically he is a Republican, who strongly endorses the principles of the party but has never sought office as a reward for party fealty. His life has been that of the enterprising resolute American business man, watchful of opportunities, quick to note possibilities and yet never taking advantage of the necessities of his fellow men. His business career is one which any man might be proud to possess because of his success and the honorable methods he has ever followed.

THOMAS HOOPES.

More than one Illinois man whose name figures to-day upon the pages of history was born, as was Mr. Hoopes, in a log cabin and reared amid the hardships and privations of pioneer life, but it is only under the pressure of adversity and the stimulus of opposition that the best and strongest in men have been brought out. Although Thomas Hoopes did not direct his energies into channels which brought him political renown or military distinction, he became an important



Thos Hoopes

factor in reclaiming the great prairie districts of Illinois for the purposes of civilization and achieved success which awakened admiration and respect, and as long as the town of Hoopeston stands he will be honored as its founder and first settler.

On the 26th of June, 1806, in a little log cabin which stood in what was then Jefferson county, but is now Harrison county, Ohio, Thomas Hoopes first opened his eyes to the light of day, being the fourth in order of birth in a family of six children. Primitive pioneer conditions then existed in the Buckeye state and accordingly he was deprived of many of the advantages which could have been enjoyed in a more thickly settled region. His education was largely acquired under the direction of his mother, although later he had the opportunity of attending a private school for a month. About the time he attained his majority his father died, and he received as his share of the estate three hundred and thirty-four dollars and four cents, which served as the nucleus around which he gathered his fortune in later years.

Mr. Hoopes continued on the home farm until his marriage, which occurred July 8, 1846, Miss Anna Gray, of Harrison county, Ohio, becoming his wife. Soon afterward he purchased eight hundred acres of land near Marion, Ohio, and settling thereon put up one of the first brick houses in that part of the state. He also made many other substantial improvements upon his farm and devoted most of his attention to stock-raising, having a large flock of sheep grazing upon his farm all the time. In August, 1853, he came to Vermilion county to ascertain definitely the condition of the land and the prospects of the county. That he was satisfied with the investigation is indi-

cated by the fact that in 1855 he brought his family to the west and purchased of W. I. Allen four hundred and eighty acres of land, on which he established his home. It lay northwest of the present site of Hoopeston, crowning a hill on the old Chicago road. As time passed he added largely to his landed possession until he became the owner of seven or eight thousand acres. For years he was one of the most extensive stock-dealers and raisers of this part of the state, making large shipments to the city markets and investing his profits in land. On the 4th of July, 1871, the track of what is now the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad was laid across his farm and the year following the Lake Erie & Western also began running trains through this district. Mr. Hoopes, who was always a man of keen sagacity and foresight, believed that here would be a good site for a town and began laying off his farm in town lots, thereafter devoting his energies to the sale of these lots and to the supervision of the interests of the embryo village. The place was named Hoopeston by one of the railroad prospectors. Mr. Hoopes subsequently sold one thousand acres of his land to the firm of Snell & Taylor, who had a part of it platted and sold as town lots. From that time until his death Mr. Hoopes was engaged in no active business enterprise, save the supervision of his invested interests. He spent much of his time in traveling with his wife, who was in delicate health, they visiting many portions of this country in the hope that she might be benefited thereby.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoopes had no children but reared Mary R. Scott from a little six year old girl, who made her home with them until her marriage to J. A. Cunningham, who is represented elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Hoopes was a man of benevolent spirit, charitable in thought and action, and many have reason to remember him for the kindly assistance he rendered in their hour of need. No man ever accused Thomas Hoopes of taking unfair advantage of his fellow men or of performing any act that was not strictly honorable. While not a church member, his life was governed by the most rigid principles of honesty and morality. The golden rule was his guide through life and he despised all unworthy or questionable means to secure success in any undertaking for any purpose. In his political views he was first a Whig and afterward a Republican, but the honors of emoluments of office had no attraction for him. His wife passed away April 25, 1886, and his death occurred October 4, 1893. He left an estate valued at more than half a million dollars, which indicated his activity in business, his careful investment and keen discernment, but more than this he left a legacy to the state one of its beautiful and thriving towns; to the town he left the result of labors for the general good; to his friends the memory of a kindly spirit; and to humanity the example of a life of untarnished honor.



WILLIAM T. CUNNINGHAM.

William T. Cunningham is a financier of Vermilion county who has had marked influence in financial circles here, his efforts being a potent element in promoting business activity and the consequent prosperity of this portion of the state. Through long years he has been engaged in merchandising and banking in Rossville and is also connected through ownership with the bank-

ing interests of Danville. Recently he has taken up his abode in the latter city, being one of the founders of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank.

Mr. Cunningham was born near the city, December 1, 1856, and is a son of Humes Cunningham, representing one of the pioneer families of Illinois. The grandfather, William Cunningham, came from Kentucky to Vermilion county at a very early day and Humes was born and reared upon a farm here. When he had reached years of maturity he wedded Elizabeth Winning, a daughter of Thomas R. Winning, who also became a resident of Vermilion county at an early epoch in its history. Mr. Cunningham devoted his energies to farm work and carried on the work of plowing, planting and harvesting until his death, which occurred in 1859, when the subject of this review was a child of only two years. His wife also passed away in 1857.

William T. Cunningham of this review thus left an orphan, was reared by his maternal grandparents and in the schools of Rossville and Danville he pursued his education. After arriving at mature years he engaged in clerking and eventually became owner of a mercantile establishment, carrying on active business in different lines in Rossville until 1901. Associated with Mr. Campbell in 1891, he established the old Citizens Bank of Rossville and afterward purchased his partner's interest. Later he admitted Mr. Christman to a partnership in the business and by these gentlemen the bank was conducted. In 1900 that business was re-organized and merged into the First National Bank of Rossville, of which Mr. Cunningham is one of the directors. He became a stockholder, aided in organizing the institution and was elected to the official posi-



W. J. Cunningham

tion which he now fills. He has also had real estate interests, having bought and sold different farms in the county and at the present time gives his personal supervision to the management of his farms near Rossville. He was one of the organizers of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank of Danville, being associated in this enterprise with Mr. Christman. This bank was capitalized at one hundred thousand dollars and is a new institution of the city, having been opened for business on the 22d of January, 1903, with Mr. Cunningham as president and T. F. Christman, cashier. In the conduct of all of the enterprises with which he has been associated he has proved himself a successful business man and far-sighted financier and his probity and personal worth stand as unquestioned facts in his career.

In the year 1880, in Rossville, Mr. Cunningham was married to Jennie Foulke, who was born, reared and educated in Rossville. Her death occurred in Danville in February, 1883, and in 1888 Mr. Cunningham was again married, his second union being with Orrie L. Albright, who was born, reared and educated in this county and also attended college in Ohio. Her father, Samuel Albright, was one of the early settlers of Vermilion county and died in Rossville in 1902. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed with three children, Thomas A., Irene M. and Willard T.

Politically Mr. Cunningham is a Democrat where national issues are involved and at local elections he votes independently, supporting the men whom he thinks best qualified for office, regardless of party affiliations. He has given his time and attention to extensive business interests and has therefore had no desire to seek public office. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fra-

ternity of Rossville and his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. On the opening of the bank in Danville they removed to the city and already our subject has been recognized as a leading representative of financial interests here, because of the reputation which he has borne throughout Vermilion county for many years. He has ever taken an active interest in whatever has pertained to the general good and has given his hearty co-operation to many measures for the public benefit. His business affairs have been carefully and capably managed. He manifests keen discrimination, unfaltering perseverance and his judgment is rarely, if ever, at fault. Intricate business questions he comprehends readily, forms his plans after mature deliberation and then carries them forward with dispatch. As the years have passed he has thus prospered and to-day is one of the leading financiers of Vermilion county.

L. ANGUS CAMERON.

L. Angus Cameron, a well known resident of Grant township living near Hoopeston, was born in southern Ohio, on the 13th of January, 1852. His father, Christian Cameron, was a native of the same locality, and was a son of Alexander Cameron. The great-grandfather of our subject was Daniel or Donald Cameron, who came from Scotland to America soon after the Revolutionary war. He married a sister of Simon Cameron, who was secretary of war under President Lincoln. He brought with him from the old country two church letters giving evidence of his membership

and good standing in the Presbyterian church. He lived an earnest Christian life and the family have always been noted for their loyalty to Christian teachings and their active work in behalf of the church.

Christian Cameron was also a native of southern Ohio, and after arriving at years of maturity he wedded Miss Esther Core, who was one of a family of thirteen children. Her father, John Core, was a native of Maryland, while her mother was of Pennsylvania German parentage. L. Angus Cameron of this review is one of a family of eight children: Elizabeth, now deceased; Catherine; Sudie, who has also passed away; John; Anna; Angus; Emma; and Rose, who has also departed this life.

In the county of his nativity Mr. Cameron of this review was reared to manhood, spending his youth upon his father's farm and pursuing his education in the public schools. After arriving at years of maturity he was married and lived for four years thereafter upon a farm in the Buckeye state. It was on Christmas day of 1875 that his marriage to Miss Mary James was celebrated. The lady is a daughter of Samuel and Margaret (McCann) James, the latter coming of a family of Scotch-Irish ancestry. Mrs. Cameron is one of seven children, namely: Amarillus; John, deceased; Catherine; Eliza, who has also passed away; Mary; Sarah; Lucy; and Henry, the last named being also deceased. The history of the James family in America dates back to a very early epoch in the development of this country.

In November, 1882, Mr. Cameron brought his family to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county, at the place of his present residence in Grant township. When a young man he engaged in teaching school

for four years, but with this exception he has always carried on agricultural pursuits and his work has been attended with a gratifying degree of success. He lives on his father's farm of two hundred acres of land which he has placed under a high state of cultivation, the farm being a rich and productive tract. Everything about the place is neat and attractive in appearance and is indicative of the careful supervision and progressive spirit of the owner. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Cameron has been blessed with eleven children: Rosy, born April 14, 1877; Sudie, born August 27, 1878; Lucy, born July 10, 1880; Ann E., born May 4, 1882; Chris, born April 29, 1884; Esther, born June 10, 1886; Ruth, born March 20, 1888; John, born May 3, 1890; Kate, born May 7, 1892; Ralph, born May 2, 1894; and Ruby, born July 8, 1896.

In his political views Mr. Cameron is a stalwart Republican, having supported the party since he attained his majority. He has never wavered in his allegiance to its principles, yet he has never sought or cared for public office, content to do his duty as a private citizen. He and his family are all members of the United Brethren church, in the work of which he takes an active and helpful interest. He has served as trustee steward, Sunday-school superintendent and class leader, and puts forth every effort in his power to promote the cause of the church.

CHARLES A. ALLEN.

The name of Charles A. Allen figures conspicuously upon the pages of the legislative history of Illinois. An enumeration of the men of the present generation who have



Charles A. Allen

won honor and public recognition for themselves and at the same time have honored the state to which they belong, would be incomplete were there failure to make prominent reference to the one whose name introduces this review. For eighteen years he has been a member of the state legislature, and has ever manifested a deep interest in those questions which are to the statesman and the man of affairs, of vital importance to the commonwealth and to the nation. While undoubtedly he has not been without that personal ambition which is the spur of energy and without which little would be accomplished in life, his patriotic attachment to his country is even greater and he has ever placed the country's good before self-aggrandizement. Thus, over the record of his public career there falls no shadow of wrong and while he has awakened envy and criticism such as always comes to the man who figures prominently before the public the citizens who know him best have manifested their confidence in his worth and work by repeatedly electing him to represent them in the council chamber of the state.

Mr. Allen was born in Danville in the year 1851. His father, William I. Allen, was a native of Ohio, and a farmer by occupation. Coming to Illinois he entered land at Hoopeston, having three thousand acres, and upon this farm took up his abode. Later he became interested in banking and at the time of the "wildcat" currency his financial affairs became involved and he lost all that he had made. By profession he was a lawyer and at an early day he practiced in Danville at a time when Abraham Lincoln was also often seen in the courts of the city. He married Miss Emily Newell, a daughter of James Newell, a prominent early settler of

Newell township, Vermilion county, who aided in laying the foundation for the progress and development in this portion of the state. Her father died at an advanced age and was laid to rest in Grove cemetery in the town of Newell, in 1846.

Charles A. Allen was reared upon a farm in Ross township, Vermilion county, and pursued his education in the common schools of that township. He afterward engaged in teaching school and in this way provided the money necessary to defray the expenses of a college education. Determining to make the practice of law his life work he began reading with this end in view and later entered the State University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, as a student of the law department, graduating in the spring of 1875 and that same year he was admitted to the bar. He gained distinction as a lawyer because of his comprehensive knowledge of jurisprudence, his careful preparation of cases and his thorough understanding of technicalities as well as the equity of the suit with which he was connected. It is a noticeable fact that lawyers are more prominently before the public in connection with official service than any other one class of men. The reason for this is obvious, because the training which fits them for the practice of law also prepares them for duties which lie outside the strict path of their profession. They are apt to look upon a question from many standpoints, to view judiciously every matter that comes up before them for settlement and to give a more fair and unbiased judgment than is often rendered by men in other walks of life. The native talent and ability of Mr. Allen won for him the attention of his fellow men and in 1884 he was called upon to represent his district in

the state legislature of Illinois, where he has served continuously since, covering a period of eighteen years. His name figures conspicuously and prominently upon the legislative records and he has been the promoter of many measures which have found their way to the statute books of the state. He is a fearless champion of whatever course he believes to be right and his loyal defense of his honest convictions is one of the strong elements of his success in political circles. Perhaps his name came into more general prominence in connection with what is known as the Allen bill than through any other measure. This was the street railway bill which he promoted giving to the city councils and boards of supervisors the right of granting franchises not exceeding fifty years. The present law limits this term to franchise to twenty years. The bill which Mr. Allen promoted and fathered was carried by both houses and signed by the governor, but was repealed with the next session of the legislature, Mr. Allen being the only man who voted against the repeal. Vermilion county has profited largely by his efforts in its behalf and upon the floor of the house Mr. Allen is known as an active working member deeply interested in his party's success, but placing the general good before personal partisanship. In 1878 was celebrated the marriage of Charles A. Allen and Miss Mary Thompson, a daughter of L. M. Thompson, of Rossville, and they now have three children: John Newell and Lawrence T., both of whom are law students, and Esther Mary.

From 1875 until 1881 Mr. Allen practiced law in Rossville and then came to Hoopston where he has since lived. At the present time, however, he is not actively connected with the legal profession, giving

his attention to his legislative work and to the supervision of his invested interests. He owns twelve hundred acres of land in Vermilion county, fifteen hundred acres in Fulton county, Indiana, and has extensive investments in gold and silver mining property in Arizona, being one of five men who constitute the Black Rock Gold and Copper Mining Company. His pleasant and attractive home in Hoopston is located on Washington street. Mr. Allen is a valued member of the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias, and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a generous and liberal contributor to the churches and worthy institutions, and the poor and needy find in him a warm friend. A well known visitor of the Old Settlers' Home, he often addresses such gatherings and takes a deep interest in preserving the records of the early development and progress of the state. During campaigns he does effective work in the interest of the Republican party upon the stump and is an orator of ability, a ready, fluent, logical and convincing speaker. While Mr. Allen is to-day one of the most prosperous and distinguished citizens of Vermilion county, he deserves to be classed among the honored men who have achieved their own advancement. His education was acquired as the result of his own labors and his prominence has come to him in direct recognition of his merit, ability, and earnest purpose. Viewed in a personal light, Charles A. Allen is a strong man of excellent judgment, fair in his views and highly honorable in his relations with his fellow men. His integrity stands as an unquestioned fact in his career. His life has been manly, his actions sincere, his manner unaffected, and his example is well worthy of emulation.

GEORGE T. BUCKINGHAM.

George T. Buckingham is one of the distinguished lawyers of the Vermilion county bar and is also prominent in the business and political history of this portion of the state. Danville claims him as one of its honored and representative citizens, whose efforts in its behalf have been most effective and beneficial. He is a native of Delphi, Indiana, born April 4, 1864, and is a son of T. W. and Helen A. (Clark) Buckingham, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of New York, but both are now residents of this town. The first representative of the family to come to America was the Rev. Thomas Buckingham, who several centuries ago crossed the Atlantic and settled in New Haven, Connecticut. He was prominent in the affairs of that colony and was one of the founders of Yale college. Another distinguished representative of the same family was General William Buckingham, the famous war governor of Connecticut and probably the most prominent members in the subject's history. Helen A. Buckingham, the mother of our subject, was a descendant of General Emmet Clark, and in the maternal line was descended from General Luther Tillotson, of New York. Colonel Buckingham, of this review, is the third of a family of five children, namely: Ella B., the wife of George A. May; Mrs. J. E. P. Butz; George T.; Mrs. Robert P. Harmon; and Clyde, who is business manager of the *Globe*, a newspaper published at Joplin, Missouri.

Colonel Buckingham obtained his early education in Ladoga, Indiana, and subsequently matriculated in the Central Indiana Normal, after which he was variously employed in obtaining a living. In the mean-

time he took up the study of law under the direction of Colonel W. J. Calhoun. In 1889 he served as chief clerk in the house of representatives of Illinois and was in the government employ from 1890 until 1894, during which time he was stationed at various parts of New York, San Francisco, Mexico and Europe. He has practiced law in Danville since 1894 and has gained a prominent place as a representative of the bar.

While Mr. Buckingham has won an enviable position as a leading lawyer of Vermilion county he has also been identified with many local enterprises and with important public work and political service. He is a stockholder in the Ike Stern Company and the Danville Department Store. He is also an extensive dealer in real estate and was instrumental in founding the suburban town of Oak Lawn, and was identified with the establishment of the interurban railroad system of Danville and vicinity.

In November, 1893, Mr. Buckingham was united in marriage to Victoria Donlon, a daughter of John and Virginia (Holton) Donlon. This marriage has been blessed with one son, Tracy. Fraternally Mr. Buckingham is connected with the Masonic Order, with the Knights of Pythias, with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and with the Modern Woodmen of America. He also belongs to the Chamber of Commerce in Danville and to the Union League Club of Chicago. In politics he has always been an earnest and stalwart supporter of the Republican party. For four years, from 1897 until 1901, he served as a trustee of the Kankakee Insane Asylum under Governor Tanner and he was appointed by Governor Yates as one of the commission-

ers of the Joliet penitentiary and was elected president of the board. He is also a member of the staff of Governor Yates with the rank of colonel, having been appointed to the position in April, 1901. Few men are more prominently or more widely known, in the enterprising city of Danville than Colonel Buckingham. He has been an important factor in business circles and his popularity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating energy and industry that never flags. He is a public-spirited and thoroughly interested in whatever tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of Vermilion county.



WILLIAM B. REDDEN.

Character and ability will come to the front everywhere. As boy and man many a one has been beset by difficulties and has had almost unsurmountable obstacles thrust in his path, but perseverance has cleared them away and he has gone on to success. Such has been the record of William B. Redden, now extensively engaged in real estate dealing in Rossville, where he also devotes some time to the practice of law, being a member of the legal profession of Vermilion county, during the past twelve years.

Born in Fountain county, Indiana, on the 6th of October, 1855, he is a son of John Redden, whose birth occurred near Maysville, Kentucky, July 9, 1829. His grandfather, William Redden, was one of the pioneer settlers of Kentucky and subsequently removed to Indiana, becoming one of the earliest residents of Fountain county.

Amid the wild scenes of pioneer life there the father of our subject was reared, sharing in all the hardships incident to the frontier. He wedded Catherine Anderson, a native of Fountain county, and a daughter of John Anderson, another early settler of that locality, who removed from Virginia about 1820. After his marriage John Redden turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and for several years carried on his farm work in Indiana. After the birth of three of their children he and his wife came with their family to Illinois, settling near Rossville in 1860. There the father cleared a tract of land and improved a farm, upon which he reared his children. He is now living retired in Rossville and is a hale, hearty and venerable man of seventy-three years.

William B. Redden is the eldest in a family of two sons and two daughters, all of whom are yet living, are married and have families of their own. He was not yet five years of age when brought by his parents to Vermilion county and hence he has little recollection of their other home. He attended the common schools, but is largely self-educated, as well as a self-made man for his privileges for acquiring knowledge in the school room were very limited. When a young man on the farm he began reading law, believing that he would like to enter the profession and make the practice of law his life work. For some years he prosecuted his studies under great difficulties and amid discouraging circumstances, but this brought forth the elemental strength of his character and gave evidence of the perseverance of purpose and unflinching determination and ambition which have proved important elements in his success in later life. Subsequently he went to Veeders

burg, Indiana, where he conducted a branch law office for the Honorable W. H. Mal-lory, a prominent attorney of Danville. He was admitted to the bar in Veedersburg in February, 1889, and tried his first case at that place. Later he returned to Illinois, locating on a farm west of Rossville, where he carried on agricultural pursuits for ten years. In January, 1890, however, he left the farm in order to take up his residence in the town and here he has since engaged in the practice of law and in the real-estate business, giving the greater part of his time to his operations in property. He has bought and sold many farms in Vermilion and Iroquois counties and has also handled some farm land in Indiana. He has a broad and comprehensive knowledge of the value of real estate in this portion of Illinois and his dealings have been attended with gratifying success. He commenced life a poor boy, empty-handed, but steadily he has climbed the ladder of success. The very difficulties in his path seemed to serve as an impetus for renewed effort and with strong purpose he has pushed his way forward until he now stands among the prosperous men of Rossville, strong in his honor and his good name as well as in his prosperity.

On the 30th of March, 1879, Mr. Redden was united in marriage to Miss Sarah E. Remster, a native of Fountain county, Indiana, and a daughter of Andrew Remster, who was one of the pioneer settlers of that county. Four children have graced this marriage: Carter C., who is now a law student in his senior year, in the Michigan University, at Ann Arbor; Forrest, a student in the Rossville high school; Mabel; and James. When age conferred upon Mr. Redden the right of franchise he endorsed the principles of the Jefferson Dem-

mocracy, casting his ballot for S. J. Tilden for president in 1876. He has since voted for each presidential nominee of the Democracy and has done all in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. In 1896 he served as a delegate to the national convention and has been a delegate to numerous county and state conventions, his opinions carrying weight in the party councils. He is a Master Mason and in his life exemplifies the beneficent and helpful spirit of that fraternity. His life history proves conclusively what may be accomplished when one has the will to try and to do; and his example, showing the force of industry and an upright character, is well worthy of emulation.

L. E. SNAPP & SONS.

This well known firm of Georgetown has been engaged in business here since 1881 as buyers and shippers of poultry, butter and eggs. The senior member is a representative of one of the old families of Vermilion county and he was born in Georgetown, October 3, 1850, his parents being William and Mary J. (LaMar) Snapp, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Virginia. At an early day in the development of this part of Illinois the father came to Vermilion county and purchased a farm where the village of Georgetown now stands. He then turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he carried on there until 1853, when he was killed in a wind storm. His widow still survives him and now resides with a son in Iroquois county, Illinois. In their family were three children: George W., who is

now a railroad man, living in Iroquois county; Ella, the wife of Wesley Houck, a resident of Oregon; and Louis E. All received common-school advantages in this county.

Louis E. Snapp, like the others, attended the public schools until fourteen years of age, when he began earning his own living by working at any employment which would yield him an honest dollar. In 1875 he married Miss Margaret F. Bedinger, of Virginia, a daughter of Daniel Bedinger, who was a farmer of Vermilion county, but is now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Snapp have been born four children: Robert A., born in January, 1877, is now engaged in the poultry business in partnership with his father. He married Gay Edith Myers and they have one child, Marion. William D., also a partner with his father, wedded Lydia Outland, and they have one daughter, Olive. Jessie L. and George are the younger members of the family.

After his marriage Mr. Snapp engaged in contracting and other lines of business and eventually became interested in the lumber trade, buying timber and logs, which he converted into lumber for the market. He was thus engaged until 1881, when he began dealing in poultry and as soon as his sons became of age he admitted them to an interest in the business as equal partners. He now has poultry houses in Georgetown, Fairmount, and Cayuga, Indiana, and employs from eight to ten men in the conduct of the enterprise. A number of poultry wagons are continually kept on the road, buying butter, eggs and poultry of the farmers throughout this section of the state and Indiana. The poultry is dressed here and shipments are made only to the markets of New York, Boston and Philadelphia

The business has now assumed extensive proportions and his annual sales have reached a large figure.

Mr. Snapp votes with the Republican party. He has never been an office seeker nor has he held a political position. Specially he is connected with the Woodmen of America, and with the Knights of Pythias, belonging to the lodges in Georgetown. Since entering upon his business career he has been very successful and is now a prominent man of this place. He owns a beautiful residence in the eastern part of the village near the poultry house and his sons are located in the same neighborhood. Mr. Snapp through his business relations and otherwise has become widely known, especially to the farming community of Vermilion county and all recognize in him a reliable business man, whose energy and determination is supplemented by fair dealing.

C. B. DE LONG.

Perhaps no resident of Fithian has left his impress in a greater degree upon the business development and the consequent prosperity of the town than has Mr. De Long. His financial and mercantile interests there have been and are of an important character and he is a representative of that class of representative citizens who, while promoting individual success also contribute in a large measure to the general prosperity and upbuilding.

Mr. De Long was born in Philo, Illinois, July 29, 1863, and belongs to that branch of the De Long family of which the famous Arctic explorer was also a representative. His father, C. G. De Long, is a native of



C. B. Long

New York, his birth having occurred near Utica. In Racine, Wisconsin, he wedded Edna Moore, a native of Massachusetts. When but a boy he had accompanied his parents to Racine and was there educated in the public schools. He afterward engaged in farming and took his bride to the farm. There he continued to make his home until 1863, when he removed to Philo, Champaign county, Illinois. In that locality he purchased two hundred acres of very rich and productive land and in addition to this he owns a large tract of land in the irrigated section of Colorado. He is a wide-awake and enterprising business man whose keen discernment and unflagging industry have been potent forces in his success. A staunch Republican in politics, he does all in his power to promote the growth of his party, yet has always refused to hold office. He belongs to the Presbyterian church and is a man of prominence in his community. He and his wife have a family of six sons and two daughters: George A., a banker, residing in Foosland, Champaign county; C. B., of Fithian; Effie, who resides at home and formerly was a teacher in the public schools; Minnie, the wife of Eugene Burr, of Philo, Illinois; C. E., who carries on farming at Rocky Ford, Colorado; Clarence, who died at the age of twenty-three years; W. H., who is engaged in the banking and grain business at Sadorus, Champaign county; and E. B., who is in partnership with his brother W. H.

Mr. De Long, whose name introduces this record, pursued his education at home, in the public schools of Champaign county and in a business college, where he was graduated with the class of 1885. In the spring of that year he became connected with the grain trade at Strawn, Illinois,

where he remained until the fall of 1886. He then came to Vermilion county, settling in Fithian, where he embarked in the grain business, purchasing and rebuilding the Robinson elevator. He is still extensively connected with the grain trade and owns an elevator at Bronson, in Oakwood township, in addition to the one which he has in Fithian. A man of resourceful business ability and energy, however, he has not confined his attention to one line of activity, but has extended his efforts into other fields. He is now engaged in the insurance business and he owns a large warehouse well stocked with farm implements, his trade in this direction being no unimportant one. On the 1st of May, 1895, he established the Bank of Fithian, which he still conducts, and it has become a valued and important financial institution of his locality. He owns six hundred and forty acres of land near Rochester, in Fulton county, Indiana, and four hundred and eighty acres in Regina, Assiniboia, Canada. The new interurban system connecting Danville, Urbana and Champaign has taken a great deal of Mr. De Long's time during the past year as it was due to his efforts that the route now in use was chosen. At first it was the intention to bring the road from St. Joseph to Homer and then along the Wabash Railroad to Danville but owing to the activity of Mr. DeLong that route was abandoned and the road now follows the Big Four Railroad from St. Joseph to Danville, touching Ogden, Fithian, Muncie, Bronson, Oakwood, Bates Town and Vermilion Heights. Mr. De Long was the man who secured the right of way for the company along this route.

On the 8th of October, 1891, in Fithian, was performed the marriage ceremony which united the destinies of C. B. De Long and

Miss Minnie Berkenbusch, who was born in this town February 3, 1873, a daughter of Henry and Sarah (Stephenson) Berkenbusch, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Vermilion county. Her parents were also married in Fithian and here reside. The father was a soldier of the Civil war, defending the Union cause, and in politics he is now independent. Mrs. De Long, their only child, has become the mother of two children by her marriage: Ruth, born November 14, 1894; and Clarence, born July 23, 1897.

In his political views Mr. De Long is a Republican, and his fraternal relations connect him with the Modern Woodmen of America. He also belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and is interested in whatever pertains to the general good along material, social, intellectual and moral lines. He has led a very busy life and his marked enterprise has made him one of the most prosperous residents of his community. He has excellent ability as an organizer, forms his plans readily and in their execution is determined, prompt and reliable. This enables him to conquer obstacles which would deter almost any man, and it has been one of the salient features in his success.

GUS M. GREENEBAUM.

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 now made are those of mind over matter, not of man over man, and the victor is he who can successfully establish

control and operate extensive commercial interests. Gus M. Greenebaum is one of the strong and influential men whose lives have become an essential part of the history of Vermilion county. Tireless energy, keen perception, honesty of purpose, genius for devising and executing the right thing at the right time, joined to every-day common sense, guided by great will power, are the chief characteristics of the man. He is now closely connected with various important mercantile interests of Danville and his efforts in this direction have contributed largely to the commercial prosperity and upbuilding of this state, in fact a large majority of the citizens here would give to Mr. Greenebaum the credit for the increased activity which Danville has enjoyed in business circles in recent years.

Mr. Greenebaum is a native of Chicago—the city marvelous. He was born September 21, 1803, and is a son of Michael Greenebaum, who in 1840 removed from New York to Chicago and for many years conducted a large wholesale hardware business there, becoming a leading merchant of that city. He was also the founder and president of the Zion Literary Society, which was organized in May, 1887, and was well known as a proprietor of many enterprises that contributed to the general good along material, intellectual and moral lines. He married Sarah Spiegel, a sister of Colonel M. M. Spiegel, of Ohio, and they reared a family of ten children, of whom the subject of this review is the seventh child. Michael Greenebaum departed this life in 1894, at the age of seventy-one years, and his wife died in 1897 at the age of sixty-nine years.

Educated in the public schools of his native city Gus M. Greenebaum completed

his course in the West Division high school, with the class of 1879. He then entered the employ of his father in the wholesale hardware business in Chicago, where he continued until 1890, when he became associated with Charles Friend, under the firm name of Friend, Greenebaum & Company in the conduct of a commission house. They dealt in wool and leather, carrying on business until April, 1897, when on account of ill health Mr. Greenebaum withdrew from the firm and removed to Danville. Here he purchased an interest in the store of Ike Stern & Company, dealers in clothing and men's furnishing goods. He became secretary and treasurer of the company and in May, 1902, he purchased the interest of A. Appel in the store and also became Mr. Appel's successor in the Danville Department store. These two large stores were then consolidated in 1903 with Mr. Greenebaum as president and active manager, and the business is now occupying enlarged quarters, fronting on both West Main and Vermilion streets, covering sixty-five thousand feet of floor space. This arrangement makes a high grade department store as large as any found outside the city of Chicago. It is the outgrowth of a business established thirty years ago by Ike Stern, who died in 1897. In the enlargement and control of this enterprise Mr. Greenebaum has displayed splendid business ability, keen discrimination, sound judgment and executive force.

In the spring of 1899 our subject was elected president of the Chamber of Commerce and has been re-elected each year since. During this time the organization has doubled its membership and has been a most important factor in the progress of Danville during these years. By his renomi-

tion Mr. Greenebaum was complimented as one of Danville's most popular and enterprising business men. On account of additional business duties that have recently devolved upon him he desired to retire from the presidency but his services were considered so valuable that the members of the organization felt that they could not dispense with them and he was urged to remain in the office. The Chamber of Commerce has indeed done much for the city and great credit is due our subject, who, though controlling extensive interests in other directions, has given much of his time and attention to the performance of the duties of the office. The business men of Danville composing the membership of the Chamber of Commerce knew of no one likely to make as good a president and despite his urgent request to be permitted to retire he was renominated in 1902 without a dissenting voice. It is safe to say that he will keep the Chamber of Commerce up to its present high standard and that it will continue to be an active factor in the development of the commercial possibilities of this city. He is also the national vice-president of the Good Roads Association of Illinois, to which position he was re-elected for two years' service. He is also one of the promoters of the Danville, Paxton & Northern Interurban Electric line and was a member of its first board of directors.

On the 7th of September, 1886, occurred the marriage of Mr. Greenebaum and Miss Leah Friend, a daughter of Nathan Friend, of Chicago. Their union has been blessed with three children: James, and Harold and Robert, who are twins. In his social relations Mr. Greenebaum is connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Chicago Lodge, No. 437, F. & A. M.;

Troquons Lodge, No. 87, of the National Union of Chicago. Reared amid the spirit of business activity and enterprise, which has led to the wonderful development of Chicago, he became imbued with that spirit and has infused it into the business life of his adopted city. Mr. Greenebaum has made good use of his opportunities, he has prospered from year to year, and has conducted all business matters carefully and successfully, and in all his acts displays an aptitude for successful management. He has not permitted the accumulation of a competence to affect in any way his actions toward those less successful than he, and has always a cheerful word and pleasant smile for all whom he comes in contact.



ALBA HONEYWELL.

A witness of many and a participant in some of the adventures which have found their way to the pages of history during more than three-quarters of a century of the world's progress, Alba Honeywell is entitled to distinction and to honorable mention in the record of Vermilion county. He came here in pioneer times and from the primitive past to the progressive present he has labored earnestly and effectively toward the promotion of the best interests and the substantial development of this part of the state. Long has he resided in Hoopston, an honored patriarch of the community. To him there has come the attainment of a distinguished position in connection with the extensive business interests of the community and in controlling such he has become one of the real upbuilders of the town.

A native of Cayuga county, New York,

Mr. Honeywell was born December 15, 1821, and his father, Enoch Honeywell, was born in Westchester county, New York, in 1787. His education was largely acquired in that county and upon approaching manhood he engaged in the manufacture of patent wheel heads for spinning. This proved a very paying enterprise. With marked business foresight he realized the future of the west and that a man who had enterprise enough to take advantage of the opportunities there might attain to a position of marked affluence. Accordingly, in 1816, he made his way into Indiana and entered one hundred and sixty acres of wild land, embracing the present site of the city of Terre Haute, where he established a home and lived for several years until malaria drove him away. In the meantime he engaged in farming and shipping pork, sending his boxes by way of New Orleans to New York city, often going with his merchandise himself. He subsequently located in Cayuga county, New York, and engaged in chair making, living there until 1836, when he went on a farm in Steuben county, New York, where he made his home until his death in 1887. He was a man of marked mentality and of considerable literary ability. Under more favorable circumstances he would have distinguished himself in the world of letters, being a ready writer of both prose and poetry. He looked upon life from a broad humanitarian standpoint, recognized the influences which were helpful to mankind and those which were detrimental, favoring with fidelity the former and working with strong opposition to the latter. He opposed slavery and slave traffic and he also was directly opposed to Masonry and other secret societies. He was an agitator of public thought and influenced the same to a great extent, doing his best to arouse



Alta Konywell.

the people to a realization of the true situation concerning elements or interests that were derogatory to the public welfare. He never sought political office, however, nor desired any honors of such a character. In early manhood he was a member of the Baptist church, but becoming dissatisfied with the faith of the church in regard to the slavery question he left it and became identified with the Wesleyan Methodist, remaining a devoted member of that denomination until his death, which occurred in New York on the 14th of January, 1887, when he had reached the advanced age of ninety-nine years. His death resulted from an accident. He had retained his faculties to a remarkable degree and even in extreme old age he was a man of marked influence, laboring untiringly for the welfare of his fellow men. An extensive newspaper contributor, his views were widely read throughout the country and he also published many pamphlets at his own expense. He appealed to the hearts and minds of his fellow men in relation to their ethical duties, and who can measure the influences of such a life? Tennyson has said that our echoes "roll from soul to soul" and "grow forever and forever" and in the impetus which Mr. Honeywell gave to the realization of man's duty is undoubtedly felt to-day in the lives of those with whom he came in contact. He married Eliza Dye, a native of Rhode Island, who passed away about 1866, when seventy-four years of age. In their family were three children of whom the subject of this review was the eldest. Gilbert Honeywell is now a resident of Schuyler county, New York, while Emma became the wife of a Mr. Fenna and lives upon the home farm in Schuyler county.

Alba Honeywell was a youth of twelve years when with his parents he removed to that section of Steuben county, New York,

which is now included within the boundaries of Schuyler county, that state. His preliminary education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by academic study and he completed his education in the Oneida Institute near Utica, where he had the benefit of instruction from the noted reformer and theologian, Rev. Beriah Green, who was then president of the school and later spent several years in lecturing on temperance and anti-slavery, while his periodicals concerning reforms were widely read at that time. Mr. Honeywell began teaching, his services being employed in the common schools and academies. He had become imbued with the hatred of slavery because of the belief and teachings of his father and also of his honored instructor, and he was among the first to actively engage in the abolition movement. He served as a delegate to the Buffalo convention which nominated James G. Birney for the presidential candidate of the Liberal or Abolition party. He subsequently read law in the office of Gilbert & Osborne, prominent attorneys of Rochester, New York. During those years he made the acquaintance of many eminent men, including Gerritt Smith, William Goodell, Alvan Stewart and others interested in the anti-slavery movement.

Upon leaving Rochester Mr. Honeywell removed to New York city and became editor of the *New York Eagle*. Subsequently he was an active factor in the American Anti-slavery Society, of New York city, and was for four years the sub-editor of the *Anti-slavery Standard*, but ill health at length compelled him to put aside his work in this connection. He had during this time become acquainted with Wendell Phillips, Fred Douglas, William Lloyd Garrison, James Russell Lowell, Sidney Howard Gray and many other men of that time who for the

sake of their principles suffered to a large extent ostracism from society, but the abolition sentiment was growing, promulgated by such men as these. They became still more deeply rooted in their principles because of the opposition which they received, and although Mr. Honeywell was called to other fields of labor he rejoiced in the fact that the anti-slavery cause moved triumphantly on and that victory finally crowned the labors of the men with whom he had formerly been associated in the work.

The spring of 1853 witnessed the arrival of our subject in Iroquois county, Illinois. The broad west with its opportunities attracted him and on the 14th of April he stepped from the packet boat at Lafayette. It is hardly possible for the traveler to-day to realize what was the condition of the country fifty years ago. The people were then talking of the Wabash Railroad, but no steam car line made its way in this section of the state. Mr. Honeywell located in Iroquois county, purchasing one thousand acres of land in what is now Stockland township. There he resided for three years, during which time he made improvements upon his farm and he also purchased an additional tract of four hundred acres. While extending his agricultural interests he also engaged in teaching and he utilized every available opportunity during this period to promulgate the anti-slavery sentiments which were already gaining many adherents in Illinois—the state which was to give to the nation the great emancipator. In the spring of 1856, accompanied by his family, Mr. Honeywell started for the territory of Minnesota. He arrived in Chicago during Fremont's campaign and became associated with the Chicago News, which was edited and controlled by the Republican element. The party was that year organized and named, and it was

one of the journals which brought it into prominence before the country.

Mr. Honeywell spent that winter in Chicago, and in the spring of 1857 he removed to Logansport, Indiana, where he turned his attention to other business affairs, becoming a manufacturer of and dealer in lumber. He also taught school for several years in that place and in Lafayette. In the meantime he watched with interest the growth of the abolition sentiment and rejoiced in the victories which came to the Union arms after the Civil war was inaugurated. During the progress of the war he was offered the appointment of adjutant in the army, but circumstances prevented him from accepting it and in 1863 he returned to his farm in Iroquois county. While proceeding with the improvement of his land he also became prominent in public affairs. He served as township supervisor continuously until 1869, when he was elected county clerk for four years, acting in that capacity until 1873. In 1871 he purchased land on the present site of Hoopeston and at the close of his term of office he removed with the family to this place, having assisted in laying out the town. He was also instrumental in securing the extension of the Chicago railroad into this place and it was through his aid that the town grew and became prosperous. During his official service as mayor he labored untiringly for the city's substantial upbuilding and improvement along lines that would contribute not only to the present good but to its future development. He made two subdivisions and he still controls the sale of lots. He has been deeply interested in every movement of measure for the general welfare and in the introduction of all business interests which have contributed to the substantial upbuilding of Hoopeston. He assisted in the organization of the sugar and

canning factories located here and was connected with them until they became self-supporting business institutions, expending in their behalf five thousand dollars, from which he received no return.

For many years Mr. Honeywell continued his agricultural efforts, owning nearly one thousand acres of land adjoining the city of Hoopeston. He reclaimed this for purposes of cultivation, his labors proving of direct benefit to the community, because his efforts caused a material rise in land values. He was one of the founders of the First National Bank of Watseka, and has been connected with the institution as a stockholder and director for more than thirty years. He has also invested extensively in lands in other states, having several hundred acres together with a fine orange grove in Florida, and he frequently spends the winter in the sunny south. Now he is owner of about three thousand acres of land, much of it rich and valuable, in Iroquois, Vermilion, Cook, Lake and Scott counties, Illinois, and in Lake and Marion counties, Florida. He also has an interest in a canning factory at Ludington, Michigan, and a fruit farm there, representing an investment of many thousands of dollars. He owns the hotel at Higiana Springs, Indiana, and an elegant summer home at Lake Bluff, north of Chicago, in addition to his sumptuous and attractive residence in Hoopeston and much other city property. He also has investments in Cuba.

On the 3d of April, 1851, in Schuyler county, New York, Mr. Honeywell was united in marriage to Miss Cornelia Andrews, a daughter of Dr. Andon Andrews. She was born at Sodus Bay on Lake Ontario in 1829, and lived there and in Yates county, New York, until her marriage. Four children blessed this union: Estella, the wife of

John C. Cromer, by whom she has one son, Alba, named in honor of his grandfather, with whom Mrs. Cromer resides; Florence Andrews, who is the wife of A. H. Trego, of Hoopeston, and who possesses considerable talent as an artist, having taught both portrait and landscape painting prior to her marriage; Lillie Amelia, who is the wife of Dr. Thomas Allen Beal, a Methodist minister; and Sarah Eliza, the wife of A. M. Earl, M. D., of Lincoln, Nebraska.

From the organization of the Republican party until 1884, Mr. Honeywell continued one of its staunch advocates. He then became identified with the Prohibition party, having always been a warm friend of the cause of temperance. He is a man of decided views and influence, fearless in their expression, yet not bitterly aggressive, and he commands uniform respect and confidence wherever he is known. He thoroughly enjoys home life and takes great pleasure in the society of his family and friends. Courteous, kindly and affable, those who know him personally have for him a warm regard and what he has done for the development of this part of the state cannot be over-estimated. While he has controlled extensive and important private business interests which have continually enhanced his individual prosperity, he has at the same time promoted the general welfare and the public success. He was at one time greatly interested in the Pittman system of phonetic printing and shorthand. He was editorially associated with Andrew and Boyle in 1848, and in the Anglo-Saxon, a newspaper in New York city, advocating the phonetic reform, and printed wholly in the new type advocated. He is also the author of several works, the largest of which (yet unpublished) is an exhaustive treatise on language, embracing all its departments from element-

ary phonetics to rhetoric and logic—in all eleven books. Mr. Honeywell also wrote and staged several plays in younger years, in which plays he has appeared in character. There are few men who occupy as exalted a position in the regard of their fellow townsmen and citizens as does Alba Honeywell, not because of his splendid success, though that would entitle him to consideration for it has been achieved honorably and it has also been of financial benefit to the community, indirectly, but because of his sterling qualities of manhood, because of his deep interest in the oppressed, because of his hatred of vice and his love of all that is good, because of his sympathy for his fellow men who labor under many of the hardships of the existing conditions of life. His time, thought and effort have ever been given to the amelioration of such conditions and for this reason he deserves the gratitude of his fellow men.

SEYMER G. WILSON.

This is the history of my life. I do not know of any special act connected with the making of the history of this county that I can lay claim to, but as you have asked for it I will comply with your request:

I was born on the 1st day of March, 1858, in Pickaway county, Ohio. My father's name was John H. Wilson, Jr., the son of John H. Wilson, Sr., who was the son of James Wilson, a soldier of the Revolutionary war. He was an Irishman. My father's mother's people were Morgans, the original of whom came to this country from England in the days of the colonies. They settled in Virginia. The original ancestor of my father, on this side of the family, was at the time that he reached America a boy, and was immediately let out to learn a trade

on a six years' apprenticeship; before his time was half through he ran away from his master, joined Washington's army, remained with the same until the close of the war and was rewarded thereafter with a section of land not far from the White Sulphur Springs, Virginia. The Morgans were well represented in the war for independence and also every other war that this country has ever had. John Morgan, of Rebel fame, was a relative of my father.

On my mother's side I am German, her family having come to this country from Frankfort, Germany, where many relatives of hers now live. She was twelve years old before she could speak a word of English. Her father, Jacob Miesse, is now living in Noblesville, Indiana, at the age of ninety-four.

I came with my parents in October, 1864, to this county, and settled on the Eight Mile prairie, in what is known as "The Fairchild settlement." Father was a farmer, and here he followed that calling until the year 1876, when he moved to a farm five miles north-east of Rossville, this county. The farm was raw prairie, and here I broke, that spring, with one three-horse plow ninety acres of prairie sod, and killed twenty-seven rattlesnakes. My parents are now living retired in the village of Rossville.

I have one brother, Jacob Wilson, a successful merchant in Rossville, this county. I have two sisters, namely: Mariah, who became the wife of L. D. Lane, of this county, and died in 1888; and Matilda, now the wife of Henry Bell, of Tiffin, Ohio.

As already gathered from this article, my early life was spent on the farm, where I did every kind of hard work known to the calling. In those days I felt that farming was the hardest work in the world; I have since learned that children know but little



A. S. Vivian

of the trials of life. As a child I was sickly, and I now firmly believe that if my childhood days had been spent in the city, I never would have reached maturity. It was open outdoor exercise that I needed and father gave it to me in abundance. In those days we were very poor and usually moved every year from one rented farm to another.

My schooling was obtained in the country district schools, I never having attended any other kind of school in my life except one summer term of normal school in Danville, and the greater part of what education I have, I acquired as a teacher; having taught school in country districts from 1878 to 1882, during a part of which time I read law with Mann, Calhoun and Frazier, of Danville, staying in their office in the summer time and teaching in the winter. I was admitted to practice law in the summer of 1882, and at about the same time was appointed a government clerk at Washington, District of Columbia, where I remained for five years; and while there took a course in the National Law University, of that city, graduating therefrom with the degree of Master of Laws. I came to Danville in the winter of 1888, hung out a shingle and commenced to hustle with the county lawyers for business. I was elected state's attorney of this county in 1892, and was re-elected in 1896, being the first, and so far, the only state's attorney that ever succeeded himself in that office in the history of the county. During that time I tried some remarkable criminal cases, and also acted for the county in the celebrated "Gerrymander case," brought by Democrats against the Republican re-districting of the state following the election of 1892.

At present I am engaged in the private practice of law, and am well satisfied with my practice and the success I have obtained

therein. I believe that any man with good common sense can by devotion make a good lawyer—there is nothing difficult about it.

I was appointed counsel to Magdeburg, Germany, in 1900, by President McKinley, but was unable on account of business affairs to accept the position.

In December, 1893, I was married to Gertrude Wallace Kent, daughter of John W. Kent and Catharine Wallace Kent. Her father was a son of Perrin Kent, one of the first settlers of the Wabash valley; a man of strength of character, a farmer, a soldier of the war of 1812, a defender of Fort Stephenson, Ohio, and was with Harrison at the Thames, Canada. He was also a surveyor, helping in the survey of the boundary line between Illinois and Indiana. His ancestry was colonial, his father being a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Her father is still living, at the age of eighty, in the city of Danville. He was a successful farmer and stock-raiser, having accumulated a large fortune at the business. Her mother's people are Americans for many generations back; her mother's father being one of the first settlers of Edgar county, this state.

In politics I am a Republican, and fraternally I am a member of the Knights of Pythias, of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Eiks and a Mason of the Blue Lodge, Royal Arch Chapter and the Commandery.

I make no claims of being an orator, but feel that I can express my thoughts in a fairly clear and forcible manner; have now and then been called upon to deliver Decoration day addresses, Fourth of July orations and political speeches; also while state's attorney collected data for a lecture, entitled "Crime and Criminals," that I have delivered with modest pride to myself.

Financially I have been fairly successful, and am one of the directors of the Commercial Trust and Savings Bank of Danville.

I can only further say, that with me life has been a continually active battle; what help I have had is such as has come from my own exertions, and such as any one can have if they will go after it with the proper amount of determination. The people have been good to me, fate has been good to me and I know of no reason why I should not be well satisfied with the course of my life.

S. G. WILSON.

GEORGE G. SMITH.

Through sixty-three years George G. Smith has been a witness of the growth and development of this portion of Illinois and as a result of his business enterprise and activity he is to-day the owner of two hundred and forty acres of valuable land, all well tilled and improved, being supplied with modern equipments and machinery. He has a substantial home and good barns, his place being located on section 33, Blount township.

Mr. Smith is a native of Ohio, born in Scioto county, August 31, 1829, his parents being Isaac and Sarah (Glaze) Smith, who were natives of Virginia and Germany, a covered wagon drawn by horses for Vermilion county, where he arrived in safety after a long and tedious trip. He found here an unbroken prairie tract over which ran prairie wolves, while wild turkeys, prairie chickens, cranes and ducks could be had in abundance. The Indians had just left the district. Mr. Smith was accompanied by his wife and four children. He entered eighty acres of wild land for one dollar and twenty five cents per acre and immediately

began breaking and improving his farm. He hired some one to make rails with which to fence his land and in true pioneer style he began the raising of grain and stock on the western prairies, his market being Chicago, which was then but a village. Danville contained but one or two stores and a few houses. Upon the old homestead farm the father remained until his death. The mother of our subject passed away in 1848, leaving four children, and the father afterward wedded Mary Blackinship, who died in 1863, and two years later his death occurred, when he was about sixty-five years of age. Both of the parents of our subject were devoted members of the Baptist church. George G. was the third of their five children, but only two are now living, his younger brother being John H. Smith, of California. Those who have passed away are William A., Mrs. Mary J. Lanham and Martha.

In the district schools George G. Smith pursued his education, attending subscription school, which was held in a log building. Through the months of winter he sat upon a slab bench and studied from text books which were almost as elementary as the furnishings. In the summer months he worked upon the home farm and thus his time was alternately devoted to study and work until he attained his majority. He then began working on his own account as a farm hand through the winter and in the summer he drove a breaking team, receiving seven dollars per month for his services. Saving all his money he was thus enabled after a time to purchase forty acres of land for which he paid two hundred and seventy-five dollars. This tract was partially improved and with this to give him a start he entered upon the task of making a home of his own. He was married March

25, 1852, at the age of twenty-three years to Eliza Fairchild, who was born February 27, 1833, and is a daughter of Daniel and Lucy (Hemingway) Fairchild, early settlers of Blount township, her father being a local preacher. She was the second in order of birth.

After his marriage Mr. Smith continued to engage in farming and stock-raising keeping cattle, horses and hogs. In pioneer times he plowed with a wooden mold board and drove his horses with a single line. Afterward to cultivate his land he used a single-shovel plow and cut his grain with a sickle until that implement was superseded by the cradle. In 1844 he hauled a load of oats to Chicago, starting with seventy-five bushels and driving three yoke of oxen. On reaching his destination he sold his oats for twenty-five cents per bushel and purchased a load of salt for which he paid twenty-five cents a pound. He was absent on the trip for fifteen days. There was not a bridge between his house and Chicago and he had to ford the rivers, crossing the creek at Kankakee and Momence. At nights he camped out and thus in course of time his journey was completed. Chicago was but a village and gave little promise of its future wonderful development. Cook stoves had not then been introduced and Mr. Smith well remembers how johnny cake was baked upon a board in the fire place. He has also seen flint and tow used in starting a fire before matches were invented and he has helped to shear the sheep in order to secure the wool for clothing, only homemade garments being used by the family in that time. In the summer the mother spun the flax for the garments used in that season and wool for the winter clothing and homemade shoes were also worn. Church services were

held in the groves and lighted candles were fastened upon the bushes while campfires were often used to give light. Mr. Smith would often borrow fire from the neighbors when their own fire would go out. He has made rails at fifty cents per hundred and performed other work at an equally low price.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith were born nine children: Elizabeth, the wife of George M. Wilson, of Vermilion county, by whom she has three children: John E., who wedded Mary Tirebaugh, and died leaving a widow and five children; Elias D., who wedded Clarissa Smith, who passed away leaving three children; Marshall M., who married Lillie, a daughter of Noah Young, and they have two children and make their home in Indiana; Wesley C., who married Emma Sperry, by whom he has one child; Sarah, who is with her parents; Eva, the wife of Andy Lanham, by whom she has three children; W. G., at home; and J. O., who married Jessie Stone and has two children. They reside in Potomac.

For twelve consecutive years Mr. Smith has held the office of supervisor and for two years he was collector, for three years commissioner of highways, and for twenty years a school director. He to-day owns one of the best farms of the county and all that he possesses has been acquired through his own efforts and the assistance of his estimable wife, who has indeed proved to him a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey. He has never had a law suit but has ever lived peaceably with his fellow men and has enjoyed the unqualified respect of his entire community. He is now living retired in his comfortable farm home, his land being rented, and he well merits the rest which has come to him.

CHARLES L. ENGLISH.

One of the most active and best known of the financiers of the city of Danville and of the eastern section of the state is Charles L. English, president of the First National Bank, an institution which is recognized as being among the leading banking concerns of the state. Mr. English was born in Perrysville, Indiana, July 15, 1846, and is a son of Joseph G. English, who is mentioned on another page of this work. With his parents he came to Danville in 1854, being then a lad of eight years, and here his entire life has since been passed. Entering the public schools of the city he continued to pursue his studies therein until he entered De Pauw University at Asbury, Indiana, where he spent one year.

In April, 1864, when not yet eighteen years of age, Mr. English enlisted for the defense of the Union as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry, for the term of one hundred days, and in October following received an honorable discharge. The same patriotic devotion to the general good of his country has characterized his entire life, always having at heart the best interests of his state and nation.

For thirteen years Mr. English was engaged in the grain trade and also furnished lumber and railroad supplies under contract. In this enterprise he was associated with Colonel L. T. Dickason, now of Chicago, and their business grew in volume and importance until their trade assumed extensive proportions, they having at times several hundred men in their employ.

In 1867 Mr. English became identified with the First National Bank, of which he is now president. It was not, however, until 1882 that he began to devote his time almost

exclusively to the bank. For a number of years he occupied the position of cashier, later became vice president and is now the head of the institution, having been elected president in 1899, upon the retirement of his father, who had served in that capacity for many years. Under his capable management the business of the bank has increased until it is now one of the most important financial concerns of the state. Its success is certainly due in a large measure to our subject and since under his control the capital stock has been increased from fifty thousand to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, while the surplus has grown from forty thousand to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with additional profits of fifty thousand dollars. Mr. English has given his best energies to the advancement of this institution and is uniformly regarded as the leading financier in this part of the state.

In 1883 Mr. English was united in marriage to Miss A. O'Hara, of Anderson, Indiana, and unto them have been born two children: Benjamin Charles, who is now a student in the Culver Military Academy; and Daniel, at home.

Politically Mr. English is a Republican, and, while interested in politics so far as pertains to general government, he is not and has never been a politician in the common acceptation of the term. His business interests and his mental training have not been in that direction. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and is deeply interested in the principals of the order—the oldest fraternal organization in existence. As a citizen he is interested in everything pertaining to the general good, and he has been found a supporter of many public enterprises and charitable institutions, giving his influence as well as his means for their advancement. In business affairs he is ener-



L. English

getic, notably reliable and prompt in meeting every obligation and engagement. He has a genius for devising and executing the right thing at the right time, and he regards no business detail as too unimportant to claim his attention. His success in all his undertakings has been so marked that his methods are of interest to the commercial world. He has based his business principles and actions upon strict adherence to the rules which govern industry and strict unswerving integrity. His keen perception and honesty of purpose are counted among his chief characteristics and have contributed in large measure to the splendid success which has crowned his efforts.

MICHAEL WEAVER.

Michael Weaver was an honored citizen of Vermilion county who might be termed unique on account of certain characteristics. These, however, were such as might well be followed. They concerned his treatment of his fellow men, his conduct being guided by the strictest principles of honesty and integrity. He was born in Washington county, Maryland, near Hagerstown, and was a son of German parents who emigrated to America prior to the Revolutionary war. In the family were three brothers. The father died when Michael Weaver was but a small boy and his mother afterward married again and removed with the family to North Carolina, but Michael Weaver ran away from home when but ten years of age and joined a cattle drover's outfit with which he returned to Maryland, where still lived his elder brothers. From that time on he made his own way in the world. It

seems almost strange that a boy starting out so young in life and with no home surroundings should have developed the strong, sturdy and upright manhood which was characteristic of Michael Weaver. Not long after he had attained his majority he wedded Mary Elizabeth Specard of Hagerstown, Maryland, and about a year later they removed to Pennsylvania, where they spent the winter with his sister.

They then made their way down the Ohio river to Kentucky, where Mr. Weaver purchased a farm and lived for three years. He then crossed the river into Clermon county, Ohio, becoming one of its early settlers, and in 1818 he removed to Brown county, that state, where he purchased a tract of land which he cleared and developed into a fine farm.

Upon that property he made his home until 1828, when in a big covered wagon he started westward in company with his wife and nine children. Their destination was Sugar Creek, Indiana, but, not being pleased with the country in that locality, they continued on their way until they reached Vermilion county, Illinois, when a settlement was made in what is now Carroll township. Mr. Weaver entered land from the government and at once commenced its cultivation and improvement. He had to go to Palestine in order to make the entry. These were pioneer times for Vermilion county was then almost upon the borders of civilization. It was, indeed, a frontier settlement, having few of the advantages and comforts of the older east. At first it was necessary to go to a small place in Indiana in order to do trading. Later the members of the family went to Chicago for muslins, buttons, sugar, lumber and in fact almost everything needed about the household. Indians were still

numerous in this part of the country, but gave no trouble to the settlers. At the time the Weaver family arrived and took up their abode in Carroll township they found that another settler had built a little cabin upon the place. It contained two rooms with a kitchen built on and in this the family of eleven took up their abode, but as soon as opportunity afforded Mr. Weaver erected a more commodious residence. Game of all kinds was plentiful, venison was a frequent dish upon the pioneer table and prairie chickens and turkeys furnished many a meal. Wolves were often seen and frequently killed by the settlers and there were many other evidences of the wild condition of the country. Mr. Weaver always followed farming and stock-raising and in due course of time he gained for himself a comfortable competence.

Unto our subject and his wife were born eleven children, nine of whom reached years of maturity: Mary, who is the widow of Benjamin Baum, and is now living in Indianola at the age of ninety-two years; Jane, the widow of David Fisher, who is living with her son, Michael, in Indianola, at the age of ninety years; Catherine, the widow of Charles W. Baum and a resident of Indianola at the age of eighty-five years; Louisa, who is the wife of James Gaines of Edgar county, Illinois, and is seventy-seven years of age; Sarah, the deceased wife of Samuel Baum; John and Elijah who have also passed away; Clara, the deceased wife of Isaac Fisher; and Nancy, the deceased wife of John Cole.

Michael Weaver lived to be more than one hundred years of age and his wife passed away at the age of eighty-eight. She was a member of the Methodist church and an earnest Christian woman. In politics Mr.

Weaver was a Whig, but never took an active part in political work or sought office. He was a self-made man, successful in his business although his methods were considered odd by many. Would that there were more who had this oddity of honesty and fair dealing with them! Even during the war times when money was drawing twenty or thirty per cent he would never ask or accept more than six per cent, and he would never charge more than twenty-five cents per bushel for his corn. He did not belong to a church yet the true spirit of Christianity was manifest in his life for he did unto others as he would have them do unto him.

O. B. WYSONG.

It is a noticeable fact that the young men are rapidly occupying the foremost places in business circles. Whether this is due to superior educational training or to native ability is a question of dispute. Perhaps it is due to both. At all events the fact remains and each community numbers among its leading citizens men who, yet young in years, are controlling extensive financial, commercial and industrial interests. Mr. Wysong is one of the young men of Pithian, who deserves mention in a work of this character. He is occupying a position as cashier of the bank here and possesses marked business ability and executive force.

He was born in Mansfield, Illinois, July 17, 1875. His father, A. J. Wysong, is a native of Ohio, and in Mansfield, this state, was united in marriage to Miss Lavina Hilgoss, a native of Indiana. The father is a carpenter and contractor and was connected with building operations in Mans-

field until 1891, when he removed to Decatur. There he again engaged in contracting and at the present time he is occupying the position of foreman of the Decatur Refrigerating & Manufacturing Company. Unswerving in his adherence to Democratic principles, he has nevertheless refused public office, his loyal support being given in no hope of securing official reward for his party fealty. He belongs to the Christian church and is a man of strong purpose and upright character. The mother of our subject died April 22, 1881, and Mr. Wysong afterward married Elva Dickson, whose parents were from Ohio. By his first marriage there were two sons: O. B., of this review; and I. T., who resides in Mansfield. The children of the second marriage are: Charles, John, Gladys and Elva.

In the public schools of his native town O. B. Wysong acquired his preliminary education, which was supplemented by study in the high school of Decatur, Illinois, and later he entered the Northern Indiana Normal school at Valparaiso, where he was graduated on the completion of a business course with the class of 1890. He was afterward employed in the Commercial Bank at Mansfield, Illinois, for two years and in 1895 he came to Fithian, where on the 22d of April, of that year, he was appointed cashier of the Fithian Bank, in which capacity he has since served with marked capability, his labors contributing in large measure to the success of the institution. He is also connected with the grain trade here and his income is thereby materially increased. In connection with Mr. C. B. De Long, the president of the firm, Mr. Wysong has been instrumental in securing the interurban electric line along the Big Four Railroad. It was first proposed to bring it from Ur-

banda to St. Joseph, thence to Homer and follow the Wabash to Danville, but through the untiring efforts of Mr. De Long and Mr. Wysong, it now comes the other way, giving Fithian and adjacent towns the advantage of good service which they were unable to secure from the railroad.

On the 25th of November, 1896, Mr. Wysong was happily married in Fithian to Miss Cora M. Post, who was born September 5, 1878, a daughter of Dr. G. H. Post. They now have three interesting little children: Lois, Leda and Lenore. Theirs is one of the best homes in this part of Vermilion county and it is a favorite resort with their many friends, which circle is almost co-extensive with the circle of their acquaintances.

Mr. Wysong is a Republican and in 1897-98 he was one of the city trustees. In 1901 he was elected mayor and in positions of public trust he has ever exercised his official prerogatives in support of every movement calculated to prove of public benefit. He is a member of Ogden Lodge, F. & A. M.; Morning Star Lodge, No. 489 I. O. O. F., of Fithian; Corn City Lodge, K. P., of Ogden; Fithian Camp, No. 427, M. W. A.; and of the Methodist Episcopal church. His genial manner, unflinching courtesy and kindly spirit have made him popular and Mr. Wysong is indeed widely and favorably known in Fithian and this portion of Vermilion county.

J. L. RIDEOUT, D. D. S.

Dr. J. L. Rideout, a successful and popular dentist of Danville, was born in Fremont, Ohio, May 15, 1873, a son of F. W. and

Anna (Deemer) Rideout. On the paternal side he is of English descent and belongs to a very patriotic family which has been well represented in the wars of this country, his grandfather being a soldier of the Mexican war, and his great-great-grandfather of both the war of 1812 and the Revolutionary war. The Deemer family is of German extraction and was founded in Pennsylvania during the seventeenth century, since which time they have always taken part in public affairs of an important character.

F. W. Rideout, the Doctor's father, was also born in Fremont, Ohio, and after reaching manhood he there married Miss Anna Deemer, a native of Easton, Pennsylvania. For fifteen years after his marriage he was engaged in the real-estate, loan and insurance business at that place, and then removed to Tuscola, Illinois, where the following ten years were spent upon a farm. He took quite an active part in political affairs while residing there. His next removal made him a resident of Atwood, Illinois, where he practically lived a retired life, although he still dealt in loans and real estate to some extent. He was a Republican in politics, and while living in Tuscola served as county supervisor and held some of the township offices. In early life he was a member of Company K, One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Ohio National Guards and was called out during the Civil war. This entitled him to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic and he was also connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. For many years he was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church and an officer in the same, and died in that faith on the 14th of September, 1902, his remains being interred in the Cartwright

cemetery at Atwood, Illinois. His first wife had passed away in July, 1888, and in 1891 he married Miss May Barnett, who survives him. By his first marriage he had six children: W. J., a physician of Freeport, Illinois, who makes a specialty of the diseases of the eye, ear and nose; E. L., a farmer of Tuscola; J. L., our subject; R. F., a farmer of Atwood; Mayme, who is attending school in Freeport; and Clara, who resides in Freeport. The children of the second marriage are Harry, Nellie and Ray.

Dr. Rideout began his education in the schools of Fremont, Ohio, and after the removal of his family to this state he attended the public schools of Tuscola. Deciding upon a professional life, he next entered the Indiana Dental College at Indianapolis, where he was graduated in 1897 and the following year located in Danville, where he had since engaged in practice with marked success. He has a nice office in 412 Temple block, supplied with all the latest equipments known to the science, and he has already secured a large patronage which is steadily increasing.

On the 24th of December, 1896, at Tuscola, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Rideout and Miss Vivian Boyce, who was born at that place October 5, 1875, and is a daughter of Washington and Paulina (Perry) Boyce, the former a native of Illinois, and the latter of Jeffersonville, Indiana. Her parents were also married at Tuscola. Her father was a photographer by profession and was identified with the Republican party and the Grand Army of the Republic. He died in June, 1896, but his wife is still living and now makes her home with Dr. Rideout. They had seven children, six of whom survive the father, namely: David, a photographer of Tuscola; Albert, a dentist

of that place; William, farmer of Tuscola; Thomas J. and Charles M., twins, the former a dentist of Chicago and the latter a manufacturer of photographers' paper in that city; and Vivian, the wife of our subject. The Doctor and his wife have two children: Esther Pauline, born September 20, 1897; and Russell H., born July 19, 1899.

In his political views the Doctor is a staunch Republican, and socially he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Fraternal Army. He is quite popular both in social and professional circles and is a man highly esteemed and respected by all who know him.



C. B. SPANG.

C. B. Spang, grain merchant and the proprietor of the Star Roller Mill and lumberyard of Georgetown, is well known in Vermilion county. He is the leading business man of the southern portion of the county and through enterprise and capability has contributed not only to his own success but also to the general prosperity of the localities with which he has been identified.

Mr. Spang has been a resident of Georgetown for the past thirteen years. He was born in Butler county, Pennsylvania, December 13, 1866, and is a son of Josiah R. and Margaret (Bracken) Spang, both of whom were also natives of the Keystone state. The father there spent his entire life. He became manager of the Singer Manufacturing Company and occupied that position until his death. His widow and the family resided in Butler county until 1899, when they removed to Georgetown, Illinois.

C. B. Spang was educated in the common schools of his native county and began to learn the miller's trade at Butler, Pennsylvania, being employed in the Oriental Rolling Mills until he mastered the business. In 1887 he removed westward, settling in Terre Haute, Indiana, where he was employed as a miller for two years and on the expiration of that period he came to Georgetown. In 1889 J. E. Hayworth established the Georgetown Flour Mill but he was formerly engaged in the milling business here from 1880. On coming to Georgetown Mr. Spang entered the employ of Mr. Hayworth, and after working in the mill for two months, he purchased a half interest in both the mill and lumberyard, forming a partnership under the firm style of Hayworth & Spang. They continued business together until 1899, when Mr. Hayworth sold his interest to C. L. Austin, who was in partnership with our subject until 1902.

Mr. Spang is now alone and is doing the largest business in Georgetown. His elevator, which is located near the depot, has recently been enlarged and is now one of the most extensive in the county. He buys and ships grain daily and his business has now assumed very creditable and profitable proportions. The flour mill is located in the eastern part of the town and is conducted under the name of the Star Roller Mills. He manufactures the North Star flour, the Red Ball and other brands and has established a wholesale distributing house in Danville for the products of his manufactories. He deals in all kinds of lumber and building materials necessary to the construction of a house from the foundation to the roof and his patronage in this line is very extensive as the business is con-

stantly increasing. He is well known throughout the country as a prominent business man of Georgetown and his enterprise and industry contribute in no small degree to the commercial prosperity of the place.

Mr. Spank was united in marriage to Miss Florence Smith, of Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania, and they now have four children: Ethel, Genevieve, Charles and Bracken. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he has taken an active interest in church work. Socially he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Pythias, having aided in organizing the latter lodge in Georgetown. In politics he is a Republican and he has been called to fill a number of offices in the village. Besides his business interests here he owns an addition to the city of Danville, where he is engaged in real-estate dealing, and is also interested in a lumberyard and real estate at Westville, Illinois. He is a self-made man, owing his prominence in business affairs to his own skillfully directed labor, and among the well-to-do citizens of Georgetown he is justly numbered.

WILLIAM MOORE.

No adequate history of William Moore can be written until many of the useful enterprises with which he has been connected have completed their full share of good to the world and until his personal influence and example shall have ceased their fruitage in the lives of those with whom he has come in contact. Yet, there is much concerning him that can be set down with profit here as an illustration of what can be done by a

man with a clear brain and willing hands that sets himself seriously to the real labors and responsibilities of life. His name is so inseparably interwoven with the history of Hoopeston that no account of the business development and substantial upbuilding of the town can be given without mention of his name. His efforts too have extended far beyond the limits of Hoopeston, and many other communities have benefited by his labors, his marked business ability and his indefatigable enterprise. He is to-day numbered among the capitalists of Vermilion county and to this position he has attained not through the aid of influential or wealthy friends, but because he has prospered in his work and has made honest dealing one of the characteristics of his useful and active career.

Mr. Moore was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, on the 30th of November, 1841, and is a son of Silas and Mary (McCoy) Moore. Upon the home farm he was reared, and his early education acquired in the public schools was supplemented by a preparatory course in Spring Mountain Seminary of Ohio. He was pursuing his study there with the intention of preparing for the law when the Civil war broke out. He had watched with growing interest the attitude of the south and the progress of events leading up to hostilities, and, his patriotic spirit aroused, he resolved to strike a blow in defense of the Union if the country became involved in civil war, and on the 23d of April, 1861, only ten days after Fort Sumter was fired on, he enlisted for three months' service as a member of Company D, Sixteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. While with that command he was promoted to the rank of orderly sergeant and was mustered out the following August. On the 3d of Octo-



William Moore

ber, 1861, he was commissioned by Governor Denison, a first lieutenant with authority to raise a company, which he enlisted mostly among the students of Spring Mountain Seminary. This became Company I, of the Fifty-first Ohio Infantry under the command of Colonel Stanley Matthews. With his company Lieutenant Moore fought at Phillipi, Perryville, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge and Ringgold, and in January, 1863, he was commissioned captain. In the battle of Chickamauga he lost nearly every man in his command, one-half of the number being killed or wounded, while many of the remainder were captured. All of the regimental officers of the Fifty-first having been taken prisoners, Captain Moore, as ranking line officer, assumed command, and with but a few men bearing the regimental colors and a stand of Rebel colors captured from a South Carolina regiment in the last charge, he cut through the Rebel lines and safely reached Chattanooga the next day. It was a brave move and one which displayed superior knowledge of military tactics and undaunted bravery. On two particular occasions Captain Moore was selected for special service of a difficult and hazardous kind. He carried out his instructions with signal success and was complimented by his fellow and superior officers and the general commanding the army. In April, 1864, he was mustered out of the military service, having for three years been a faithful defender of the old flag.

Captain Moore has been a resident of Vermilion county since March, 1865. After his return from the war he remained a resident of Ohio for about a year and then came to the west, locating in Grant township, Vermilion county, where he had previously purchased a farm of three hundred and twenty

acres. From that time forward he has been very prominent in public affairs as an official and as a business man, and his efforts have ever proven of the greatest benefit to the community with which he is associated. From 1866 until 1874 he filled the office of justice of the peace and from 1867 until 1870 was collector of Grant township, while from 1866 until 1872 he was school treasurer of township 23, range 11. For several years he was also a director of the Hoopston public schools and it was through his energy and enterprise that the first imposing and substantial school building at this place was erected, a building costing twenty-five thousand dollars. In this work Mr. Moore received much opposition, but he had firm faith in the ultimate development of the town and time has proven his confidence well placed, for to-day that school building is one of the four ward schools. It is a substantial monument to his efforts in behalf of his fellow townsmen. The cause of education has no truer friend in all Hoopston than Mr. Moore or one who has been more effective in his labors to advance the general good along lines of educational and intellectual progress. He has been a member of the Hoopston Library Association since its organization.

Throughout all these years while capably performing official service Mr. Moore has also controlled extensive and important business interests. At an early day he purchased fifty acres of land at Hoopston which was laid out in town lots as the Moore & Brown addition. In April, 1872, he took up his residence in the village where he has since been engaged in the real estate business, buying and selling town property on an extensive scale. He was also a member of the firm of Moore & Perkins and later became the senior

member of the well known firm of Moore, McFerren & Seavey. Between March, 1874, and March, 1875, the sales of this firm reached three hundred and thirty thousand dollars. Mr. Moore is still associated with Mr. McFerren and their business interests are most extensive and important, including large landed properties in the south, in the states of Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee. It would be impossible to give an adequate account of the extensive enterprises which have been established and carried forward to successful completion by Mr. Moore. Soon after the organization of the Illinois Can Company he became one of its heavy stockholder and is to-day the owner of one-half of the business and is acting as general manager. He was instrumental in organizing the Union Tin Can Company, of which he became a stockholder and director and filled the position of president at the time the company was merged into the American Can Company. The business was founded in 1892 with a capital stock of forty thousand dollars, and when sold in 1900 returned to the owners one million dollars, the original stockholders retaining their respective interests as paid up stock. Industrial enterprises in many other parts of the country contribute not alone to Mr. Moore's individual success but promote the general prosperity of the localities in which they are located. In connection with Mr. McFerren he owns a large box factory at Memphis, Tennessee, the annual output of which is nine hundred cars of box shooks. These gentlemen are also the proprietors of a double band sawmill at Memphis, valued at seventy-five thousand dollars, and having a daily capacity of fifty thousand feet of lumber. Their enterprises owned and controlled by them includes a

large sawmill at Luxora, Arkansas, with a capacity of thirty thousand feet of lumber daily, a sawmill on Pitman's Island, manufacturing twenty-five thousand feet of lumber per day, a sawmill at Woodstock, Mississippi, with a similar capacity, and three other sawmills, each turning out about twenty thousand feet of lumber daily. Mr. Moore owns about one thousand acres of land in Vermilion county and in connection with J. C. McFerren is the owner of thirty thousand acres of timberland in Arkansas. They are now constructing a railroad from Luxora, Arkansas, to Big Lake, a distance of twenty miles, called the Mississippi, Big Lake and Western Road. This will furnish an outlet for their lumber and also will form part of a trunk line for the west from Joplin, Missouri, through to the Mississippi. Mr. Moore secured donations for the two railroads which enter Hoopeston and was a member of the committee for securing the right of way for the Lake Erie & Western Railroad through Vermilion county. He handled and sold the Thompson North Hoopeston addition and in connection with Mr. McFerren he purchased the Casement addition of one hundred lots, all of which were sold by the firm inside of six months and they also closed out the fifty lot addition of G. W. Smith. Mr. Moore's attention is given to the superintendency of the land and timber estates of the firm in the south and to the general management of the Illinois Canning Company of Hoopeston.

On the 1st of March, 1892, Mr. Moore was united in marriage to Anna Hamilton, who was born at Ash Grove, Iroquois county. Her father is now deceased and her mother and brother, Senator Isaac Hamilton, are residents of Chicago. Mr. Moore has three living children by a former mar-

riage: Winfield S., Claude H. and Cora M. The daughter is now the wife of Dr. Haines, of Memphis, Tennessee. In 1882 Mr. Moore erected his magnificent home at the corner of Fourth and Penn streets in Hoopston.

He is a Republican in politics and though his business interests are so extensive he yet finds time to serve his fellow townsmen in matters pertaining to the general welfare of the place in which he makes his home. He is a member of the board of aldermen here, having served in that office continuously since street paving was begun, and to-day he is the chairman of the streets and alleys committee and of the buildings and grounds committee. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and is a prominent Mason, holding membership in the blue lodge, chapter, council and commandery, and was the first high priest of the chapter at this place. It is impossible to estimate the scope of Mr. Moore's accomplishment. The benefits of his enterprise are far-reaching, furnishing employment to many hundreds of workmen and promoting prosperity in various communities. Endowed by nature with a sound judgment and an accurate, discriminating mind, he has never feared that laborious attention to the details of business so necessary to achieve success, and this essential quality has ever been guided by a sense of moral right which tolerates the employment only of those means that will bear the most rigid examination, by a fairness of intention that neither seeks nor requires disguise. It is but just and merited praise to say of Mr. Moore that as a business man he ranks with the ablest, as a citizen he is honorable, prompt and true to every duty, and as a man he has the honor and esteem of all classes of people.

JOHN H. PETTEGREW.

John H. Pettegrew, an honored veteran of the Civil war, has been equally loyal to his country in private life and in civil service. For twenty-three years he was deputy sheriff of Vermilion county, has filled the office of constable and is now one of the assistant county supervisors. He resides at his home at No. 82 Columbus street, in Danville, having retired from farm life, which for many years occupied his attention. He was born in Ohio, March 22, 1831, and is a son of Dr. Ezekiel and Emeline (Beach) Pettegrew. His father was born near Lawrenceburg, Indiana, and pursued a medical education, after which he engaged in practice in his native town and also in Scott county, Indiana. Subsequently he removed to Coles county, Illinois, where he practiced for seven years and then went to Vermilion county, Indiana, where he continued his professional work until his life's labors were ended in death. His wife also passed away in that place. In their family were eight children, three of whom are yet living: John H., of this review; Daniel, a resident farmer of Lincoln county, Oklahoma; and Margaret who is the widow of William Coatney and lives in Danville.

John H. Pettegrew accompanied his parents on their various removals during his youth and acquired a common-school education. He was about twenty years of age when he left home and came to Vermilion county, Illinois. He engaged in farming in Danville township in 1852 and followed that pursuit continuously for a quarter of a century, carefully cultivating his fields and caring for his crops until harvests were garnered in the late autumn and the sale of

his products brought to him a creditable financial return for his labors. While residing upon the farm Mr. Pettegrew chose a companion and helpmate for life's journey. He wedded Miss Elsie Luddington and they lived happily together for a number of years, but the wife was at length called to the home beyond. There were four children born of that marriage: John T., a farmer who now resides in Georgetown township; Daniel, who is living in Indiana; Clara, deceased; and one that died in infancy. For his second wife Mr. Pettegrew chose Miss Susan Bullion, with whom he is now living. Unto them have been born six children, but Clara, the eldest, died in childhood. Marion is now clerking in a store in Himrod, this county. Charles is in the employ of the Nimrod Coal Company of that place. Mary is the wife of Charles Rice, a resident of Park county, Indiana. William married Anna Stuebe and is living in Georgetown township. Park is a laborer of Danville.

After his marriage Mr. Pettegrew settled on a farm near Newport, Vermilion county, where he lived for six months. He then removed to Danville, where he was employed as a laborer and teamster until the Civil war broke out. He watched with interest the progress of events for a few months and then, feeling that his duty was to his country, he joined the army on the 4th of August, 1861, as a member of Company F, Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry, under Captain Keith and Colonel Smith. On account of physical disability, however, he was discharged at Rolla, Missouri, in December, 1861. He then returned to Danville, where he was engaged in teaming for a year, after which he was elected constable

and filled that position for two years. He was then chosen first deputy sheriff under Joseph N. Payton and filled that office continuously for twenty-three years under the various sheriffs of the county. He was prompt and fearless in the discharge of his duties and stood as a faithful defender of law and order. On his retirement from office he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 2, Georgetown township and there resided for twenty-one years, devoting his energies to the cultivation of his fields. In February, 1899, however, his son took charge of the farm, although Mr. Pettegrew still remains its owner. He then returned to the city, where he is now living a retired life. At the present time he is filling the position of assistant county supervisor, having served for several terms in this office. He takes a deep and active interest in political affiliations, keeps well informed on the issues of the day, and always votes with the Republican party. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Georgetown township. Mr. Pettegrew paid four hundred dollars on that church. He has always been liberal in his support of church and charitable work and his efforts have been effective in this direction. In his business affairs he has prospered and is now one of the well-to-do citizens of Danville. He owns a nice residence at No. 82 Columbus street and there hospitality abounds. The members of his household have many warm friends in the community and like Mr. Pettegrew are held in high esteem. He has long been in public service and over the record of his official career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil.

WILLIAM D. KUYKENDALL.

Among the large land owners of Vermilion county is numbered William D. Kuykendall, who resides on section 1, Middlefork township. He has a wide acquaintance in this portion of the state, his business interests having brought him in contact with many, while his social qualities have made him a popular citizen. He is a native of Virginia, his birth having occurred in Hampshire county, now West Virginia, February 11, 1831. His father, Luke Kuykendall, was born in the same county in 1812, and the grandfather, Isaac Kuykendall, was a native of the Old Dominion, where the family was established at an early epoch in the development of the state. Luke Kuykendall was reared in the place of his nativity and was there married to Elizabeth Welch, a native of the same locality. He was a farmer of Hampshire county for some years and afterward determined to seek a home in the far west, removing to Tippecanoe county, Indiana, about 1852. There he resided for a number of years, after which he came to Illinois, the place of his destination being Vermilion county, where he located in 1860, his home being near Potomac. He was not long permitted to enjoy his new place of residence, for his death occurred ere a year had passed.

In Hampshire county, West Virginia, William D. Kuykendall of this review was reared to manhood, receiving good educational privileges in the common and higher schools. With the family he removed to the west and in 1858 he came to Vermilion county, Illinois. Here he rented a farm for several years and after the war of the Rebellion he purchased his first land, becoming the owner of a tract in Blount township, comprising one hundred acres. This

was an improved farm which he further developed for one year and then removing to Danville he was there engaged in the livery business with his brother Jacob, who is still a liveryman of that place. Their association was maintained for eighteen years and then Mr. Kuykendall of this review sold his interest, although he is still the owner of a half interest in the brick barn in which his brother continues to conduct his stable. While in Danville our subject purchased property and built two good brick livery barns. The first one, however, was destroyed by fire, but with characteristic energy he replaced it by one which is still standing. In 1889 Mr. Kuykendall removed from the city to the farm where he now resides, on section 1, Middlefork township. Here he has erected a large brick residence, which is one of the substantial homes of the county. He also has good barns and sheds for the shelter of grain and stock and the latest improved machinery facilitates the farm work. He has planted fruit and shade trees and shubbery and has carried on the work of improvement on the home place until his farm is one of the finest of the township and stands as a monument of the enterprise and labor of the owner. Mr. Kuykendall has to-day one thousand acres of well improved land in Vermilion county and his possessions are the visible evidence of his life of earnest and honorable toil.

In 1862 Mr. Kuykendall went to Franklin county, Ohio, where he was married to Miss Emily J. Golliday, a native of the Buckeye state, her death occurring in Vermilion county about 1870. They had two children: Frank, who is married and resides in Danville; and Susan Jane, the wife of Jay Freese, of Ogden, Illinois. In Vermilion county Mr. Kuykendall was again married, in 1876, his second union being

with Miss Martha J. Smith, a daughter of John Smith, a native of England, who came to Illinois when the work of improvement and progress here was just begun. The daughter was born and educated in this county and by her marriage has become the mother of two children, Jacob S. and Mae A. The former is married and now follows farming in Middlefork township.

At local elections, where no issue is involved Mr. Kuykendall votes independently, his ballot being deposited in accordance with his faith in the capability of the candidate. In national affairs he was for many years a Democrat, but at the two last presidential elections he voted for William McKinley. He is a believer in prosperity and expansion and thinks that the work of the Republican party has furthered both during the last two presidential administrations. Matters of public improvement, promoting the growth and upbuilding of his locality have also received his endorsement and co-operation during the forty-four years of his residence in Vermilion county. He is well known in Danville and in Potomac, also in outlying districts of the county and his genial and social manner has gained for him many warm friends. His business interests have ever been capably conducted along lines leading to success and to-day among the prosperous agriculturists he is classed.

JAMES M. DOUGHERTY.

The record of an honorable life should ever be a source of inspiration and encouragement, and the history of James M. Dougherty is well worthy of emulation for he always lived so as to command the confidence and good will of his fellow men. He

was true to high moral principles and his high moral character and rectitude of action, his unquestioned probity as well as his business ability made him a valued citizen of Vermilion county.

He was born in Brown county, Ohio, April 28, 1829. His father, James Dougherty, was also a native of the Buckeye state, and in Brown county wedded Mary Kirkpatrick, who was there born and reared. The great-grandfather of our subject was of Scotch-Irish descent and was born in Scotland. Desiring to become a resident of the new world he crossed the Atlantic to Maryland and at the time the colonies attempted to throw off the yoke of British oppression he joined the American army and under General Washington fought for the independence of the nation until the glorious result was achieved. His son, Francis Dougherty, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Maryland and emigrating westward took up his abode in Ohio. Subsequently he came to Illinois in 1830 and was one of the extensive landholders of this locality. His four sons, including the father of our subject, then came to the west and cultivated the land which Francis Dougherty had purchased. Here he died in September, 1860, and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Christian Hill, and whose mother was the daughter of an English lord, passed away in 1851. In addition to the four sons already mentioned they had four daughters who also came to Vermilion county. These children were as follows: Alexander died in Vermilion county in 1888. He had married Jane Kirkpatrick who died in 1862, they had three daughters and one son, Jesse, whose death occurred while he was serving in the Civil war. Elizabeth became the wife of Mr. Ferrier, who died in Vermilion county in 1836. Later, she married Samuel



Gilbert, whose death occurred in the '50s. Mrs. Gilbert passed away about 1867, leaving four children, all of whom are now deceased. James, the father of our subject, was the third of the family. Malinda became the wife of William Leeper and they resided in Bloomington, Illinois, but both are now deceased. They left three sons and three daughters, and two of the sons and the daughters are yet living, namely: Margaret, who is matron of the Young Women's Christian Association, of Chicago; Elizabeth, the wife of Dr. Wallace, of Decatur; Charles, a resident of New York; and William, of Minneapolis. Maybary wedded Nancy Hickman and resided in Vermilion county until his death which occurred in 1840. He left a son and three daughters, the latter all yet residents of this county. Margaret became the wife of Ira Butler and made her home in Vermilion county until her death, when she left two children of whom one is yet living. Samuel married Jane Dalby and has also passed away. He resided in this county and had four daughters and three sons, of whom three daughters and one son, Benjamin, are yet living. Nancy, the youngest member of the family of Francis Dougherty, died at the age of thirty years.

James Dougherty, the father of our subject, came to Illinois in 1833, locating in Vermilion county, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death occurring in 1835, while his wife passed away in 1834. He was a Whig in his political views and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Of his family of four sons and one daughter we give the following record: Francis married Dassa Boggess, and she died leaving one child who has since passed away. He afterward married Susan Taylor, who died leaving nine children;

Marcus, a resident of Shawnee, Oklahoma; Milton, of Kincaid, Kansas; Louis and Alvin, prominent merchants who reside in Logan, Kansas; Elizabeth, the wife of Samuel Parrish, of Missouri; Marietta, of Kincaid, Kansas; Lilly, the wife of John Irwin, who resides near Kincaid; James A., a traveling salesman residing in Portland, Oregon; and Jennie, now deceased. After the death of Susan Taylor, Francis Dougherty wedded Belle McNeil and is now living in Kincaid, Kansas. They had four children, three of whom survive: Lyman, a traveling salesman representing a St. Joseph, Missouri, house; Charles, who is living near Kincaid; and Francis, who resides with his father. Kirkpatrick died at the age of one year. John Dougherty, the second member of the family of James and Mary (Kirkpatrick) Dougherty, wedded Margaret Chenoweth and after her death wedded Cida Graves. He has since died and his widow is residing in Fairmount. Of this union there were two daughters and three sons: Lawrence and Joseph, who are living in Buena Vista, Colorado; Molly, the widow of Dr. Wright, and a resident of Danville; and Berta, of Fairmount. Charles, the youngest child, died in 1873. James M. Dougherty is the third member of the family. Joseph, now deceased, married Louisa Neville, and they had two sons, of whom one is living, Alfred, of Lincoln, Illinois. Edwin's death occurred in 1890. Mary Dougherty died at the age of sixteen years in the year 1841.

James M. Dougherty began his education in the usual style of schoolhouse of the period, built of hewed logs, furnished with slab seats and lighted by greased paper windows. This building stood at the northeast corner of what is now the homestead farm. His opportunities, however, like those of other early settlers, were very limited and his

education was largely acquired in the practical school of experience. His father having died when he was six years of age, he lived with his grandfather, Francis Dougherty, and worked upon the farm. After the grandfather's death he managed the property, and he inherited forty acres of timberland from his father, and purchased eighty acres of prairie land, thus becoming the owner of a good farm. Later he traded his eighty acres for a valuable tract of land in Vance township, and in order to further complete his arrangements for having a home of his own Mr. Dougherty was married March 30, 1854, near Catlin, to Sarepta Jane Taylor, who was born in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, September 5, 1837. Her father, Thomas A. Taylor, was a son of Harrison Taylor and a descendant of Zachary Taylor. He was a native of Virginia, whence he removed to Kentucky and there died. His wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Allen, and also died in Kentucky. They were the parents of four sons and four daughters, all now deceased. Thomas Taylor was born in Kentucky, and in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, he married Iva Allen, whose birth occurred in Bourbon county, Kentucky. They began their domestic life in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, where Mr. Taylor followed the tanner's trade and farming. In 1853 he came to Vermilion county, purchasing five hundred acres of land, which he continued to cultivate until his death, which occurred September 20, 1870. His wife died December 3, 1893. In politics Mr. Taylor was first a Whig and afterward a Republican, and in religious faith he was a Cumberland Presbyterian.

At the time of their marriage Mr. Dougherty and his wife lived in a double log house on their eighty acres of land in Vance township, and he afterward purchased an

additional tract of eighty acres. In 1864 they removed to Fairmount, where he engaged in the livery business for three years. He next purchased what is now the home-stead farm of about three hundred acres, residing thereon for two years. On account of his own ill health and his desire to give his children better educational privileges he then removed to Danville, where for a time he was engaged in the butchering business. In connection with Benjamin Crane he built the Arlington Hotel in 1876, it being opened with impressive ceremonies on the 4th of July of the centennial year. In the fall of 1876, however, Mr. Dougherty left Danville and through the succeeding year lived in Fairmount, after which he erected a handsome and commodious residence upon his farm, taking up his abode there. It continued to be his place of residence until his death, which occurred January 14, 1889, and he was laid to rest in Dougherty cemetery.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty was blessed by the birth of six children: Mary, born February 26, 1855, died October 25, 1860. Enana, born June 28, 1857, was married October 16, 1894, to H. Jester Stearns, and they reside on a farm near Manson, Iowa. They have one son, Dorrance. For several years Mrs. Stearns served as a school director. Eva Frances, born May 22, 1860, became the wife of William Pankey, June 23, 1886, and they reside in Danville with their three children, Loyette, Dwight and Lorton. William Pankey is an attorney and manager of the Vermilion County Abstract Company. Alfred A., born January 29, 1863, died September 25, 1864. Maud L., born June 3, 1866, resides with her mother. Clara Kirkpatrick, born August 25, 1869, was married December 28, 1894, to Dr. A. H. Leitzbach, of Fairmount. They have one

daughter, Elizabeth. Miss Maude possesses exceptional artistic ability and was educated in her art under Professor Aulich, of Chicago. She studied miniature work with Miss Cecile Payen, of New York. She also further prepared herself in this direction at the Julian Art Academy, in Paris, France. On account of ill health she is unable to devote her time to teaching, as she had hoped to do, but she still gives considerable attention to painting.

In his political views James M. Dougherty was first a Whig, afterward a Republican and later a Prohibitionist. He served as a candidate for representative from his district and succeeded in polling a large vote which made his defeat almost a victory. He held a number of township offices, the duties of which he discharged with marked promptness and fidelity. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, served as elder of the church of that denomination in Danville for three years, and occupied a similar position in Fairmount. He was very charitable and generous, a consistent Christian man whose life was noble, whose motives were honorable, and whose actions were manly and sincere.

JOHN P. SWANK.

Among the substantial farmers of Vermilion county who have helped develop its natural resources and make it what it is today—one of the richest counties of the great state of Illinois—is numbered John P. Swank, now deceased. He was born in Indianola, Illinois, December 18, 1824. His parents were Ohio people who emigrated to Vermilion county, Illinois, at a very early date in the history of the county.

They became pioneers of the county and contributed much to the growth and progress of their community. Mr. Swank had three brothers, and four sisters, and one brother and one sister are living in Kansas.

In the public schools of Carroll township Mr. Swank was educated. He was reared on the home farm, early becoming familiar with the work of field and meadow, and thus acquiring a practical knowledge of the occupation which afterward became his life work. He was united in marriage to Miss Phebe Dickson, February 18, 1851, at Indianola, Illinois. She was born in Indianola, May 17, 1829, and is a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Doyle) Dickson, both of whom were born near Louisville, Kentucky. They were the parents of the following children: Nancy Dickson Hubbard, now deceased; Mrs. Swank; Mary Jane, deceased; Simon, who died in the service of his country, being killed in the Civil war in 1863; James, a farmer of Fairmount, Illinois, who is living with his son, his wife, Amanda (Shepherd) Dickson being deceased; and Elizabeth, who died in early girlhood. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Swank were born the following sons and daughters: Albert D. is a farmer residing at Collison, Illinois. He married Sarah Smart and they have one daughter, Pearl, who is noted as a successful trained nurse. He is fifty years of age. Gilbert E., aged forty-eight years, lives on a farm near Indianola. He married Emma Carter, who died some years ago, and he afterward was married to Anna Poindexter. Of this marriage there was born one child, Zelda, who is now nine years of age. Robert P., aged forty-six years, is a farmer of Indianola. He married Mary Dickson. Alice is the wife of J. Harvey Patterson. They have one lovely

child, Ereell, aged nine years. Edward, aged forty-one years, is a resident farmer of Indianola. He was united in marriage to Drusilla Lane, and is the fifth and youngest child in the family. In his political views Mr. Swank was a Democrat, and his sons all followed his belief and are all adherents to the cause of that party and its principles. In his life Mr. Swank exemplified the spirit of true manliness and he was highly regarded by all with whom he was associated. This was not because of his position as a leading and substantial man of the community, but because his character was so upright and honorable that they could not fail to respect and admire him. When he died he was laid to rest in Woodlawn cemetery, at Indianola. His death occurred June 8, 1894, and many friends besides the immediate family mourned his loss. Mrs. Swank makes her home on the old place at Indianola, and in her declining years she is being tenderly cared for by her children. The old age of a man or woman who have spent life rightly, is always beautiful to contemplate. Mrs. Swank has done this, and she receives the reverence and love of all who know her.



GEORGE W. REILLY.

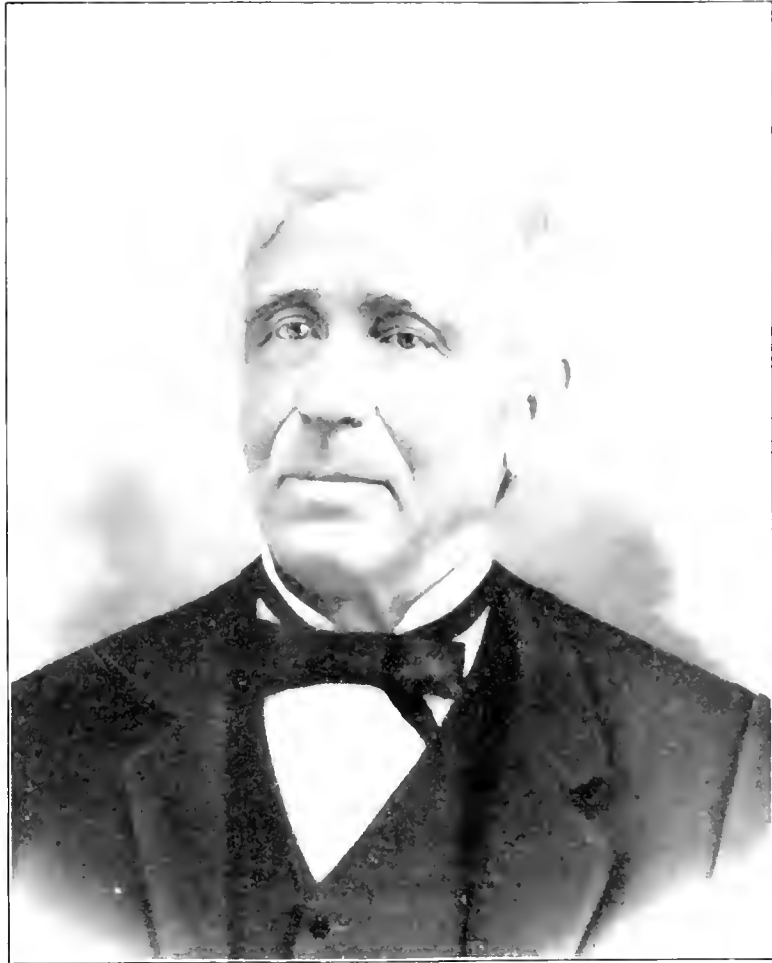
The energies and efforts of George W. Reilly have been exerted along lines which have proven of benefit to his fellow men and he is well known as a prominent manufacturer, church worker and also as a leading representative of the fraternal order of the Modern Woodmen of America. His labors in each direction have brought to him a wide acquaintance and he has accomplished

much in each line of activity so that he well deserves mention among the leading and representative men of Danville and Vermilion county, where he has made his home since the fall of 1868.

Mr. Reilly was born in Lafayette, Indiana, May 11, 1852. His father, Luke Reilly, was a native of Ireland and spent his youth on the Emerald Isle. He sailed for the new world in 1830. He was a lawyer by profession, and, locating in Lafayette, he there engaged in practice until 1868, during which time he was also elected and served as states attorney. In the year mentioned he came to Danville where he opened a law office and soon became known as one of the able and distinguished members of the bar at this place. For many years he enjoyed a large clientage which was indicative of the skill which he manifested in his profession. His last days were spent in Danville, where he passed away at the ripe old age of eighty-four years in 1897.

George W. Reilly was reared in this city and pursued his education in the Danville schools. After putting aside his text books he learned the harness maker's trade, which he afterward followed as a journeyman for several years. Subsequently he became foreman of a large manufacturing establishment, acting in that capacity for eight years, when he began manufacturing on his own account and continued the business with signal success until 1901, when he retired from active business life.

Politically Mr. Reilly has been a life long Republican, his first vote having been cast for Rutherford B. Hayes in 1876, while each presidential nominee of the party since that time has also received his support. He is quite active in local politics, but the honors and emoluments of public office have had



LUKE REILLY.



Geo. W. Reilly.

no attraction for him personally. He was, however, solicited to become a candidate for supervisor in 1898, and, consenting, he was elected to the office and served for two years. He established during that time a system of records unlike what had been before used. The expenditures previous to this time had been very extravagant and during his term of service he saved to the county twenty-two thousand five hundred and eighteen dollars. He was also president of the town board, occupying that position for two years and on the expiration of his term he declined further political honors.

Mr. Reilly joined the Modern Woodmen in 1886, becoming a member of the local camp and at once taking active part in its work. He was instrumental in increasing its membership from eighteen to six hundred and for twelve years he served as counsel. In 1890 he was elected a delegate to the head camp and continued a member of every head camp until 1901. In that year he was elected a member of the board of directors, a very responsible position and has since given his entire time to the order. This board pays out from five to six thousand dollars per month and the sum is constantly increasing as the membership of the fraternity grows. Mr. Reilly has firm faith and deep interest in the order, realizing how valuable it is as an insurance organization, protecting its members in illness and providing for their families at death. He is justly proud of what the society has already accomplished and he has contributed in no small degree to this result. He also belongs to Danville Lodge No. 69, I. O. F., in which he served as financial secretary for four years. He likewise belongs to the encampment of that order and both he and his wife are connected with the Rebecca de-

gree. He is a member of the Tribe of Ben Hur, of the Court of Honor and is a member of the auditing board of the supreme court of the last named organization. He has filled many positions of honor and trust and to whatever office he has been called he has been found faithful, diligent and efficient.

Mr. Reilly was married in Danville, November 4, 1874, to Miss Amanda Decker, a native of Hancock county, Ohio, and a daughter of Jeremiah Decker, who removed from the Buckeye state to Iroquois county, Illinois, locating near Watseka, where Mrs. Reilly was reared. Her father died when she was only five years of age and she then lived with her grandfather in Iroquois county until sixteen years of age. When a young lady she came to Danville, further pursued her education here and in this city gave her hand in marriage to the subject of this review. Unto them have been born seven children. Gordon L., a business man of this city, is married and has one daughter, Edna. Louie C. is a stenographer holding a position in the head office of the Woodmen fraternity of Rock Island. Walter S., Irma, Georgie and Helen are at home. They also lost one son, George William, who died in 1878 at the age of two years. The parents belong to the Kimber Methodist Episcopal church and for several years Mr. Reilly was superintendent of the Sunday-school, which for three years was the largest Sunday-school of the city, owing to his earnest and indefatigable efforts in its behalf. He has erected three residences in Danville and has aided in improving the city along many lines. A man of strong purpose, of indubitable probity, of marked devotion to any cause which he espouses, he has at all times and in all places commanded the respect and confidence of his fellow men.

THOMAS A. HOWARD.

Thomas A. Howard, who was born in West Virginia, January 4, 1852, is a son of J. W. and Sarah (Adams) Howard, who were natives of Virginia and were there married. Our subject was the third in order of birth in the family of three children and was educated in Iowa and in Vermilion county, Illinois, while upon his father's farm he was reared, working in the fields through the months of summer and attending school through the winter seasons. At the age of twenty-one he engaged in farming on his own account and about 1880 he turned his attention to the confectionery business, which he conducted for a time and then established a meat market which he carried on for two years. He built the first two-story building in Fairmount and entered the grocery trade, being identified with that line of commercial activity until 1901. In his various business enterprises he has been successful, carefully controlling his affairs and with keen foresight and energy conducting his interests until they have been made to yield to him a good return.

On the 11th of October, 1881, Mr. Howard was united in marriage to Miss Julia Lee, who was born in Vermilion county, September 25, 1855, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Jane (Saddler) Lee, both of whom are natives of West Virginia and became pioneer settlers of Vermilion county. Mrs. Howard was the third of their nine children and pursued her education in the public schools until she had entered upon the work of the senior year. She is an artist of exceptional ability, displaying particular skill in oil paintings, whereby she has won several premiums at the various fairs in Homer and in Danville. She has engaged in teaching art for several years and a number

of beautiful paintings of her production adorn the walls of her home. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Howard have been born two children: Lottie Lee, who was married in June, 1900, to Thomas Hughes, of Fairmount; and Joseph Conrad, who is now thirteen years of age and is a student in the Fairmount schools. In his political views Mr. Howard is a Republican and is recognized as one of the leaders of his party in this locality. Called to public office by the vote of his fellow townsmen, he served for two years on the board of aldermen and is now serving his second term as mayor of Fairmount, his re-election being indicative of his loyalty and efficient service. The cause of education has also found in him a warm friend and his co-operation in behalf of the schools has been of marked benefit. He is a liberal contributor toward the erection of the Baptist church now being constructed, and everything pertaining to the general good has found in him a friend, in fact, he has been a co-operant factor in whatever tends to advance the general welfare. He belongs to the blue lodge of Masons in Fairmount, in which he has passed all of the chairs and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp and the Court of Honor. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Baptist church and take an active interest in its work, Mrs. Howard serving as a teacher in the Sunday-school and as leader of the choir for a number of years. Mr. Howard can go back in memory to the pioneer epoch in the history of Vermilion county when the deer ran over the hills and when lesser wild game was to be had in abundance. This country was all wild, open prairie and the trees and bushes were the native growth. Mr. Howard has always greatly enjoyed hunting and has killed many deer, bears and wild cats. A witness of the growth of the county he

has seen it advance from its pioneer conditions to take its place with the leading counties of this great commonwealth, and whatever has been of benefit to the community has received his endorsement.

JOHN M. CUSTER.

John M. Custer, who is now practically living a retired life after a long and honorable connection with business affairs in which he gained for himself a handsome competence, was born in Putnam county West Virginia, on the 3d of April, 1831. He is a son of John M. Custer, who was a farmer by occupation and was born and reared in eastern Virginia. On leaving the Old Dominion the father emigrated westward to Champaign county, Illinois, settling in Homer in the '60s, but he was not long permitted to enjoy his new place of residence, his death occurring the following year. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Brown and who was of English lineage, died when her son John was a boy of only ten years. There were six children by that marriage. The sisters are all now deceased, while the brothers of our subject are M. B. and Edward Custer, both well known farmers. After the death of his first wife John M. Custer, the father of our subject, was married in Ohio to Mrs. Elizabeth Meyers, who died in Urbana, Illinois, in 1902.

The subject of this review began his education in a log schoolhouse with a dirt floor, split puncheon benches and greased paper windows, while the immense fireplace that occupied one end of the room, was built of mud and sticks. He received only

limited educational privileges but in the school of experience he learned many valuable lessons. In his early youth he worked in field and meadow, assisting his father on the home farm until he was eighteen years of age, when he made his way to Homer, Champaign county, Illinois. There he went to school for one year and followed farming as a laborer for some time. On the 20th of April, 1858, he rented land and commenced its cultivation on his own account.

On the 20th of April of that year Mr. Custer was united in marriage to Miss Lauretta Long, who was born in Vermilion county, October 30, 1840, her parents having located here at an early day. She was a daughter of J. C. and Philadelphia F., (Spicer) Long, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Kentucky, their marriage, however, being celebrated in Georgetown, Illinois. In his early life the father was a blacksmith by trade, but became identified with the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal church and labored in behalf of that denomination until his death, which occurred near Urbana, Champaign county, in 1886. He was at that time a member of the conference, although he held superannuated relations with it. His wife died in 1869 and was buried in the Concord cemetery near Georgetown.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Custer of this review was engaged in managing a hotel in Homer. In 1870 he removed to South Danville, where he has since been engaged in the ice business and in farming. He owns fifty acres of land on the river bottom between Danville and South Danville. He continued alone in the ice trade until 1888, when he entered into partnership with John Beard. The firm now utilizes eight wagons in the delivery of its pro-

duct and its partners are regarded as the leading ice men of Danville. Their ice houses have a capacity of nine thousand tons and their trade is very extensive, the business constantly increasing. For several seasons Mr. Custer also engaged in the operating of coal mines on a small scale, working drift mines. To a large extent he is living retired, although he is still interested in the ice business and looks after his land.

Unto our subject and his wife have been born six children: Fannie, the wife of John Weaver, of Fairmount; Mrs. Luella Yount, of Homer; John C., who married Matilda Dickinson, of Danville, and is now managing the ice business for the firm of Beard & Custer; Charles E., who is employed as a salesman by Isaac Stearns, of this city; May Viola, who is making a specialty of the study of vocal music; Gertrude, at home; and Jessie, who died at the age of four years.

In his political views Mr. Custer is a Republican and has several times been a member of the South Danville council. He belongs to Olive Branch Lodge, No. 38, F. & A. M.; to Chapter, No. 82, R. A. M.; and to the commandery, No. 45, K. T. In his life he exemplifies the benevolent spirit of the fraternity which is based upon mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness. He is enterprising, intelligent, become one of the leading business men of honest man. Starting in life poor he has this city. His career has not been marked by business failure and vicissitudes, but by steady progress and straightforwardness. The methods which he adopted have been such as to lead to success and therefore he is now enabled to live in practical retirement with a comfortable competence to supply

him with all the necessaries and many of the luxuries of life. He has passed the psalmist's allotted span of three score years and ten, being now seventy-two years of age, but he still manifests an active interest in the city where he has so long resided and the welfare and progress to which he has largely contributed through his active cooperation in behalf of measures for the general good.

MICHAEL KELLEY.

A glance at the history of past centuries will indicate at once what would be the condition of the world if the mining interests no longer had a part in the industrial and commercial life. Only a few centuries ago agriculture was almost the only occupation of man and the landed proprietor surrounded himself with his tenants and his servants who tilled his broad fields, while he reaped the reward of their labors; but when the rich mineral resources of the world were placed upon the market, industry found its way into newer and broader fields; minerals were used in the construction of hundreds of inventions and the business of nations was revolutionized. When considering these facts we can in a measure determine the value to mankind of the mining interests. One who is connected with the mineral resources of Illinois is Michael Kelley, who is one of the oldest if not the oldest coal dealer in this state, operating extensive mines and having contracts for supplying some of the largest industrial concerns of the country with coal.

Mr. Kelley was born in Ireland in 1837 and was twenty years of age when he crossed the Atlantic to America, arriving in New York on the 24th of July, 1857. He there





remained until October of the succeeding year and worked for the government on fortifications at old Fort Schuyler on East river. He afterward spent four months in Pennsylvania and then came to Danville, in February, 1859. He was here employed in a brickyard through one summer and the next year secured work in the coal mines on the bluff, in 1860. As his earnest labors brought to him some capital he resolved to engage in business for himself and purchased a piece of land which is now included within the city limits of Danville, being located near the Children's Home. He sold three acres of this but a portion of it he still retains. Mr. Kelley worked that place until about eighteen years ago, when he bought twenty-six acres of land on South Fork, three miles from Danville, along the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. He then sunk a mine to the depth of seventy feet and continued its operation for ten years. In the meantime he sunk several other mines in the same locality. He now operates six mines, being the largest mine operator in Vermilion county. His output in 1902 from two of his mines was eight hundred thousand tons. He now owns in one body eight thousand acres of land, on which he has six mines which are in operation, while another is now being started. As he has increased his business along this line he has also extended his labors into other fields of business activity, his efforts covering a wide scope. He built both the town of Kelleyville and Westville upon his land. The former was established without saloons and has been so continued. Mr. Kelley owns three general stores in Kelleyville, and one in Westville, and he owns about three hundred and fifty houses in those places. He has another general store in Danville. He employs about

two thousand seven hundred men in the mines, and the output for 1903 will be a little over two million one hundred and fifty-four tons of coal. Probably no other resident in the county has done so much for his fellow men in the way of furnishing employment and thus enabling others to serve him and retain their self-respect because they are self-supporting and independent. He is now under contract to furnish six hundred thousand tons of coal to the Standard Oil Company of Chicago each year and nine hundred thousand tons each year to the Illinois Steel Company for use in its plants in Chicago and Joliet.

Mr. Kelley is generous of his means and those in need of assistance are often helped by him. He possesses a most benevolent and humanitarian spirit. He is now building a brick schoolhouse at Westville which will cost between eight and ten thousand dollars. This will be a free school in charge of the Catholic sisters and will be given to the city. Mr. Kelley is a liberal supporter of churches of all denominations and gives freely to enterprises calculated to prove of general good. In 1865, in Danville, was celebrated the marriage of our subject and Miss Mary Dunn, who was born in the Empire state. They now have two sons and three daughters: Michael, who married Birdie Podgett; Edward, who is engaged in bookkeeping for his father; Nellie, Ruth and Jennie, all at home. The family have an elegant home opposite the postoffice, the former residence of Judge Davis. Mr. and Mrs. Kelley lost one child, Mary, who was a graduate of the Catholic school at Notre Dame, Indiana, who died in 1900, at the age of twenty-four years. Two daughters, Ruth and Jennie, are now students at St. Mary's Academy, Notre Dame, Indiana.

The family are communicants of the Catholic church.

In his youth Mr. Kelley had very limited opportunities for acquiring an education or to gain a start in life. He says that when he came to Danville he had nothing but his health. That condition is a strong contrast to his present financial standing, for he today ranks among the wealthy men of this state. All this is due to his business ability, his enterprise and unremitting labor. His life has ever been a very busy one and that he has advanced beyond others on the road to success is due not to any inherited fortune or to a combination of lucky circumstances, but is the direct result of the exercise of qualities which may be cultivated by all. His wealth has come to him from the discrimination and utilization of opportunity and the most envious cannot grudge him his success, so honorably has it been won and so worthily used is it.



SAMUEL W. BAUM.

The three essential elements of success—industry, energy and intelligence—may be acquired by all. They do not come through hereditary tendencies, save in a latent form which must be developed through exercise; they cannot be received as a legacy; nor can they be purchased. They are a matter of acquirement through cultivation and thus in a country unhampered by caste or class the road to success is open to all. Samuel W. Baum may well be termed a self-made man, for while he stands to-day among the prosperous men of Vermilion county, he was at the outset of his business career empty-handed and dependent entirely upon his own exertions. He became a

leading farmer and stock-raiser, also extended his efforts into other fields of endeavor and now he is living retired in the enjoyment of the competence which he has gained.

Mr. Baum was born February 15, 1842, on the old family homestead in Carroll township, Vermilion county, a son of Samuel and Sarah (Weaver) Baum. He began his education in a little log schoolhouse in Indianola and after a few weeks entered a subscription school taught in the old house that now stands beside the Baptist church. The teachers "boarded round" at the homes of the pupils. For two summers he was under the instruction of a capable lady teacher. Later he attended only for about two and a half months in the winter season, but in later years he cultivated a power of observing as well as a love of reading and thus he continually broadened his knowledge, becoming a well informed man. His father believed in keeping the boys busy and thus he early became familiar with hard work. He would break prairie with six yoke of oxen, turning a twenty-two inch furrow. After his father's death he left home and was employed for a time as a farm hand by the day. His younger brother remained at home and as they each had a horse they had bought they made a team, purchased a plow and set of harness and rented their father's farm from the executors. After farming together for a year they borrowed some money and began buying yearling cattle, which they fed and grazed until they were three years old, when they fattened them and sold. The second year they both owned a team and remained on the farm. Their first crop brought eight and ten cents per bushel, but in war times prices advanced.

When the estate was settled Samuel W. Baum received his share—eighty acres of

raw prairie, and after the fourth year he broke this. The timber with which he fenced it, he hauled seven miles. His uncle said he would not fence it for the land—such was the estimate placed on prairie at that time. The next year Mr. Baum bought another eighty-acre tract, fenced the entire amount and placed it under the plow. During this time he and his brother had continued in the cattle business together and the partnership was maintained until 1872, during which time they became extensive shippers of and dealers in cattle. They then dissolved partnership, but Mr. Baum continued the business and from time to time he purchased more land until his possessions now aggregate fourteen hundred acres in Vermilion county. For several years he boarded with his sister, Mrs. Pugh, who lived near by, and then he erected a small frame house, but later made extensive, valuable and splendid improvements on his farm until it was one of the best country seats of this portion of the state. There he lived until November, 1890, when he removed to Danville, and after two years he came to Indianola, where he purchased property and has since made his home. While he is practically living retired, he yet gives his supervision to his large farm. He has been one of the most extensive dealers in cattle in eastern Illinois and for many years he was interested in fancy stock. In 1892 he fed six head of two years-old steers, that weighed on an average of nineteen hundred and fifty pounds. For many years he bred fancy shorthorn cattle, and he gave some attention to horses but made a specialty of beef cattle and hogs. For a time he was connected with the Danville Fair Association and the Indianola Association, and has ever been interested in whatever tends to promote advancement along agricultural lines. His attention, however,

has not been confined entirely to farm products and kindred industries for he is a stockholder in the large Emery dry-goods house of Danville.

On the 5th of November, 1879, Mr. Baum was united in marriage to Miss Della Stewart, a native of Vermilion county and a daughter of Joseph and Sarah Jane (Cochran) Stewart. She was born on the old Achilles Morgan farm in the first brick house built in this county. Her parents were natives of Brown county, Ohio, were there married and in an early day went to Woodford county, Illinois. They went down the Ohio to the Mississippi, then up the latter to the Illinois and after following that waterway for a time, landed at Spring Bay, whence they proceeded on horse back to their destination. After a residence of five or six years in Woodford county they came to Vermilion county and purchased the old Morgan farm in Georgetown township, southeast of Danville. Mr. Stewart lived to be sixty-four years of age and died in Danville, to which place he had removed after his children had married and left home. His widow now makes her home with her youngest daughter, Mrs. R. A. Rouse. To them were born seven daughters: Mary Malinda, who died when three months old; Thamer Elizabeth, the twin of Mary and the wife of Thomas Patrick, who is a farmer of Vermilion county, Indiana; Lavina, the wife of J. C. Maddox, of Sidell township; Sarah Amanda, who died at the age of five years; Josephine, the wife of Jasper N. Baum, of Edgar county, Illinois; Della, the wife of Samuel Baum; and Dottie, the wife of R. A. Rouse, of Danville.

In politics Samuel Baum has been a Republican since voting for Abraham Lincoln in 1864, but he has never held or wanted office, preferring to give his attention to his

business affairs, in which he has met with signal success. He is a self-made man in the best sense of that term, having had no assistance in his business career, and while winning prosperity he has also gained the respect and goodwill of his fellow men and is numbered among the valued and leading men of the county.

FRANCIS ASBURY COLLISON.

Francis Asbury Collison is an extensive land owner and stock dealer in Vermilion county, controlling large business interests, which demand executive force and ability, keen foresight and enterprise. He is widely known throughout the county as "Bury" Collison and is recognized as one of the leading representatives of stock-dealing interests of this portion of the state. Vermilion county claims him as one of her native sons, his birth having occurred June 25, 1837, in Pilot township, upon a farm which forms a part of his estate. He obtained his early education in the log school house and remained at home with his parents until twenty two years of age, after which he was associated with his brother in Potomac for a year or two.

On the 25th of October, 1866, Mr. Collison was united in marriage to Nannie J. Howard, who was born in Pilot township, February 20, 1846, a daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Martin) Howard. Her mother died during the infancy of Mrs. Collison and the father passed away when she was but five years of age. She had one sister, Margaret, and a half brother, G. C. Howard, but the former died at the age of sixteen years. After the death of his first wife

Mr. Howard had married Miss Barbara (Snyder) Morrison, who is now living in Potomac and is the widow of William L. Allen.

The marriage of our subject and his wife was blessed with nine children, of whom seven survive. Fred married Emma Martin and is living in Rantoul. Harry married Mollie Martin, a sister of his brother's wife, and the two brothers are engaged in the banking business, conducting the First National Bank of Rantoul. Lillie is the wife of David Fowler, of Danville township. Lulu, a twin sister of Lillie, is the wife of Robert Pollock, who is a stockholder and cashier of the bank at Gilman, Illinois. Mae is the wife of E. G. Stephens, a farmer of Pilot township. Maude is the wife of Charles Atwood, who is conducting a general store in Collison. Nellie completes the family. Mr. and Mrs. Collison also have eight grandchildren. They lost two children: Joseph, who died at the age of seven months; and Jessie, who died at the age of three months. He had given to their children excellent educational privileges. The youngest son is a graduate of the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and was admitted to the Illinois bar but never practiced. Fred is a graduate of the Gem City Business College of Quincy, Illinois, and for a number of terms engaged in teaching in the district schools and in the intermediate department of the public schools of Indianola. The twin daughters attended De Pauw University at Greencastle, Indiana, and Maude was a student in the Normal School at Normal, Illinois.

The first land which Mr. Collison ever owned was a tract of one hundred and twenty acres which he received as his share



J. A. Collier

of the estate which belonged to his father, who was the owner of nine hundred acres, and to this property our subject has added from time to time until his landed possessions now aggregate between eleven and twelve hundred acres, all of which is located in Pilot township with the exception of a quarter section in Oakwood township. From the age of sixteen years he has been engaged in the stock business, giving much of his time to dealing in live stock. In an early day he drove cattle to Chicago, but his first shipments were made to New York. He now ships on an average of from ten to twelve carloads of stock each year and is breeding shorthorn cattle. For a number of years he is engaged in the cultivation of his fields, but of recent years he has rented his land, all save his pastures. Splendid improvements have been made upon his farm, which under his supervision has been brought to a rich state of cultivation. In 1880 he gave his first contract for tiling to the amount of two thousand dollars and almost every year since that time he has added to the amount of tiling upon his place. One year he was a half owner in a tile factory east of Collison. In 1885 he erected his present beautiful home which stands on the site of the old residence so that he has here lived for thirty-five consecutive years. His present palatial residence contains thirteen rooms, a bath, broad halls and all modern equipments and its furnishings indicate the refined and cultured tastes of the owners.

Although not a member of any church Mr. Collison attends the Methodist Episcopal church of which his wife is a member and he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, having formerly been identified with the lodge at Potomac. The first postoffice in

Pilot township was secured through the efforts of Mr. Collison and was called Bixby, being located on a portion of his farm. It was looked upon with disfavor by many at first but later they realized it was one of the best things that was ever done for the township. In politics he is a stalwart Republican and has held some minor offices, but has never been an aspirant for political honors, preferring to devote his time and energies to his business affairs. Few men in Vermilion county are more widely known than is "Bury" Collison, whose residence here covers sixty-five years—the entire period of his life. While he has controlled extensive business interests and won splendid success he has never allowed the accumulation of wealth to warp his kindly nature or to influence him in any degree in his associations with old time friends. He is a genial gentleman, companionable and kindly, and is very popular among those who know him. He certainly deserves to be classed among the representative agriculturists of this part of the state. Though he received some assistance in starting out in life his splendid prosperity is due to his own efforts, to his diligence and to his correct business principles, and through the exercise of these qualities he has won success, which places him in the front rank among the substantial citizens of his native county.

GEORGE E. COCKERTON.

Among the "captains of industry" in Danville may be numbered George E. Cockerton, a self-made man, who at the outset of his business career realized that there is no excellence without labor and whose ef-

forts therein have been exercised consecutively in an endeavor to acquire a handsome competence. In this he has succeeded and at the same time he has won honor and respect which is accorded to those whose business careers will bear close investigation and scrutiny. As a boy in 1864 Mr. Cockerton came to Danville with his parents, John C. and Hannah (Pate) Cockerton, who are yet residents of this city. The family is of English lineage and representatives of the name came from England to America, locating first in Chicago, Illinois, afterward in Elgin and subsequently in this city. Both the father and mother of our subject were born in England and the year of their emigration to America was 1849. The father was engaged in finishing woolen goods. In the family were three children, but one brother, Frank, died in Danville at the age of forty-seven years. The sister, Mrs. Edgar C. Dodge, now in Chicago, was a teacher in the schools of Danville prior to her marriage.

George E. Cockerton completed his education in the high school of Danville under the direction of Professor Spellman, leaving that institution at the age of seventeen years. From the age of fourteen he has been connected almost continuously with the printing business. He first entered the office of the Danville Plaindealer, owned by the firm of Clapp & Evans. Subsequently he entered the office of the Danville Times, owned by A. G. Smith and closely applying himself to his work, he became one of the best printers in this portion of the country, being made manager of a plant. A weekly paper was published and a large jobbing business carried on, Mr. Cockerton having supervision of the mechanical department and business management of the Enterprise between the ages of eighteen and twenty-

one years. On attaining his majority he went to the east where he remained for four years and there further acquainted himself with the line of work which he had chosen for a life occupation. For several years he was also employed in Indianapolis and when the financial panic of 1877 involved the country he came to Danville in response to an offer which was made him to take charge of the Times. He occupied that position for two years, managing the jobbing department. In 1879 he formed a partnership with F. E. Bowman, in the establishment of a job and printing office on a small scale. Immediate failure was predicted for the new firm by all, but in face of these dire predictions they have succeeded, their strong resolution, enterprise and good workmanship enabling them to overcome all obstacles and difficulties in their path. At the expiration of three years their business was sold at a good advance. Later Mr. Cockerton established a job office alone and conducted it for four years. On the expiration of that period the Press Company was formed, Mr. Cockerton becoming business manager and in that position he remained for two years. In 1889 he established an exclusive job and book business, and in January, 1901, he admitted his son to a partnership in the business. The new enterprise prospered from the beginning. The public had already become familiar with his good workmanship and comprehensive knowledge of the printing business in all its departments and it was not long before he had secured a liberal patronage. In 1898 he added a book binding plant and also began manufacturing rubber stamps. The book binding and stamp manufacturing departments are now under the direct management of Herbert E. Cockerton, the junior member of the firm, and this branch of his business has had phe-

nomenal growth. The plant is valued at ten thousand dollars and the value is constantly being increased by the addition of new machinery and equipments calculated to promote the effectiveness of the work and advance the practical utility of the business.

In 1876 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Cockerton and Miss Lillian E. Jack, of Indianapolis. She was born in Centerville, Indiana, a daughter of Mathew W. and Ann (Sackett) Jack. Both parents are now deceased. In their family were ten children, of whom Mrs. Cockerton was the youngest. Thomas Carroll, of Carrollton, Maryland, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was an uncle of her father. Mr. Jack died in Chicago at the age of ninety-one years. He was a tailor by trade and in later years carried on merchandising. He held membership in the Tippecanoe Club of Chicago and was quite prominent in public affairs there. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cockerton has been born one son, Herbert E. He was married in November, 1901, to Miss Lola G. Young, who was born in Danville in February, 1880, a daughter of C. M. Young, one of the well known residents of this city and general agent for the Home Sewing Machine Company for Indiana and Illinois. Mr. Cockerton owns a residence at No. 310 Oak street, valued at five thousand dollars, and has a suburban fruit ranch at the northeast corner of the city covering two acres and planted to small fruit. His father lives at that place. The son owns property at No. 710 Gilbert street. Mr. Cockerton is a member of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 38, F. & A. M.; Vermilion Chapter, No. 82, R. A. M.; Danville Council, No. 83, R. & S. M.; and Athelstan Commandery, No. 45, K. T. Of the last named he is past eminent commander and is past chancellor of Damascus Lodge, No. 84, K.

P. He likewise belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and to Paugh-caughnaughsinque Tribe, Improved Order of Redmen. He holds membership relations with the Cycling Club and has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce since its organization. His name is also on the membership roll of Danville Council, No. 160, of the National Union. In his life history are many evidences of excellent business ability. His prosperity cannot be attributed to a combination of lucky circumstances, but has arisen from energy, enterprise, integrity and intellectual effort well directed. He is a man of strong individuality and indubitable probity and one whose influence has ever been exerted in behalf of measures contributing to the general good.

W. A. COCHRAN, M. D.

W. A. Cochran who in the practice of medicine has displayed skill and comprehensive knowledge that ranks him among the leading members of the medical fraternity in Danville, was born in Madison, Indiana, in 1850, and is a son of Andrew and Minerva (Morris) Cochran. The father, also a native of Madison, was a contractor and builder and in the year 1855 removed to Brookston, Indiana, where the mother died of smallpox in 1861. The father however, long survived her, passing away in Brookston in November, 1901. By the first marriage there were three children of whom the Doctor is the eldest. His brother and sister died in childhood. After the death of his first wife Andrew Cochran was again married and by the second union had two sons, Clyde and Sherman, both of whom are now living in Brookston.

Dr. Cochran pursued his studies in the Brookston Academy, leaving that institution in 1868. The following year he took up the study of medicine, entering the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati, where he was graduated in 1873. The same year he established the office in Brookston, Indiana, where he remained for one year after which he engaged in practice for a year in Hanover, Kentucky. On the expiration of that period he located in Indianapolis where he remained in practice until 1882, which was the year of his arrival in Vermilion county, Illinois. He established his home and office at Grape Creek where he remained until 1895, when he came to Danville, where he has since lived. Experience of a varied character in former years, combined with reading, study and investigation have already made him a capable physician and in the city of his adoption he has long since left the ranks of the many to stand among the successful few.

In 1877 occurred the marriage of Dr. Cochran and Miss Martha P. Medaris, the wedding taking place in Brookston, Indiana. The lady was born in Hartford, Indiana, April 3, 1855, a daughter of John Medaris, a physician of Brookston, Indiana. Her mother, however, is now deceased. The Doctor and Mrs. Cochran have two children: Charles H., who was born February 7, 1878, is a machinist in the employ of the Danville foundry and machine shops; Helen E., born August 30, 1886, is a graduate of the Danville high school. The Doctor is identified socially with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Tribe of Ben Hur and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In politics he is a Republican and for seven years he filled the office of county physician, while for two terms he was police magistrate at Grape Creek, Illinois.

In 1894 he was elected assistant supervisor of Danville township. His home is at No. 910 Vermilion street where he has a pleasant residence. In the line of his profession he is connected with the Tri County and the State Medical Associations. He is engaged in the general practice of medicine and surgery and has served on the hospital surgical staff of the Vermilion county hospital for seven years. He is also examining physician for a number of insurance companies and in this profession where advancement depends solely on strong mentality and individual merit he has steadily worked his way upward until he now occupies a very creditable place in the ranks of the medical fraternity.

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LEVIN D. GASS.

Levin D. Gass is the well known cashier of the First National Bank of Danville and to say of him that he has arisen unaided from comparative obscurity to rank among the leading business men of Danville is a statement that seems trite to those familiar with his life, yet it is just to say in a history that will descend to future generations, that his business record has been one that any man would be proud to possess. Through his entire business career he has been looked upon as a model of integrity and honor, never making an engagement that he has not fulfilled, and stands to-day an example of what determination and force combined with the highest degree of business integrity can accomplish for a man of natural ability and strength of character. He is respected by the community at large and honored by his business associates.

Mr. Gass was born in Catlin, Illinois, November 22, 1858. His father, John H.



Wm. H. Gardner

Gass was born in Tennessee and died in August, 1895, in Chicago. He had been engaged in the live stock commission business in that city in connection with John Adams, Son & Company, for twenty-four years. He took up his abode in Vermilion county in 1856, and in Danville in 1866. He was a wholesale and retail grocery of the city as well as an extensive dealer in live stock in Chicago. His wife died in February, 1901. In the family were the following children: Hamlet; Charles; Mrs. George Cutter and Mrs. Butler Miller, all of Chicago; and Mrs. Olmstead, of Danville.

Levin D. Gass pursued his early education in the public schools of Danville and then became a high school student. In 1875 he put aside his text books and entered the First National Bank under J. G. English as president and E. H. Palmer as cashier. He acted as messenger and errand boy in the early days of his connection with the institution and afterward served as collector for eighteen months and was then advanced to the position of general bookkeeper, which incumbency he retained for two years, after which he was individual bookkeeper for eighteen months. On the expiration of that period he was made teller and when four years had passed he was again promoted, becoming assistant cashier, in which capacity he served for fourteen years. For five years he has been cashier of the institution and its growth and progress during this period is largely attributable to his efforts. He is a stockholder and director of the bank and his thorough understanding of the banking business combined with close application and unremitting diligence have made him one of the most valued officers of the institution and a man who has won and retains the public confidence and

regard. He is also a stockholder in the Danville Buggy Company and he owns both city and farm property, having made judicious investments in real estate.

In this city, in 1881, Mr. Gass married Miss Eva Hulce, a native of Marshall county, Illinois, and a daughter of Martin Hulce, now deceased, who was the president of the Danville Buggy Company. They have four children: Lewis, Martin, Inez and Howard, all of whom are yet under the parental roof and are now students in school. The family home is at No. 318 Gilbert street and the household is celebrated for its gracious hospitality.

Fraternally Mr. Gass is connected with the blue lodge and the chapter of Masonry. He also belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America. For many years he has been a member of the Kimber Methodist Episcopal church, of which he has been a trustee. He takes a very prominent and active part in politics, is a staunch Republican and has served as school treasurer and president of the board of education in Danville. He was one of those who helped to start the movement which caused the Republicans of Illinois to give an almost universal support to the sound money plank of the platform in 1896 and led the state delegation to give its unanimous strength to the McKinley ticket in that year. His has been a busy, useful and honorable life and while business affairs have made close demands upon his attention he has yet found time and opportunity to faithfully perform his duties of citizenship and of social life. He has a very wide acquaintance in Danville and the circle of his friends is almost co-extensive therewith. His enterprise and commercial ac-

tivity have not only contributed to his individual welfare but have been a potent force in advancing business prosperity here.

FRANKLIN ROBERT OSBORN.

Franklin Robert Osborn, who is engaged in the publication of the *Ridgefarm Republican*, was born February 24, 1859, in Mahomet, Champaign county, Illinois, his parents being Robert Osborn and Margaret Allen (Henley) Osborn. The Osborns were among the early English colonists who settled in North Carolina and gradually migrated westward first to Kentucky and thence to Indiana. It was between the years 1820 and 1823 that James Osborn, the grandfather of our subject, settled in Vermilion county, Illinois, where Robert Osborn, the father of our subject, was born in 1824. The family resided at the place of their first residence for nine years and then removed to a home near the present site of Homer in Champaign county, where the grandfather remained for a year. He next located in the western part of the county and entered a tract of land, securing his patent from the government. This land has constituted the old homestead down to the present time. Robert Osborn, who is spoken of in preceding histories of Vance township and in whose home it is reported was held the first public worship in that township, was a great uncle of the subject of this review. The Osborns were ever an honored upright people and no taint of dishonor is ever attached to the name.

In the district schools Mr. Osborn of this review began his education, which he continued in the Mahomet high school, in the Central Indiana Normal School at Dan-

ville and in the Champaign Business College in which he was graduated in 1887. At night and morning he walked three and a half miles to high school and was only once tardy during that period and that was on a day when the hogs were being killed on the farm. He was one of only two pupils who studied grammar in the country schools, but he was always ambitious to secure a good education and put forth every effort in his power that would advance this result. He remained upon the home farm assisting in its cultivation and improvement until twenty-two years of age and in his youth he was ever fond of outdoor sports, being quite athletic. He engaged in wrestling, racing and jumping and these boyhood pleasures also contributed in large and beneficial measure to his physical development. As he grew older it became his desire to study law, but he was dissuaded from this step by his parents who thought to succeed in that profession meant a life of chicanery. He, therefore, took up the profession of teaching which he followed with a marked degree of success for thirteen years. During five years of this time, from 1888 until 1892, he was principal of a graded school at Thomasboro and in 1892 and 1893 he was at Ogden. In 1894 he entered upon journalistic work. On the 24th of February of that year—on the day on which he was thirty-five years of age—he purchased the *Melvin Transcript* in Ford county and remained its editor and publisher for five years, or until March, 1899, when he sold that paper and purchased the *Ridgefarm Republican*, which he still owns. Its patronage is continually increasing and there is now a large subscription list in addition to which the paper has become an excellent advertising medium. Several causes led Mr. Osborn to abandon teaching and enter into

other work, the close confinement of the school room, second, a desire for a more independent life, third, a wish to prepare an employment which would keep the son at home when not in school, and fourth, a wish to deal with people who had attained mature years and to become an active factor in the business world. On the 7th of August, 1889, Mr. Osborn was united in marriage to Miss Lillian Elmira Thompson, of Rantoul, Illinois, Dr. Frank Crane officiating. The lady was born in Morris, Illinois, in 1864 and in 1868 was taken by her parents to Champaign county, where she grew to womanhood and became a teacher, successfully following that profession for nine years. Her father, Thomas Thompson, was a veteran of the war of the Rebellion and served under Commodore Foote in his operations which terminated successfully in opening up the Mississippi river. Three children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Osborn: Merwyn Oliver, twelve years of age; Pauline Theodora, aged eleven years; and Robert Thompson, seven months old.

Mr. Osborn has never asked for nor held any public offices yet he has been a very active factor in the progress and improvement of various localities in which he has lived and has left the impress of his individuality upon public thought and feeling. While in Champaign county he labored earnestly and effectively for the improvement of the county schools and for a course of study with the result that the educational interests of that portion of the state gained a place in the front rank in Illinois. Mr. Osborn has always been an earnest Republican, untiring in his advocacy of the party principles and he has delivered many campaign addresses in behalf of the men and measures of that organization. Reared in the faith of the Methodist church, he became one of

its members when nineteen years of age and while in Champaign county he established the first "evergreen" Sunday-school at Thomasboro and was also one of the most potent factors in the founding of the Methodist Episcopal church at that place and he is now a trustee of the church of his denomination in Ridgefarm. He is the president of the St. Paul's Epworth League and in 1899 he was a delegate to the international convention of the League at Indianapolis. Socially connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity, Mr. Osborn held the office of prelate for two years and then declined to serve longer on account of illness in his immediate family. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Royal Circle and in the latter he served for three terms as worthy ruler and then declined re-election. He was also a member of the McKinley Marching Club of 1898. Activity, energy and determination have been salient characteristics in his career and were noticeable when in his youth and early manhood he was a social leader, while later they formed an important part of his successful work as a teacher and are now manifest in his career as a journalist.

JAMES U. PRATHER.

James U. Prather, who carries on agricultural pursuits on section 15, Ross township, where he owns two hundred and forty acres of valuable land, was born on the 27th of May, 1851, in this township, representing one of the old pioneer families of Vermillion county. The Prather family has long been identified with pioneer life, not only in this state but in Kentucky as well, and the great-grandfather of our subject

was killed by the Indians in the Blue Grass state, at the time when the red men were so hostile to the white settlers and killed so many of them that the country became known as "the dark and bloody ground." Jonathan Prather was reared and married in Kentucky and there several of his children were born. Jerry Prather, the father, removed to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county north of Danville, where he secured a wild tract of land afterward entering it from the government. Turning the furrows in his fields he developed his place into a richly cultivated farm upon which he spent his last years. He was born in Kentucky about 1820, and shared with the other members of the household in all the hardships and trials incident to the establishment of a pioneer home here. He was married to Evelyn Miller, also a native of Kentucky, and a daughter of Cornelius Miller, a pioneer resident of Fountain county, Indiana. After their marriage the young couple located in Ross township, where Jerry Prather became the owner of several hundred acres of land. He developed a good farm about three miles east of Rossville and was engaged in its cultivation and improvement. When in the prime of life he was called to the home beyond, passing away in 1859. His first wife had died some years before and he afterward married again. His second wife, after losing her first husband, also married again.

James U. Prather, of this review, was the youngest in a family of seven children, all of whom reached mature years and were married, while four of the number are yet living. Sarah A., the eldest, is the wife of Daniel Kite, of Cass county, Missouri. Jonathan is a resident of Rossville. Elizabeth C. is the wife of William Gandy, of Harrisonville, Cass county, Missouri. James N. Prather, of this review, was reared on the

farm and as soon as old enough to follow the plow he began work in the fields. After his father's death he lived with his eldest sister until he had attained the age of eighteen years, when, in 1869, he went to Wright county, Missouri, remaining there for about twelve months, during which time he worked upon a farm. In 1870, however, he returned to Vermilion county, rented land here and engaged in farming for a number of years. After living upon a tract of one hundred acres for a number of years he removed to Hoopston, where he resided in retirement from labor for ten years. In 1902, however, he purchased the farm upon which he now resides on section 15, Ross township, located thereon and began the further improvement of this place. It is one of the fine farms of the community.

Near Carlisle, Arkansas, about 1878, occurred the marriage of James U. Prather and Mariah L. Moyer, a native of Vermilion county and a daughter of Samuel Moyer, one of the old settlers of Illinois. Her mother bore the maiden name of Nancy Gundy and they were married in Ross township. She is now deceased and Mr. Moyer, who has married again, is now living in Houston, Texas. After the war he removed to Tennessee, later to Arkansas and is now a resident of the Lone Star state. Mrs. Prather spent the greater part of her girlhood in Arkansas and prior to her marriage was a successful teacher. Four children have been born of this union: Jennie, Ethel, James Forrest and Maude A., all of whom are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Prather has been honored with public offices by his fellow townsmen who have recognized his worth and ability and have therefore nominated him for positions of public trust. He has served as township trustee, filling the office altogether for



Thos. Williams

twelve years. He has never been a politician, however, in the sense of office seeking for his business affairs have made heavy demands upon his time and attention. His first presidential ballot was cast in 1872 for General U. S. Grant and he has since been unfaltering in support of the Republican party. He and his wife and two daughters are members of the Christian church and he belongs to the Masonic fraternity in which he has attained the Royal Arch degree. He now belongs to Hoopeston Lodge and is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. The name of Prather is inseparably interwoven in the history of Vermilion county, as from pioneer times down to the present representatives of the family have been prominent in promoting the substantial upbuilding of this section of the state. Our subject carries on the work which was begun by his grandfather and continued by his father and is known as one whose interest in the county is deep and sincere.

THOMAS WILLIAMS.

Thomas Williams has passed the seventieth milestone of life's journey and is now living a retired life in Hoopeston. The regard in which he is uniformly held is evidence of his high character, and he may therefore be mentioned as a representative of the best element of citizenship in this community. He is a man of the strictest integrity and one, who by his life of industry and the exercise of economy and wise judgment, has obtained for himself a competence. He is now living retired from active labor in a pleasant home in Hoopeston, attractively located on East Penn street—a

home that was built in 1901 and is a model of beauty and convenience. Mr. Williams settled in this county during his infancy and he has assisted materially in gaining for it its present importance.

Thomas Williams spent the first nineteen years of his life in Harrison county, Ohio, where he was born November 29, 1828. His father, Nathan Williams, was a native of Bedford county, Pennsylvania, and when a young man emigrated to Harrison county, Ohio, where he engaged in teaching school for two years. Prior to this time he had learned the tailor's trade. In the Buckeye state he purchased a tract of land near Georgetown and there developed a good farm. He married Sarah, a daughter of Nathan Hoopes, and unto them were born ten children, of whom Thomas of this review was the fifth in order of birth. The father died in 1841 when sixty years of age. The mother retained her residence in Ohio until after her children had reached mature years and then she came to the home of her son in this county, although she did not sell her property in Ohio. Her death here occurred in 1881, when she was seventy-nine years of age, her birth having occurred in 1802. Like her husband she was a consistent member of the Society of Friends.

Thomas Williams acquired his education in the common schools and lived with his widowed mother until he was nineteen years of age, when with the natural desire of youth for change he left home and went to work for his uncle, Thomas Hoopes, in Marion county, Ohio. He was thus employed by the month for seven years and then he came to Illinois, bringing with him four hundred sheep. He was to engage in sheep raising on the shares and he made the journey to the west on foot, driving his flock

through from Marion county, Ohio, to where Hoopeston, Vermilion county, now stands, a distance of four hundred miles, being thirty days upon the road. He reached his destination October 20, 1853, and through the succeeding winter made his home with "Uncle Samuel" Gilbert. His attention was given to caring for his sheep which he fed in the timber south of Ross-ville, and in the spring he located upon a farm owned by Mr. Hoopes on section 11, Grant township, northwest of the present site of Hoopeston. At that time his nearest neighbor lived two and one-half miles to the south and his nearest neighbor on the north was eight miles distant, so that there was no one but Mr. Williams and his hired hand to keep the wolves away from the sheep. The dogs would chase the wolves for a short distance and then the latter would turn upon the dogs driving them back to the house. Therefore Mr. Williams had to be on guard all through the day and at night he says he "slept with one eye open," although he had a wolf-proof pound in which the sheep were driven when evening fell. For two years he continued in this business and the second winter his flock was increased by an additional four hundred head, but the inclement weather and the rattlesnakes made sad havoc among live-stock and he was obliged to turn his attention in another direction. He then purchased five yoke of oxen and a breaking plow and for three years was engaged in breaking prairie, being usually able to make one hundred dollars per month in the summer time. When the weather was suitable he could turn an eighteen to twenty inch furrow. In the meantime he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in Iroquois county, living thereon for a short time

prior to his marriage and making a number of substantial improvements there.

It was on the 9th of June, 1850, that Mr. Williams was joined in wedlock to Miss Lovina McFarland, of Iroquois county. She was born in Marion county, Ohio, a daughter of Andrew and Sarah McFarland, who in 1857 removed to Illinois, settling in Iroquois county, where Mrs. Williams lived with her parents until her marriage. Six children were born of this union, but only three are now living: Charles C., Walter W., and Frank.

About the time of his marriage Mr. Williams erected a small frame house and added to it a house standing near by, thus forming quite a comfortable abode for those times, and in this the newly wedded pair resided until Christmas. They then removed to a farm in the vicinity of Hoopeston—the same on which Mr. Williams had first herded sheep. He rented this until 1863 and later purchasing seventy-five head of cattle, he established himself southwest of the present site of the town, his home being along the creek for about six years. He next purchased the Churchill Boardman farm consisting of five hundred acres partially improved. He then began giving his attention in an undivided manner to stock raising, which business he carried on successfully until the railroad was built through this section of the county, after which he devoted his time more generally to farming. He shipped the first car load of cattle ever shipped out of Grant township. In 1870, however, he met with an accident which resulted in the breaking of his leg and therefore, leaving his farm, he took up his abode in Hoopeston, where he began buying grain and also operated an elevator in partnership with A. T. Catherwood. For

seven years they carried on the business with marked success, operating twelve different elevators during the last two years. Mr. Williams then retired from active life, having in the meantime acquired splendid prosperity. During these years he had become a half owner of eighteen hundred and twenty-five acres of land near Ambia, Benton county, Indiana. He was one of a company that was the first to experiment with sugar cane in this locality and later he became interested in a canning factory which canned the corn product one nine hundred acres of land during the first year of the existence of the plant. Mr. Williams, however, was connected with this enterprise for only two seasons. A man of splendid business ability he has carried forward to successful completion whatever he has undertaken, and he possesses marked business foresight and enterprise. Starting out with only common-school advantages to aid him, working at the breaking plow for several seasons, he was imbued with a laudable ambition to attain something better, and steadily he has advanced in those walks of life demanding keen discrimination, unflagging energy and marked enterprise. He has thus arisen to a prominent position among the substantial men of the county. During the past seven years, because of his invalid condition, he has given the management of his affairs over to his son Charles, and is thus relieved from further labor. He now owns thirteen hundred and twenty acres of land in Indiana, one thousand acres being near Ambia, and the remainder near Francesville. He also owns three hundred and twenty acres near Gibson City in Ford county, Illinois. His extensive possessions are the visible evidences of his life of industry. He, together with J. A. Cunningham,

served as executor of the Thomas Hoopes estate, which was the largest estate ever settled in Vermilion county.

Mr. Williams has always given his political support to the Republican party, and socially he is a Knight Templar Mason, while religiously he is connected with the Universalist church and was a liberal contributor toward the erection of the present house of worship of that denomination in Hoopeston. Upon locating in this city he purchased ground on Second avenue and there lived for four years. Later, he purchased property at the corner of Penn and Fifth streets, where he is now living. Mr. Williams commands respect as one of the prominent and influential residents of Hoopeston. His life has been one of continued activity in which has been accorded due recognition to labor, and to-day he is numbered among those who by reason of a life of industry are enjoying substantial prosperity. His interests are thoroughly identified with those of Vermilion county and at all times he is ready to lend his aid and co-operation to any movement calculated to benefit this section of the country or advance its wonderful development.

ELMER E. CUNNINGHAM.

Elmer E. Cunningham, a son of John L. and Hannah (Swisher) Cunningham, is one of the leading, practical and progressive farmers of Vermilion county. Both of his parents were natives of this county and the father of our subject here purchased eighty acres of prairie land and forty acres of timber land, clearing the latter and breaking the entire tract, which he placed

under a high state of cultivation, the mother assisting her husband in improving the place. They were married on the 10th of November, 1859, and the lady was born in this county September 3, 1840, her parents being Lewis and Elizabeth (Starr) Swisher, who were among the earliest settlers of the county, taking up their abode here when the Indians were far more numerous than the white people. Her father was a native of Guilford county, North Carolina and her mother of Ohio, and Mrs. Cunningham was the fifth in order of birth of their family, the others being two brothers who reside in Danville, one in Iowa, another in Kansas, and a sister in Oklahoma. John L. Cunningham carried on agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death, which occurred on the 9th of April, 1868. He had three children, of whom Charles T. died in infancy, while Elmer E. is the second in order of birth and the youngest is Louis M., of Danville. After the death of her first husband the mother was again married September 3, 1873, becoming the wife of George W. Justus. They had seven children, of whom four are living: Bertha, now the wife of William Starr; Cora M., the wife of Roy Albright; Frank M., who married Jessie Swisher; and Annie C., who is living with her mother. She was a school teacher for three years and for a similar period held the office of postmistress, proving a capable official. Mr. Justus served as a deacon and elder in the Christian church in which he long held membership and his life was ever honorable and upright. Through the greater part of his business career he carried on general merchandising, spending three years in this way in Danville and the remainder of the time in Blount township, conducting his store in Potomac, where he died on the 7th of May,

1891. From the age of twenty-four years he was a member of the Christian church and was ever faithful and loyal to his religious professions. Mrs. Justus has long been a devoted member of the church and she now lives retired in her beautiful country home in Blount township and is a most estimable lady. In the early days in her father's household she often assisted at the spinning wheel, preparing and weaving blankets. A devoted and loving wife and mother and a faithful friend she has endeared herself to all with whom she has come in contact.

Elmer E. Cunningham was born on the family homestead in Blount township, November 24, 1864, and acquired a common school education. Since putting aside his text books he has devoted his entire time and energy to farming and stock raising, his home being on section 15, Blount township, where he has a valuable tract of land that is rich and well improved. He has recently erected a splendid home and has also substantial and commodious barns and other outbuildings necessary for the shelter of grain and stock. In his business affairs he has been quite successful and is numbered among the progressive and thrifty farmers of his community.

On the 22d of August, 1906, Mr. Cunningham was united in marriage to Miss Timme Pate, who was born in Oakwood township, December 3, 1870. Her father was a merchant and carried on business for fifteen years in Oakwood and then traded his store for a farm in Jefferson county, Illinois. Mrs. Cunningham was reared by her grandmother with whom she remained until she reached womanhood. The grandmother was a lady noted for many benevolent gifts and was highly esteemed throughout the entire community. Her charitable

spirit never allowed any one to leave her door hungry and the poor and needy found in her a faithful friend. Mrs. Cunningham has two sisters, Irella Reester and Mrs. Della Ann Martin, of Oakwood township. In the public schools Mrs. Cunningham acquired a good education and is a lady of culture and refinement who presides with gracious hospitality over her beautiful home. Both our subject and his wife are members of the Christian church and in politics he is a Republican. He served for three years as township clerk but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Odd Fellows Society at Bismarck. His entire life has been spent in this county where his many friends entertain for him high regard.

B. T. DONEY.

B. T. Doney, who is serving as postmaster of Fithian, was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, February 28, 1848. His father, Benjamin Doney, was a native of Pennsylvania and after arriving at years of maturity he was married in Ohio to Miss Elizabeth Summers, a native of Maryland. They began their domestic life in the Buckeye state, where the father engaged in farming until 1845, when he removed with his family to Indiana, living in Greene county until his death, which occurred in the year 1858. The Whig party received his political endorsement and he was an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity and a devoted Christian man who belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church. His wife was held in high esteem for her good qualities of heart and mind and she passed away in

1889. In their family were three sons and two daughters, but only two of the number are now living, the sister of our subject being Mollie, the widow of John Fields, and a resident of Bloomington, Indiana.

B. T. Doney pursued his education in Greene county, Indiana, in the district schools and later attended the college at Bloomington, that state, putting aside his text books at the age of twenty-one years. He afterward learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed in Greene county. His preparations for having a home of his own were completed by his marriage on the 2d of February, 1873, in Owensburg, Indiana, Miss Belle Owen becoming his wife. She was born in Greene county, November 7, 1856, a daughter of Kiah and Mary (Brown) Owen, both born in the Hoosier state. Her parents were also married in Owensburg and the father followed blacksmithing and wagon-building in Greene county until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when aroused by a spirit of patriotism he offered his services to the government, enlisting in Company H, Thirty-first Indiana Infantry. With his regiment he went to the front and was killed at the battle of Shiloh, thus laying down his life upon the altar of the Union. In March, 1880, his widow became the wife of Jesse Doney. Mr. Owen was a Democrat in political faith. By his marriage he had six children and by the mother's second marriage there were no children. Four children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Doney: John, who married Lilly Ward and is a telegraph operator at Goodanole, Illinois; Benjamin, who resides upon a farm near Fithian; F. G., who is assistant postmaster of Fithian; and Clyde, who is still with his his parents.

The year 1875 witnessed the arrival of

Mr. Doney in Vermilion county, at which time he took up his abode in Fithian, where he established a blacksmith shop, which he conducted for eight years. He then embarked in general merchandise, but later he sold his store and resumed work at his trade. Subsequently, however, he again disposed of his smithy and once more turned his attention to general merchandising, which he has since followed. He now carries a good line of everything found in such an establishment and his trade is growing continually because the public recognizes in him a merchant of reliability, fair in his dealings, reasonable in his prices and courteous in his treatment of his patrons. In 1896 he was appointed postmaster of Fithian and has continuously occupied the position since that time. He votes with the Republican party and for nine years he held the office of township assessor, discharging his duties with marked promptness and fidelity. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

WILLIAM M. BRIDGETT.

The history of the world proves conclusively that it is under the pressure of adversity and the stimulation of opposition that the best and strongest in men are brought out and developed. Those who have been factors in the world's progress, those who have wielded wide public influence and have become leaders in the commercial world are not those whose couch has been one of pampered luxury, but who have in youth become inured to arduous labor and have come to set a true value upon personal endeavor, probity and perseverance. Trained in the

hard school of experience, yet learning therein lessons of marked value, Mr. Bridgett has arisen from a humble financial position until he stands to-day not only as a successful resident of Danville, but one who is, as well strong in his honor and in his good name.

A native of Kentucky, he was born in Lexington, April 2, 1865. His father, Thomas Bridgett, was a native of Pennsylvania, and after arriving at years of maturity he married Miss Mary Shaffer, who was born in Indiana. They were married in Rockville of the latter state and there the father engaged in farming for a time, afterward following the same pursuit in Kentucky. Subsequently he removed to Illinois, settling in Clark county, near Martinsville. The mother died in Kentucky and the father, who has married again, is yet living in Clark county. In his political views he is an earnest Democrat.

William N. Bridgett was but two years of age when his mother died and at the age of eleven years he became a resident of Illinois, since which time he has been dependent upon his own efforts for a living. He began working on a farm and for six years remained with his first employer, during which time he was allowed to attend school through the brief winter season. He then became a section hand upon the railroad at Ridgefarm, Illinois. After working for three months he was promoted to the position of foreman of a construction crew and when he had served in that capacity for six months he accepted a clerkship in a store, where he was employed for eight months. Then entering into partnership with his employer, A. J. Darnell, the relationship was maintained for ten months, when Mr. Darnell died. Mr. Bridgett then sold out and removed to Terre Haute, Indiana, where he



H. M. Bridgett.

was employed as a salesman in the grocery store of E. R. Wright & Company, but after ten months he again became connected with railroading, entering the train service as fireman on the Vandalia Railroad, where he served for eleven months, when he was promoted to the position of assistant claim agent by the same company. Ten months later he returned to Ridgefarm and after three months he came to Danville, entering the train service of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad as a fireman. While with that company he was promoted to the position of engineer and a year later he left the road to engage in the real estate business in this city, which he has since followed with offices at Nos. 401-2 Daniels' building. He is also a loan broker and has negotiated a number of important loans and realty transactions. He has thoroughly informed himself concerning real estate values and of locations and is to-day one of the leading representatives of this line of business in the city.

On the 13th of October, 1892, in Danville, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Bridgett and Miss Nevada Montgomery, who was born in Clark county, Illinois, November 10, 1873, a daughter of John and Ann (Bishop) Montgomery, who were also natives of Clark county, where they remained until after their marriage. Subsequently they took up their abode at Ridgefarm, Illinois. Her father is a Democrat in his political views. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and to the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Bridgett gives his political support to the men and measures of the Republican party, while his fraternal relations are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is yet

a young man but he has already gained a position in business circles and public regard that is as enviable as honorable. Man's success in the world is not measured by the heights he has reached but by the altitude from which he has climbed and judged in this way the career of Mr. Bridgett has been most successful and commendable.

WILLIAM SANDUSKY.

William Sandusky, of Carroll township, was born November 19, 1827, in Bourbon county, Kentucky, within three miles of Paris, and when but three years old was brought by his parents to Vermilion county. They crossed the river at Cincinnati and came overland to their destination. They camped along the road at night and spent many days in making the journey. They traveled in a prairie schooner and passed comparatively few settlements while enroute. The Sandusky family took up their abode on the Little Vermilion river and there was then but a very limited population in this locality. William Sandusky began his education in a log schoolhouse on the old Alexander place, the building being erected of logs hewed on two sides. It had a clapboard roof and an immense fireplace which would accommodate an eight foot log that would burn for two days as a back log. His first teacher was a man by the name of Durkey and if a pupil could read, write and cipher it was all that was desired at that time. The school was conducted on the subscription plan and in such a "temple of learning" William Sandusky completed his education with the exception of one winter spent in Indianola, which place was then called Dallas, Illinois. He continued to at-

tend school at intervals until eighteen years of age, spending the three months of winter in this manner while during the remainder of the year he worked at home. He would break prairie using an old wooden moldboard plow and later with a rod moldboard which would turn up a twenty-four inch furrow and to which was hitched five or six yoke of oxen. He would also drop corn as he plowed. When he was twenty-one years of age he started out in life for himself and his father built him a little shanty. There was not a thing but prairie grasses around him, but he possessed the determination necessary for the development of a good farm. He wedded Miss Mary Elizabeth Baum, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Weaver) Baum. Her father was born in Clermont county, Kentucky, February 15, 1805, and his wife in Ohio, January 16, 1804. They became the parents of ten children, of whom six are now living: Oliver, who was born January 5, 1828, in Clermont county, is living in Sidell township and married Helen McClenathan, by whom he has one child living. Mrs. Sandusky was born July 4, 1829, in Clermont county; Charles M., was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, December 22, 1838, and now living in Arizona, married Jennie Craig and has three living children: Samuel is represented elsewhere in this work; William, born in Vermilion county, March 19, 1843, is living in Indiana; Angeline, born June 6, 1849, in Vermilion county, is acting as housekeeper for her brother William. Of those deceased, Susannah, born in Vermilion county, September 12, 1831, became the wife of Thomas Rice and died leaving two children; Sarah J., born in Vermilion county, in 1833, died in childhood; Catherine, born in this county, December 15, 1834, was the wife of Morton Pugh and left five children at her death;

Francis M., born in Vermilion county, October 11, 1836, died in childhood. The father of this family came to Vermilion county in 1829 when Mrs. Sandusky was only three months old and settled on what is now the Indianola fair grounds, where he secured a tract of land from the government. He lived to be seventy-five years of age and his wife passed away at the age of thirty-eight. She was a daughter of Michael Weaver and their remains were interred in the old Weaver cemetery in Carroll township.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Sandusky was celebrated April 20, 1849, and they became the parents of five children, of whom a daughter died in infancy. Caroline is the widow of James Snapp and resides in Georgetown. She had three children by this union, Belle, Ivan and Willie, and by her former marriage she had two daughters, Mary and Josephine. Adeline is the wife of Thompson McMillan, a lumber dealer of Danville and they have two living children, Nellie and Edward. Rochester, who is engaged in the operation of the home place, is one of the prominent farmers of Carroll township. Belle is the wife of William H. James, a druggist of Rossville, Illinois, and they have three children: Willie, Don and Mary Margaret. Mr. and Mrs. Sandusky have two great-grandchildren. These are Fern and Ralph Elliott, children of Mrs. Earl Elliott, of Georgetown.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Sandusky started out with two hundred and forty acres of land and that he has lived a life of industry, earnest labor and perseverance is shown by the fact that he added to his possessions until he now has fifteen hundred and twenty acres in the home place. This is a most creditable showing of a life work and, moreover, Mr. Sandusky has al-

ways maintained honorable business relations and enjoyed the confidence and good will of his fellow men. From the beginning he engaged in the cattle business and was at one time interested in shorthorn cattle, being an extensive raiser. Whatever he has undertaken has received his undivided attention and his work has been of a nature to return to him an excellent income. For many years he was recognized as one of the prominent cattle men of Illinois, buying cattle and feeding them to the extent of about three hundred head at a time.

In his political views Mr. Sandusky is a Republican, but has never sought or desired office. Since pioneer times he has lived in this county. In the early days he would ride for miles in any direction without coming across fences to impede his progress. He frequently enjoyed a hunt for deer and lesser game and often killed wolves which frequently awakened the settlers from their sleep by their howling. There were geese, ducks, wild turkeys and prairie chickens and many of these fowls furnished a meal for the early settlers. To give the life history of William Sandusky in detail would be to picture forth the pioneer conditions and the agricultural life of Vermilion county. He has always been identified with farming interests and to-day is the possessor of a handsome property as the reward of a well spent life.

B. I. POLAND, M. D.

Dr. B. I. Poland, a practicing physician of Danville, was born in Gallatin county, Kentucky, May 30, 1854, and is a son of Isaac and Martha (Duncan) Poland, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Gallatin county, Kentucky. The Doctor at-

tended school in his native county and in 1861 accompanied his parents to Illinois, living on the home farm which was situated across the Indiana state line. In this locality he attended the district schools until seventeen years of age, when he began teaching and for eight years followed that profession. He prepared for the practice of medicine as a student in the Bennett Medical College, of Chicago, in which he was graduated in 1883. He afterward entered the Medical College of Atlanta, Georgia, completing his course there by graduation in 1895. He was engaged in general practice from 1878 until 1885, when he took up special practice in the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. His office is located in the Temple building of Danville. Dr. Poland has a large practice in his specialty, the public recognizing his capability and skill.

On the 21st of October, 1874, in Vermilion county, Illinois, the Doctor wedded Emma B. Leonard, who was born in this county, July 14, 1857, her parents being Philip and Angelina E. (Williams) Leonard, the latter a native of England. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Leonard located six miles north of Danville and he was numbered among the old settlers and leading farmers of Vermilion county. A Democrat in politics, he earnestly advocated the principles of the party and for many years served as justice of the peace. He was also a prominent member of the Christian church and in that faith died. His widow now resides on the homestead farm. Unto the Doctor and his wife have been born two children: B. F., born May 30, 1878; and Clarence S., born August 11, 1884.

Dr. Poland is a staunch Democrat and is a member of the Christian church. He is now United States examining surgeon and is a member of the Danville library board. He

is serving as oculist for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company and for the St. Elizabeth's Hospital, and is a member of the Vermilion County Medical Society and the Illinois State Medical Society. In a calling where promotion depends upon individual merit he has gained an enviable position as a physician.

THOMAS F. COLLISON.

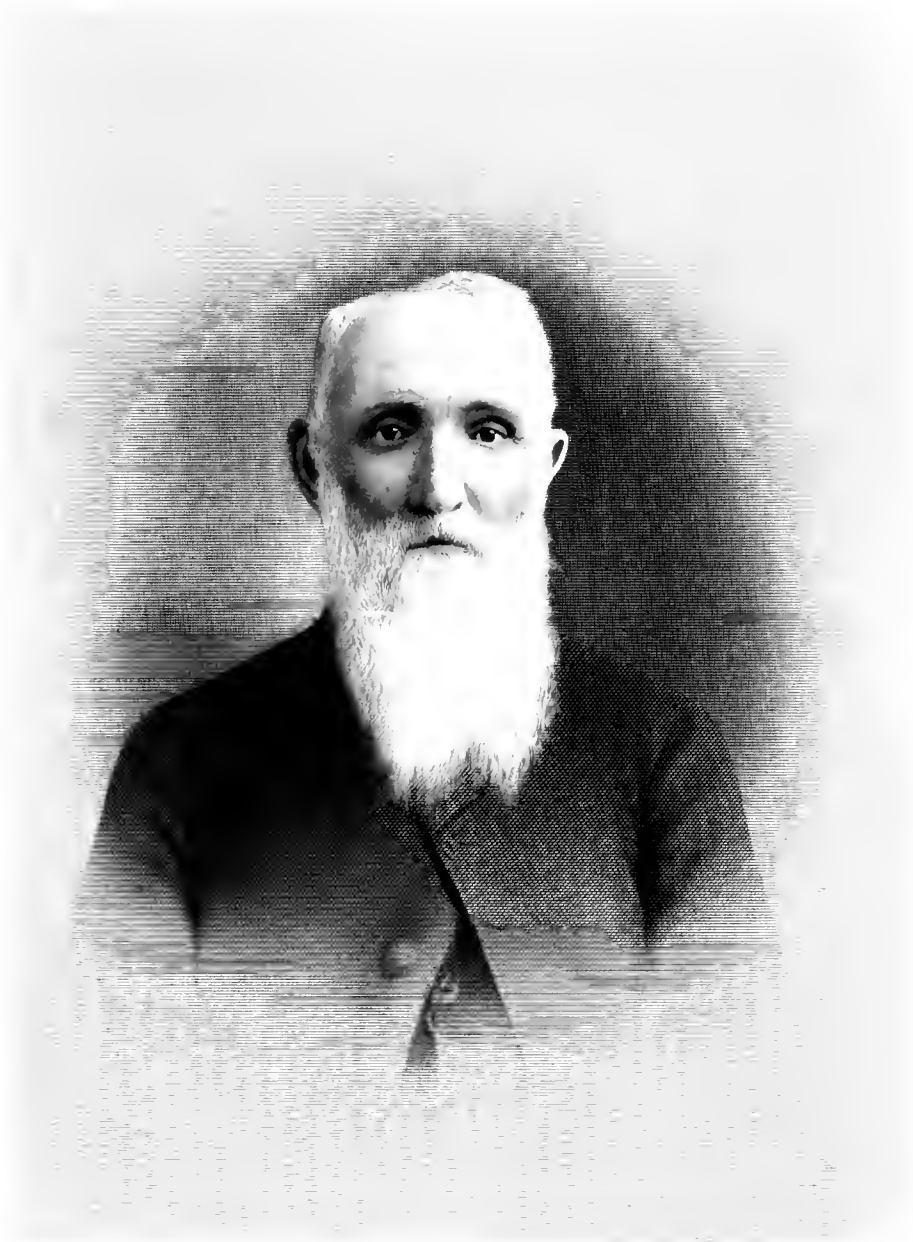
From early pioneer days Thomas F. Collison has been a resident of Vermilion county and has been an interested witness of almost the entire growth and improvement of this portion of the state. The traveler of to-day can scarcely realize the condition of things here during his youth. He has seen deer and other wild game here and has traveled over the prairies for miles without coming to a fence or other indication of ownership by man. He was born October 12, 1834, on a farm on which he now lives.

His father, Absalom Collison, was a native of Pike county, Ohio, and in 1828 came to Illinois. He entered forty acres of land from the government and began the development of a farm. He had previously worked in the Kanawha Salt Works of West Virginia and with little capital he came to Illinois. Here he was married to Miss Mary Chenoweth, who was born near Columbus, Ohio, and came with her father, Thomas Chenoweth, to Illinois. It was in his honor that the subject of this review was named. Mr. Collison died in the year 1849 and his widow afterward married John Smith, who is now deceased. Our subject was the eldest of a family of seven children, the others being F. Asbury, who lives on a farm adjoining Collison; Mrs. Elizabeth Martin, of Sumner county, Kansas; Mary Jane, the

widow of Samuel Coon, of Rantoul, Illinois; John, who is also living in Rantoul; James, a farmer of Middlefork township, Vermilion county; and Samuel, who is a banker of Rossville, Illinois.

Mr. Collison of this review began his education in his own home, a lady teacher being employed to instruct the children of the Collison household and the children of the neighborhood who would come there for that purpose. Later he attended the subscription school, which was held in a log building with greased paper windows and an outside chimney built of mud and sticks. The boys who attended the school would cut logs to be used for fuel. For about seven years Thomas F. Collison attended school during the winter months and in the summer season worked on the farm. He never saw a blackboard in all his school days. The last school which he attended was taught by Mr. Miner, who had our subject purchase a slate which was used as a blackboard for the school. A testament served as a reader and an old elementary spelling book was used, while the pens were made of quills.

Mr. Collison remained at home until after his father's death. He received from the estate one hundred acres of raw prairie land and ninety dollars in cash, the land being valued at about five dollars per acre. He was then married to Miss Mary Billiland, who was born in Indiana, near Covington, and with whom he became acquainted while she was teaching school in this district. She lived until 1864 and then passed away, leaving four children: Francis R., Charles, Dora and Florence L., all of whom are now living. After the loss of his first wife, Mr. Collison wedded Mary Courtney, of Pennsylvania. They have three children: Albert T., a banker of Windsor; Elizabeth, the wife of George Crays, who is employed in a



Thomas H. Collier

bank in Rossville; and Stella, the wife of Alfred Crays, who is engaged in the banking business in Windsor.

Throughout his business career Mr. Collison has been connected one way or another with agricultural pursuits. He now owns over sixteen hundred acres of valuable land. In 1893 the railroad crossed his farm and the company paid him forty-five hundred dollars for the right of way. The following year the town of Collison was established, about twenty acres of his land being included within the town plat. He built the first buildings there, a dwelling and a blacksmith shop, and later he erected a brick building and a store building. During the last three years he has rented all of his land with the exception of his pastures. For some years he has been extensively engaged in the stock business, buying, feeding and shipping. In 1902 he shipped six hundred hogs and about 150 head of cattle, the former bringing him over twelve thousand dollars. He has always given more attention to stock-raising than farming, having largely hired labor for the work of cultivating the fields. He drove cattle and sheep to Chicago before any railroad was built and it is within his memory that the boundary of Vermilion county extended almost to that city. In 1897, in connection with Edward Stevens, he went to Liverpool in charge of a cargo of cattle, visiting London during the trip, which consumed about forty days altogether. Mr. Collison is also a stockholder in the bank of Rossville and Windsor, his stock to the amount of ten thousand dollars in Rossville and fifteen thousand dollars in Windsor, having been placed to the credit of his son and son-in-law.

Mr. Collison was made a Mason at Newtown, Illinois, but is now demitted, there being no lodge in his home town. He is a

member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America, and for twenty years he has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served almost continuously as a trustee. He aided in building the Pilot chapel to which he gave three hundred dollars and he also contributed six hundred dollars to the building of the Collison church. In politics he has always been a Republican. His is one of the attractive homes of this portion of the county. On his farm he has flowing wells and at his home he lifts the water from the well with a gas engine. He has always been progressive in his work, keeping in touch with the advanced spirit of the times and everything about his place is neat and thrifty in appearance. For sixty-eight years Mr. Collison has been a resident of Vermilion county. He is a fine looking gentleman with a long white beard, a kindly and strong face. All who know him esteem him for his genuine worth, and his successful career commands the admiration of those who are familiar with his history. As one of the honored pioneer residents of the county he certainly deserves mention in this volume, for his entire career has been closely interwoven with the development and growth of this portion of the state.

JAMES P. COOK.

James P. Cook, a capitalist and land owner of Danville, belongs to one of the old families of this county and is a worthy representative here. His paternal grandfather, James Cook, came from Ohio to Vermilion county in the year 1835, casting in his lot with its first settlers. He took up his abode two and one-half miles east of Westville, on

section 10, Georgetown township. The land bought by him was wild and unimproved and the work of progress and improvement seemed scarcely begun. Deer and other wild game was to be found in this portion of the state and much of the land was swampy and full of sloughs, but there came to this portion of Illinois a progressive, courageous class of pioneers, who in due course of time wrought a great transformation in the county and placed it with the leading counties of the state. The grandfather bore his part in the work of improvement and upbuilding and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits here until his death, which occurred about 1871.

At that time Samuel Cook, the father of our subject, took charge of the old family homestead. He had previously married Melvina Graves. Throughout his entire life he carried on agricultural pursuits until the time of his retirement in 1900. He lived upon the old homestead almost continuously with the exception of two years prior to his marriage. He first had one hundred and sixty acres of land to which he added a tract of eighty acres and his farm of two hundred and forty acres became one of the valuable country seats of Catlin township. There he was engaged in general farming until 1900, when he put aside business cares and removed to Danville. Later, however, he sold his property in that city and also his farm in Oakwood and purchased two hundred acres west of Catlin. His first wife died about 1855 and he afterward married again, his second union being with Martha E. Citizen. By the first union there were six children: George, a resident farmer of Catlin township; James P., of this review; Mary, the wife of John A. Wherry, who is living on the old homestead in Catlin township; Maggie, who died at the age of

fifteen years; Ellen, who died in infancy; and Charles E., who married Celia Podgett and is living in Danville. Three children have been born of the second marriage: Berta, Frank and Fred, all of whom are at home.

James P. Cook of this review was born on his father's farm in Catlin township, March 27, 1855. He pursued his education in the common schools and afterward engaged in farming on his father's land for two years. He then purchased ninety-two acres of land where the village of Westville now stands, in 1880, and commenced its cultivation and improvement. Since that time he has divided this into town lots and has disposed of most of it at a fair profit. He now owns ten houses and lots there, the dwellings being occupied by miners. In addition to his real estate operations he has valuable farm land, owning five hundred acres near Potomac, which he rents. He also owns a nice residence in Westville and has farm property near that place. At the present time he is erecting a fine residence in Danville at the corner of Main and Gilbert streets and as soon as it is completed he intends to remove to that city and make it his future home.

James P. Cook married Eveline O'Neal, a daughter of Isaac O'Neal, who was one of the old settlers of the county and died here in the year 1876. He was one of the largest land owners in this portion of the state and a very prominent and influential citizen respected and honored by all who knew him. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Cook has been blessed with four children. Gertrude is the wife of Frank Downing and is residing one-half mile west of Westville. Lena and Stella, twins, are at home. Herman, born December 16, 1885, is also under the parental roof. The parents hold mem-

bership in the Christian church of Westville, in which our subject is now serving as a deacon. In politics he is a Democrat and for several years he served as a school director in his township. He has made judicious investments in property and thereby has acquired a handsome competence, numbering him among the leading land owners of Vermilion county. He is enabled to surround his family with many of the comforts and some of the luxuries of life and nothing gives him greater pleasure than to minister to their happiness and welfare. In business affairs he sustains a high reputation, because he has always been straightforward in his dealings, prompt in meeting an obligation and in keeping engagements. He is thus known as an honorable man, is a pleasant social companion and one whose friends in the community are many.

E. R. E. KIMBROUGH.

The term "captains of industry" is a familiar one in the parlance of the day and has arisen from the conditions of the world when business activity has replaced the records of war and conquest in the history of civilized nations. Each city claims its representatives who have worthily won this title in the control of large professional, commercial or industrial interests, and frequently it is found that one man has become a master in more than one of these lines. He who is at all familiar with the life record of E. R. E. Kimbrough will not hesitate to place him with his class so prominent in public regard, for his entire career has been one of activity, energy and enterprise and the result accomplished well entitles him to mention as one of the leaders in business circles of Danville. He has

labored along many lines with success, so that his name has figured in the financial records as well as in connection with great productive interests, yet perhaps he is best known in Danville as a member of the bar, well versed in various departments of jurisprudence.

Mr. Kimbrough was born in Edgar county, near Paris, Illinois, March 28, 1851, and is a son of Andrew H. and Sarah Kimbrough, both of whom are living, as are the daughters of the family—Laura and L. A. E. R. E. Kimbrough, the only son, having acquired his preliminary education in the public schools, became a student in the State University at Normal, Illinois, where he was graduated with the class of 1873. He entered upon the study of law under the direction of E. S. Terry, of Danville, with whom he continued until January 8, 1876, when he successfully passed an examination admitting him to the bar. In the meantime, in 1874-5, he had engaged in teaching as superintendent of the Golconda schools. After his admission to the bar he opened an office in this city in the First National Bank building and was associated in practice with W. D. Lindsey until December, 1882, when the relationship was discontinued. He was then alone in practice until July, 1893, when he became associated with James A. Meeks and this partnership still obtains. The law practice of the firm has constantly increased in volume and importance, connecting them with much of the chief litigation tried in the courts of the district. Mr. Kimbrough's success came soon because his equipment was unusually good. Along with those qualities indispensable to the lawyer,—a keen, rapid logical mind plus the business sense, and a ready capacity for hard work,—he brought to the starting point of his career

rarer gifts,—eloquence of language and a strong personality. An excellent presence, an earnest, dignified manner, marked strength of character, a thorough grasp of the law, and the ability accurately to apply its principles, are factors in his effectiveness as an advocate.

Mr. Kimbrough is also a man of large business capacity in other directions. He was formerly connected with the Electric Light & Gas Company and for a quarter of a century he was connected with the First National Bank. He is at present one of its stockholders and a director, and for two years has been its vice president. The material improvement of the city has been promoted by him for in 1896 he erected in connection with Louis Platt, the Kimbrough & Platt building, the first office building in the city, and in conjunction with Louis Platt he erected the Temple Building, in 1901. He has been connected with the Home and Danville Building Associations as a director and attorney for over twenty years. Other property interests which he has include the ownership of seven or eight hundred acres of land.

It is usually found that a man of large business interests and important undertakings has a broad outlook upon public affairs and that to a greater or less extent is actively interested in the political situation of the country. Mr. Kimbrough has labored earnestly and effectively in the support of the political principles which he thinks are best calculated to conserve the nation's welfare and the general good and is a conservative Democrat. He voted with the regular party until 1896, when he endorsed the wing favoring the gold standard and became a delegate to the Indianapolis convention of Gold-Democrats. He had also been

a delegate to the national convention of the party in St. Louis, in 1888, and in Chicago, in 1892. In 1878 he was the Democratic candidate for state senator from his district and was defeated by only three hundred and seventeen votes, although the usual Republican majority was two thousand. In 1882 and again in 1884 he was elected to the general assembly and left the impress of his individuality upon the legislation enacted during those sessions. In the city of his residence, where he is best known, ample proof was given of the public confidence in his ability and his loyalty to the general good, when in 1897 he was elected mayor of Danville on an independent ticket over three other candidates, when reform was made the issue. He carried out his promises and to the best of his personal ability and official power labored for the welfare of the city, introducing many needed reforms and improvements. For nine years he served as a member of the board of education of Danville, and since 1893 he has been a member of the state board of education, having been first appointed by Governor Altgeld and reappointed by Governor Tamm.

In September, 1876, Mr. Kimbrough was united in marriage to Julia C. Tincher, a daughter of John L. Tincher, who was one of the founders of the First National Bank and a partner of J. G. English in the banking business. He was regarded as one of the most prominent and influential men in financial and commercial circles of Danville and was also distinguished as a statesman. He died while serving as a member of the Illinois senate in 1871. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Kimbrough was born a son, Robert, but he died in 1886, at the age of nine years, this being the first death to occur in

the Kimbrough family through many years.

Mr. Kimbrough belongs to the Masonic fraternity, in which he has taken the degrees of the blue lodge, chapter and commandery. He is also a representative of the Knights of Honor and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He has a wide acquaintance among leading men throughout the state. He has ever occupied a prominent position in the foremost rank of the legal practitioners of Danville. His life has been one of untiring activity and has been crowned with a high degree of success, yet he is not less esteemed as a citizen than as a lawyer, and his kindly impulses and charming cordiality of manner have rendered him exceedingly popular among all classes.



J. H. McINTOSH.

Although one of the recent arrivals in Vermilion county Dr. J. H. McIntosh has already gained a liberal patronage in the line of his profession in Hope and in the surrounding district. He is one of the native sons of Illinois, his birth having occurred in White county, on the 10th of January, 1872. He was born upon a farm, a son of the Rev. J. W. McIntosh, a Methodist Episcopal minister who belonged to the Southern Illinois conference. His death occurred in September, 1899, but his widow, who bore the maiden name of Nancy J. Hendrick, is now living with her son, the Doctor. In their family were eleven children, seven of whom still survive and with the exception of two Dr. McIntosh is the youngest.

The Doctor pursued his literary education in Lebanon, Illinois, as a student in

McKendree College. He afterward spent one year as a student in the Missouri Medical College in St. Louis and then entered the Barnes Medical College of the same city in which he was graduated with the class of 1895. Soon afterward he located in Maunie, White county, where he remained for a year, when he removed to Grayville of the same county. Subsequently he practiced in Dewitt, DeWitt county, and in December, 1901, he came to Hope, where he has since remained successfully engaged in the general practice of medicine and surgery.

In Belleville, Illinois, in 1895, the Doctor married Annie Pfeifer, a native of St. Clair county, Illinois, and a daughter of Anthony and Nanette (Solm) Pfeifer. Her parents were born and reared in Germany and are now residing in Hope with the Doctor and his wife. Mrs. McIntosh is a well educated lady of natural refinement and is a graduate of the high school of Belleville. Prior to her marriage she engaged in teaching to some extent. She has become the mother of three children: Florence, Stephen D. and Ruth.

The Doctor owns property in Danville, having purchased a lot there and erected a house. He carries a line of drugs and compounds, all of his own prescriptions. He is the only physician in Hope and his practice covers a wide area. A young man, he entered upon his professional career equipped for the responsible duties of that position and he keeps abreast with the times through reading and research. He belongs to the Illinois State Medical Society and in his fraternal relations is a Mason, holding membership with the lodge at Hope. He also belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and is a worker in church and Sunday-school. His political support is given

to the Republican party and at the present time he is serving as a member of the school board in Hope. His position as a leading citizen of this portion of the county is due not only to his professional skill but to his public-spirited devotion to the general good and his genial personal worth.

JOHN LEEEMON.

When for miles the broad prairies stretched away wild and unimproved, when the land was still in possession of the government and the most far-sighted could not have dreamed that a few years would make a wonderful change here, John Leemon came to Vermilion county and upon its broad prairie he took up his abode far from any home, save the one settlement which was the residence of Thomas Hoopes. He assisted in the arduous task of reclaiming the wild land for the purposes of civilization and certainly no resident of this part of the state is entitled to more honorable and distinct consideration in a work of this character than he of whom we write—a pioneer whose labor brought not only prosperity to himself but was of the greatest benefit in the development and upbuilding of this portion of the state.

Mr. Leemon was born of Scotch parentage in County Armagh, Ireland, on the 8th of May, 1829. His father, Thomas Leemon, was likewise born in the north of Ireland, to which district his forefathers had been driven during the time of religious persecution in Scotland. He married Miss Elizabeth Thompson, and they reared a family of six children, all of whom followed our subject to America in 1854, three years after his arrival. For a time they resided in Jer-

sey county, Illinois, and then removed to Christian county, where the father died in 1862. The mother survived him for some years and spent her last days with her son John, passing away in 1882.

John Leemon was reared and educated in the land of his nativity and was twenty-two years of age when he resolved to seek his fortune beyond the Atlantic, hoping to take advantage of some of the excellent opportunities which he had heard were offered young men in the new world. He did not tarry on the Atlantic coast but came at once to Illinois, settling in Jersey county. Here he began working by the month for twelve dollars and in the winter season he husked corn at two cents a bushel and board. His wants were few and even at that small wage he managed to save a little money until he had enough to buy a team. He then rented a tract of land in Jersey county and began farming on his own account, carrying on agricultural work there until 1857.

In the meantime he visited Vermilion county and purchased four hundred and forty acres of wild land. As this district was still in possession of the government and the pioneer settlements had not penetrated this far into the Mississippi valley, land could be purchased at almost a nominal figure. Mr. Leemon, however, did not buy for speculation purposes but with the intention of developing a farm for himself and as soon as possible he began the work of plowing, planting and harvesting upon the tract of which he had become the owner. He boarded in the home of Mr. Hoopes, who had the only house upon the prairie in this vicinity at that time. Night and morning he went to and from his place of work, a distance of two and one-half miles. In the fall of 1857 he erected a small house upon his own farm, there keeping "bachelor's



John Leonard

hall" until the time of his marriage. Energetic, resolute and industrious, his work was carried on with marked determination and with good effect. His labors wrought a wonderful transformation in the appearance of his place and its value. He planted forest and fruit trees and set out many rods of hedge fence. With the work of agricultural improvements he kept abreast and added to his farm everything that would facilitate the work and make his property attractive. He placed upon his land two windmills and a feedmill and his barn was underlaid with water pipes, which led to various tanks wherever water was required for stock. The wet land was tilled and thus made cultivable, his tiling being brought from Bloomington. He practiced the rotation of crops and in an intelligent manner carried on the active work of developing and improving his land until the Leemon farm gained a wide reputation, unsurpassed by any in eastern Illinois, because of its productiveness and the splendid improvements found thereon. Gradually the settlements increased, the evidences of frontier life gave way before those of an advanced civilization, the deer and wolves which were once so numerous were driven out. Mr. Leemon often remarked that he saw as many as seventy-five head of deer in a single herd and the early settlers were frequently called for a wolf hunt when hunger had made the wolves so venturesome that they would steal to the very doors of the cabins in order to get the venison found hanging by the side of the house. Many winters he killed from fifteen to twenty head of deer and it was he that killed the last deer known to have been slain upon the prairies.

It was on the 26th of August, 1865, in Rossville, that Mr. Leemon was united in marriage to Miss Lodema Brown, of Butler

township. She was born near Lockport, Niagara county, New York, a daughter of John Brown, who removed to Indiana with his family when Mrs. Leemon was only about seventeen years of age. There she lived until she was twenty-two years of age, when the family came to East Lynn, Vermilion county. Her father spent his last days in Marysville, Tennessee, where he died a number of years ago. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Catherine Bears, remained with Mrs. Leemon until shortly before her death in 1888. At the time of their marriage Mr. Leemon took his bride to the home which he had already prepared and as the years passed children were added to the household to the number of six. They lost their eldest child, however, a daughter, Izele, who died at the age of twelve years. The others are: Lida; Robert A., who married Bessie Gilson, of Chicago, in 1895, and is now living on Penn street in Hoopeston; John A., Charles N. and Edith L., all of whom are with their mother in Hoopeston. They have been provided with excellent educations, Robert having attended school in Quincy, Illinois; Lida in Onarga, this state; John and Charles in Galesburg and Chicago; while Edith has been a student in Lake Forest.

Upon attaining his majority Mr. Leemon became an advocate of the Democracy but at local elections where no issue was involved he voted independently. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, frequently called him to public office and he filled creditably every official position in town and township. For eight years he was justice of the peace, was a school director and trustee, and for four years was supervisor. He uniformly distinguished himself as a man of progressive and liberal ideas, one willing to give his time and influence to

those enterprises calculated for the general good. He was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church and his life was ever an honorable one, industry and foresight being salient features in his career. He never used liquor or tobacco nor abused nature laws and therefore enjoyed good health. When his labors had brought a sufficient capital to enable him to think of retiring from business life and to plan for an enjoyment of a well earned rest, the community was shocked in hearing of his death on the 15th of December, 1890. He drove to Hoopeston for a load of lumber and was returning home when his team became unmanageable and ran away. He was thrown to the ground and the awful weight of the load of lumber was dragged over his body, crushing out his life. He lived for only two days after the accident and was then laid to rest in Floral Hill cemetery at Hoopeston. It is safe to say that no citizen of this community has ever been more deeply mourned than was John Leemon, for he was known as a man of sterling worth, who had endeared himself to all with whom he had come in contact in ties of friendship which naught but death could sever. As long as the history of Vermilion county is known to its citizens so long will the name of John Leemon be honored because of what he accomplished in pioneer times. He was a very successful business man and at the time of his death his landed possessions were very extensive. He owned in Vermilion and Iroquois counties more than eighteen hundred acres of land in addition to a two-thirds interest in eighteen hundred acres in Scott county and some landed possessions in Christian county. Since his death these lands have been divided among the heirs. He was one of the organizers of the Hamilton, Leemon & Lateer Bank, continuing with it up to the time of his death.

since which time it has become what is known as the Hamilton & Cunningham Bank of Hoopeston.

Mrs. Leemon has in her possession some valuable residence property in Hoopeston. In 1897 she decided to leave the farm and, purchasing property on Washington street in Hoopeston, she had this remodeled after her own plans and now has a very beautiful and inviting home, valued at eight thousand dollars. Into this she moved with her family and is now a valued resident of the town. She holds membership in the Universalist church and to its support Mr. Leemon was a liberal contributor, although he never held membership with any religious denomination. His was a character of great breadth and purity, however, and to his family he left the precious legacy of the memory of a noble life that is well worthy of emulation.

F. D. TOMLINSON.

F. D. Tomlinson is a well known representative of the farming interests of Vermilion county. He has five hundred acres of rich and arable land in Ross township and is accounted one of the successful and progressive agriculturists and also one of the early settlers of this locality, for since 1856 he has made his home in the county. He was born near Marshfield, in Warren county, Indiana, March 25, 1842. His father, Jesse Tomlinson, was a native of Ohio and after arriving at years of maturity removed westward, settling in Warren county in 1827, among the early settlers of that part of the state. He took up his abode upon a farm and there he remained until his life's labors were ended in death in 1853. He was married there to Mary McFarland, a native of Ohio. Her death occurred within two months of her husband's demise.

The subject of this review is called Dean Tomlinson by his many friends and the circle of his acquaintance is a very wide one in Vermilion county. He is the youngest in a family of five sons and six daughters, all of whom reached mature years, although he and his two sisters are the only ones now living. His sister Frances resides with him acting as his housekeeper since the death of his wife. The other sister, Juliet, is the wife of W. B. Miller, of Marshfield, Indiana. After the death of his father in 1853 F. D. Tomlinson came to Illinois, being at that time a youth of fourteen years. He lived with his brother-in-law until he had attained his majority, when he rented land and engaged in farming on his own account. After two years he settled upon his own place, where he now resides. He secured a tract of raw prairie which he broke and fenced, continuing its cultivation as the years passed until its rich productive fields constitute one of the valuable farms of the community. His first home was a log cabin, which he occupied for several years while clearing and developing his farm, but it has long since been replaced by a commodious, neat and substantial residence. He also has a good barn upon his place, convenient outbuildings and the latest improved machinery. An orchard of his own planting bears its fruit in season and shade trees surround the home. The place is well tiled so that the land has become arable, and fences divide the farm into fields of convenient sizes. He raises good stock in addition to the cultivation of his crops and his is one of the modern and model farms of the county.

In this county, in Newell township, November 12, 1872, Mr. Tomlinson was united in marriage to Matilda C. Young, a native

of this county, born in Newell township, January 26, 1853. Her father, Charles S. Young was one of the early settlers, who came to Illinois from Kentucky, his birth having occurred in Bourbon county, that state, in 1809. He established his home in Newell township at a very early period in its improvement and was there engaged in farming. In 1889 Mr. Tomlinson was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away on the 22d of February, and was laid to rest in the family burial ground near Marshfield, Indiana. They had four children: Elizabeth F., the wife of O. W. Cannon, of Danville, by whom she has a son, William D.; Charles S.; Jesse Dean; and John R. They also lost three children: Mary, who died when a child of seven years; Walter, who died at the age of four years; and an infant son. When age conferred upon Mr. Tomlinson the right of franchise he proudly cast his first presidential vote for General U. S. Grant in 1868 and has given his support to each presidential nominee of the party since that time. Forty-six years' residence in this country entitles him to mention among the old settlers and he belongs to that class of enterprising citizens, who, while promoting their individual success, have also taken a helpful interest in the work pertaining to the general welfare. He is well known in the northeastern section of the county and his intelligence, worth, and integrity have made him a valued citizen.

WILLIAM H. CARTER.

Vermilion county figures as one of the most attractive, progressive and prosperous division of the state of Illinois, justly claim-

ing a high order of citizenship and a spirit of enterprise which is certain to conserve onsecutive development and marked advancement in the material upbuilding of the section. The county has been and is significantly favored in the class of men who have controlled its affairs in official capacity, and in this connection the subject of this review demands representation as one who has served the county faithfully and well in positions of distinct trust and responsibility. He is now acceptably filling the position of county recorder, to which he was elected in 1900 for a term of four years.

Mr. Carter was born in Peoria county, Illinois, September 15, 1863, and is a son of Abraham and Eliza (Baum) Carter. He comes of Welsh-American ancestry. His maternal grandfather, Charles Baum, was one of the pioneer settlers of Vermilion county, Illinois. He came from Ohio to this county, settling in Carroll township when that region was still wild and unimproved. He bore his part in the work of development and progress and he lived to the advanced age of ninety-eight years. Of his children there is but one survivor, Mrs. Eliza Carter, the mother of our subject. She is a native of Ohio, and for one-third of a century has been a widow, for Abraham Carter, the father of our subject, died in 1869. He was a native of Illinois. By this marriage there were three children, Charles E., now deceased; Frank A., who is living in Indianola, Illinois; and William H., of this review.

In the public schools of Indianola William H. Carter acquired his literary education. His early youth was spent upon the home farm and after entering upon his business career he accepted a clerkship in Indianola. Later he served as deputy clerk

and recorder. In 1900 he was elected recorder of Vermilion county on the Republican ticket for a term of four terms, so that he is now filling that position. He has also held township offices, having served as collector. Socially he is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, with the Masonic fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Modern Woodmen of America. No trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed and he is a most capable official, discharging his duties in a prompt and able manner, placing the general good before personal advancement.

ROBERT V. CHESLEY.

Upon the public life of Danville Robert V. Chesley left an indelible impression and he wrote his name upon the keystone of the legal arch of Illinois, figuring during the middle portion of the nineteenth century as one of the most skilled lawyers and gifted orators that appeared before courts of the state. No citizen of Danville was ever more respected and no man ever more fully enjoyed the respect so freely accorded him. Honorable in business, loyal in citizenship, charitable in thought, kindly in action, true to every trust confided to his care, his life was of the highest type of American manhood. He was one of the great lawyers of the Illinois bar who lives in the memories of his contemporaries encircled with the halo of a gracious presence, charming personality, profound legal wisdom, thrilling oratory, purity of public and private life and the quiet dignity of an ideal follower of his calling.

Mr. Chesley was a native of Virginia, born May 9, 1832, a son of Alexander P.



ROBERT CHESLEY

Chesley, who after removing to Danville became postmaster of the city. The son attended school in Columbus, Ohio, and from there came to Vermilion county, where he entered upon his business career as an apprentice to the harness-maker's trade under William Myers. When his three years' term of service had expired he continued with his employer as a journeyman for a number of years and then accepted a clerkship in the Humphrey drug store. Subsequently he became a salesman in the dry-goods store of Prosper and Victor Leseure, after which he established a harness and saddlery store of his own, his shop standing at the corner opposite the First National Bank. He remained in that business for a time and then again engaged in clerking, this time in the employe of William E. Russel, a dry-goods merchant.

About this time,—on the 21st of October, 1852,—in Danville, Mr. Chesley was united in marriage to Miss Helen M. Russel, a native of Litchfield county, Connecticut, born August 16, 1830, a daughter of William E. and Emeline (Bradley) Russel, the former a native of Middletown, Connecticut, and the latter of Litchfield county, where they were married. Her father was engaged in the dry-goods business in the east and after his removal to Vermilion county in 1833 followed the same line of business. He was also engaged in the land and loan business and did a great deal of business for the county, also filling a number of offices, including that of justice of the peace. Prominent in public affairs his activity proved of benefit to the community along many lines. His political support was given the Democracy and socially he was connected with the Masonic fraternity and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while in religious faith he was a Universa-

list. He died in March, 1856, and his wife passed away on the 7th of November, 1866. Mrs. Chesley was one of a family of four children. She has one living brother, Albert Russel, who is retired in Danville.

After his marriage Mr. Chesley continued clerking until September, 1861, when with patriotic impulse to aid in the preservation of the Union he joined Company C, of the Twelfth Regiment of Illinois Infantry, serving under the command of Colonel McArthur and General U. S. Grant. He was engaged in several battles and skirmishes, including the engagement at Fort Donelson, where he was wounded in the leg by a rifle ball. He was then sent to the hospital, where he was discharged after serving for a year. When he had recovered he took up the study of law. He had previously devoted much time to reading law while working at his trade, often sitting up nights until between one and two o'clock pouring over some text-book. After his return from the army he continued his reading in the office of O. L. Davis and was admitted to the bar after successfully passing the required examination. He then opened an office and began practice in Danville. He was interested in the trial of a number of cases with Abraham Lincoln and they became fast friends. He was also associated with Stephen A. Douglas and other eminent men of the time, many of whom attained national reputations. A brilliant orator, his gift in this direction was one of the potent elements of his success, but added to this was his logical reasoning, his comprehensive knowledge of the law and his careful preparation of cases. His political support was given to the Republican party and had he aspired to political honors he undoubtedly could have won fame in that direction but he always refused to hold office.

Mr. and Mrs. Chelsey became the parents of five children: Charles E., who married Ida Dickon, by whom he has five children, is one of the owners of the Chesley Boiler Works and resides in Danville; Frederick H., who wedded Elizabeth Thomas and has two children, is also living in Danville and works for his brothers in the boiler factory; John L., who married Eliza Hamnett, is engaged in boiler manufacturing in this city; L. A., who married Helen S. Stewart and has three children, is the secretary and treasurer of the Danville Foundry Company; Helen May, born in Vermilion county, January 1, 1866, is the wife of W. S. Rowlson, who was born in Terre Haute, Indiana, February 24, 1858, their marriage taking place May 14, 1885. His father, I. L. Rowlson, is a native of Watertown, New York, and was married in Terre Haute to Mrs. Mildred McGaughey. W. S. Rowlson is now engaged in the carriage business in Danville. He is a Republican in his political views and a member of the Modern Woodmen fraternity. He and his wife reside at No. 927 North Walnut street and they have one son, Chesley, born February 24, 1895.

Mr. Chesley held membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and attended the Presbyterian church. He perhaps had more friends in this portion of the state than any other man. He was popular socially and it is said that no man was more graceful or gallant in a ball room or at a social function. He had a wonderful memory for faces and incidents, a most polished manner and genial cordiality and all this rendered him a most pleasant entertainer. As a lecturer he had no equal in Danville and in fact his superior ability won for him the title of "the silver-tongued orator of the west." On the platform such was his per-

sonal popularity and such his personal magnetism that his appearance to address the people was the signal for tumultuous enthusiasm and when it was known that he was to speak at a public or political gathering people came for miles to hear him until the place of meeting was always taxed to its utmost capacity and his remarks were cheered to the echo. But his was not alone the oratory of the master of rhetoric, his utterances rang with truth, originality, logic and power. His eloquence made his law pleas memorable and his law library was one of the finest of the state. The term "Our Bob," so often applied to him, was a token of endearment—an indication of the tender regard which his fellow townsmen had for him. In his family he was a devoted husband and father and put forth every effort in his power to promote the welfare and happiness of his wife and children. He had a most comprehensive knowledge of the scriptures and while he made no professions of religion, he who attempted to enlist him in a Biblical argument found that he must look to his own laurels. He lived religion rather than professed it, and no man was more generous to the poor and needy, more ready in sympathy or shed around him more of the sunshine and happiness of life. His name is inscribed on the records of the bar of Illinois, but in the city where he made his home and throughout the state where he had acquaintances, it is enshrined in the hearts of those who were proud to call him friend.



MRS. IDA J. PASTUER.

The field of journalism has drawn to its ranks many of the leading men of the country, men whose patriotic devotion to

the general good, combined with business ability, has enabled them to establish papers having marked influence upon the growth and substantial progress of the localities with which they are connected. Comparatively few women, however, have entered the journalistic realm, but if others could do so, manifesting the same capability and success that has been shown by Mrs. Pastuer, it would certainly be a work worthy of the best efforts of womankind. She of whom we write is the editor of the Gazette of Indianola. Upon her husband's death she took up the work which he was forced to lay down and with the assistance of her two sons, H. M. and W. R. Pastuer, she has made the paper a credit to the community and a worthy representative of the newspaper field of this portion of the state of Illinois.

Mrs. Pastuer is a native of Terre Haute, Indiana, and became the wife of Francis J. Pastuer, who established the Gazette. The Danville Press said of her: "She is a woman of much versatility and governs a newspaper with the dignity of a society woman in her drawing room. After the death of her husband she courageously took charge of his business and reared her little family. She mastered the business and made a success of its every detail." The paper now has a paid circulation of one thousand copies, and is an excellent advertising medium. It is an eight page journal and the plant is equipped with everything necessary for the publication of a modern up-to-date paper. Mrs. Pastuer is ably assisted by her two sons, H. M. and W. R., and the latter is not only serving as city editor but is also city clerk of Indianola. The former occupied the position of foreman of the printing office and possessed marked ability as a car-

toon artist, his work in this direction being favorably commented upon by expert judges in this line in New York. He is at present a student in the New York Cartooning school, and will take a position as cartoonist with a leading Memphis, Tennessee, paper upon receiving his diploma. Mrs. Pastuer reads broadly, thinks deeply, and without strongly marked prejudice she presents the subjects of which she treats in a fair and just manner. Through the columns of her paper she has labored earnestly for the welfare of Indianola, and the town is proud of the Gazette and of its editor.

D. C. HINSHAW, M. D.

Since 1887 Dr. D. C. Hinshaw has resided in the village of Ridgefarm and throughout the southern part of the county has engaged in the practice of his profession, a liberal patronage being accorded him, because he has demonstrated his skill and ability to cope successfully with the many intricate problems which are continually facing the physician. He is a native of Hamilton county, Indiana, born April 22, 1858, and is a son of John and Sarah Hinshaw, both of whom were natives of North Carolina, and, removing to Hamilton county, Indiana, in 1851, became early settlers of the latter locality. The father purchased a tract of land and has since carried on farming there and he and his wife are leading members of the Friends church and people of the highest respectability, who enjoy to an unusual degree the confidence and good will of those with whom they are associated. Their marriage was blessed with eight children, namely: Isaac,

who is residing in Kansas; Thomas, a physician, whose home is in Indianapolis, Indiana; Martha J., a resident of Westfield, Indiana; Andrew, who is living in Hamilton county; D. C.; Aseneth, whose home is in Plainfield, Indiana; Lydia Ann, of Toledo, Ohio; and William, who resides with his parents on the old home farm in Hamilton county, Indiana.

Dr. Hinshaw, whose name introduces this record, acquired his early education in the district schools near the home farm and afterward continued his studies in the high school at Westfield, Indiana. He then entered upon his medical course, going to Indianapolis, where he spent three years as a student in the Medical College there and was graduated on the 1st of March, 1882, with the degree of M. D. He had applied himself closely to the mastery of the branches which formed the curriculum, and thus thoroughly equipped for the practice of his profession he opened an office in Vermilion Grove, Illinois, where he remained for a short time, coming thence to Ridgetown, where he has since resided. From the beginning of his residence here he has enjoyed a very liberal patronage, which has continually grown until now his practice is a large and profitable one. He has practiced here longer than any other physician in the village and he has a well equipped office in the central part of the town.

Dr. Hinshaw was united in marriage to Miss Effie R. Dicken, a native of Vermilion county, and a daughter of David Dicken, a farmer who served as a soldier in the war of the Rebellion. He spent his last years, however, in retirement from active labor and died in Danville. The Doctor was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife in 1901.

she passing away on the 19th of February, of that year. There were two children of that marriage, but the elder, Glenn Crawford, died at the age of five months. Hazel E., born in October, 1886, resides with her father in Ridgetown.

The Doctor is not only prominent professionally but is also recognized as one of the leading and enterprising citizens of the village, devoted to the general good and ever allied to the best interests of the town. For two years he acceptably served as mayor of Ridgetown. In politics he is a Republican and fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias and with the Modern Woodmen. In religious faith he is connected with the Society of Friends. In a profession where advancement depends upon individual merit he has steadily progressed, each year adding to his efficiency by reason of his continued study and investigation.

JAMES S. SCONEE.

One of the most beautiful homes in eastern Illinois is "Fairview." A palatial residence, it stands in the midst of a well kept lawn, which slopes gradually to the road, a quarter of a mile distant, a winding drive leading up to the house, which is embowered in stately trees. Far and wide to the right and to the left stretch the broad and richly cultivated fields of the estate, and the evidences of care and cultivation are everywhere seen. "Fairview" is a monument to the life, the enterprise and the energy of James S. Sconce, whose well directed efforts in the business world resulted in the acquirement of this splendid property, which he left as a legacy to his wife and children, when

his life's labors were ended in death and he was called to the home beyond. His memory is enshrined in the hearts of all who knew him, for he endeared himself to all by his straightforward conduct, his gentle manner and his sterling worth.

Back to an early epoch in American history can the ancestry of the family be traced and in many events which left their impress upon improvement and progress representatives of the name were active. When civilization made its way into the wilderness of Kentucky the Sconces joined the vanguard and the great-grandfather of James S. Sconce was one of the pioneers of Bourbon county, Kentucky, where he lived in a large log house, built especially to resist Indian attacks. There were eight brothers in the family and they were among the brave early settlers who reclaimed that beautiful country from the domain of the savages. Nearly all of these brothers emigrated to the south and west, bearing part in the reclamation of wild districts for the purpose of civilization. There are now many representatives of the name in Texas.

Samuel Sconce, the father of our subject, was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, in 1802, and was there reared amid the scenes of frontier life, sharing in the hardships and trials of the pioneer settlers until the year 1828, when he came to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county the following year. Here he was married to Miss Nancy Waters, who was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, in 1808, and in 1829 came with her parents to Brooks Point, Vermilion county, where the marriage was celebrated. For a few years they resided in that locality and Mr. Sconce gave his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he followed very successfully. In 1852 he turned his attention to merchandising in Indianola as a

member of the firm of Bailey & Sconce, which proved a profitable venture until the store was destroyed by fire, when Mr. Sconce retired from business life. He died in 1874, at the age of seventy-one years, and his widow passed away in 1897, at the age of eighty-nine. They were the parents of three children who reached mature years: James S.; America J., of Indianola, who is the widow of Dr. Oliver Calvert, by whom she had a daughter who died at the age of sixteen years; and Thomas J., who was for many years a resident of Carroll township, Vermilion county, and died January 1, 1888.

James S. Sconce was born near Brooks Point, November 14, 1831, and acquired a good education, attending first the district schools, later the more advanced schools of Danville and subsequently the Georgetown Academy, at that time the leading educational institution of this portion of the state. He was also early trained to hard work on the home farm and when twenty-four years of age he entered his father's store as a clerk and for four years drew a salary of only three hundred dollars per year. In 1859, thinking he might find better business opportunities west of the Mississippi, he went to Kansas, where he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in Lyons county. He remained, however, for only three months and then traded his property for a similar tract of land in Illinois and here began his career as a stockman and drover. During this time he made the acquaintance of the lady whom he sought as his wife, and in September, 1861, he was united in marriage to Miss Emma Sodowsky, the only daughter of Harvey Sodowsky. She was reared at Woodlawn, her father's country home and supplemented her early education by attendance at the Georgetown Academy.

After his marriage Mr. Sconce lived for

a year with his father-in-law and then located on the place which is now the home of his widow and son. As his financial resources increased he added to his property until he became the owner of twenty-one hundred acres of as fine land as can be found in this part of the country. He erected thereon a splendid residence in the midst of tall and graceful trees, which shade a spacious lawn, adorned by the arts of the landscape gardener. To this place Mrs. Sconce very appropriately gave the name of Fairview. Mr. Sconce not only gave his attention to the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to soil and climate, but was also an extensive raiser and dealer in stock, his volume of business in this department reaching a large figure annually. The estate left by him was one of the largest ever probated in Vermilion county and to the widow and children also came the satisfaction of knowing that it was gained through strictly legitimate and honorable business methods.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sconce were born three children: Anna, the wife of William G. Cathcart, the banker of Sidell, Illinois, by whom she has a daughter, Celia; Harvey J.; and Samuel, who died in infancy. It is said that "sorrows come not singly," and so it seems for Mrs. Sconce lost her husband, her father and her mother within a year. Mr. Sconce passed away September 21, 1888, at the age of fifty-seven years.

While his success excited the admiration of those who knew him, it was his personal characteristics that drew around him so many warm friends. He was a man of fine appearance, six feet in height, broad shouldered, and with the keen, blue eye so characteristic of the family. He would have attracted attention in any gathering. Politically he was a Democrat from conviction and principle and in 1882 he consented to be-

come a candidate for state senator. He made a brilliant race, running far ahead of his ticket in a county which is strongly Republican. He served as supervisor of Carroll township and always took a deep interest in public affairs. A well filled library indicated his literary taste, and he read broadly and deeply, spending many of his most pleasant hours with his favorite authors. Educational matters always awakened his earnest interest and hearty co-operation and for a number of years he was one of the regents of the Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, Illinois, which was also favored by his generosity. He was a consistent and active member of the Methodist Episcopal church and he was buried with Masonic honors in the Woodlawn cemetery, at Indianola. The funeral was attended by an immense throng and the cortege, headed by three hundred Masons in mourning, was over three miles in length, probably the largest funeral ever held in Vermilion county. It was remarked by one who knew Mr. Sconce well that "a secret society which commanded the fealty of a man like James Sconce must have something in it." If he loved Masonry it was also true that the brethren of the craft loved him. He lived a life of simplicity, gentleness, kindness and charity, and he never allowed the accumulation of wealth to in any way influence his action toward those less fortunate, unless it was to make him more considerate and gracious. He regarded only the worth of character in those whom he made his friends and he had the highest regard for upright manhood. It was therefore a logical result that he should draw around him a circle of friends that was almost co-extensive with his circle of acquaintances, and that his death should come as a personal bereavement to the great majority who knew him.



Jas S. Seance

His widow still lives at beautiful Fairview. She is well versed in literature and art, and "one is never alone who has the companionship of the old masters." As a friend remarked to the writer: "It matters not who goes to the home of Mrs. Sconce, be they rich or poor, they all receive the same gracious welcome." To her husband she was a devoted companion and helpmate and for more than a quarter of a century they traveled life's journey together in a most congenial companionship that made her bereavement very heavy, yet left her with many precious memories of happy years of wedded life.

HARVEY J. SCONCE.

One of the largest and most substantial property owners of Vermilion county is Harvey J. Sconce, who, though still a young man, has the responsibility upon his shoulders of taking care of his large landed interests. This he is thoroughly capable of doing, for he well understands progressive agricultural methods and takes a deep interest in every improvement that will add to the value and attractive appearance of his splendid farm.

Mr. Sconce was born at Fairview farm, March 7, 1875. His father was James S. Sconce, who was a man prominent in all of the affairs of the county in which he made his home and well known throughout the state, not only as a great agriculturist and stock-raiser but also as a progressive and public-spirited citizen who had at heart the best interests of Vermilion county. He was born near Brooks Point in Vermilion county, November 14, 1831, and died September 21, 1888. His parents, Samuel and Nancy Sconce, were natives of Bourbon county,

Kentucky, and came to Vermilion county in 1829. Theirs was a happy married life and the grandfather of our subject was a progressive and influential agriculturist. Through the enterprise and efforts of this couple the great Sconce estate was created, which is known to be one of the finest country estates in the United States. Besides their son James S. they had two other children: America J., the widow of Oliver Calvert and a resident of Indianola; and Thomas J., who died January 1, 1888. James S. Sconce was educated in the public schools of this county and the schools of Danville. He married Miss Emma Sadowsky, a daughter of Harvey Sadowsky, who was one of the farmer "princes" of Vermilion county. She was born June 25, 1842, and by her marriage became the mother of three children: Anna, Harvey J., and Samuel, who died in infancy. Anna is now the wife of William G. Cathcart, of Sidell, Vermilion county, and has one child, Celia, aged nine years.

Harvey J. Sconce received his early education in the public schools of Vermilion county and was reared upon his father's delightful farm called Fairview, situated in the western part of Carroll township, where he yet resides. Later he entered the University of Illinois, taking the special agricultural course and graduating in the class of 1897. While in college he took an active interest in athletics and played on the 'varsity football eleven for three years and on the 'varsity nine for one year.

Upon his return from college Mr. Sconce immediately assumed control of his father's estate which had been under the supervision of his mother during his minority. The farm comprises thirty-one hundred and forty acres of the finest land in the state. In connection with the cultivation of his

land Mr. Sconce is also engaged in feeding stock on a large scale and makes a specialty of pure bred shorthorns, having a herd of pure white shorthorns at the present time in addition to his red herd. He is regarded as good authority on all agricultural subjects.

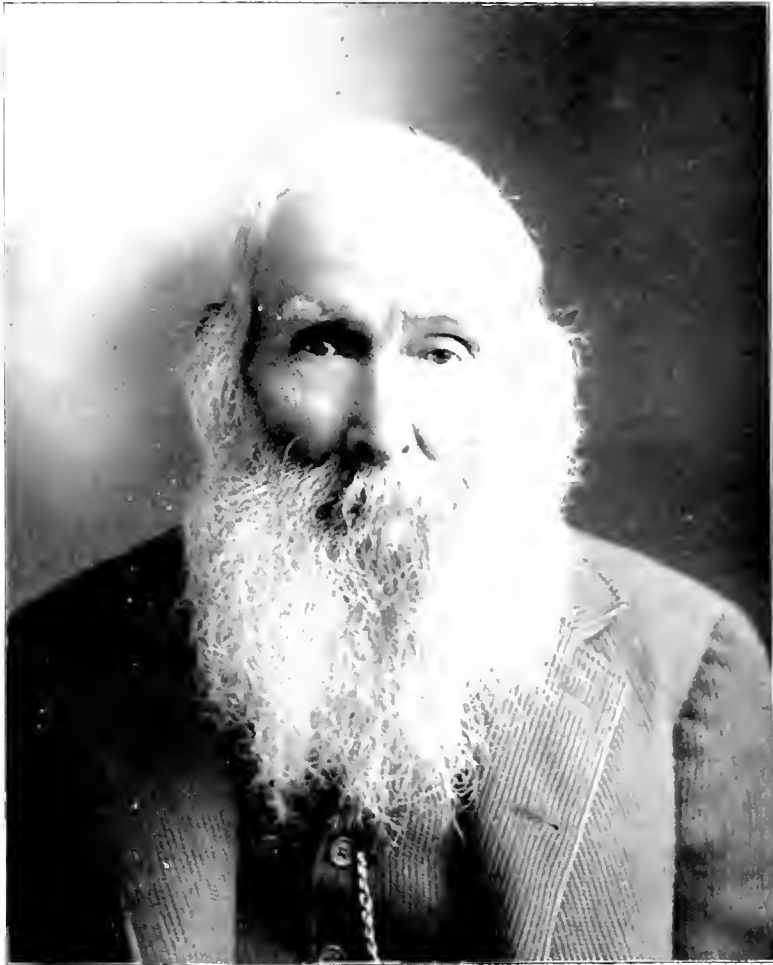
On the 2d of June, 1897, Mr. Sconce was united in marriage to Miss Eva Fisher, who was born July 22, 1876, and is the daughter of Michael and Marietta Fisher, of Indianola. One child blesses this union, Emma Frances, born May 9, 1898. The members of the Sconce household now consists of our subject, his mother, wife and child, and theirs is a happy home, made attractive by all the modern conveniences of this progressive and enlightened age. Electric lights illuminate all of the farm buildings as well as the palatial residence, which consists of beautifully furnished rooms, fitted up in the most perfect taste. A delightful conservatory is one of the embellishments of the home and it contains beautiful and rare plants and flowers, while a billiard room contributes to the entertainment of those who enjoy such pastime.

Fraternally Mr. Sconce is a Mason, being past master of Sidell Lodge, No. 798, F. & A. M., and he also belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Danville and to the Kappa Sigma, a Greek letter fraternity. His religious views are indicated by his membership in the Methodist church and in politics he is a Republican, believing firmly in the principles of that party. He is deeply interested in the general welfare of his county and state and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. Patriotic and progressive, public spirited and enterprising, he is one of Vermilion county's representative men and is held in the highest respect and esteem by all who know him.

EDWARD ROUSE.

Edward Rouse is a pioneer settler of Vermilion county, having located here in 1834. He had previously visited the county in 1832, and returned to Ohio, his native place, in 1833, but he again came to Vermilion county the next year, locating in Danville township, and removed to Newell township in 1849. Here he has remained and during the succeeding years has been a very prominent man in his locality and has taken an important part in the work of improvement and development of the same. He was born in Scioto county, Ohio, March 18, 1825, and is the son of Reason and Martha (Olehy) Rouse, who were natives of Delaware and Virginia, respectively, and were married in Ohio. The subject of this review is one of a family of six children. Isaac died in December, 1883. Rebecca Ann died in Ohio, on the return of Mr. Rouse to that state, in 1833. The subject of this review is the third in order of birth. John resides on the state line in Warren county, Indiana, and also lived in Vermilion county for some years. Dennis died about the year 1896. Elizabeth is the deceased wife of Joseph Huston. She left one child, who also died later.

Edward Rouse of this review attended the subscription schools in the months of winter and worked upon the farm in the summer seasons. He came from Ohio in a covered wagon and hired a man to make the trip, which consumed about three weeks. His father had died when he was about six years of age and the mother died the following March, in 1833, leaving six orphans. Edward Rouse made his home after this with his mother's brothers and was reared by them. He lived with his uncles until he was about eighteen years of age, when he be-



EDWARD ROUSE.



MRS. EDWARD ROUSE.

gan working out by the month, at first receiving seven dollars. He continued working until his marriage, which occurred October 4, 1846, the lady of his choice being Minerva Martin, who was born in Newell township, Vermilion county, August 16, 1829. She is the youngest of a family of eleven children, all of whom reached years of maturity. The family were pioneers of Vermilion county, and Mrs. Rouse is the only surviving member. The family was established in the state before there were any railroads constructed and Mrs. Rouse now lives within one quarter of a mile of the old homestead on which she was reared. There was a race to enter the piece of land north of where she was born.

After his marriage Mr. Rouse of this review rented land for one year and in 1848 he bought forty acres at four dollars per acre. This was all wild and unimproved, but with characteristic energy he proceeded to cultivate it and place it under a high state of productiveness. He made all of the improvements thereon, and his neat and attractive residence and substantial barns and granaries indicate the progressive spirit of the owner. He has been very industrious and energetic, and with the aid of his estimable wife he has succeeded in winning a comfortable competence. The wife has not only done the house work, but has made all the clothing and otherwise has borne the burdens and endured the hardships incident to pioneer life, when the advantages of an older civilization were not obtainable. Both Mr. Rouse and his wife were reared in a log cabin. After their marriage Mr. Rouse built a frame house in 1861 on his farm. The nearest trading points to their home were Covington and Perrysville, and their grain was hauled to Lafayette and Chicago in exchange for groceries, salt and provisions.

They made the journey with teams, camping out on the way to and from the city. Mr. Rouse hauled apples to Ottawa on the Illinois river, and to Chicago, in 1849. In case of a drought in their part of the state, he would return with a load of potatoes bought at seventy-five cents and sold at one dollar and a half per bushel. There being no railroads in the state, the interchange of commerce was slow and not extensive. Mr. and Mrs. Rouse well remember the first railroad that was constructed into Danville, known as the Toledo, Wabash & Western Railroad, in 1857. That also was the year in which Mrs. Rouse lost her mother by death. Twenty years previous to this, during the early boyhood days of Mr. Rouse, he worked at teaming on a railroad that was begun but was never finished until it was revived in 1857. Mr. Rouse is now in his seventy-eighth year and can see to read without glasses, which he has done for the past ten years, now having his "second eye-sight." For thirty years previous to that he wore glasses. He was actively engaged in farming until the year 1900, but since that time has lived retired upon the old home farm. He and his wife celebrated their golden wedding October 4, 1896, and all of the children and grandchildren except two of the family circle were gathered around the old home fireside to participate in the joyous function. The two not present were Mrs. Alice Stewart, of Kansas, and John B., of Nebraska. Invitations were sent out and about two hundred were present. This was a happy re-union for the family, and many reminiscences of former days were indulged in, and comparisons made between the primitive past and the progressive present. The venerable father and mother of this family of children were made young again in spirit by the presence of their loved ones.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rouse were born twelve children, as follows: Martha is the wife of Thomas Mackin and resides in Vermilion county. They are the parents of seven children, five of whom are living. Dennis H. married Sarah Crouse and resides in Danville. They have one living child and lost two. The third member of the Rouse family is Susan, who lives upon the home farm, and is caring for her aged parents. John B. married Josephine Herrin and they reside in Nebraska, having three children. Rosann is the wife of Alex Stewart and they had six children, five of whom are living. They reside in Kansas. Their oldest girl is married and lives in Colorado. Mary Ann is the wife of W. T. Hanson. They had five children, three of whom are yet living. They reside one-half mile north of the old home farm in Newell township. They have one daughter who is married and has one child, the latter being the great-grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. Rouse. Rebecca Ann is the wife of Leroy Walker, is living in Danville, and has four children. Julia Ann is the wife of Charles T. Long. They had nine children, six of whom are living, and make their home in Danville township. Minerva is the wife of L. P. Adams, of Newell township, and has four living children. They also lost one. Sarah Ann is the wife of John J. Long, residing in Danville township, and they have seven children, all living. One child died in infancy; and Edwin Austin, the youngest member of the family, died October 18, 1886, at the age of fourteen years, ten months and two days.

Mr. and Mrs. Rouse have lived in Vermilion county for many years. There were scarcely any towns or villages here at that time. They have since sprung up into flourishing and enterprising towns and cities and thus the progress of the great state of Illi-

nois has been assured. Mrs. Rouse has made trips to Danville for her mother when there was only one store in the place—a wonderful change is now seen in this thriving city of the west. At that time the land abounded in sloughs. Her mother died in her sixty-eighth year, January 28, 1857, in the present home of Mr. Rouse and his wife. Her father died in Washington territory near Vancouver, in March, 1861. He was one of the highly respected pioneers of Vermilion county and at the time of his death was about seventy-five years of age.

Mr. Rouse and his wife are among those who have helped to build up Newell township, and their prominence and popularity in the township is indicated by the fact that their many friends took occasion on their golden wedding to present them with many valuable presents. Among these were two walking canes, one gold headed and the other made of pure glass in the glass works at Danville. The gold headed cane was presented by friends at Danville. Their children presented each with a beautiful gold watch. The dishes presented by Danville friends are gold lined, beautiful and costly souvenirs. Mrs. Rouse's sister's children presented them with a golden pitcher of exquisite taste and design and two golden candlesticks representing the fiery serpent were among the presents. This plainly shows the high esteem and honor in which Mr. and Mrs. Rouse are held by their many friends, and the pages of the history of Vermilion county, past and present, will be enhanced by mention of these pioneer citizens. In their comfortable home happiness, peace and contentment reign, as the result of lives nobly spent. The home is tastefully furnished and arranged. Their daughter, Susan, who is acting as housekeeper and general manager, has splendid business ability and great

taste in arranging the home and grounds. She is gifted in the art of the taxidermist and has a charming and beautiful collection of native birds. She has natural ability in this line and the birds are arranged very artistically in a case and have a very natural and life-like appearance. She has a collection of almost every species of native birds, among them being two mud hens.

Mr. Rouse now owns two hundred and forty acres of the very best improved land in Vermilion county, and every foot of the same has been put under its present state of cultivation through the hard work of Mr. Rouse. Only eight acres were cleared when it came into his possession. His land is so divided in various portions, that it may be equally distributed among his children. In addition he owns one hundred and sixty acres in Kansas. The labors of this honored couple have brought to them a comfortable competence and they are now enjoying a well earned rest from the toils of life. For many years they have lived together in happiness, their mutual love and confidence increasing as the years have passed. The land that he possesses is partly in his wife's name, she having forty acres deeded to her. Of the other portion of the farm, one hundred and thirty-three acres are in Danville township, and sixty-seven acres are in Newell township, making in all about two hundred and forty acres. Before his retirement from active life Mr. Rouse had been identified for fifty-four years with farming and stockraising. He has also taken a prominent part in public affairs. He served for one term as supervisor of Newell township, beginning in the early part of the year 1862, and has helped build schools on his own and other land. He and his wife are identified with the Primitive Baptist church, which he

helped to build on his land, giving the association the site and aiding in its material and spiritual growth. Many of the meetings of this association are held at his house. Mr. Rouse has always voted the Democratic ticket, casting his first presidential ballot for Louis Cass, and he has since been a standard bearer of the party, of which he is very proud. Horace Greeley is the only Democratic nominee for the presidency whom he failed to vote for. During his active business life Mr. Rouse was a very successful farmer and his land was so cultivated as to yield him a fine return, his annual corn crops yielding him now forty to fifty bushels and oats twenty-five to fifty bushels to the acre. He is a noble representative of the pioneers of Vermilion county, and his life record should be an inspiration to future generations.

GEORGE TANNER.

To the heroes who fought and suffered, giving several of the best years of their early manhood to the preservation of the Union under whose flag they were born, universal tribute of gratitude is given and it is fitting that their patriotic service should find mention in the annals of their county, state and nation. Those who are enjoying the peace and prosperity which have come as a direct result of that long and terrible struggle between the north and south cannot have impressed upon their minds too often the great price which it cost. When the tocsin of war sounded George Tanner was among those who responded, and throughout the greater part of the Civil war he wore the blue uniform of the nation and valiantly fought its battles.

Mr. Tanner was born in Carroll county, Indiana, January 30, 1839, his parents being Jacob and Elizabeth (Pilcher) Tanner, the former a native of New York and the latter of Ohio. The father followed farming throughout his entire business career. The mother died in Vermilion county, Illinois, near Danville, and of the fourteen children of the family but three are now living: Samuel, Sarah and George. Sarah is the wife of Elias Marion. After the death of his first wife the father married Mrs. Boggs and his death occurred in August, 1890, in Urbana.

George Tanner pursued his education in the common schools of Ford county, Illinois, and remained at home through the period of his youth, assisting in the work of the home farm, when not pursuing his studies. He began farming on his own account on rented land and after two years thus passed he purchased forty acres in Vermilion county. As a companion and helpmate for the journey of life he chose Miss Eliza Speers and they were married near Pilot Grove, Illinois, November 17, 1858. The lady was a native of Virginia and died on the 15th of November, 1859, leaving one child, Francis Marion, who resides in Danville.

On the 4th of August, 1862, in response to his country's need, Mr. Tanner enlisted at Chambersburg, Indiana, as a member of Company II, Seventy-second Indiana Infantry, under Captain R. B. Hanna and Colonel A. O. Miller. The regiment was assigned to the Fourteenth Army Corps, under General Thomas, who commanded the corps for about a year. They were mounted infantry of Wilder's Brigade and afterward joined Long's corps of cavalry, remaining in the cavalry service until the close of hostilities. Mr. Tanner was also

with Sherman throughout the Chattanooga campaign and at the battle of Chickamauga. He was also in the engagements at Stone River, Hoover's Gap, the Atlanta campaign, Buzzard's Roost, Ringgold and numerous others of lesser importance. During the Atlanta campaign his entire brigade were in their saddles for forty-two days and nights, protecting the troops of infantry. After this campaign the regiment fell back with Thomas, at Nashville, and engaged in the pursuit of Hood. Later they were detached and sent to follow Sherman on his march to the sea, proceeding as far as Macon, within three days' march of Atlanta when the news of Lee's surrender was received. On that occasion the Seventy-second Indiana fell back to Louisville, Kentucky, and was there mustered out, Mr. Tanner receiving an honorable discharge at Indianapolis, on the 26th day of July, 1865. He was within one hundred and fifty yards of McPherson when that general was killed. He was also in the battle of Selma, Alabama, on the Sunday when the Union troops, numbering only twenty-five hundred, engaged the forces of General Forest, numbering seven thousand men. They captured Selma, Alabama, in one hour and forty minutes, and lost one hundred and fifty men, both commanders, Long and Miller, being wounded. They secured one thousand prisoners, over one thousand horses, and killing more than a thousand of the Rebel troops. The city was fortified by a line of breastworks and was considered one of the best fortified strongholds of the entire south, but the Union troops with marked gallantry captured this place, destroying the southern arsenal with all its guns, cannon and ammunition. Mr. Tanner served for three years as one of the

valiant defenders of the old flag, never wavering in his allegiance or faltering in his faith as to the final outcome of the Union arms. His health was much impaired during the service, and in fact he has never fully recovered to this day.

After the close of the war Mr. Tanner returned to Ford county and assisted his father on the home farm for a short time. He then went to Ohio on a visit and was there married to Julia A. Tanner, of Palestine, in the year 1866. He remained in the Buckeye state for two years, carrying on farming, after which he returned to Illinois, taking up his abode in Vermilion county upon his father's land near East Lynn. He then cared for his parents until his mother's death. On account of ill health contracted in the service he was advised by his physician to leave the farm and he turned his attention to the carpenter's trade which he followed for about a quarter of a century, living at East Lynn and working as a builder in that vicinity. In 1890 he came to Hoopeston, where he continued his carpentry work for six years and then on account of ill health he was obliged to retire from business life. He is now serving his third term as justice of the peace in Hoopeston and discharges his duties in a manner that is alike creditable to himself and satisfactory to his constituents. He is also acting as agent for fire and tornado insurance companies and writes a fair amount of policies each year.

Unto Mr. Tanner by his second wife were born four children, but only one is now living, Catherine, the wife of Lester D. Knight, now of Clarion, Iowa, but at the time of their marriage a merchant of Hoopeston. Mr. Tanner has also reared a grandson, Luther Arnold, who has been

a member of his household from the age of six years. Mr. Tanner resides on East Penn street where he owns a pleasant and attractive home. In his political views he is a stalwart Republican and is now serving as notary public. He likewise belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, in which he served for one term as adjutant. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Baptist church. As a citizen he has been faithful to his duties in times of peace as well as in times of war. He made a great sacrifice for his country in the hour of her danger but he never counted the cost when the stability of the Union was threatened. He relates many interesting incidents of his army life. He tells how on New Year's eve of 1863, a detail of ten men out of each company of the brigade was made and a detachment from the Fourth Regulars, from the Seventh Pennsylvania, the Second New Jersey and the Second Tennessee, started with these men from Mr. Tanner's brigade upon a raid. It was a memorable night because of the intense cold. The sleet lay so thick on the ground that it made an icy covering and the men found it impossible to remain in their saddles. The second day out they were on the Cumberland mountains and stopped that night in Savannah, Tennessee, where they went into camp on the Tennessee, and from there to Memphis, Tennessee. Mr. Tanner was among the number detailed, and with the others he proceeded on the road to Memphis, and from there down through Mississippi to West Point, where they met General Forrest. The Union troops were compelled to fall back and had a running fight with the Rebels for five days and nights, falling back through Holly Springs and then back to Memphis, Ten-

nessee. Mr. Tanner was the first man that carried dispatches over the Cumberland mountains from Tracy City to Jasper, Tennessee. The government now grants him a pension of fourteen dollars per month in recognition of what he did for his country, although this is totally disproportionate to his services and the sacrifice it has cost him in vices and the sacrifice it has cost him in health. He is widely known in Vermilion county and in office he has gained the respect and confidence of all with whom he has been associated. His friends are many and it is with pleasure that we present to them this record of his life.

WILLIAM HUBB.

From an early epoch in the settlement of Vermilion county William Hubb was one of its residents and took an active part in the work which changed this from a wild frontier region to one of the leading counties of this great commonwealth. He was a native of Germany, born September 12, 1812. His father, Adam Hubb, was also born in Germany, where he spent his entire life. There he learned the shoemaker's trade and followed it continuously until his death. Three of his children came to America—our subject and two sisters—but all and now deceased.

During his boyhood days, passed in Germany, William Hubb learned the shoemaker's trade and worked at that pursuit with his father until 1845, when he resolved to seek a home in the new world, with its broader business opportunities. Accordingly he severed the ties which bound him to his native land and sailed for America, landing

in New York city, where he followed shoemaking for two years. During that time he was united in marriage to Miss Magdalene Willem, who was born in Germany, in June, 1818, and was a daughter of Jacob Willem, a cooper by trade and also a large fruit raiser of the fatherland. He spent his entire life in Germany. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hubb was blessed with seven children: William, who died in 1886. Charles, who died in Carthage, Missouri, in 1898; Magdalene, the wife of E. C. Vorse, of Crawfordsville, Indiana; Fritz, who married Callie Johnson and is now engaged in the grocery business at the corner of Madison and Pine streets in Danville; Lou, deceased; Marie, the wife of Charles M. Smith, owner of an art and stationery store on Vermilion street, in Danville; and one that died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Smith now make their home with her mother and they have one child, Hubb.

After his marriage Mr. Hubb came direct from New York city to Danville, arriving here in 1847, among the early settlers. He found a small town in the midst of a prairie country, which was then but sparsely settled. He at once opened a shoe shop and began working at his trade, which he followed for several years. Later he established a shoe store, handling ready made goods, thus engaging in retailing shoes until his later years, when he disposed of his store and practically lived in retirement from business cares, although he assisted his sons to some extent in their grocery store. He prospered in his undertakings and at the time of his death he owned considerable property, which was divided among his children. He belonged to the German Lutheran church of Danville, of which his wife is also a member. In poli-

ties he was an earnest Democrat, believing firmly in the principles of the party, but though he was often solicited to become a candidate for office he would never do so. His life was one of marked industry and earnest toil and his labor was followed by the natural result—a comfortable competence. He passed away December 4, 1880, respected by all who knew him. He had many friends among the early settlers of the city as well as many of the more recent arrivals here and he enjoyed the esteem of all with whom he had been brought in contact, through business or social relations. His widow, Mrs. Hubb, and her daughter, Mrs. Smith, reside in a pleasant home at No. 11 Franklin street, which was erected at an early day by William Hubb.

JONATHAN PRATHER.

The name of Prather is closely associated with the history of Vermilion county, especially in connection with the agricultural development of this section of the state. Jonathan Prather is a respected and worthy member of this family and is classed with the intelligent and enterprising farmers of Ross township. He owns a farm lying partly within and also adjoining the corporation limits of Rossville. It is well improved and valuable. He also has three hundred and twenty acres of land on sections 9 and 10, Ross township, and thus his landed possessions class him with the substantial residents of his community. About 1847 he became a resident of this locality and throughout all the intervening years he has been known as one true to the duties of public and private life.

Jonathan Prather, his grandfather, removed with his family from Kentucky to Indiana and became one of the first settlers of Vermilion county, that state, spending his remaining days there. His son, Jeremiah Prather, the father of our subject, was born in Kentucky, but was reared in the Hoosier state and when he had attained his majority he wedded Evelyn Miller. She, too, was born in Kentucky and was a daughter of Cornelia Miller, an aunt of George W. Miller, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. About the year 1847 Jeremiah Prather removed to Vermilion county, Illinois. Much of the land still remained in possession of the government. He entered a tract, bought other land, and became the owner of nine hundred acres, upon which he developed an excellent farm, spending his last years at the old family homestead in Ross township, where he died about 1859. His wife had passed away a few years previous.

In Ross township, Jonathan Prather spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He acquired a common-school education and after his father's death began providing for his own support by working as a farm hand. On the 16th of September, 1863, however, he put aside all business and personal considerations in order to aid in the preservation of the Union, and, joining the Third Indiana Cavalry, was sent to Washington, D. C., where the regiment was attached to the army of the Potomac in the valley of the Shenandoah under General Phil Sheridan. He participated in the seven days' battle of the Wilderness and in many similar engagements. He was also in the battles of Winchester, Cedar Creek and the movements of the army around Petersburg,

continuing with his regiment until the final surrender of Lee's troops. He was never absent from duty and always stacked arms with his company. Faithful and loyal he was ever found at his post of duty, whether on the picket line or the firing line, and after the close of the war he was honorably discharged at Indianapolis, August 3, 1865, after which he returned to his home in Illinois.

Mr. Prather then followed farming in Vermilion county, Illinois, until 1867, when he removed to Wright county, Missouri, where he spent two years. On the expiration of that period, however, he again came to Vermilion county, renting a farm and subsequently purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of improved land. This he at once began to cultivate, working in the fields until they were made rich and productive. He also added more land as his financial resources increased buying adjoining tracts and now he has three hundred and twenty acres, all in one body. On this he has erected a neat house and substantial barns, has also planted an orchard and has drained his fields by tiling, until the farm is very rich and productive. About 1887, however, Mr. Prather removed to Rossville and later bought a seventy acre tract of land on the east border of the town. Hereon he erected a large and attractive home and has since given his attention to the improvement of his farm, in addition to the cultivation of the old homestead.

Mr. Prather was married in Grant township, this county, in 1879, to Mary Seager, a native of Michigan, who was born and reared near Jackson. She was well educated and successfully engaged in teaching both in Michigan and Vermilion county. Her father, James Seager, removed

from that state to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county, and here the daughter met and married Mr. Prather. Their union has been blessed with one son, Arthur, now a young man.

Mr. Prather was reared in the faith of the Democracy but has always been a staunch Republican, unfaltering in his advocacy of the party and its principles, but he has never sought office as a reward for his party loyalty. He and his wife are members of the Rossville Christian church and he belongs to the Grand Army Post, thus maintaining pleasant relations with his old comrades who wore the blue uniform of the nation. He is to-day as true and loyal to his duties of citizenship as when he followed the old flag on southern battle-fields and in Vermilion county, where he has so long made his home, he is held in the highest regard, because he has been found straightforward in his business dealings and honorable in his treatment of his fellow men in all social relations.

JOSEPH G. ENGLISH.

A half century has passed since this gentleman arrived in Danville and he is justly numbered among her honored early settlers and leading citizens. He has been prominently identified with her business interests as a merchant and banker and as the proprietor of many enterprises which have not only advanced his individual success, but have also contributed to the general welfare and prosperity. His is an honorable record of a conscientious man, who by his upright life has won the confidence of all with whom he has come in contact. He has rounded the Psalmist's span of three-score years and ten,



JOSEPH G. ENGLISH

and although the snows of several winters have whitened his hair, he has the vigor of a much younger man, and in spirit and interests seems yet in his prime. Old age is not necessarily a synonym of weakness or inactivity. It needs not suggest, as a matter of course, want of occupation or helplessness. 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 life of Mr. English, an encouragement to his associates and an example well worthy of emulation to the young.

Joseph Gibson English was born in Ohio county, Indiana, near the village of Rising Sun, on the 17th of December, 1820. In the paternal line the ancestry is traced back through several generations to the time of the early settlement of Connecticut, and and Charles English, the father of our subject, was a native of New Haven, that state. After arriving at years of maturity he married Miss Ann Wright, who was of English nativity. The paternal grandfather removed to Nova Scotia, but subsequently his children returned to the United States and settled in various localities. Charles English became a resident of Ohio county, Indiana, and was there identified with industrial pursuits, engaging in blacksmithing and carpentering. In 1829 he left that locality and became a resident of Perrysville in the Wabash valley.

It was in the latter place that J. G. English largely spent his boyhood days. If the horologe of time could but turn upon the past and we could look at Perrysville as it appeared six or seven decades ago, we would find there a little log schoolhouse such as was usually seen in pioneer districts. It had

a puncheon floor and primitive furnishings and among the students was Joseph English, then a little lad, who owes his school training entirely to the privileges found in that "temple of learning." As his parents were in somewhat straightened financial circumstances he early started out to make his own way in the world and from the age of fourteen has depended entirely upon his own efforts for a living. He entered the services of the firm of Taylor & Linton, general merchants of Lafayette, Indiana, with whom he remained for five years. His position was by no means a sinecure for he had to begin work in the early morning light and continue at his tasks until long after dark. On market days, which occurred thrice weekly, he arose between three and four o'clock in the morning to sweep the store and prepare it for the reception of the Dunkard customers, who utilized the early morning hours to make their purchases. Although this seemed rather a hard life for a boy, it developed in Mr. English a self-reliance and force of character that have proved to him of incalculable value in later years. While performing his daily tasks he obtained a good knowledge of mercantile business and was thus qualified to engage in merchandising on his own account at a later day. He received for his services his board and clothing—a little compensation for such long hours of steady work. After he had been with the firm for five years his employers failed and he then obtained a position as clerk in a general store in Perrysville, at a salary of forty dollars per month. When three years had passed he found himself in possession of about four hundred dollars for he had made a rule always to save something from his earnings. With this capital he determined to marry and establish a home of his own

and was joined in wedlock to Miss Mary Hicks, a native of Perrysville and a representative of an old New England family.

In 1844 Mr. English entered the mercantile field on his own account as a partner of his father-in-law, George Hicks, under the firm style of Hicks & English. The new enterprise met with success from the beginning. They stocked their store with dry goods, groceries, produce and grain; they earnestly desired to please their customers and moreover they followed honorable business methods, which would bear the closest investigation and win for them the confidence and therefore the patronage of the public. Business methods were then somewhat different from those of the present day. Merchandise was purchased and sold on a credit of twelve months and the products of the central Mississippi valley were transported to market in New Orleans by way of the river route, for the era of railroad transportation had not then dawned upon the country. The marketable products of Indiana and Illinois were sent down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and it was thus that the firm of Hicks & English shipped their wheat, corn, pork and other commodities to New Orleans on flatboats, the subject of this review frequently acting as an oarsman on such journeys.

The year 1853 witnessed the arrival of Mr. English in Danville. He sold his store in Perrysville, Indiana, and coming to this city became a partner of John L. Tincher, under the firm name of Tincher & English. Their general store also proved a profitable investment, being successfully conducted until 1856, when the firm became the assignees of the Stock Security Bank, a "wild cat" institution, which was forced into bankruptcy in the early days of the widespread

panic of 1856-7. At that time Messrs. Tincher & English disposed of their mercantile affairs in order to give their entire attention to the duties which devolved upon the firm in connection with the bank. While thus engaged they gradually began transacting a brokerage and exchange business, which grew until it had eventually become a private banking enterprise. In February, 1863, the national bank bill passed congress and these gentlemen were among the first to seek a charter and organize a national bank. They established the First National Bank of Danville, which was capitalized for fifty thousand dollars, and Mr. English became the president, continually filling that position until July, 1866, when he resigned. In 1872, after the death of Mr. Tincher, the capital stock was increased to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, where it still remains, with a surplus of over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The success of this institution was assured from the first, because of the reliability of the men at its head, their sound judgment and conservative business methods. Banking institutions are the heart of the commercial body, indicating the healthfulness of the trade, and the bank that follows a safe conservative policy does more to establish public confidence in times of widespread financial depression than anything else. Such a course has the First National Bank of Danville ever followed under the able management of him who was so long its president. It has stood strong in hours of danger, its integrity unquestioned and its course above suspicion.

Mr. English is a man of resourceful business ability, who is not only able to realize the opportunities of the moment but has also looked beyond the exigencies of the present to the possibilities of the future,

His labors have been extended into other fields of business activity outside that of banking. He has been one of the heaviest real estate dealers in this section. He has invested largely in farm property and has also platted several additions to the city of Danville. Business enterprise augmenting the commercial activity and consequent prosperity of the city also owe their successful conduct largely to his wise council. For a quarter of a century he has been a member of the board of directors of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad and an enumeration of the business affairs with which he has been associated would be to give in a considerable degree the industrial and commercial history of his adopted city.

After a happy married life of twenty years Mr. English was called upon to mourn the death of his wife in 1864. They had become the parents of seven children: George; Charles L., who is now the president of the First National Bank of Danville; Harriet, who became the wife of William D. Lindsey, who died in July, 1893; Irene J., now the wife of George W. Partlow, of Danville; John T.; Annie Martha, the deceased wife of Tabor Mathers of Jacksonville; and Edward. In 1865 Mr. English was again married, his second union being with Maria L. Partlow, with whom he lived for twenty-one years, when she died in August, 1886. Their children were J. C.; and Otis Hardy, who died in infancy. On the 14th of June, 1869, Mr. English was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary E. Forbes, a native of Danville and a daughter of William Hessey, who was an early settler of this county.

While Mr. English has led a very busy life and his commercial and financial affairs have made constant demands upon his time and attention, he has yet found opportunity

to faithfully discharge his duties of citizenship and by his fellow townsmen he has twice been called to the office of chief executive of Danville. He proved a most capable mayor, his administration being practical and progressive. In 1872 he became a member of the first board of equalization of this state. He has always taken a deep interest in political affairs, yet has never sought or desired political office. On attaining his majority he joined the ranks of the Democratic party, with which he affiliated until 1862, when the Democratic state convention inserted the "peace" plank in its platform and he then renounced his allegiance thereto for he believed in the active prosecution of the war which was to preserve the Union. He then joined the ranks of the Republican party and throughout the period of the Rebellion was a strong supporter of the Union and an advocate of the national administration. In 1863 he had charge of the subscription list for filling the quota of men for the army from Danville and county.

For forty-six years Mr. English has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, contributing liberally to its support and taking an active part in its work in its various departments. He is now serving as a member of the board of trustees and for fifteen years he occupied the position of superintendent of the Sunday-school. In 1872 he was elected by the lay delegates of the Illinois conference as a delegate to the general conference of the church, which was held in Brooklyn in that year and has served once since that time in a similar capacity. For many years he was a trustee of the Wesleyan University of Bloomington. His success has come to him through energy, labor and perseverance, directed by an evenly balanced mind and by honorable business principles.

From early life he made it his plan to spend less than his income. He has made the most of his opportunities and could never justly be called extravagant unless it was in the line of his benevolences. He is not slow to condemn injustice and dishonesty nor is he slow to reward faithfulness and there is in him a deep sympathy and abiding charity which has won for him the respect and goodwill of his fellow men. He is a man of distinctive ability and his character is one which is above a shadow of reproach. He has been faithful to the high business and political offices in which he has been called to serve and is widely known and respected by those who have been at all familiar with his honorable and useful career.

JOHN C. STEWART, D. V. S.

Dr. John C. Stewart, who is successfully engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery in Danville, was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, August 22, 1849, a son of Quintin and Margaret (McCrindle) Stewart, who were also natives of Ayrshire. The father was a highly educated man, being a graduate of the Glasgow University, and for some years he was principal of the high school at Oclultree, Scotland, where he died in 1898, at the age of eighty-three years, honored and respected by all who knew him. The mother of our subject had passed away some years previous. They were the parents of eight children, all of whom are still living in Scotland with the exception of our subject.

Dr. Stewart grew to manhood in his native land and acquired his education in the school of which his father had charge,

and he began his business career as an employe in the office of the National Bank of Scotland. On leaving home he went to the West Indies with his brother-in-law, John Wilson, but in 1873 returned to Scotland and in the fall of that year came to America. After spending about four years in Virginia he went to Indiana, in 1877, and became interested in the importation of fine horses from Scotland. In 1880 he was a student in the Veterinary College of Ontario, Canada, and was later engaged in the practice of veterinary surgery in Indiana. Dr. Stewart removed to Danville, Illinois, in the summer of 1886, and here he has since made his home with the exception of two years spent in Chicago, having been appointed by President Harrison as veterinary inspector in the stockyards of that city, which position he held for that length of time. On his return to Danville he resumed the practice of his profession and today has a splendid practice which extends far into the country for many miles in every direction.

At Danville, November 11, 1896, Dr. Stewart married Miss Ethel Welch. The Doctor and his wife have a handsome home at No. 128 North Walnut street and he also owns other real estate in Danville, including his office and hospital at No. 17 the same street. He has met with excellent success in the practice of his chosen profession and is now serving as assistant state veterinary. Socially he is an honored member of Olive Branch Lodge, F. & A. M.; Hesperian Lodge, K. P., of Franklin, Indiana; the Order of Ben Hur and the Royal Arcanum. He attends the Presbyterian church, of which he was a member in the old country, and is a staunch supporter of the Republican party and its principles. He



U. R. EADER.

stands deservedly high in the esteem of his fellow citizens and commands the confidence and regard of all with whom he comes in contact.

ROY L. MURPHY.

Roy L. Murphy, the editor and proprietor of the Fairmount Review, was born at Mahomet, Illinois, July 7, 1879, his parents being David A. and Asenath Murphy. The father was a farmer by occupation and was a well known citizen of Champaign county. The subject of this review pursued his education in the public schools of Mahomet, where he was graduated in the class of 1896, after which he attended business college at Bloomington, Illinois, for two years. In his early youth he entered the printing office of his brother, C. W. Murphy, and finding the profession congenial he has since followed it. On the 15th of May, 1894, he became an employe in the office of the Sucker State Printing Company at Mahomet and there learned the trade, working until the 1st of October 1897, with the exception of the periods which he spent in school. Later he was employed on different papers in Champaign and afterward in the same capacity in other cities in the state. On the 1st of September, 1898, however, he embarked in a journalistic venture on his own account, purchasing the Courier at Ogden, Illinois. He was the youngest editor in this part of the state at that time, being but nineteen years of age. He remained in charge of the Courier until the 1st of February, 1899, after which he was employed in various printing offices until the 1st of December, following, when he purchased the Review at Fairmount,

where he has since been located. In the publication of this paper he has met with success, the circulation having increased as well as the advertising and job printing patronage. The enterprise is now proving a profitable one and Mr. Murphy has a well equipped office, from which he weekly issues a paper that is a credit to the town and to its owner. In his political affiliations he is a Republican and through the columns of his journal he advocates the cause of the party.

On the 14th of November, 1899, at Sidney, Illinois, Mr. Murphy was united in marriage to Miss Maude Ethel McNichols, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. McNichols, old and respected citizens of Tolono, Illinois, where the former is engaged in the drug and grocery business. They now have an interesting daughter, Lois Mae, born December 31, 1900. Socially Mr. Murphy is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America at Fairmount and with the American Home Circle.

U. R. EADER.

U. R. Eader is a prosperous resident of Danville, whose success has practically been won since 1894 although the previous years of his connection with business affairs proved an excellent training school for him, enabling him to carry forward to successful completion all that he has undertaken since he began business on his own account. He is now in control of one of the successful and important concerns of Danville, being engaged in the repair and manufacture of bicycles and dealing in guns and sporting goods and electrical and gas fixtures, also doing work along the lines of electrical construction.

Mr. Eader is one of the worthy citizens of Vermilion county that Ohio has furnished to this locality. His birth occurred in Lima, that state, on the 14th of June, 1856, his parents being Thomas and Ellen (Coons) Eader, both of whom were natives of Ohio. In the year 1866 the family came to Illinois. The father purchased land in Vermilion county upon which he carried on general farming until 1871. In that year he came to Danville, purchased property and was here connected with the Danville Lumber Company for about ten years. He then sold his property and removed to Noblesville, Indiana, where he purchased property and where he is now engaged in dealing in real estate and merchandising. He is also connected with the furniture and general store at that place and is in partnership with his son, David F. Eader, in a similar enterprise at Noblesville, Indiana. The mother of our subject died at Noblesville, Indiana, in 1896, and in 1901 the father was again married. By the first union there were ten children, of whom the subject of this review is the eldest. The others yet living are: D. F.; Samuel; Frederick; Mrs. Mary Shumaker; Mrs. Miranda Mead; Mrs. Rosa Hammers; and Sarah.

In the schools of Vermilion county Mr. Eader of this review pursued his education and from the age of eight years he has been dependent entirely upon his own resources for a living. He worked as a farm hand for his father and also for others in the neighborhood but not wishing to make agricultural pursuits his life work he eventually turned his attention to other lines of industry. In 1871 he became connected with the Danville Lumber Company and learned the machinist's trade. For eighteen years his connection with that company

was continued, during which time he was advanced from one position to another as he gave evidence of having mastered the duties that devolved upon him, and he long served as foreman and manager. When he entered the service of that company he received ninety dollars per year and during the eighteen years which he served as foreman he was paid four dollars and seventy-five cents per day, a fact which stands in incontrovertible evidence of his value to the company. In 1895, however, he severed his connection with the company and entered business on his own account. He at first handled bicycles only and later he added sporting goods and established a repair department. At the present time the wheels which he handles are manufactured in his establishment. These are called "Our Own Make" and there are four models. The output in 1903 will reach one thousand wheels. He is now employing nineteen men in the conduct of the business, which is divided into four departments: repairing and manufacturing, the sporting goods, the gun department and the electrical and gas department. He employs an experienced electrician and is engaged in electrical construction and deals in electrical supplies. This branch of his business has proved one contributing in no small degree to his income. In fact his enterprise in all its departments is now paying well and the business amounts to more than twenty-five thousand dollars annually. Mr. Eader is also interested in gold mining in Washington, being a stockholder in three mines, including the "Fortune," in which several prominent Danville capitalists are interested.

On the 20th of September, 1883, in this city, Mr. Eader was united in marriage to

Miss Lavinia Tanner, of Champaign, Illinois. Her parents are both deceased. Two children have been born of this union of Mr. and Mrs. Eader: Makel and Horace, aged respectively seventeen and nine years. The former will graduate in the high school of this city in 1903 and is now pursuing special work in music and elocution. The family home is at No. 1002 North Walnut street and is an attractive residence valued at six thousand dollars. Socially Mr. Eader is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, with the Tribe of Ben Hur and the Court of Honor, and in his political affiliations is a Republican. His splendid success in business has been achieved since 1894. When he first opened his bicycle business he had no capital, but he possessed an untarnished name and good credit. The growth of his business demanded larger quarters in the second year and has since annually increased in volume and importance. A man of much natural ability his success during the past nine years has been uniform and rapid. As has been truly remarked, after all that can be done for a man in the way of giving him early opportunities for obtaining the requirements which are sought in schools and in books he must essentially formulate, determine and give shape to his own character and this is what Mr. Eader has done. He has persevered in the pursuit of a persistent purpose and has gained a most satisfactory reward.

ORIN L. McCORD.

Orin L. McCord, who is well known as a representative of mercantile affairs in Danville, is now filling the position of coun-

ty treasurer and is a worthy custodian of the public funds. With business dispatch he discharges the duties of the position and his integrity and honor are above question.

Mr. McCord is a native son of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Putnam county, on the 6th of April, 1863. He is a son of Ninon A. and Susan (Child) McCord. The father died at the age of fifty-eight years, but the mother still survives and is now living at East Lynn, Vermilion county. Ninon A. McCord was a native of Bond county, Illinois, and in 1875 removed to this county, settling in Butler township, where he followed farming throughout his remaining days, being recognized as one of the progressive agriculturists of his community. Unto him and his wife were born five children, all of whom are yet living in Vermilion county. These are: Orin L., Wilmot J., Warren C., Charles C. and Frank P.

In taking up the personal history of Orin L. McCord we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely known in Vermilion county for he was brought here by his parents when only twelve years of age. He pursued his education in the public schools of East Lynn and during the months of summer, when school was not in session, he became familiar with the work of field and meadow, assisting in the labors of the home farm until he had attained his majority. He then entered upon his business career and not desiring to follow the pursuit to which he had been reared, he sought and obtained a clerkship in the employ of B. M. Ludden & Company of East Lynn, remaining in that employ from 1874 until 1878. In the latter year he removed to Georgetown, Vermilion county, where he began business on his own account

as proprietor of a grocery and restaurant, which he conducted for three years. At that time Mr. McCord came to Danville and was employed as a salesman in the clothing house of Mike Plaut & Company, with whom he remained continuously until 1902. His long connection with the house plainly indicates his fidelity to duty, his close application and his unfaltering honesty in business matters. On the 8th of February, 1902, he received the nomination for the office of treasurer of Vermilion county, being given a majority of thirteen hundred and seventy-seven, which was the largest ever bestowed upon a Republican candidate for the office of treasurer of Vermilion county.

On the 15th of December, 1888, Mr. McCord was united in marriage to Miss Ella M. Barnes of Hoopston, Illinois, and their union has been blessed with three interesting children, namely: Stella L., Edwin A. and Clarence A. The name of Mr. McCord is on the membership rolls of Damascus Lodge, K. P.; the Odd Fellows Lodge No. 69; Northcott Camp, M. W. A.; and of the Royal Neighbors, and of all of these he is a valued representative, because of his pleasing personal characteristics, his strict adherence to the teachings and principles of the orders. Both he and his wife are members of the Rebecca degree of Odd Fellowship and of the Court of Honor, and he was formerly president of the retail clerks' union. He is now interested in the breeding of thoroughbred poultry, making a specialty of Buff Cochins, and is an expert judge of poultry, being at the present time secretary of the Illinois State Poultry Association. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor:

and to-day he is numbered among the substantial citizens of his county. His interests are thoroughly identified with those of the west, and at all times he is ready to lend his aid and co-operation to any movement calculated to benefit this section of the country or advance its wonderful development.

J. STEELE CATHERWOOD.

James Steele Catherwood, a well known broker and real estate dealer of Hoopston, was born in Belmont county, Ohio, April 12, 1845, a son of James and Lydia (Tussey) Catherwood. The father was a native of Ireland and the mother of the state of Delaware. During his boyhood days the former came to the United States and here learned the trade of a weaver. Later he and his wife's brother operated a cotton factory. In his early married days he removed from the east to Belmont county, Ohio, where he engaged in merchandising, while later he turned his attention to farming. His death occurred in Guernsey county, Ohio, in 1854, when the subject of this review was only nine years old and in 1857 his widow removed to Shelby county and afterward to Christian county, Illinois, where she died at the very advanced age of ninety-four years. She was the mother of ten children, of whom J. S. was the youngest son, but he had a younger sister.

Mr. Catherwood of this review acquired his education in the schools of Ohio and of Christian county, Illinois. His early opportunities in that direction, however, were limited and his knowledge has largely been obtained since he reached his majority. In April, 1864, Mr. Catherwood enlisted for

service in the Union army as a member of Company E, One Hundred and Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry, with which he served for six months, spending most of that time in Missouri in guarding commissaries. After his return he worked upon a farm for two years and in the winter of 1866 he again attended school. He then went to Decatur, Illinois, and continued his studies in the vicinity of that city. Subsequently he became a student in the Concordville Academy at Concordville, Pennsylvania, where he remained for a year. He next entered the general store of his brother in Old Stonington, Christian county, Illinois, where he received his first business training, but as there were indications of failing health he went to Saline county, Kansas, which was then considered the "far west." This was in 1869 and for five years he remained upon the plains herding cattle. He owned a ranch and herd of his own and for two years he was located in Saline county, for one year in McPherson county and for two years in Ellsworth county, meeting with a fair degree of success until the country became involved in the financial panic of 1873-4.

Mr. Catherwood then returned to Indianapolis, Indiana, and entered the employ of his brother as a traveling salesman. He covered the territories of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio and for three years was upon the road. On the expiration of that period he began merchandising on his own account at Fairfield, a little country crossroad town, being associated with L. L. Bennett under the firm name of L. L. Bennett & Company. They carried groceries, drugs, boots and shoes and dry goods.

It was in that year, on the 27th of December, 1877, that Mr. Catherwood was united in marriage to Miss Mary Hartwell,

who later became distinguished as an authoress of marked ability. She is represented on another page of this work. The marriage took place at the home of his brother, A. T. Catherwood, west of Hoopeston. For a time our subject and his bride lived in some rooms above his store, spending about two years there. Mr. Catherwood then sold out to his partner and went to Indianapolis, where he was engaged in the grocery business until October, 1882. He then again sold out and came to Hoopeston. Here he entered the employ of his brother, A. T. Catherwood, as a bookkeeper, a relation that was maintained until April, 1885, when James Steele Catherwood was appointed postmaster at Hoopeston by Grover Cleveland, succeeding Dale Wallace, who is now his partner. Mr. Catherwood occupied that position until July, 1889, when he was succeeded by Charles W. Warner. While acting as postmaster he formed a partnership with Charles A. Allen in the loan, insurance and collecting business and together they continued operations until May, 1890, covering a period of four years. When this partnership was dissolved Mr. Catherwood entered into partnership relations with Dale Wallace and they have since been thus connected. The firm does a general insurance, loan and land brokerage business. They have disposed of a number of additions to Hoopeston and have done the leading real estate business of the town for the past twelve years. To-day their real estate in this city is valuable. In February, 1888, the North Vermilion Loan & Savings Association was formed and Mr. Catherwood was chosen its secretary, in which position he has served continuously since, covering a period of fifteen consecutive years. He and his wife owned a farm of four hundred acres in Iro-

quois county and one hundred and sixty acres of land in Grant township, Vermilion county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Catherwood were born two children, a son, who died in infancy, and Hazel, who is now an art student in Chicago. Mrs. Catherwood died December 26, 1902, and was laid to rest in Floral Hill cemetery. For twenty-one years James Steele Catherwood has been a resident of Hoopeston and gradually he has advanced to a prominent position in business circles.



MRS. MARY HARTWELL CATHERWOOD.

Beauty is nature's language. It finds expression in earth and sky, in the towering mountain, the boundless prairies, the ever-changing sea or the tiny flower which grows in crannies of a wall, and above all in the character development of man, when the soul speaks through its environment in an expression of eternal principles. Well may art be accorded the highest place among the works of man when it reproduces in any form this language of nature, whether upon the canvas, in the marble or through the pen pictures which perhaps more clearly than any other art forms perpetuate the good and the beautiful. The world's debt of gratitude can never be paid to those great souls who in story and song have presented with great clearness the beauty of life in its personification of our highest ideals, giving us an inspiration for good which is as the "echoes that roll from soul to soul, and grow forever and forever." A brave-hearted girl, whose beauty and purity of soul blossomed into the highest type of womanhood, Mary Hartwell Catherwood left to the world a

rich legacy in her literary productions and Hoopeston, which for some years claimed her as a resident, will ever honor and cherish her memory. She was born in Luray, Ohio, December 16, 1847, but in 1856 accompanied her parents to Milford, Illinois. Perhaps her life story has been best told in the words of Dale Wallace, who read the following sketch at a banquet of the Mary Hartwell Catherwood Club of Hoopeston, on which occasion Mrs. Catherwood was present. He said:

"Dr. Hartwell was an ambitious young man. He was of Scotch-Irish ancestry and possessed the fine intellect and hardy physique of the rugged pioneers of the west. Married quite young, even before he finished his course in college, he and his still younger wife and the babies migrated from the red hills of Ohio to the black loam of Illinois, locating in the old village of Milford and living in the little brick house about a block north of the old mill. Here he practiced his profession and gave the children the benefits of the limited school facilities then in vogue. There was much malaria and fevers unlimited in those early days and the young doctor was overworked. Then he was himself stricken with the prevailing malady, and after a brave struggle, passed beyond. During the year following, the youngest child of the family—Marcus—was born. But the mother, so wholly dependent upon the strong arm and directing intellect of her husband, seeing nothing ahead but discouragement and possible destitution, grieved herself into the grave a year later, leaving three helpless heirs dependent upon the generosity of friends.

"Poverty develops genius. Wealth begets indolence. Show me the child born with a silver spoon in the mouth and I will show you a creature of ease, and laxity and



Mary Hartwell Cottonwood

languor. There are few exceptions to this rule. Ambition is deadened and energy is not required. If Mary Hartwell's father had left her in an independent financial condition, the world might have been deprived of her splendid genius.

"At ten she was given a home and taken in charge by her grandfather Thompson at New Hebron, Ohio, and placed in the village schools. At fourteen she was teaching, being thrown upon her own resources to obtain proper clothing and to prepare the way for entrance into the female college at Granville, Ohio, where she completed a four years' course in three years. She retired from that institution eight hundred dollars in debt. Her uncle, Cyrus Hartwell, hearing of this, agreed that if she would pay the debt in four years by her own efforts, he would make her a present of five hundred dollars. She did it—so did he.

"While still a little girl in pinafores and pigtailed down her back, she contributed poems to the local papers of New Hebron. She loved the wild and weird in nature and often roamed in the woods alone to dream. Like Joan d' Arc, she would hear voices and songs and rippling laughter and the verses would come to her without effort. An elderly gentleman of rare perception, remarked that while her poems were very beautiful, her field lay in prose story telling, and advised her to try it. Then she began 'seeing things' as Riley says. The ambitious implanted in her being by the elder Hartwell took entire possession of her and the future unrolled before her. She foreshadowed her destiny. She believed her career had been unveiled. If vigor and vim, tireless energy, unceasing perseverance, economy and privations would enable her to win, the indomitable determination had her within its grasp, and she started on the voyage de-

termined to never cease until she had reached the goal. Did she win, my friends? Did the little homeless orphan, who mastered a four years' course in college in three years by working nights, Saturdays and holidays—did she win? I say to you that Mary Hartwell Catherwood's name will be emblazoned in glittering gold on the scroll of fame long after you and I are dead and forgotten.

"She wrote a short serial for Frank Leslie—'The Mill-Scott Million', and received her first check. Oh, the joy of that first check! The happiness wrapped up in that first commercial recognition of her brain work was far and away beyond the size of the check. The new ribbon it would buy, and gowns, and brooches, and the many little gim-cracks and furbelows that girls love to wear. She was saved. The die was cast. She journeyed out into the woods to hold sweet communion with her very own self, and to tell the good news to the birds, the trees, and the flowers and to the voices in the air, and the spirits of her departed parents. And she dreamed of the day when Mary Hartwell would have a whole library of books all of her own composition. Wasn't that a ray of sunshine through the rift in the clouds that had hovered over her from the day of her mother's death? Then she began contributing to the lesser magazines—Lippincott, Wide Awake, Golden Hours, Wood's Household, Youth's Companion—all short stories. The Wide Awake Company published four of her juveniles that met with immediate popularity and have since become classics. Then she was requested to contribute to a magazine called 'Outing'. She demanded a deposit of twenty-five dollars in advance, which was cheerfully complied with. She forwarded the story and in due course it was returned,

scratched, interlined and obliterated, with a request to make some alterations. The demand was unjust and she knew it. But her carefully prepared manuscript was practically ruined. She refused to comply with their demand and also retained the retainer, which was entirely satisfactory to the publishers. Some time later they requested her to submit them another, and this one, proving exactly, in harmony with their ideas they accepted and remitted promptly, but deducted the twenty-five dollars which they had advanced on the other article. Then there was an earthquake. But it was not destructive.

"As Mrs. Catherwood is present this evening I feel perfectly safe in announcing that she was born in 18—47. Thirty years later she was married in the house on the Perkins farm, northwest of this city. Then a few years later came her baby boy, who remained to bless the union but a moment, then passed on to the higher life. It was during this period of sorrow following that she conceived 'The Romance of Dollard,' in the preparation of which she lived for a time in Canada, and was about three years in getting it ready for the publishers. I doubt if there is a person in this audience who knows that the publishers to whom she first submitted that beautiful historical romance declined it, but such is the fact. Harpers returned it. It was then for the first time that Mrs. Catherwood faltered by the wayside. Her heart was cracking and breaking up into bits, and she was thoroughly discouraged. And it was here that her husband came in with one of his beautiful songs: 'Never Give Up the Ship, Mary,' and said 'Go down to New York and beard the lion in his den,' and in a few days she was in the office of the Century, proud, independent and defiant, but quaking inwardly. She submitted the work

to Mr. Gilder, the editor, who inquired as to the nature of it. 'It is a serial—an historical romance.' 'My dear madam,' exclaimed the kind old man, 'don't you know that we can't use that class of work here in New York?' She arose, and there was the smell of burning tow somewhere about the premises. 'Mr. Gilder, will you do me the favor of reading that manuscript?' 'I will send it out to our regular reader and when it is returned then I will read it. But there is just as much chance of your being struck by lightning as there is of our acceptance of your work and publication as you desire it. As it will be several days before we can give you a reply, you need not be to the trouble and expense of remaining in New York. Leave me your address and I will write you.'

"Richard Watson Gilder had been up against propositions of various kinds in his long experience in the publishing business, but he did not know Mrs. Catherwood.

" 'I will remain in New York, Mr. Gilder, until you accept or reject that work.'

"A few days later Mr. Gilder notified Mrs. Catherwood that lightning had struck, to call at the office and get her check.

"That publication elevated her into a conspicuous position among the literary people of the United States, and the demand upon her pen from all the leading publishing houses was so great she was unable to only partially meet it. She was called the Parkman of the west and as Francis Parkman was the most famous historical writer and romancer of the past generation, no greater compliment could have been bestowed upon her. She received a personal letter of congratulation from that eminent man, complimenting her accuracy of detail and correctness of data, and expressing a wish to make her acquaintance. 'It is so rare,' he remarked, 'in our latter day his-

torical romances to find the historical facts so accurately portrayed'. This was one of Mrs. Catherwood's most conspicuous characteristics. Her descriptions are perfect and from nature. Her facts are derived from personal observation and contact. Her characters, with few exceptions, are real. We all love history and when we can have it interspersed with fascinating romance we love it all the more. She loved to visit the ruins of the forgotten past and live over again in her imagination the tragedies and comedies enacted there. If there was an old hermit to be found in the vicinity—Indian, Frenchman, Englishman or American—she would spend hours with him, pulling historical chestnuts out of the coals with the tongs of his retentive memory. And thus she broadened into the field which she has occupied for two decades without a successful rival.

"Seventeen years ago this night, Mrs. President, the subject of this sketch was blessed by the arrival of a daughter, and Hazel has indeed proven a blessed comfort to her mother. We are celebrating the anniversary of that happy event. Cheerfulness, ambition, energy, determination, all came rushing back to her upon the advent of the little sunbeam. And then followed in due course some of the most remarkable productions of historical romance in the whole scope and range of American literature.

"Did you know that Mrs. Catherwood in her earlier career contributed columns and columns of stories to various publications under a nom de plume? Do any of you remember reading short fiction sketches written by one 'Lewtrah?' the name Hartwell spelled backward? Did you ever read the novel 'A Woman in Armor?' Mrs. Catherwood is not at all proud of that work. But from Tonty to Lazarre, the record is with-

out a blemish. Lazarre is the last and greatest and brightest of the whole galaxy. It is the climax of her career. She may write another as good, but none better.

"Those of us who knew her best will remember her not only for her literary attainments, but also for her home accomplishments. As a wife, as a mother, as a neighbor, she was an exemplary character. There was no envy there, no jealousies, no bickerings. Because of her great renown as a gifted author, we feel honored to have been classed among her intimate friends. And our babies a few years ago, who were her 'Rosebuds' in the Sunday-school will some day be proud of that distinction.

"It required a struggle for Mary Hartwell Catherwood to give up her home and sever the friendly ties of this city. She was married here, her children were born here, and her little boy sleeps in Floral Hill. She loved the people, she loved the town, she loved the country. But she in early life mapped out her career, and she felt that she had not yet reached the zenith, and could not with the limited resources at her demand. So she resolved, very reluctantly, to leave us for a time and climb the heights of fame. She is almost at the top, and when she reaches the summit she will come back to us and when she comes we will all extend to her the glad hand and cordial greeting of true friends.

"In all my wanderings around this world of care,
In all my griefs—and God has given my share—
I still have hopes my latest hours to crown,
Amidst these humble bow'rs to lay me down;
To husband out lifes taper at the close,
And keep the flame from wasting, by repose.
I still have hopes, for pride attends us still,
Amidst the friends to show my book-learn'd skill;
Around my fire an evening group to draw,
And tell of all I felt, and all I saw;
And, as a hare, whom hound and horns pursue,
Pants to the place from whence at first she flew,
I still have hopes, my long vexations past,
Here to return—and died at home at last."

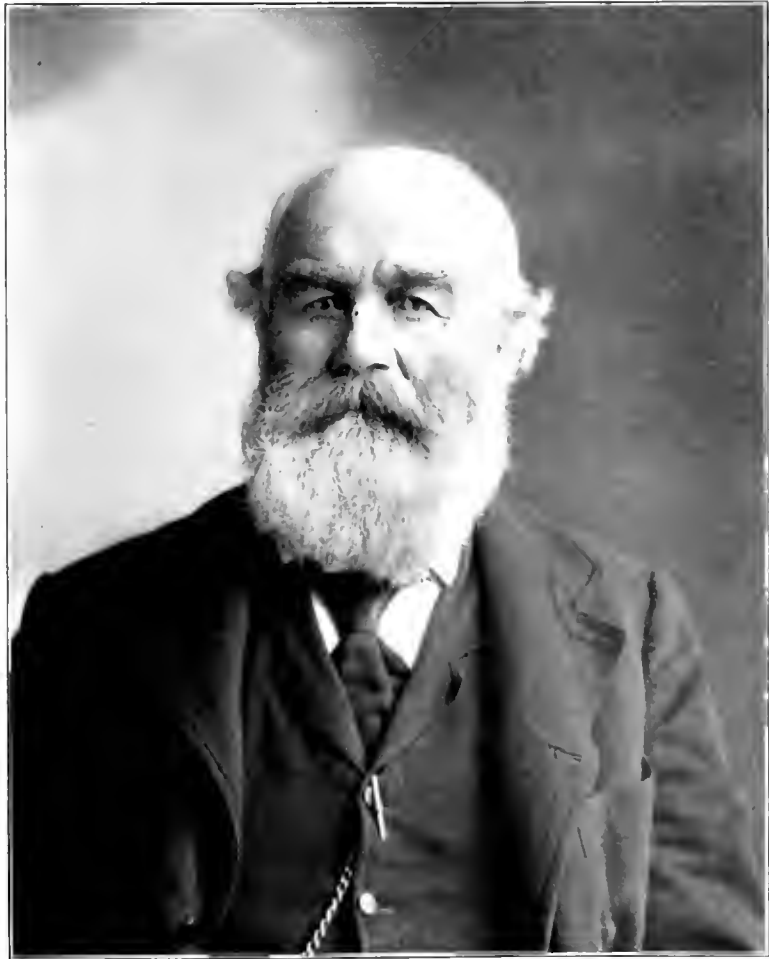
The little maiden reared in a backwoods district had attained national fame, but more than that she had won love in countless homes throughout the country. Her friends were among the most distinguished literary people of the country, drawn to her by the kindest spirit of genius and congeniality, and when she passed away in Chicago, December 26, 1902, the news of her demise was received as that of a dear friend by thousands throughout the United States. James Whitcomb Riley had the highest appreciation for her work and said that her death to his mind was a distinct loss to the fraternity of letters. He spoke of her as being conspicuous for her industry, sincerity and conscience. He sent his floral tribute when death called her as did the Bowen-Merrill Publishing Company of Indianapolis, Otis Skinner, who is now playing the dramatization of her *Lazarre*, and many others of note, together with countless friends from her home town. Her life work is ended, but Mary Hartwell Catherwood has joined "that choir invisible who live again in lives made better by their presence."

THOMAS HUGHES.

Thomas Hughes is a well known and prosperous farmer residing on section 15, Vance township, Vermilion county, Illinois. In his life he exemplified the typical "self-made man," for all that he has acquired has been secured through his own industrious efforts. He was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, February 28, 1831, and is a son of John and Lydia (Musick) Hughes, both natives of Pennsylvania, where they were reared and married. The father engaged in coal mining and followed that oc-

cupation for twenty-five years. In 1856 they removed to Indiana, and in 1866 came to Vance township, Vermilion county, Illinois, making their home with the subject of this review who had come to Vermilion county in 1864. John Hughes was a member of the English Lutheran church and his wife was for many years a member of the German Lutheran church. He was a Democrat in his political views but always declined to accept office. The father died in 1871, and the mother, surviving him for seven years, passed away in 1878. In their family were ten children, nine of whom grew to years of maturity and four are still living, namely: John, who is a resident of Concordia, Kansas; Thomas, of this review; Mary, the wife of James A. Burk, who lives at Bement, Illinois, and is a brother of the wife of our subject; and Lydia, who resides in Fairmount, Illinois.

Thomas Hughes had but limited educational privileges. He was only able to attend school for three months, which was all the schooling he ever received. This was a subscription school, conducted in a small frame schoolhouse in Ransay Grove. His father was not a man of means, and having a large family of children he could not provide them with the educational advantages he would have liked. When the subject of this review was only ten years of age his father put him out to work, where he received his board and clothes until he was fourteen years of age. He then obtained employment as a farm hand at two dollars per month and board. After this his salary was increased to three dollars and four dollars per month respectively, until he was seventeen years of age. His father considered that he was rather extravagant in the way he spent his "large salary" of four dollars per month. Accordingly he hired him out to a farmer



THOMAS HUGHES.



MRS. THOMAS HUGHES.

for thirty dollars for six months' service or five dollars per month, and of this the father received one-half. Mr. Hughes worked hard, doing his full share of the work, swinging a cradle side by side with full grown men and working in the harvest field all day long. Later he concluded to change his occupation and learn a trade, becoming apprenticed to a carpenter, but when working on the tall buildings he became dizzy and gave up that occupation. He then worked with his father in the coal mines during one winter and in the spring became apprenticed to a blacksmith, with whom he made a contract to work for three and one-half years, and in compensation for his services he was to receive his board and clothing and at the end of the time he was to receive a suit of clothes besides three months' schooling. He labored hard in this position for three years, often working until twelve o'clock at night, shoeing horses and performing other duties. During that time he did not receive one dollar, scarcely presentable clothing and his board. He then worked for three months for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, after which he returned to his former employer, working for him for six months and receiving a salary of eleven dollars per month. He next entered the employ of contractors who were constructing a large dam. He made the iron work for this and received eighteen dollars per month for his services. This was the heaviest kind of labor.

On the 11th of November, 1852, in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, Mr. Hughes was united in marriage to Miss Martha J. Sanders, who was born May 16, 1837, and died March 17, 1858. She was a daughter of Abraham and Mary (Robinson) Sanders, who were married in Pennsylvania, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Her father was a laborer and in

politics was a Democrat. Mrs. Hughes was one of a family of eight children, four of whom are still living, as follows: John, Sallie, Charity, the wife of William Irvin, and Mrs. Wilson, all residents of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. Unto Mr. Hughes and his wife were born two children: John, born December 27, 1853, married Mary Jester, February 8, 1881, and died in October, 1899. His widow is now living in Catlin township, Vermilion county, with their only child, Pearl. James, born December 18, 1856, was married November 12, 1884, to Miss Effie Rice, and they have one child, Earl. He is a painter by trade and they make their home in Danville.

After his marriage Mr. Hughes removed to a small town in Pennsylvania, near where there were some extensive coal mines. Here he opened up a shop and began housekeeping in a miner's shanty. He had not a dollar in the world but he possessed energy and determination and with the assistance of a friend he was enabled to buy his tools and furnish his home, going in debt to the extent of two hundred dollars. Within a year he paid off this indebtedness besides earning his living, and at the end of three years he had cleared five hundred dollars. He then removed to Parke county, Indiana, and opened a similar shop for himself. There he remained for nine years, during which time he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, whose death occurred March 17, 1858.

On the 14th of August, 1859, Mr. Hughes was again married, the lady of his choice being Miss Nancy V. Burks, the wedding taking place in Parke county, Indiana. She was born March 16, 1830, in that state and is a daughter of Moses and Louisa (Van Cleave) Burks, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. The father was born October 17, 1802, and died February 21, 1878. The

mother's birth occurred December 13, 1802, and she died about 1896. This couple were married in Kentucky in 1825. Mr. Burks was a farmer by occupation and removed to Parke county, Indiana, in the '30s. There he entered land and lived until his death. He was a member and an officer of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics was a Republican. He was the father of eleven children, four of whom are yet living: James A., a resident of Bement, Illinois; Nancy, the wife of our subject; Louisa J., the widow of Alex Breckenridge and a resident of Putnam county, Indiana, and Moses R., of Parke county, Indiana.

By his second marriage Mr. Hughes has six children. George, born March 11, 1861, was married December 30, 1886, to Dora Parish. They have two children, Charles A. and Cora, and reside in Vance township on the old homestead farm. William B., born July 22, 1863, was married February 18, 1890, to Fanny Garners, and also resides on the old home farm. He is traveling representative of the Modern Woodmen. Mary L., born July 24, 1868, died November 1, 1869. Charles M., born September 13, 1866, died June 18, 1894. An infant boy was born and died on the 7th day of March, 1865. An infant daughter was born and died on the 22d of June, 1870. Mrs. Hughes also has a daughter by her first marriage, Margery A., who was born April 29, 1848, and was married December 24, 1874, to Robert McNott. She died June 3, 1896, and was the mother of six children, two of whom, Harry and Nellie, are still living.

In July, 1862, Mr. Hughes enlisted for sixty days' service in the Union army, joining Company D of the Seventy-eighth Volunteer Infantry. He took part in the battle of Uniontown, Kentucky, and was stationed on the border line between Kentucky and In-

diana. He and his company were captured by the Rebels, but they were soon paroled. His service embraced forty-five days.

In 1864, Mr. Hughes brought his family to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he purchased eighty acres of land at eight dollars per acre. This was prairie land, unimproved and wild. But few settlers were in the county at the time and wild game was plentiful, including prairie-chickens, geese, ducks and deer. The prairie wolves were also numerous and often howled at night near the pioneer home. Fairmount was then a town consisting of one-half dozen houses and three stores. Mr. Hughes erected a comfortable frame house of three rooms—the finest and largest in the vicinity, in 1864. In 1865 he purchased an additional eighty acres adjoining his original purchase, at fifteen dollars per acre, giving his note in security for payment. This land he cultivated and improved, making additional purchases as the years passed and he accumulated the capital, until he is now the owner of two hundred and ninety acres in Vance and Catlin townships. His residence stands on section 15, Vance township. His home is commodious, pleasant and attractive in appearance, and he has on his place large and substantial barns and all necessary buildings. He also owns city property in Marshall, Illinois. Mr. Hughes is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Jamaica, being a trustee, steward and district steward in the same. He is a prominent Republican and has been associated with the party since 1856, the year of its organization. Before that he was a Whig. He has held some of the offices in his township. A man of genial manner, a delightful companion and a true friend, he has won the esteem and regard of all with whom he has been associated. The sterling characteristics which he possesses

have won for him success and prominence and he is justly accounted one of the substantial and wealthy men of Vermilion county.

ALBERT G. OLMSTED.

Albert G. Olmsted, whose connection with pioneer interests in Vermilion county has made his life record a part of the history of this section of the state, was born October 14, 1831, in the vicinity of Jamestown, Chautauqua county, New York. He is descended from Puritan ancestry, his forefathers having been numbered among the early residents of New England. Later generations of the family became pioneers of Vermilion county, Illinois, the grandparents and parents of our subject spending much of their lives here. The Olmsted family purchased a Mexican land warrant in the early days for one hundred and twenty-five dollars, and for this amount secured one hundred and sixty acres of unbroken land, which, however, they never improved. Later owing to the rise in land values they sold it for one thousand dollars. George and Hannah (Roberts) Olmsted, the grandparents of our subject, were natives of New England, and in 1839 they emigrated from their Ohio home to Illinois, with the father of our subject, the grandfather dying in this county two years later. His widow did not long survive him, passing away in September, 1843. Their son, Stanley Olmsted, the father of our subject, was born in Hartford, Connecticut, and was reared amid the wild scenes of pioneer life both in the Buckeye state and in the Prairie state. After reaching years of maturity he wedded Almira Green, a native

of Vermont and they began their domestic life upon a farm near Jamestown, Chautauqua county, New York, where his father carried on agricultural pursuits for several years, developing a farm in the midst of the primeval forest in that section of the country. He subsequently removed from there with his family to Marietta, Washington county, Ohio, but when five years had passed he again started upon his westward way and in 1839 came to Vermilion county, making the journey down the Ohio river and up the Wabash river to Perrysville, whence he went to what is now known as Batestown. He settled in that vicinity among the pioneers of a new district. For some time he operated what was known as the Olmsted sawmill and in addition to manufacturing lumber he engaged in building flatboats. That was the only mill where such boats were built and he turned out more than any other man in this section of the country. He became prominent and influential in public affairs and was a member of the Masonic fraternity. His death, which occurred in 1848, robbed the community of a valued citizen. When ten years had passed his widow became the wife of Thomas W. Douglass. She has lived an earnest Christian life, being a devout member of the Presbyterian church.

Of the ten children born unto Stanley Olmsted and his wife, Albert G. Olmsted was the second in order of birth. He was but eight years of age at the time of the emigration of the family to Vermilion county and he pursued his education in a log schoolhouse, furnished with slab benches and an immense fire place. An entire log would be hauled into the school-room and laid across the fire and as the middle portion was burned it was pushed

over into the embers until it was entirely consumed. The greater part of his boyhood was passed in Danville and Catlin townships. He can remember how in his early days, before the introduction of matches, fires were started by striking flint together until the sparks ignited tow which was furnished for that purpose, and often when these necessities were not to be had the neighbors would borrow from each other. All cooking was done in the old fire place, pots and kettles hanging from the crane while the baking was done in a skillet placed among the coals. The young girls went barefooted to and from church services, only wearing their shoes during the time of meeting, thus practicing economy, which was an important element in that pioneer period. On one occasion Mr. Olmsted drove an ox-cart to church, his grandmother and mother riding in the cart while he walked beside it with pants rolled up to keep out of the dirt of the road. Camp-meetings were frequently held in the forests, candles being fastened to the bushes to provide light. Mr. Olmsted was about seventeen years of age when his father died. He never lived in anything but a log house until the second summer after his marriage. After his father's death the support of the family largely devolved upon him. He rented land and began farming, his first plow having a wooden mold board. To cultivate grain he used a single shovel plow and single rope line, leather harness being not then in general use. He cut grain with a cradle and when he was plowing the lady who became his wife, then a maiden of sixteen years, dropped corn for him in the furrows, never thinking then of the marriage which was afterward to take place. Mr. Olmsted has seen many changes made in

the machinery and farm implements and has always kept in touch with the general progress.

On the 22d of July, 1855, was celebrated the marriage of Albert G. Olmsted and Elizabeth Ann Wright, who was born in this county, September 22, 1832, a daughter of Thomas N. and Mary Brown (Sandusky) Wright, who were natives of this part of the county. Mrs. Olmsted was born on the old homestead which now belongs to our subject, it having formerly been the property of her parents. She was a splendid housekeeper and a most energetic woman. She spun and colored the yarn and made most of the clothing for the family and Mr. Olmsted has in his possession two beautiful quilts for which she spun and colored the yarn in 1858. Hers was also a hospitable home and the stranger was always welcome there. Her parents were natives of Bourbon county, Kentucky, and when her father was nineteen years of age and her mother twenty they came to Vermilion county, Illinois, and were married six weeks later, in 1831, near Indianola, immediately afterward settling on a farm which is now the property of Mr. Olmsted. There Mr. Wright built a log cabin. His wife died May 31, 1851, leaving five children of whom Mrs. Olmsted was the eldest. Mr. Wright afterward married Nancy Dougherty and he died November 18, 1872, on the old homestead which he developed from a wild prairie. It was upon this same farm that five children were born unto our subject and his wife: Mary B., now the wife of John H. Palmer; Charles, who married Agnes Emmett, whose death occurred November 17, 1887; William C., who married Eva Beck; George E., who wedded Nora Champion, of



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Catlin, Illinois; and Albert C., who married Bessie Davis and is now a bookkeeper in the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. Mr. Olmsted also has eight grandchildren.

After their marriage the parents located upon a rented farm in Catlin township, which was their home for several years and after that Mr. Olmsted purchased a place in the village of Catlin. He says the first beds he ever saw used were made of a few posts nailed together and the bedding placed upon them. The houses were built of round logs. In these early days he used to haul corn and pork to river towns, Attica and other places, and he would go to Lafayette, Indiana, to have his wool carded. Danville was the main trading point in these early days and was but a village. After removing to Catlin he continued to rent land for three years. In 1867, the second year after the purchase of the county farm, he was appointed its superintendent and owing to his kindness to the inmates and his efficiency he was retained in that position for eight years, after which he tendered his resignation, desiring to invest in a farm on his own account. He then became the owner of the property, which he now possesses on section 23, Catlin township, Mrs. Olmsted having inherited a portion of this land, while our subject purchased the remainder. He now has one of the best improved farms in the neighborhood, supplied with good substantial buildings and a splendid farm residence, where he and his wife resided happily together for many years. He then retired to Catlin, where he has now resided for nine years. Mrs. Olmsted lived to rear and educate her family and departed this life July 26, 1901. She was indeed a devoted and loving wife and mother, her many excellent

qualities endearing her to all with whom she came in contact. She was ever kindly and charitable and her good deeds were many.

Mr. Olmsted has long been identified with the Vermilion County Fair Association and for seven years he acted as gatekeeper. He served for two years as a member of the board of supervisors, as school trustee for eleven years and his incumbency in the office of school director dates back to a period almost beyond his memory. He has served as judge of elections for several years and has been deeply identified with the upbuilding and progress of the county along social, material, moral and intellectual lines. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, of which he is now serving as a trustee and he belongs to Catlin Lodge, No. 285, F. & A. M., in which he has served as master. Politically he is a Democrat and he assisted in the organization of the militia during the call for the draft. The history of Vermilion county is indeed a familiar one to him, because of his active connection with many interests which have contributed to the general progress and improvement here, from pioneer times down to the present. He has so lived that his name is a synonym of honor and no man is more deserving of respect in this community than Alfred G. Olmsted.

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Whatever else may be said of the legal fraternity, it cannot be denied that members of the bar have been more prominent actors in public affairs than any other class of American people. The ability and training which qualify one to practice law also

qualify him in many respects for the duties which lie outside the strict path of his profession and which touch the general interests of society. The subject of this record is a man who has brought his keen discrimination and thorough wisdom to bear not alone in professional paths but for the benefit of the community in which he lives, and he is now serving as mayor of Danville and state senator from the twenty-second senatorial district of the state.

Mr. Bailey is one of Vermilion county's native sons, his birth having occurred in the town of Indianola, January 23, 1858. His parents were Joseph and Sarah (Brackall) Bailey. After attending the public schools of Georgetown for some time he entered Earlham College, an old Quaker school at Richmond, Indiana, and on leaving that institution was a student at the State Normal School at Normal, Illinois, for a time. In 1883 he matriculated at Columbia College, Washington, D. C., where he was graduated in the law department in 1885. The following year took a post-graduate course there and was granted the degree of Master and Bachelor of Law.

Prior to taking up the study of law Mr. Bailey had taught school in Georgetown township and also worked on a farm. In 1876 he went to Colorado and spent three years in the silver mines near Leadville. On his return east he was offered a position in the treasury department at Washington, D. C., and while there he pursued his law studies at Columbia College. He began practice at Kansas City, Missouri, but only remained there a short time, returning to Danville on the death of his mother in 1888, and soon afterward he opened an office in this city. In 1886 he again went to Washington to accept the position of chief of the law division of the pension bureau and

served in that capacity until 1892, when we again find him in Danville. Here he has since engaged in the practice of his profession and has met with most desirable success.

On the 18th of January, 1899, Mr. Bailey was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Payne, a native of Rock Island, Illinois, and one of the four children born to Senator Payne and his wife. Her parents were also natives of Rock Island. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey have one child, Joseph, born December 6, 1899.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Bailey has taken quite an active and prominent part in public affairs, and in 1894 was elected to the thirty-ninth general assembly, being a member of the lower house for two consecutive terms. In 1898 he was nominated by the Republican party for state senator, but owing to the supreme court's decision on the apportionment bill no vacancy existed. He was again nominated, however, in 1900 and this time was elected by a good majority. He became quite a prominent and influential member of the legislature, and in the thirty-ninth and fortieth assemblies he served on the judiciary, building and loan, assessment and insurance committees, of which he was also a member after entering the senate. He took an active interest in the school board law, regulating the power of the boards and decreasing the cost of text books. He also worked hard to get a bill passed reducing the rate on railroads from three to two cents and prohibiting passes, and took a special interest in mining legislation, being instrumental in getting a purer grade of oil to be sold to the miners and also a law passed providing the wages for labor should be paid in cash and thus doing away with the truck store system. He also secured the passage of the check weighman law, this giving the

miners the right to designate the man to weigh the coal and thus avoiding disputes between them and the operators. Mr. Bailey was chairman of the committee on mines and mining and also the committee on public grounds during the last session. In April, 1899, he was elected mayor of Danville, and so acceptably did he fill that office that he was re-elected in 1901, carrying every ward and precinct for the first time in the history of the city, and is the present incumbent. During his administration many needed improvements have been made, including the extension of all the railroad lines, and the doubling of the sanitary sewer system. Never were the reins of city government in more capable hands, for he is a progressive man, pre-eminently public spirited, and all that pertains to the public welfare receives his hearty endorsement. Socially he is an honored member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the blue lodge and chapter of the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias, the Improved Order of Red Men, the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Fraternal Army of America, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is deservedly popular, as he is affable and courteous in manner and possesses that essential qualification to success in public life, that of making friends readily and strengthening the ties of all friendships as time advances.

HARVEY C. ADAMS.

To his own unaided efforts may be attributed whatever success Harvey C. Adams has achieved or whatever prominence he has attained. He is yet a young man, but at the bar he has won a position which would be

creditable to many an older practitioner. A native of the neighboring state of Indiana, his birth occurred in Cass county on the 2d of February, 1870, his parents being Lewis and Hannah (Schuman) Adams, both natives of Ohio. In the state of his nativity the father was educated and reared to manhood. After arriving at years of maturity he wedded Hannah Schuman, a daughter of Christian and Anna (Fall) Schuman, and they now reside in Hutsonville, Illinois, having lived in or near that place continuously since 1875.

Harvey C. Adams was eight years of age when the family took up their abode in Hutsonville, and entering the public schools there he began his education. He was afterward for a short time a student in the Union Christian College at Merom, Indiana. Desiring to broaden his knowledge and realizing how important a factor in the affairs of life is education, he has spent much time in private reading and study. He pursued the Chautauqua course, also took a course in shorthand in the Northern Indiana State Normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana, and later, while acting as stenographer in the office of the firm of Callahan, Jones & Howe at Robinson, Illinois, he took up the study of law and thus laid the foundation for his present successful career as a member of the bar. He was appointed by the circuit judge of Crawford county, Illinois, to the position of court stenographer. After passing the civil service examination he entered the treasury department at Washington, D. C., as stenographer. When six weeks has passed, during which time he gave proof of his business skill, adaptability and personal worth, he was transferred to the civil service commission as a stenographer, and while thus engaged he took dictation from Theodore Roosevelt, who was

then one of the three civil service commissioners. Through the kindness of Congressman Joseph Cannon Mr. Adams was transferred to the postoffice department and this gave him an opportunity to pursue his law studies. Every step which he took, every position which he filled, was regarded, as but a means to an end—that of the practice of law. His residence in Washington covered a period of almost three years, from 1890 until the 4th of March, 1893. In June, 1892, he was graduated in the Columbian University on the completion of a law course, and in March of the following year he resigned his position and returned to Illinois, seeking a location as a lawyer.

In April, 1893, Mr. Adams came to Danville, where for the past ten years he has practiced his profession, gaining a clientage which is very creditable for one so young. He now holds the position of secretary to Justice Jacob W. Wilkin of the Supreme Court of Illinois. His law practice, which he pursues in addition to his secretary work, consists mainly of probate business, chancery and the settlement of estates.

On the 8th of November, 1892, was performed the marriage ceremony which united the destinies of Harvey C. Adams and Miss Blanch Meserve, a daughter of Dr. Stephen Decatur Meserve, of Robinson, Illinois, and they now have one son, Stephen Meserve Adams. The subject of this review endorses the principles and platform of the Republican party and upon that ticket he was elected to the office of city alderman in 1896 but refused to serve a second term. Fraternally he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of

America. From his early boyhood days Mr. Adams has depended entirely upon his own resources and efforts for advancement along educational, professional and financial lines and although he is yet a young man his life history proves conclusively that progress in these directions may be made through strong determination, honorable purpose and laudable ambition.

ELISHA C. B. FITHIAN.

"Success," said Napoleon, "depends upon three things, energy, system and perseverance." With the realization of this truth Elisha C. B. Fithian has so directed his business affairs that he has prospered in his undertakings and to-day he is one of the most extensive landowners of Vermilion county. He is also one of its pioneer citizens, for his birth occurred November 8, 1837, in Danville, when that city was but a village. His parents were Dr. William and Orlethea T. (Berry) Fithian, who are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The son pursued his early education in a little log building called the Williams school, his first teacher being a Scotchman named Robinson. He was not only a good instructor, but he also exemplified his belief in the old adage "spare the rod and spoil the child." This was a subscription school and the teacher "boarded around" in the homes of the different pupils. Later Mr. Fithian was a student in the White Seminary, a Presbyterian institution, where he continued for some time, acquiring a good English education.

After completing his school duties he entered the general store of his father in



Danville, remaining there for about a year. He then came to the farm in Oakwood township, for he believed that the outdoor life would prove beneficial to his failing health. He took charge of his father's farm of thirty-seven hundred acres, very little of which was at that time under cultivation. Mr. Fithian began breaking the prairie, using five or six yoke of oxen to a breaking plow which would turn a furrow of twenty-two inches. He broke a thousand acres in this way, but much of it had to be gone over again, often as many as three or four times, for there had been no ditching done and the warm water would again start the prairie grasses. Finally Mr. Fithian gave up the attempt to transform into cultivable fields the low land and used it as pasture. He turned his attention to the stock business on an extensive scale. His father was a large stock man and he had gained practical knowledge of the business. When the railroads were built through this portion of the state he made shipments of his cattle to Chicago. He remembers distinctively, however, the early conditions of the county when there was much game, including prairie chickens, ducks, brant and geese. There were also large numbers of prairie wolves that might be heard howling at night or seen skirring over the country in the daytime. Mr. Fithian has seen as many as sixteen deer in a single herd pass through his orchard. At night, if the corn was not well fenced, the deer would enter the fields and eat and tramp down the crop. As time passed, however, marked improvements were made in methods of agriculture, with all of which Mr. Fithian kept abreast, in fact, he has ever been regarded as one of the most progressive agriculturists of this part of the state as well as one of the most extensive and prosperous landowners.

On the 23d of February, 1865, occurred the marriage of Mr. Fithian and Miss Anna M. Hayes, a native of Athens county, Ohio, and a daughter of John and Adaline (Nebllock) Hayes, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania and were of Scotch and German descent, respectively. Their marriage was celebrated in Ohio and Mr. Hayes was a carpenter by trade. In 1850, accompanied by his wife and children, he drove across the country to Danville in a prairie schooner, as the old covered wagons at that time were called. The journey occupied twenty-one days and at night the family camped by the roadside. After reaching Vermilion county Mr. Hayes spent a few months in Danville and then located a half mile south of the old town of Homer, Champaign county. There he purchased land upon which he resided for seven or eight years, after which he returned to Vermilion county, where he lived upon a farm a half mile from the Fithian homestead, his home being in Oakwood township, where he spent his remaining days. There his death occurred in 1885 and his wife passed away on the home place in 1894. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom six are now living, namely: Mrs. Fithian; John, of Vermilion county; Mrs. Edith McCoy, of Kansas; William, of Indiana; Mrs. Lydia Cass, of Danville; and James, who is also living in this county. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Fithian has been blessed with five children: Paul H. is a practicing physician of Fithian; Lulla is at home; Elisha C. B. is living upon a part of his father's farm, and is married to Christiana Illk, by whom he has two children, George William and Anna Dorothy; John Charles, who is also upon his father's farm, married Sarah Reese and has one son, Orion B.; and David W. is a practicing

dentist of Rossville. He wedded Jessie Fellow.

Mr. Fithian was made a Mason in 1875 and belongs to Fairmount Lodge, No. 590, F. & A. M. His wife is a member of the Methodist church and his political support is given the Republicans, but while he keeps well informed on the issues of the day he has never consented to hold office except that of school director. He has eleven hundred acres of valuable land and for some years he has been living practically retired, having rented almost all of his land to his sons. Mr. Fithian is well informed concerning the history of Vermilion county from an early epoch in its history. In the year 1834 he had an aunt in Iowa who returned to Danville on her way to Ohio and here she was joined by the mother of our subject who, taking her baby son with her, accompanied the aunt to their old home in the Buckeye state, making the entire trip on horseback. This fact goes to show what the pioneer women of that day were capable of. On one occasion Mr. Fithian's father sent by wagon to Ohio for two McCormick reapers, which could not then be purchased in the west. In those early days our subject hauled wheat to Attica, Indiana, and if prices were "high" he could sell for forty cents per bushel. Corn brought eight and ten cents per bushel and in his boyhood Mr. Fithian would measure corn from the crib in a half bushel measure and would pass it through the window to the men on the outside. As time passed Mr. Fithian, taking his part in the agricultural work of the county, became a leader in progress and improvement in his line of activity and by the capable control of his business interests he won splendid success. He has, however, never allowed the accumulation of wealth to in any way warp his kindly nature and

there is no man in the community who enjoys to a wider extent the esteem and regard of those with whom he was associated.

WILLIAM M. SILVER.

It would be impossible to give a complete history of Hoopeston without mentioning William M. Silver, for no resident of the town has done so much for its improvement as Mr. Silver, who in the line of his business affairs has continually added to the city's growth and upbuilding. He is a contractor and builder and a large part of the brick structures in the town stand as monuments to his enterprise and skill. He enjoys a splendid reputation as a representative of this department of business activity and is a man whose business honor and integrity are beyond question.

Mr. Silver was born in Shelby county, Ohio, in the town of Sidney, in 1844. His father, Peter Silver, was born in Frankfort, Kentucky, and having arrived at years of maturity he wedded Mary Benham, of Ohio. He, too, was a contractor and builder and died in Hoopeston in 1883, while his wife passed away in 1888. They had been residents of this place from 1875, and were well known people here. They had the following children: William M., of this review; Joseph M., a resident of Leavenworth, Kansas; Mrs. Sarah Morris, of Peoria, Illinois; Mrs. Abbie Boggs, who is living in Warsaw, Indiana; and Mrs. Mary E. Hall, of Hoopeston.

When only about six months old William M. Silver of this review was taken by his parents to Elkhart county, Indiana, where he remained until fifteen years of age, during which time he attended school. He then went to Kosciusko county, Indiana,

and from that place entered the army on the 27th of April, 1862, when only about eighteen years of age, joining the Twelfth Indiana Infantry under the command of Captain Samuel Boughton and Colonel W. H. Link. He was also under Generals Logan and Sherman and he served for more than three years but was never wounded. At Richmond, Kentucky, on the 30th of August, 1862, he was taken prisoner and afterward was paroled and sent to Indianapolis to the parole camp, where he remained until the 14th of November, of that year. On that date he was exchanged and went to the south at once, proceeding to Memphis, Tennessee, and on to Vicksburg, participating in the siege of that city until its surrender. Later he went with his command to Chattanooga and also took part in the battles of Missionary Ridge and Knoxville, and later went into winter quarters at Scottsboro, Alabama. At that point he remained until the 1st of May, 1864, when the regiment started on the Atlanta campaign, participating in many of the hotly contested engagements which preceded the siege and fall of the city. With his regiment Mr. Silver then continued with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea and after the surrender of Savannah he was in the Carolina campaign and continued northward to Washington, D. C., his regiment participating in the grand review, leading Sherman's army in that celebrated military pageant on the 24th of May, 1865. Mr. Silver was there mustered out on the 8th of June and received his final discharge on the 20th of June following. He was in twenty-one engagements, taking part in every battle in which his regiment participated with one exception. He marched a little more than six thousand miles in three years and was in all of the

southern states except Texas and Florida. During all of this time he made the long marches on foot. His military record is a most creditable one and he certainly deserves the gratitude of the nation for what he accomplished in aiding in the struggle to maintain the Union intact.

After his return home Mr. Silver began learning the brick layer's trade at Warsaw, Indiana, beginning that work in 1866. He remained there four years. During that time he was married in the month of February, 1866, to Miss Sarah Bybee, who died eleven months later. In 1868 he was joined in wedlock to Jennie McGrew, of Warsaw, Indiana, and removed to Elkhart, Indiana, where he remained until 1871. In that year his second wife died and the two children of that union both passed away in infancy. Succeeding the great fire in Chicago in 1871 Mr. Silver went to that city, where he followed his trade for eighteen months and then came to Logan county, Illinois. In January, 1873, he was united in marriage to Mary A. Weaver, and removed to Middletown and later lived in Lincoln, where he continued until 1879, the year of his arrival in Hoopeston. Mr. Silver began contracting here for brick and stone work and still follows his business with splendid success. He has taken contracts for work all over the eastern part of Illinois and western Indiana. In Hoopeston he erected the city hall, the west side school, the N. Brillhart house, ten storerooms for J. S. McFerren, and with three exceptions all of the brick store buildings in Hoopeston. He also erected the Cunningham House, the Catherwood residence and the additions to the McFerren residence. He built the first building of the Union Canning Company and many others of the business structures here, his services

being in constant demand because of his thorough understanding of the business and his faithfulness to the terms of a contract and his known reliability in all trade transactions.

In 1901, Mr. Silver was called upon to mourn the loss of his second wife, who passed away in January of that year, leaving three living children. There was also one child by the first wife, Abbie J., now the wife of N. E. Weaver, of Hoopeston, who is associated with her father in the contracting business. She has five children. The other members of Mr. Silver's family are: Leona G.; Nellie, the wife of L. A. Blakeley, a brick layer of Danville; and Harry Clyde, at home.

In social relations Mr. Silver is prominent, being a valued member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Grand Army of the Republic. His political support is given to the Republican party and he is the present member of the city council from the third ward. He is now serving his third term in that position and he filled the position of township supervisor for one full term and for one year of an unexpired term. His home is on Market street and he owns five tenement houses here. His time and attention are largely given to his contracting and building interests and during the winter months he also operates a broom factory which adds in a degree to his income. Mr. Silver well merits his success, for it has been worthily won. He found the opportunities he sought—which by the way are always open to the energetic, ambitious man—and making the best of these he has steadily worked his way upward. He possesses resolution, perseverance and reliability and his name is now enrolled among the best citizens of Vermilion county.

ERNST BLANKENBURG.

Ernst Blankenburg, who is the leading retail dealer in wines, liquors and cigars in Danville, was born in Eberswaldr, Prussia, on the 6th of October, 1843, his parents being William and Caroline (Torge) Blankenburg, both of whom were natives of Prussia. The father died in the year 1871, when sixty-nine years of age, and his wife passed away in 1874, at the age of sixty-two years. They reared a family of nine children. In the '60s they crossed the Atlantic to the new world, establishing their home in Danville. Our subject was the fourth in order of birth in a family of nine children, of whom those still living are: Gottlieb; August; Louise, the wife of George Rust; and Ernst. Those who have passed away are: William, Frederick, Christian, Lewis and Ferdinand.

In the public and private schools of his native town in Prussia Ernst Blankenburg pursued his education. He has been a resident of Danville since 1867, coming here when a young man of twenty-four years. He was first employed as a clerk, serving in that capacity for three years in the dry-goods store of William Hessey, after which he established a brewery which was later sold to John Stein. In 1875 he established his present business which he has now conducted for more than twenty-seven years. He retails wines, liquors and cigars and is conducting the largest establishment of the kind in Danville, realizing a handsome and gratifying profit from the enterprise.

In 1886 Mr. Blankenburg was united in marriage to Miss Mary S. Lee of this city and they now have two children, a daughter and a son, Edna and Russell. They also lost one son, Herman, who died



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at the age of three years. Mr. Blankenburg is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is secretary of the Danville Socialer Turn Verein. He is a gentleman of affable manner, genial and courteous and is a leading German-American citizen of Danville.

GEORGE T. RAY.

There is nothing in this world that will take the place of skillfully directed labor and this fact Mr. Ray has realized as he has carried on his life work. It is to his industry and enterprise that he owes his place among the progressive and substantial farmers of Ross township, his home being on section 30. Among the honored pioneer settlers he is likewise numbered for he dates his residence in Vermilion county from 1835. The family is of German origin, his great-grandfather being a native of Germany. The grandfather, George Ray, was born in Union county, Pennsylvania, whence he removed to Ohio, settling near Circleville, in Pickaway county. His son, John Ray, the father of our subject, was born at Buffalo Valley, Union county, Pennsylvania, and was reared to mature years in Ohio, where he formed the acquaintance and married Elizabeth Glover, who was likewise a native of the Keystone state. He turned his attention to farming, which he followed in Pickaway county for a number of years and in 1831 he came to Illinois, settling in Will county, where he resided until the spring of 1832 when he had to take his family to Fort Dearborn on account of an Indian uprising. After a short time, however, he made his way southward to Vermilion county, In-

diana, where he continued until the Indian troubles were settled. He then removed to this county in 1835, entering three hundred and twenty acres of land in Ross township, located on sections 29 and 30. He at once began to break this, fenced it and in course of time developed a good farm. The entire country around, too, was an almost unbroken wilderness and in true pioneer style the family lived. There the father spent his remaining days, passing away on the 4th of March, 1856. His wife long survived him and was called to her final rest February 13, 1882. In their family were three sons and three daughters, but two of the daughters are now deceased. Those living are: William G., who resides in Alvin; John, who owns and operates a part of the old homestead; and Sarah Ann, the wife of John Hitchens, a blacksmith of Alvin.

When but a small boy George Ray became a resident of Vermilion county and on the old home farm his boyhood days were passed. Amid the wild scenes of the frontier he shared with the family in all the hardships and trials incident to the establishment of a home amid pioneer surroundings and when his strength and age would permit he assisted in the work of clearing and developing the farm. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Mary E. Hickman, their wedding being celebrated in Catlin township, October 29, 1863, the lady being a daughter of Hiram Hickman, a native of Kentucky, who, when a small boy, went to Tennessee and afterward to Ohio. In the latter state he married Martha A. Allen and subsequently they removed to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county about 1835. Mrs. Ray was born in Brown county, Ohio, was reared in this county, and pursued her education here and in the Georgetown

high school. For several years prior to her marriage she was a successful teacher and is a most estimable lady, who has been to her husband a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey. They began their domestic life on a part of the old Ray homestead, our subject clearing the land and preparing it for the plow. He afterward built a good substantial residence, a large barn and made many important and valuable improvements. The home was blessed by the presence of five children: Daniel V., who is married and has three children, Mary E., Angelena, and George T., and resides in Jamesburg, Illinois, where he is engaged in the practice of medicine; George A., a lawyer of Ross-ville; Frank H., who is married and is living in Chicago, having two children, Ruth and Paul Keneth; Benjamin, who is married, has one child, Bertha M., and resides with his parents; and Charles, who completes the family.

Politically Mr. Ray is a Jeffersonian Democrat, who in 1852 voted for Franklin Pierce, age having given to him the right of franchise for the first time at that election. He served for several years as township school trustee and also as director and has ever been earnestly interested in the advancement of the schools and the employment of good teachers, believing that education is one of the bulwarks of our nation. From pioneer times down to the present he has been a witness of the substantial development of Vermilion county. He came here when much of the land appeared just as it did when nature completed her work. It was the haunt of deer and other wild animals and venison furnished many a meal for the early settlers, while wild fowls were frequently seen on the pioneer board. A number of years have passed ere the wild prairie

grasses had entirely been replaced by the fields of waving grain in the midst of which to-day stand substantial farm houses, while towns and villages have here and there sprung up. Mr. Ray's memory forms a connecting link between the pioneer past and the progressive present and he has many interesting incidents to relate of Vermilion county's history.

J. P. BAILEY.

J. P. Bailey, a well known carpenter and contractor of Danville and an honored veteran of the Civil war, is a native of this county, his birth having occurred February 8, 1842, seven miles southeast of Georgetown on the horseshoe bend of the Little Vermilion river. His father, James S. Bailey, was born in Chillicothe, Ross county Ohio, and on reaching manhood was married in Newport, Indiana, to Miss Orena West, a native of Vermilion county, that state, who died on the 3d of November, 1853. He continued to reside in Newport until 1867, when he removed to Sangamon county, Illinois, where his death occurred December 25, 1873, his remains being interred in Blank cemetery, fifteen miles southeast of Springfield. By trade he was a cooper. In religious faith he was a Presbyterian, was also connected with the Masonic lodge and was a staunch supporter of the Republican party. His brother, William Bailey, was a prominent old settler of Vermilion county, Indiana, where he served as sheriff and county clerk at an early day.

Our subject is one of a family of three children, but his brother is deceased. His sister, Mary, is the wife of William H.

Gowdy, of Covington, Indiana. Mr. Bailey began his education in the Billings school at the crossroads near his home prior to the election of President Pierce, the "temple of learning" being a log structure furnished with slab seats, and the school was conducted on the subscription plan. After the removal of the family to Perrysville, Indiana, he attended the public schools at that place and made his home there until after the outbreak of the Civil war. Since the death of his mother, when he was eleven years of age, he has been dependent upon his own resources for a livelihood, working on a farm the first summer. The following winter he carried the mail from Perrysville to Georgetown and Danville, Illinois, and the next summer drove a three-mule team on the canal from Perrysville to Toledo, Ohio. During the next winter he drove the stage for Teller Brothers from Covington to Armiesburg, Indiana, and on giving up that position he began learning the millwright's trade in the construction of the old Williams mill at Hillsboro, Indiana. Later he was employed on the Smith & Jones mill in Fountain county, that state; the Kirkpatrick mill at Perrysville and the woolen mill at that place. He helped to build the old North street church in Danville in 1857, and assisted in the erection of the seminary at Perrysville in 1859, besides a great many mills throughout the country.

During the dark days of the Rebellion, however, Mr. Bailey laid aside all personal interests and offered his services to his country, enlisting at Perrysville, Indiana, September 9, 1861, in Company D, Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry under Captain Weldon and Colonel I. Bass, of Fort Wayne. His regiment was mustered in at Indianapolis and assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. They participated in quite

a number of skirmishes in Tennessee and their first important engagement was the battle of Shiloh in 1862. In 1864 the command was transferred to the Army of the Tennessee and was with Sherman on his Atlanta campaign until the surrender of that city, after which they returned to Nashville under the command of General Thomas. They next went to Huntsville, Alabama, and from there started to Richmond to relieve the Army of the Potomac, but in the spring of 1865 were transferred to New Orleans and from there went to Victoria, Texas, where Mr. Bailey was mustered out on the 25th of November, 1865. He was wounded in the left side by a minie ball during the second day's fight at Nashville, December 16, 1864.

Returning home Mr. Bailey resumed work at the millwright's trade, which he continued to follow until 1890, since which time he has devoted his attention to carpentering and contracting with good success and is to-day one of the leading business men of Danville, where he has made his home since 1879. He has erected a great many of the elevators in this county besides other buildings and has always faithfully fulfilled his part of every contract.

On the 25th of March, 1865, in Newport, Indiana, Mr. Bailey married Miss Frances A. Seay, who was born in Georgetown, Illinois, April 26, 1846, a daughter of Thomas A. Seay. As a child she made her home with Elisha Ruiney, of Georgetown, but was later adopted by Dr. Perkins, of Eugene, Indiana. After a short married life of fourteen years she died April 12, 1879, leaving four children, namely: Minnie, the wife of William Buckley, of St. Louis, Missouri; John G., a candy manufacturer of that city; William H., who married Lena Miller and resides in Danville, where he as-

sists his father in business; and Maud, wife of Jerome Maloy, of Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

Mr. Bailey was again married, February 16, 1886, his second union being with Miss Amie E. Oliver, who was born eight miles north of Danville, in Vermilion county, April 6, 1860, a daughter of Bushard and Melvina (Kritzer) Oliver. Her father was a native of Bourbon county, and her mother of Rainesville, Indiana, but they were married in Danville, Illinois. The father was a farmer by occupation, a Democrat in politics and a member of the Christian church. He died on the 23d of May, 1894, but his wife is still living and now makes her home with our subject. In their family were sixteen children, of whom twelve are still living.

Mr. Bailey is a prominent member of several civic societies, including the Grand Army of the Republic, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal Neighbors and the Mutual Protection League. Politically he is identified with the Republican party and has taken a very influential and prominent part in public affairs, having served as deputy sheriff at Dexter, Missouri, and as city marshal, councilman and mayor of Dexter. He is pre-eminently public-spirited and progressive and as faithfully discharges his duties of citizenship in times of peace as when he followed the old flag to victory on southern battle-fields.

THOMAS WOOLVERTON.

Among the native sons of Vermilion county is numbered Thomas Woolverton and his life history sets at naught the old adage, that "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country." There is there-

fore particular interest attaching to the subject of this review in his business career. He is a native son of the county where he has passed his active life and has so directed his ability and efforts as to gain recognition as one of the representative men of Hoopeston. He to-day is the owner of the Hoopeston machine shops, an enterprise of magnitude and importance returning to the owner and proprietor a very desirable annual income.

Mr. Woolverton was but thirteen years of age when he started out in life for himself. His birth occurred in Grant township in 1851. His father, Colonel Abel Woolverton, was commander of a regiment in the war of 1812 and was a farmer by occupation. He came of a family that lived near Cincinnati, Ohio, prior to the emigration to Illinois. In the year 1850, however, Colonel Woolverton sought a home in the Mississippi valley and located in Grant township, Vermilion county, settling on government land on the North Fork. He became one of the early settlers of the community. He had firm faith in the future of this portion of the state and he foretold the building of the two railroads which now cross the county. Colonel Woolverton secured a large tract of land in this locality and began the development of a farm. There were many wild animals here, including wolves, and among the wild game there were numbered deer, geese, brant and ducks. The mother of our subject died when he was but six years of age and the father afterward married again. Thomas Woolverton has one sister, Mrs. Sophia J. Holmes, of Hoopeston, and one brother, Charles.

At the time of his father's death, which occurred when he was thirteen years of age, Thomas Woolverton started out in life on his own account. He was but a boy, yet

he possessed courage and self-reliance and determined that he would win for himself a creditable position in the business world. He herded cattle at an early day and engaged in farm labor until his marriage, which occurred in 1871, Miss Eliza J. Fortner becoming his wife. The lady is a native of Indiana and her parents are both now deceased. By this marriage there are two living children, Mrs. Ed. R. Knox, whose husband is deputy circuit clerk in Danville, and N. G., a lawyer who is now in partnership with Charles A. Allen, of Hoopeston, and is serving as city attorney.

For several years after his marriage Mr. Woolverton engaged in farming and was the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, but after about six years he abandoned the plow and removed to Hoopeston, where he opened a meat market which he conducted for six years. By going security he was forced to begin life anew. Later he was elected township assessor and constable and served in this office until about seventeen years ago when he began selling farm machinery in a small way. He has carried on this business with ever increasing success and he is now proprietor of the Hoopeston machine shops and does an extensive business in McCormick harvesters, the Deere plows, buggies, wagons and harness; in fact, he carries everything needed upon a farm in connection with its cultivation. He has a machine shop and a general repair shop, forty by one hundred and twenty feet, and part of this is two stories in height. During the busy season he employs fifteen men in the shop and does all kinds of repair work from the repairing of a hammer to a threshing machine. His machine shop and implements are upon the west side of Bank street, the harness and buggy emporium on the east side, but these are near to-

gether so that he gives his personal supervision to all branches of his business. He engages in the manufacture as well as the repairing of harness and also repairs buggies. The shop on the east side of the street is fifty by sixty feet and he also has two stores which he rents. The business has constantly grown in volume and importance until it is now the leading industrial and commercial concerns of the town and the owner has become one of the substantial residents of Hoopeston. Long since has he regained his lost possessions, pushing forward to continued success in the conduct of the enterprise which has proved to him a profitable one.

In his political views Mr. Woolverton is a stalwart Republican and was appointed to fill the unexpired term of W. R. Clark on the board of supervisors. At the next regular election in 1894 he was elected to fill that office, which he has held continuously since, and by re-election he is now serving for the fourth term and is one of the most prominent and valued members of the board. He has served as its chairman for two different terms and is now chairman of the committee on buildings and grounds. For eight years he was justice of the peace in Grant township and was at one time a member of the city council of Hoopeston, filling the office before the city was divided into wards. No public trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree and he has the entire confidence of his fellow men concerning matters of importance to the city. Fraternally he is connected with the blue lodge of Masons, with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has served as noble grand, with the Foresters and with the Modern Woodmen of America. He has a pleasant home at the corner of Bank and Penn streets and he

owns half a block in the center of the town on which are located his business blocks. He was a resident of this place when the entire locality was covered with rosin-weed and milk-weed and prairie grasses grew in abundance. He herded cattle on the present site of Hoopston, but as the years have passed he has witnessed great changes, a transformation being wrought which has contributed in a marked degree to the improvement and upbuilding of the entire community. Mr. Woolverton possesses marked energy and keen perception. This enables him to form his plans readily and he never wavers in carrying them to a successful completion. His close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him the high degree of prosperity which is to-day his.

H. W. HARRIS.

H. W. Harris is now living a retired life on his farm on section 15, Ross township, five miles east of Rossville. Here he has a valuable property of two hundred and forty acres and thereon has made his home for forty-eight years. His residence in the county covers a longer period, however, for he arrived here in February, 1848. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 6, 1827, and comes of a family of English ancestry. His grandfather, Samuel Harris, settled in Maryland at an early day and there Jesse Harris, the father of our subject, was born on the 21st of July, 1800. In the city of his nativity he was reared and was there united in marriage to Lydia Ann Warner, whose birth occurred in Wilmington, Delaware. By trade he was a cooper and followed that pursuit throughout most of his active business life. In his later

years, however, he became general agent for H. J. Williams, a prominent attorney of Philadelphia. In the year 1841 he left Pennsylvania and took up his abode in Ross county, Ohio, where he resided for seven years, when he came to Illinois and here settled in Ross township, Vermilion county, spending his last years upon the home farm of his son, H. W. Harris.

The last named was reared in Philadelphia to the age of fourteen years and began his education in the public schools there. The remainder of his boyhood days were passed in Ohio upon his father's farm and in 1848 he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he began earning his own living by working as a farm hand by the month. In the fall, however, he returned to the Buckeye state, making the journey on horseback in order to vote for Zachary Taylor, casting his first ballot in that year. When his mission was accomplished he once more came to Illinois, where he worked on a farm until he decided to engage in agricultural pursuits on his own account and rented a tract of land. In the new work he prospered and when he had acquired some capital he purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres in 1853. It was then a tract of raw prairie on which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made, but he broke it and fenced it and otherwise developed the property, making it a valuable tract of land, which returned to him golden harvests in reward for the care and labor which he bestowed upon the fields. As his financial resources increased he added to the farm and now within its boundaries there are two hundred and forty acres of good land. He erected a neat and substantial residence, also a large barn and other necessary out-buildings. These were but a few of the im-



H. W. HARRIS.

provements which he made. He planted an orchard, tiled his fields and divided the farm by well kept fences. He also raised good stock and although he came to Vermilion county a poor man he gradually worked his way upward until he gained a place among the substantial residents of the county.

Mr. Harris has been twice married. In Indiana in 1853, he wedded Nancy Clark, who died in 1864, leaving five children: H. P., who is married and lives near Wichita, Kansas; Emma, the wife of Walter Wood, of Hoopston; Isabella, the wife of Christopher Fred, of Fulton, Indiana; Edwin Stanton, who is married and follows farming in Oklahoma; and Olive, who married George Holtz, of Ross township. After the death of his first wife Mr. Harris wedded Mary Money, a native of Kentucky, who, when a young lady, came to this county and on the 22d of June, 1865, gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Harris. There are six children of this marriage: Salome J., the wife of Charley W. Smith; Lydia A.; Josephine; John; Minnie, the wife of Albert Statzell, of Williamsport, Indiana; and Jesse S., who with John assists in the operation of the home farm.

Politically Mr. Harris was originally a Whig and joined the ranks of the Republican party upon its organization. He voted for John C. Fremont in 1856 and has never failed to cast his ballot for each presidential nominee of the party since that time. He first voted for Taylor in 1848. In 1875 he was appointed to the position of school treasurer and was elected and re-elected to the office until he served for twenty-seven consecutive years. He has also been a delegate to numerous county conventions of his party. From pioneer times down to the present he has watched the growth and de-

velopment of Vermilion county, having seen a swampy land reclaimed for purposes of civilization by tiling and cultivation and modern farming methods have been introduced and carried on until the country has been made to bloom and blossom as the rose. The work of progress has also been instituted in this city and Mr. Harris feels a just pride in what has been accomplished here. He is now a venerable man of seventy-five years, receiving the respect and honor which should ever be accorded one who has advanced far on life's journey.



A. WARD.

Eighty acres of good farming land on section 1, Georgetown township, constitutes the farm of A. Ward, who is there carrying on general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising. He has resided in Vermilion county since 1871 and is a native of Switzerland county, Indiana, born on the 5th of January, 1833. His parents were Bennett and Nancy (Boggs) Ward, the former a native of North Carolina and the latter of Kentucky. In an early day the father removed to Indiana, where he lived for a number of years. He afterward spent a few years in Missouri and while there his wife died. Subsequently he returned to Vermilion county, Illinois, making his home with the subject of this review until his death, which occurred on the 30 of July, 1881.

A. Ward is the only one of the children born unto his parents now residing in Vermilion county. He pursued his education in the district schools of Delaware county, Indiana. He settled upon a farm there, making it his place of abode until 1871, when he came to this county. In 1875 he

bought his present farm on section 1, Georgetown township. Throughout his entire life he has carried on the occupation to which he was reared and in his farming methods is progressive, keeping in touch with the best methods of cultivating the soil and caring for stock which are in vogue at the present day. When he located here the land was all covered with timber, but he cleared this and has placed his fields under a high state of cultivation. His farm is to-day well improved with modern equipments and he is successfully carrying on general farm work and stock-raising.

Mr. Ward was first married while living in Delaware county, Indiana, to Miss Phoebe Edginton, a native of Ohio. Her father removed to Delaware county, Indiana, at an early day and there died. Mrs. Ward passed away at her home in this county in 1877. Of seven children born of that marriage five are yet living: Monzo, who resides in Kansas; Wilson, who married Maggie Rogers and is living in Mead county, Kansas; Franklin, who resides at home with our subject; Grant, who wedded Mary Rosenbarger and is living in Veedersburg, Indiana; and Cooley, who married Maude Manley and resides in Georgetown, where he is conducting the Rival Restaurant. Those deceased are Mary, Amanda and Calvin. After the death of his first wife Mr. Ward was again married, his second union being with Mary J. Estes, a native of Elwood township, Vermillion county, born in October, 1845. Her parents, Laborin and Polly (Chambers) Estes, were very early settlers of this county, coming to Illinois from North Carolina and here they spent their remaining days.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Ward hold membership in the Christian church of Georgetown township and are faithful to its teachings

and principles. He has always voted with the Democracy but has never been an office seeker. His life has been one of untiring industry and since coming to Vermillion county he has accomplished a great amount of work, in clearing his land, preparing it for the plow and placing it under the high state of cultivation in which it is to-day found.

ROBERT HOLMES.

The story of a successful career is always a matter of interest and although jealousy is sometimes manifest the great majority rejoice in advancement, especially when one has risen to prominence and success from a humble financial position. This Robert Holmes has done and to-day he is controlling one of the most extensive and important industrial enterprises of Vermillion county. He was born in Sandusky, Ohio, December 25, 1858, and is a son of William and Rebecca (Thomas) Holmes, the former a native of New Castle, Delaware, and the latter of Wales. They were married in Sandusky and a year later located in Marion, Ohio. The father was a machinist by trade and conducted a shop there, making that place his home until his death, which occurred on the 18th of December, 1872. His political support was given the Republican party and he was ever a progressive and loyal citizen. His wife died March 18, 1860. In their family were five sons and four daughters, of whom three sons and three daughters are yet living, Robert being the eldest. Grant, a partner of our subject, now conducts a machine shop and makes his home in Danville. Sherman is engaged in gold mining in Dutch Guiana, South America, and is also a partner of the firm of Robert Holmes

& Brothers, incorporated. Mary is the wife of Dr. W. H. Snaveley, a resident of Seffner, Florida. Mattie is the wife of J. A. Johnson, who is living in Thomotosassa, Florida; and Hattie is the wife of Howard Bolander, of Marion, Ohio.

Robert Holmes began his education in the schools of Marion and afterward worked in machine shops there. Owing to his father's early death he was forced to begin work when only thirteen years of age and was there employed until he had attained his majority. In 1880 he came to Danville and secured a position as a machinist in the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad shops, where he remained for six months. He then accepted the agency of the Huber engine and thresher which is manufactured in Marion. He established an agency in this city in partnership with P. T. Baker and conducted the business with success for ten years, when his partner sold out to W. W. Kent and the latter relation was maintained for a year. Mr. Holmes then purchased his partner's interest and increased the business, extending its scope. In 1893 his brothers removed to Danville and he became a partner in the business. It was then that the firm established a machine shop at Nos. 30 and 36 North Hazel street. Since then the business has constantly grown and they now occupy not only the machine shop space but also a building one hundred and twenty by one hundred and fifty feet, extending from No. 49 to No. 53 North Hazel street. It is in this building that the main offices are located. The firm of Robert Holmes & Brothers employs more than fifty workmen in the machine shops. They make a specialty of locomotive bell ringers and air compressors and also of the manufacture of shaker screens for coal miners. They do a big business in mill and mine

machine-repairing and sell everything in the line of farm machinery and also "everything on wheels," as their advertisement reads. This includes all kinds of vehicles, making a specialty of high grade automobiles. The output of the house is now very extensive and the business has reached large and profitable proportions.

In his political views Mr. Holmes is a Republican, but has never sought or desired office and in fact has always refused to become a candidate for political preferment, although as a private citizen he is ever true to the welfare of his city, state and nation and is deeply interested in the success of party principles. He belongs to Damascus Lodge, K. P., and to the Danville Lodge of Elks. Coming to this city without capital, accepting a position as an employe, he stands to-day as a worthy representative of what may be accomplished through earnest effort combined with a thorough knowledge of the business undertaken, capable management in its control and honorable dealings in the relations with the public.

M. F. PORTERFIELD.

M. F. Porterfield, a representative of the banking interests of Vermilion county now, owning and conducting the Porterfield Bank at Fairmount, was born in Pennsylvania, on the 17th of February, 1849. His parents, James B. and Elvira H. (Blaine) Porterfield, were also natives of the Keystone state. The father was a tanner and harness-maker and in the year 1856 came westward with his family, first settling in Monmouth, Warren county, Illinois, where he remained for a year. He then removed to Champaign and became a contractor for the Illinois Central

Railroad Company, making his home in that place until the fall of 1862. He next settled upon a farm near Sidney, this state, and later he retired from active life, spending his last years in the town of Sidney. There he died in February, 1891, and his wife passed away in 1895. In their family were six sons and three daughters, all of whom are yet living, namely: M. E., of this review; Mary B., who is living in Sidney; E. N., who is engaged in the real estate and loan business at Kearney, Nebraska; S. E., who is engaged in the grain business with his youngest brother, J. Bert, at Sidney; J. C., who is employed in the veterinary department of the Union Stock Yards of Chicago; Carrie E., the wife of Charles J. Freeman, a resident of Decatur; L. W., who is engaged in the grain trade in Champaign; and Nettie, the wife of John E. Largent, a lawyer of Salt Lake City, Utah.

M. E. Porterfield pursued his early education in the public schools near Sidney and later continued his literary course in the State University of Illinois, at Urbana, while he prepared for business life in a commercial college. He was one of the original students of the State University, entering in the winter of 1869-70. After putting aside his text books he lived upon the farm with his father until 1873, when he purchased a tract of land southeast of Sidney and began farming on his own account, there carrying on agricultural pursuits until 1891. In that year he came to Fairmount and established the Porterfield Bank, which he is now conducting. It is a private banking institution, well meriting public support because of the capability and enterprise of the owner. Mr. Porterfield also owns the bank building and other business blocks in Fairmount and an elegant residence which is the family home.

On the 1st of January, 1885, near Philo, Illinois, Mr. Porterfield was united in marriage to Miss Belle J. Cole, who was born in Worthington, Massachusetts, August 5, 1861, a daughter of Charles E. and Maria J. (Pease) Cole, who were likewise natives of the Bay State. In the year 1863 they came west, locating near Philo, Champaign county, upon a farm. There the father died in 1868 but the mother is still living. In their family were three sons and four daughters, but one son and one daughter have now passed away. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Porterfield has been blessed with three children: N. Raymond, N. Mildred and Wilbard B.

Mr. Porterfield is a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp and of the Court of Honor and he belongs to the Cumberland Presbyterian church. His father was a Whig and upon attaining his majority Mr. Porterfield became a Republican, having since given earnest and loyal support to the party. While there has been nothing exciting or adventuresome in his business career, the history of his success is one of interest, because it shows what can be accomplished when one has strong determination and laudable ambition, guided by sound judgment. These are the qualities which have gained success to Fairmount's popular banker, making him a prosperous citizen of Vermilion county.

ABRAM B. SMITH.

Abram B. Smith, a retired farmer of Danville, was born in eastern Tennessee on Christmas Day, 1817. He is a son of Joseph and Sarah (Brown) Smith, both of whom were natives of eastern Tennessee.



A. B. SMITH.



MRS. A. B. SMITH.

and resided there until 1828, when they came to Vermilion county, Illinois, casting in their lot with its first settlers. Only ten years before had the state been admitted to the Union and this portion of Illinois was largely wild and unimproved, awaiting the awakening touch of the white race to transform it into one of the richest agricultural, industrial and commercial sections of this great commonwealth. Joseph Smith took up his abode in Georgetown township, turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and improved a good farm, upon which he made his home until called to his final rest at the age of seventy-three years. His wife has also passed away. They were the parents of thirteen children, of whom five are now living: Eliza, the widow of William Gantz and a resident of Georgetown township; Abram B., of this review; Amanda, the wife of Andrew Runnells, of Georgetown township; Michael E., who is engaged in selling farm implements in Brockstown, Illinois; and Catherine, the wife of Adam Kyger, of Missouri. The others were all reared here and most of them died in Vermilion county.

Like the other members of the family Abram B. Smith pursued a common-school education, the schoolhouse being five miles from his home. He was only eleven years of age when with his parents he came to Vermilion county. In 1841 he settled on a farm in Georgetown township, where he lived until his removal to Danville, devoting his energies to the tilling of the soil. He married Eliza E. Lockett, a native of Virginia and a daughter of Richard Lockett, who was one of the early settlers of Georgetown township and of Danville. Throughout his entire life Mr. Lockett carried on agricultural pursuits and in early days he also conducted a grist mill in Dan-

ville township. His death occurred in Georgetown.

For many years Mr. and Mrs. Smith traveled life's journey together and were then separated by the death of the wife, which occurred December 6, 1868, while she was on a visit to a cousin in Chicago. Unto them were born nine children but Lockett R., Sarah J., Dora E. and Mary Alice are all deceased and buried in the McKindree cemetery. David A. is engaged in farming in Georgetown township. Matilda A. is the wife of Hiram W. Ross, a resident of Danville. Joseph H. is a farmer of Edgar county, Illinois. Filmon C. is engaged in the practice of law in Danville. Charles Newton was born in Georgetown township, January 25, 1860, and from the common schools of his native county he entered the State Normal School at Normal, Illinois, graduating from that institution in the class of 1882. Choosing the profession of medicine as a life work, he then matriculated at Rush Medical College of Chicago and was graduated with the class of 1885. For two years he successfully engaged in practice at Homer, Illinois, but on account of failing health he was compelled to give up the practice and is now living retired in Danville. He married Miss Mary L. Walker, a daughter of George Walker, deceased, who was an early settler and prominent citizen of Tazewell county, Illinois.

After his marriage Abram B. Smith engaged in farming in Georgetown township until his removal to Danville. He took up his abode here on the 4th of August, 1890, and has since lived retired, occupying a pleasant home at No. 509 Buchanan street. He also owns a house on Jackson street, another on Park street, and has two houses and lots in Homer, Illinois. He is likewise the owner of three hundred and forty acres

of land in Georgetown township and the rental of his property brings him a good income. His success in life was due entirely to his own labor and diligence, together with the assistance of his estimable wife. By their frugality they became the owners of six hundred and sixty acres of choice land in Vermilion county, a part of which has since been divided among his children, though Mr. Smith still retains the old homestead of three hundred and forty acres.

While residing upon his farm he served as school director but has never been an office seeker, his farming and stock-raising interests leaving him no time for political work. In early life he was a Whig, although his father was a Democrat. He cast his first presidential vote for William Henry Harrison and after the dissolution of the Whig party became independent. He holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Georgetown township and is one of the leading retired citizens of Danville.

For seventy-four years Mr. Smith has resided in Vermilion county and its history is therefore familiar to him. He has been an eye witness of almost its entire growth and development; has seen its wild lands claimed for farming purposes and developed into very rich and productive tracts; has seen the county crossed by a network of railroads so that it is supplied with splendid transportation facilities; has seen hamlets grow into thriving towns and villages, while Danville has developed from a little country crossroads into a city of metropolitan proportions. Throughout all these years Mr. Smith has followed the even tenor of his way as a farmer, yet has kept in touch with the general progress and improvement, has kept informed concerning the leading questions of the day, and at all times he has been loyal and true to the best

interests of his community, so that he well deserves representation in this volume as one of the representative men of Vermilion county.

D. BYRON HAGGARD.

Through the years of his identification with the business interests of Danville D. Byron Haggard enjoyed the highest respect of his fellow townsmen by reason of his strict integrity and sterling worth, and in his death the community realized that it had lost a valued citizen. He was born in Logansport, Indiana, on the 6th of December, 1839, a son of John and Cynthia Haggard, of that state. His father was a timer by trade and for some time conducted a hardware store in Logansport. Both he and his wife died in Kokomo, Indiana.

During his boyhood David Haggard had only the advantages of a common-school education but by reading and observation in subsequent years he became a well informed man. In 1858 he received the offer of a position in the dry-goods store of Mr. Moore, of Danville, who had formerly been a resident of Lafayette, Indiana, and with whom Mr. Haggard had previously been acquainted. Accepting the office he came to Danville that year and engaged in clerking for a few years or until Mr. Moore sold out. He then formed a partnership with a Mr. Miller, under the firm name of Miller & Haggard, and they embarked in the retail boot and shoe business, which they carried on quite successfully until their store was destroyed by fire in 1861. With characteristic energy they then rented a small room on Vermilion street and put in a stock of boots and shoes. Prospering in their business they subsequently removed to more commo-

dious quarters in order to meet the growing demands of their trade. The partnership between Mr. Miller and Mr. Haggard was of comparatively short duration and after it was dissolved our subject was alone in business throughout the remainder of his life. His brother Edward, who was a shoemaker by trade, worked for him in the store until the Civil war broke out, when he entered the Union army and died in Andersonville prison. They were the only members of the family to come to this county.

In April, 1859, Mr. Haggard was united in marriage to Miss Charlotte Creamer, who was born in Champaign county, Ohio, February 21, 1840. Her parents, Moses and Margaret (Reed) Creamer, were natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively, and the father spent his entire life in the Buckeye state, where he died when Mrs. Haggard was quite young. Her mother subsequently married John Moffitt, now deceased, and his death occurred in December, 1901. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Haggard were born five children: Mimmie, a graduate of the Danville high school, is now a teacher in the public schools of the city and resides at home with her mother. Carrie is the wife of John Elwood, a civil engineer living in Chicago. Ella is the wife of Charles Harmstead, who is a dealer in harness, buggies, etc., in Urbana, Ohio. Grace is the wife of George Rearick, a prominent attorney of Danville. Royal, the only son, died at the age of two years.

Mr. Haggard continued in active business until a few months prior to his death, which occurred on the 7th of December, 1872, and he was one of the leading shoe merchants of the city. He was what the world terms a self-made man, for all that he had was obtained through his own well directed efforts. He began business in Dan-

ville on capital borrowed from his father and his partner, Mr. Miller, but he was soon able to pay off this. By untiring industry, strict attention to his business affairs and sound judgment he met with well merited success in his undertakings and won an enviable position in business circles. By his ballot he usually supported the men and measures of the Republican party, but he never cared for official honors. Socially he was a worthy member of the Masonic order in Danville. His widow still makes her home in Danville, occupying a pleasant residence at No. 312 North Hazel street, where she and her husband lived for a number of years, and she also owns other valuable property in the same locality. She is an earnest member of the First Methodist Episcopal church of the city, and is a most estimable lady of many sterling qualities, who has a large circle of friends in Danville.

JOHN W. KEESLAR.

John W. Keeslar, who is filling the position of states attorney in Danville, having been elected to the office in 1900, for a term of four years, is one of Vermilion county's native sons, his birth having occurred on the 24th of August, 1864. His parents were Charles W. and Sarah (Snyder) Keeslar, natives of New York and Ohio respectively. The maternal grandfather, also a native of the Buckeye state, emigrated westward with his family in 1849 and established his home in Pilot township, Vermilion county. The father of our subject settled in the same township in 1858 and is living a retired life there, after many years' connection with agricultural pursuits. He has also been prominent in public affairs

and from 1878 until 1885 he filled the office of chairman of the board of supervisors.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for John W. Keeslar in his youth. He became a student in the public schools and later continued his studies in the University of Illinois, as a pupil in the law department of the Illinois Wesleyan University of Bloomington and on the completion of his course he was graduated in the class of 1888 and was admitted to practice in Danville in 1889. He continued in practice until 1890 and formed a partnership in that year. In 1900 he was elected states attorney. In this office he was elected in 1900 as States Attorney. In this office he is displaying conscientious regard for duty and for the welfare of the community. During his term in office he has sent more people to the penitentiary than from any other county outside of Cook. In the prosecution of cases which come to him he is diligent and persevering, entering the courtroom well prepared by reason of previous study and investigation of the authorities and precedents bearing on the points in controversy. While a young man the public and the profession have confidence in his ability, because of his native talents, his strong individuality and an earnest desire to succeed, which is manifested in his work in the courtroom.

In 1891 Mr. Keeslar was united in marriage to Miss Ellie Sandusky, a daughter of J. C. and Mary J. Sandusky, of Vance township, Vermilion county. Their home is now brightened by the presence of an interesting daughter, Nellie. Mr. Keeslar belongs to the Masonic lodge, to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, to the Court of Honor and to the Modern Woodman Camp of Danville, but while he enjoys social life and its pleasures and has the high regard of many friends he

lets no outside influence or attractions swerve him from the faithful performance of his duty. His preparation of cases is thorough and he seems almost intuitively to grasp the strong points of law, in fact no detail seems to escape him and his cases are fought with such skill, ability and power that he rarely fails to gain the verdict desired.

JOSIAH SANDUSKY.

Progress and improvement depend upon labor and energy, and the upbuilding of Vermilion county was due to the aggregate endeavor of men of strong determination, unflinching diligence and honorable purpose. Among this class was numbered Josiah Sandusky, who for many years was actively and prominently engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was a man whose business record was unassailable because he did not take advantage of the necessities of his fellow men, but in the legitimate channels of trade gained the competence which ultimately crowned his efforts.

Mr. Sandusky was born in Carroll township, this county, on the 11th of September, 1837, a son of Abraham and Jane Sadowsky. The Sadowsky family was founded in America by James Sadowsky, a Polish exile of noble birth, proud spirit and lofty patriotism. When his love of liberty could no longer tolerate the despotic rule of Russia, he became the leader in a rebellion against the czar, and when defeated, but not subdued, he came to America—"the land of the free and the home of the brave." Later he married the sister of Governor Inslip, of the colony of Virginia, and among their descendants was Harvey Sadowsky, a brother of the subject of this review. In



the course of years representatives of the family changed the spelling of the name, including the brothers of our subject. Two of these brothers, William and Abraham Sandusky, are now prominent farmers and stockmen of Carroll township, Vermilion county. Harvey Sodowsky, however, retained the ancestral spelling of the family name.

The spirit which led James Sodowsky, the emigrant, first to fight for liberty and then come to America has been manifest in his descendants throughout succeeding generations. It was shown by the Sodowskys who fought for the liberty of the colonists of the new world, and how their hearts must have rejoiced at the glorious outcome of the struggle; it was again shown by gallant soldiers of the name in the war of 1812; and in the subjugation of the western wilderness they bore a part. Daniel Boone opened the gates of Kentucky and soon he was followed into "the dark and bloody" region by the grandfather of our subject, who settled there just after the close of the Revolutionary war. Abraham Sandusky, the father, was born in that state and married Jane McDowell, by whom he had eight children, of whom Josiah Sandusky was the youngest. As will be seen some of the members of the family have anglicized the spelling of the old Polish name, while others have retained the original orthography.

Josiah Sandusky obtained his education in the district schools in early youth and through reading, observation and experience in later years. He became an extremely well informed man for he not only read broadly but mastered what he read and possessed a retentive memory. As the years passed he gathered a large and well selected library with the contents of which he be-

came very familiar and many of his most pleasant hours were spent in the companionship of his books. Throughout his business career he carried on general farming and stock-raising. He remained at home until his father's death, which occurred when the son was about twenty-five years of age. After this he entered into partnership with his brother Abraham, which connection was continued for many years. From his father he inherited some land but to this he added from time to time until at his death he was the possessor of about one thousand acres of valuable land in eastern Illinois. He became one of the best known cattle men of the state and at the time of his demise possessed one of the largest herd of duchess cattle in the world. Stock dealers would come from all parts of the United States and Canada and buy of him, and he was also one of the leading breeders of fast horses, both running and trotting stock. At the sale which was held subsequent to his death his horses brought about five thousand dollars, while the sale of cattle returned to the family ten thousand and seven hundred dollars. Mr. Sandusky did much to improve the grade of stock raised in this portion of the state and thereby materially advanced prices, thus his labors proving of benefit to the entire locality. In the management of his affairs he was careful, systematic and methodical and above all he was strictly honest in every trade transaction. He became one of the owners of the Indianola Fair Association and he did everything in his power to promote the interests of agriculturists.

Mr. Sandusky was united in marriage on the 18th of December, 1873, to Miss Margaret Moreland, a native of Bourbon county, Kentucky, and a daughter of

Thomas and Catherine T. (Hedges) Moreland, who were also natives of Kentucky. On the paternal side Mrs. Sandusky is of Scotch-Irish descent. Her great-grandfather, William Moreland, came to Pennsylvania before the Revolutionary war and it was his son William who removed to Kentucky and in that state married Margaret Whaley. There he lived at the town of Morelandville, in Fayette county, about twelve miles from Lexington on the Paris and Lexington pike. The village was named in his honor and the Masonic lodge at that place also bears his name. William Moreland and his wife were the parents of three sons and a daughter, of whom Thomas Moreland, the father of Mrs. Sandusky, was the third in order of birth. Thomas Moreland engaged in breeding and dealing in fine horses in Kentucky and when his health gave way he came to Illinois, hoping here to regain his strength. He settled in Carroll township, Vermilion county, in 1857, but died in 1864. In Bourbon county he had married Miss Catherine T. Hedges, a daughter of Peter Hedges, a native of Virginia. The Hedges family was connected with the nobility of England, being descended from Sir Charles Hedges, who was prominent at the court of Queen Elizabeth. The first of the name to come to America was Joseph Hedges, who was disinherited by his father for marrying outside of the nobility, but he was true to the woman whom he loved and wedded, a merchant's daughter. He then brought his bride to the new world, settling with the Virginia colony at Jamestown. Thomas Moreland and his wife became the parents of nine children, of whom six are now living: Susan M., the widow of Josiah Sandusky; Fannie Z., who makes her home

with her elder sister; William H., a resident of Paris, Illinois; Peter H., of Indianola; John T., of Marshall, Missouri; and Kate, the wife of Charles Cooper, of Greencastle, Indiana. Mr. Moreland died in January, 1864, and his widow, long surviving him, passed away in August, 1897, at the age of sixty-nine years.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Sandusky was blessed with five children, but the first born, a daughter, died in infancy, and the third, a son also died in infancy. Pearl, the second child, is the wife of Forrest Pyne, of Los Angeles, California, whom she married on the 20th of October, 1902. Abe H. and Will J. are at home with their mother and the latter is attending school in Indianola.

Josiah Sandusky was a home man and was happiest when he had his family around him. In politics he was a Republican, but never consented to hold office, preferring to devote his energies to his business affairs and to the enjoyment of the pleasures of the home circle. He passed away February 13, 1901, and was laid to rest in the Sandusky cemetery in Carroll township. The life record of Mr. Sandusky covered more than sixty-two years and his history is that of an upright, honorable man who always lived at peace with his neighbors and was trustworthy in all life's relations and who enjoyed the unqualified confidence and regard of those with whom he was associated. The companionship between himself and his wife was largely ideal, their mutual love and confidence increasing as the years passed by. He found in her a faithful and devoted companion and helpmate and was to her a loving and considerate husband. He also gave to them a name untarnished by any unworthy act.

GEORGE F. COBURN.

George F. Coburn, who is a practitioner at the Vermilion county bar and makes his home in Danville, was born in Brown county, Ohio, December 29, 1841, his parents being Francis D. and Nancy (Daulton) Coburn. The father was a native of New Hampshire, and a son of Jerah Meel Coburn. In colonial days the family name was spelled with an "l," but in recent years that letter has been dropped from the surname. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a Revolutionary soldier who fought for the independence of the nation, when the yoke of British oppression became intolerable. He served in the battle of Bunker Hill and Concord and was present at the surrender of Burgoyne. He was a native of Massachusetts and after the establishment of the Republic he removed from that state to New Hampshire and later to Maine, settling near Paris about 1800. In 1811 he started overland for the new and wild district of the west and in 1812 he took up his abode near Maysville, Kentucky, where he spent his remaining days, passing away about 1820, when seventy-five years of age, his remains being interred in the Maysville cemetery. He married Miss Davis, who was born on the island of Nantucket and died about 1823, when seventy-five years of age.

In his early youth Francis D. Coburn accompanied his parents on their removal to the south. In the spring of 1844 he became a resident of Vermilion county, locating in the southern portion of Danville township, where he lived until called to his final rest. His second wife died May 4, 1847, at the age of thirty-two years, having been born August 5, 1814. She passed away when the subject of this review was only six years of age, leaving four children: Lucy, deceased

wife of Henry T. Kyger; Henry; George Francis; and John, now deceased. After the death of his first wife Francis D. Coburn was united in marriage to Cynthia (Bock) Morgan, a daughter of Achilles Morgan, one of the pioneer settlers of Vermilion county, Illinois, who died at the house of Mr. Coburn, the father of our subject, on the 20th of January, 1860, when he had attained the age of eighty-seven years, six months and eleven days. The third marriage of Francis D. Coburn occurred in January, 1848, at which time both he and his wife were fifty years of age. He followed farming throughout his business career and was an enterprising and progressive agriculturist. He kept everything about his place in a neat and thrifty condition and was also a prominent Mason, a well read man and a gentleman of excellent judgment, whose sterling worth commended him to the confidence and regard of all with whom he came in contact. His third wife died August 28, 1882, at the age of eighty-four years, nine months and eleven days. She was an excellent Christian woman and a devoted mother to her step-children. During the last five years of her life she was blind but she bore her affliction with Christian fortitude and patience. The sick of the neighborhood found her very helpful and her sympathy was broad and her charity generous. While she was unfaltering in her condemnation of wrong she was always quick and willing to aid one who had stepped from the path of rectitude to return to a course that would command respect and confidence. With her husband, George Bock, she came from West Virginia, locating in Vermilion county in 1830. From that time until her death she remained an esteemed resident of this portion of the state.

It was in the year 1843 that George F. Coburn was brought by his parents to Ver-

milium county Illinois. Upon the home farm he was reared and at an early day he became accustomed to the tasks of field and meadow. In the winter months he attended the common schools, but during the summer seasons he worked upon the home farm from the age of ten years. When a young man of nineteen years he began teaching in the country schools and was quite successful in that work. While thus engaged he devoted his leisure hours to the reading of law, mastering Blackstone in that way. Through five seasons, beginning in 1861, he continued his work as an educator in the schoolroom and during one summer he also taught. In 1866, when twenty-four years of age he became a law student in the office of Judge O. L. Davis, who directed his studies until, having acquired a good knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence and the methods of legal procedure, he was admitted to the Vermilion county bar, in March, 1867. The following summer he opened a law office and continued an active practitioner at the Vermilion county bar until the spring of 1880, with the exception of the year 1871, when, owing to his father's illness, he was obliged to return to the farm, remaining there for about a year. In 1872, however, he again opened his office in Danville. He was elected justice of the peace here and served for three terms in a capable manner, with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He retired from that position in 1901 and then resumed the private practice of law, which he has successfully continued. During his services as justice there came before him seventy-seven hundred and thirty-one civil cases and thirteen hundred and twenty-nine criminal cases, making a total of nine thousand and sixty. His decisions were strictly fair and impartial and few of his rulings were ever reversed. He also

married five hundred and thirty-two couples during that time.

Mr. Coburn had two children, but Westmer F. died June 15, 1877, at the age of three years. His married daughter, Mrs. Lena C. Dibble, is living in North Stamford, Connecticut. Mr. Coburn continued to make his home in Danville township until about twelve years ago, since which time he has maintained his residence in the city. He has one of the finest libraries in eastern Illinois and is not only well versed in his profession, but has knowledge of Latin, Greek and many scientific subjects. He is also largely acquainted with history and biography and thus his reading has covered a wide range, making him a man of scholarly attainments and broad general information. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and is an active worker in the Sunday-school, having served for thirty-four years as superintendent and teacher in that branch of church work. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen organization and was president of the local camp some time. A man of genial temperament, of high moral character, of splendid intellectual attainments and marked ability in the line of his chosen profession, George F. Coburn commands admiration at the bar and respect among his fellow men among whom he has so long lived.

AUSTIN S. PRICE.

For thirty years Austin S. Price has been engaged in the real estate business in Danville and is now the land and emigration agent for the Frisco System at this place. At eleven a. m., on the 15th of December, 1853, in company with his father and two brothers, he drove into the public



A. S. PRICE.

square of Danville, which was then a village of five or six hundred inhabitants. Since that time he has been interested in the welfare of the city and has contributed in no small degree to its improvements and progress, but his efforts have also had a wider scope and range and his labors have been an important element in the development of various sections of the country, which through his labors have largely been opened up to the work of cultivation and improvement.

Mr. Price is a native of Johnson county, Indiana, born on the 26th of June, 1840, his parents being William and Letitia (Huston) Price, both of whom are now deceased, the father having died at the age of seventy-eight years, while the mother's death occurred at the age of sixty-seven years and the former was laid to rest in the cemetery at Danville and the latter in Higginsville. The father was a farmer by occupation and through the tilling of the soil provided for his family, of whom our subject is now the only surviving member. Two brothers were killed in the Civil war. Ezra died as the result of the ninth wound which he had sustained, while John's death was also occasioned by wounds sustained in battle.

Under the parental roof A. S. Price, of this review, was reared and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. For about ten years after his arrival in Danville he was connected with agricultural interests in Vermilion county. For a time he engaged in the operation of rented land and later he owned and cultivated a tract of eighty acres. Leaving this county Mr. Price removed to Indianapolis, where for three years he was connected with a brewery. In 1867, however, he returned to Danville and for four or five years there-

after was engaged in farming. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in the city and entered the real estate business which he has since carried on continuously for about thirty years, save when he traveled upon the road for six months, selling flour for Mr. Gregg. For a number of years Mr. Price conducted a heavy emigration business. At one time he ran a train of ten cars of freight and also carried thirty-three passengers to Greenbrier, Alabama. He has run emigration trains to Mississippi, Tennessee, Missouri and Oklahoma, selling lands in these states and territories and also in Virginia, Kentucky and Iowa. In 1900 he took up the exclusive work from Danville for the Frisco System, handling lands in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Indian Territory and Texas. The railroad system which he represents owns and operates eight thousand miles of its own tracks and is known as the Frisco System. Mr. Price says that its tracks through the southwest and southeast are nearly as numerous as were the cattle paths which used to lead through the hazel brush of Vermilion county forty-seven years ago. Mr. Price has controlled land which he has had both for sale and exchange all along the line of this railroad, his real estate being as cheap for the purchaser as were the lands in Vermilion county in the early days. The business which he has done has reached an extensive figure and he is a trusted representative of the Frisco Railroad Company which he represents.

On the 24th of June, 1861, Mr. Price was united in marriage at Higginsville, Illinois, to Sarah E. Hull, who was born in Indiana, February 5, 1843. Fourteen children have been born of this union, of whom only eight are living. James W., who wedded Mollie Weingart, is a real estate agent and

draughtsman living in Covington, Indiana. Henry S., who is married and was formerly foreman in the fertilizer works at Wilmington, Delaware, but is now in Arkansas. Austin E., who married Lillie Thomas, is a sign writer and printer of Champaign, Illinois. John R. is a school teacher in Indian Territory. Edgar E. is at home. Evelyn is the wife of L. S. Davis, a clerk of Danville, by whom she has four children—Lewis, Raymond, Russell and Ruth. Alpha is the wife of Theodore M. Foot, of Danville, by whom she has one daughter, Madge. Emma E., the youngest, is at home. All of the children have been educated in the schools of Danville.

Mr. Price has a pleasant home at No. 1130 Gilbert street and also has some property on Main street. He is a Seventh Day Adventist and in his political views is a Prohibitionist. He has a wide acquaintance and is widely known for his progress and business ability and for the active interest which he has taken in public affairs and in the general progress. In manner he is free from all ostentation and display, but his intrinsic worth is recognized and his friendship is most prized by those who know him best, showing that his character will bear the scrutiny of close acquaintance. He is a generous-spirited, broad-minded man, a true type of the American spirit and an embodiment of that progress which in the last few years has drawn to this country the admiring gaze of the nations of the world.



WILLIAM HART.

William Hart, now deceased, was born in Montgomery, Ohio, February 20, 1832, his parents being John and Nancy (Ireland) Hart, who were natives of the Buckeye state

and were of Scotch-Irish extraction. In the year 1845 William Hart accompanied his parents on their removal to Vermillion county and lived with them until he attained his twenty-third year. He was reared upon a farm in Ohio and this county and remained upon the old home place in Illinois until the inauguration of the Civil war. In the meantime he had become acquainted with Miss Sarah E. Dougherty and on the 6th of December, 1853, they were married in Oakwood township. She was born August 15, 1833, in Vermillion county and was reared upon the Jordan place. Her parents were Maybury and Nancy (Hickman) Dougherty, pioneer settlers of Vermillion county who entered land from the government and here developed a farm. Her mother rode horseback from Brown county, Ohio, carrying a babe in her arms, this child being now Mrs. Littler, a resident of Oakwood township. Mr. Dougherty drove a four-horse team hitched to a prairie schooner and thus the family made the westward journey in the year 1831. Mrs. Hart now has in her possession an old bureau and cupboard that were made by hand and were owned by her mother. These she cherishes as mementoes of her parents and as relics of pioneer times. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty were born three daughters and a son: Mrs. Melinda A. Littler, of Oakwood township; Mrs. Sarah E. Hart; Mrs. Margaret Jeffers, of Vermillion county; and Jacob B., who died during the Civil war. He enlisted in the Union army and being taken ill passed away nine days after leaving the hospital at Keokuk, Iowa.

Mrs. Hart was married in her twenty-first year and with her husband she went to his father's farm, where he engaged in general agricultural pursuits, there living until after the president issued his call for loyal men

to aid in suppressing the rebellion of the south. He then enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry and he too was taken ill while in the service and died of bone erysipelas in the hospital at Nashville, Tennessee. He had enlisted in September, 1862, and had participated in the battle of Perrysville. He was appointed sergeant and held the rank of second lieutenant at the time of his death, which occurred on the 2d of April, 1863.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hart have been born five children: John, who is living on the old family homestead; Samuel, who is represented on another page of this work; Mrs. Mary E. Watkins, of Oakwood township; William, who is an invalid living with his mother; and one that died in infancy. Mrs. Hart has twenty-five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

At our subject's death Mrs. Hart was left with the care of her children, the eldest of whom was but nine years of age. She has since carried on agricultural pursuits with the assistance of her sons, and she purchased forty-eight acres of land to which she has added another tract of forty acres, so that she now has a good farm that yields rich crops, bringing to her an excellent financial return. In the early days she was noted for her spinning and weaving and her life has always been one of earnest industry and toil. She can remember well when corn was hauled to Chicago and sold for fifteen cents per bushel, while corn in the shock was sold for six cents per bushel. The country was full of deer and all kinds of game and during her childhood days Indians were very numerous in this portion of the state. She can remember attending church with her father's family seated upon a sled drawn by oxen, James Ashmore being the first preacher. She also tells of the early settlers bor-

rowing fire from a neighbor if their own fire went out. She has cooked many a meal at the old fashioned fireplace long before cook-stoves came into general use and has made candles which were the only means of illumination in her girlhood days. She still makes a few of these in order to have them to carry around the house. In her girlhood days she frequently attended campmeeting and can remember when as a little maiden she would carry her shoes to Sunday-school, putting them on just before entering the meeting house and removing them after the school was adjourned. Such were the pioneer conditions which surrounded the family at an early day, and Mrs. Hart has witnessed the development of the county throughout the passing years, taking great interest in what has been accomplished and the improved methods of work and of living which have been introduced.

JOHN GOODWINE, JR.

John Goodwine, Jr., resides on section 1, Middlefork township, and is familiarly called "Jack" by his numerous friends in Vermilion county. He is one of the substantial farmers and stock dealers of this locality and owns and operates a farm of fifteen hundred acres of well improved land, pleasantly situated within about a mile of Potomac. He is a native son of Illinois, his birth having occurred in this county December 2, 1848, his parents being John W. and Jane (Charlton) Goodwine. A sketch of the father appears on another page of this work. The subject of this review was reared to manhood in his native county, spent his boyhood days on the old home farm and in the common schools he acquired his educa-

tion, also attending Warren Academy in Indiana. When about nineteen years of age he left home and started out on his own account. He was engaged in herding stock and in other work until 1870.

On the 22d of December, 1870, Mr. Goodwine was united in marriage to Mary K. Alexander, who was born in Middlefork township and is a daughter of John C. and Esther Alexander, who were among the first settlers of the county. The young couple began their domestic life upon a farm. Mr. Goodwine began to improve the place upon which he now resides. The happy married life of the young couple was of short duration, however, for on the 20th of October, 1872, Mrs. Goodwine passed away. After her death the husband went west to Colorado, where he remained until the following year, returning then to Vermilion county. On May 14, 1874, he was united in marriage to Edora A. Lane, a daughter of R. H. and Mary Lane, who came to Vermilion county from Ohio about 1804, the daughter being reared and educated in this county. Mr. Goodwine took his wife to his farm whereon he is yet living and at once began to cultivate and improve the place. He commenced here with about five hundred acres of land which was partially improved. His father has since given him more land and he has also purchased seven hundred acres, so that to-day his farm is a very extensive one, embracing fifteen hundred acres. He has erected a good and substantial residence, commodious barn and out-buildings, has planted an orchard, has tiled and fenced his place, having over thirty-five miles of tiling on the farm. In connection with the cultivation of grain he is engaged in raising and feeding stock, fattening on an average of from one to two hundred head of cattle annually and also a large number of

hogs. He is now making a specialty of short-horn and double standard polled Durham cattle and has a nice herd of some seventy five head. He also has a new breed of hogs called "American thin rind swine." They are very prolific and good feeders and his stock has always found a ready sale on the market. Mr. Goodwine is one of the first breeders of this stock of hogs in the country and also one of the most extensive. Some of his hogs were placed on exhibition at the Chicago Interstate Swine Show, in December, 1901, where he took a good many premiums.

The home of Mr. Goodwine was blessed with one daughter, born of his first marriage, Anna, now the wife of L. D. Lane, a farmer of Vermilion county. Ten children graced the second marriage, but they lost three of the number. Those still living are as follows: John W., who is cashier of the Goodwine Bank at Armstrong, of which our subject is the owner; Wilbur H., who is married and resides on a farm in Middlefork township; Ulysses S., Cora, Everett, Vesta, and Wayne, all at home. The children deceased are, Nora, who died at the age of eight years, and Villa, at the age of two, while one died in infancy. The first two passed away in 1886, dying of diphtheria only four days apart. Politically Mr. Goodwine was formerly identified with the Republican party for a number of years. He has ever been a staunch temperance man and a believer in the principles of prohibition and for a number of years he has now been identified with the Prohibition party. He has never wanted or sought office, preferring to give his attention to his farming and extensive business interests. In the fall of 1902, however, he was the Prohibition nominee for the legislature. Mr. Goodwine has been a resident of Vermilion county almost con-

tinuously for nearly fifty-four years and has witnessed the wonderful growth and development of the county. He has seen the swamps and sloughs drained, the prairies broken and fenced, the roads constructed and the towns built up. Jamesburg is built on the farm where he was born, in Blount township. Mr. Goodwine has always been a loyal and progressive citizen and at the time of the Spanish-American war he began raising a company, of which he was to have been captain, but was disappointed in his patriotic desire on account of the sudden termination of the war. He is well known in Danville and throughout the county as a man of tried integrity and worth, who has met with splendid success in business affairs and everything that he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion. He has thus become one of the substantial business men of the township. In all trade transactions he has ever been found honorable and trustworthy and those who know him—and his friends are many—entertain for him high regard.

JAMES KNIGHT.

James Knight, deceased, was for many years numbered among the leading and honored citizens of Danville, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest. He was born on the 12th of May, 1832, at Rouse Point, Clinton county, New York, his birthplace being near Lake Champlain, and he was a son of Dr. James and Alice (Henderson) Knight, who were natives of Edinburg, Scotland, whence they emigrated to America after their marriage, locating at Rouse Point, New York. The father, who was a physician, engaged in the

practice of his profession there up to the time of his death. Our subject was the only son of the family to come to Vermilion county, but he has one brother, Alexander Knight, who came to this state and is now living in Centralia, Illinois. Another brother, Robert Knight, is a resident of Vancouver, British Columbia.

Our subject acquired his early education in the common schools of his native state and there grew to manhood. Coming west in 1857 he first located in Springfield, Illinois, and soon afterward became identified with the building of the Wabash Railroad, being overseer of construction for a time. In 1858 he took up his residence in Danville and had charge of a construction train here for a few years until the completion of the road in this section. In the capacity of conductor he ran the first train into Danville over the Wabash road, his run for some time being between this place and Quincy and later between Danville and Toledo. He remained in the train service until 1865, when he was made station agent for the same company at Danville, and held that position for several years. On leaving the railroad company Mr. Knight embarked in the boot and shoe business, which he carried on for some time and later turned his attention to real estate, buying and selling all kinds of city property in Danville, but his last days were spent in retirement from business at that place.

In 1860 Mr. Knight was married in Danville to Miss Mary Elizabeth Probst, who was born in this city, December 20, 1836, and is a daughter of James and Nancy (Barnes) Probst, natives of Pennsylvania and Kentucky, respectively. Her father came to Danville at a very early day when the Indians were still numerous in this locality. In his younger years he followed the tail-

or's trade, but later discontinued business in order to devote his entire time to his official duties. For some time he served as constable in Danville and subsequently filled the office of sheriff of Vermilion county for a number of years and also county treasurer. After leaving office he lived retired up to the time of his death. He was a very prominent and highly respected citizen of Danville, with whose interests he was closely identified for many years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Knight were also born three children, as follows: Charles F., who now holds a position with the Lartz Wall Paper Company, of Chicago, and resides in that city; Alice, wife of B. H. Babbit, business manager for the Albert Peats Wall Paper Company, of Chicago; and Grace, who is at home with her mother. The family have a beautiful home at 204 Franklin street and occupy an enviable position in the social circles of Danville.

In politics Mr. Knight was a staunch Republican, but he never cared for the honors or emoluments of public office. Socially he was connected with the Masonic order, being a charter member of the Commandery of Danville, and was also a Knight of Honor and was a prominent member of both lodges. In 1863 he went to California and was identified with railroad work. After a useful and well spent life he passed quietly away on the 22d of October, 1900, honored and respected by all who knew him. In business affairs he was prompt, energetic and notably reliable, and generally carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook. At his death he left considerable property which his widow still owns, including several business blocks on North street near the Aetna Hotel, the Byers block and also much valuable property on Walnut street and sixteen and a half acres near Lincoln Park. Those who knew Mr. Knight

intimately speak in unqualified terms of his sterling integrity, his honor in business and his fidelity to all the duties of public and private life. His death occasioned the deepest regret throughout the community and Danville thereby lost one of its most valued citizens. Mrs. Knight is a member of the Presbyterian church and is a charming lady whose gracious manner wins her many friends.

SAMUEL BLACK.

Samuel Black is a retired farmer living in Fithian. He was born in Warren county, Indiana, August 30, 1837. His grandfather, John Black, was a native of Pennsylvania and served his country as a loyal soldier in the war of 1812. At an early day he came to Kentucky and in the year 1834 he was killed by an elephant while attending the circus at Covington, Indiana. James Black, the father of our subject, was born in Kentucky and in early manhood went to Indiana, where he became acquainted with and wedded Eliza Ann Odell, a native of New York, who was descended from Holland ancestry. They located upon a farm in Warren county, Indiana, where James Black devoted his time and attention to agricultural pursuits until 1856. He then came to Vermilion county, settling in Oakwood township, three miles northwest of Fithian. Purchasing land he lived thereon until his death, which occurred in 1894. His wife had passed away in 1882. They were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Black was first a Whig in politics and afterward a Republican. In their family were ten children, of whom four are yet living: John, a resident of Butler county, Kansas; Samuel, of this



SAMUEL BLACK



MRS. SAMUEL BLACK.

review; Harriet, the wife of William Jenkins who resides on the old home place northwest of Fithian; and Rebecca, the wife of Oliver Thompson, whose home is four miles northwest of Fithian.

In early life Samuel Black suffered greatly from ill health. He is to-day, however, a man of robust manhood, weighing two hundred and forty pounds. In early life he engaged in farming and his purchases of land made him the owner of two hundred acres in Oakwood township. Throughout his business career he carried on its cultivation and improvement and when his labors had brought to him a comfortable competence he put aside farm work in 1892 and removed to Fithian, where he is now living retired in a splendid home which he purchased.

On the 25th of March, 1858, Mr. Black was united in marriage to Priscilla McCarty, the wedding taking place near Muncie, Illinois. The lady was born in that locality, August 14, 1840, a daughter of John and Miriam (Sewell) McCarty, both natives of Ohio. They were married in the Buckeye state and there lived upon a farm until their removal to Oakwood township, Vermilion county, Illinois, about 1840. There they lived until called to their final rest, the father passing away in 1880 and the mother in 1901. He was a Democrat and served his fellow townsmen in the offices of constable and justice of the peace.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Black were born nine children: William, who resides in the province of Alberta, British Columbia, where he follows farming, married Mattie Mansfield and they have five children. Mary Alice is the wife of John McKinney, who is serving as deputy sheriff of Champaign county and resides in Urbana, and they have five children. Minnie became the

wife of Myron Taylor and afterward married Jesse Blue, a resident of Nebraska, by whom she has two children, while two two children were born of her first marriage. George, who is in the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company and resides in Danville, married Clara Anderson and has three children. Frances married Alois Rueb and with their three children they reside in Chandler, Oklahoma. James died at the age of fifteen years. John married Grace Kirkpatrick and is living in Fithian, Illinois. Abbie Florence is the wife of W. W. Soward and resides in Fithian. They have two children. Charles is married and has one child. His home is now in Collins, Iowa. In February, 1891, Mr. Black was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife, who was laid to rest in Stearns cemetery. On the 27th of November, 1894, in Catlin, Illinois, he wedded Mrs. Jennie (Kistler) Harper, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1850, a daughter of M. F. Kistler, a native of the same state. By her first marriage she had one son, Charles Harper, who is now residing in Catlin. Mrs. Black was one of a family of eight children born of her father's first marriage and by his second marriage there were two children. Mr. Kistler was a Republican in politics and was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

When the country became involved in civil war, Mr. Black laid aside all personal considerations, and in August, 1861, enlisted in Company F, Twenty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. When his first term expired he re-enlisted in the same company and regiment and during his four years' service participated in fifty-four battles. These included the siege of Atlanta, the siege of Corinth and the battles of Corinth, Goldsboro, Holly Springs, Island No.

10, Jackson, Mississippi, Kenesaw Mountain, Mission Ridge, Resaca and Vicksburg. He was also with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea and was in the grand review at Washington, D. C. Although in so many engagements, Mr. Black was fortunately never wounded or injured in any way. It is estimated that he marched six thousand nine hundred and thirty-one miles during his service. The war having ended he was mustered out on the 22d of July, 1865, and finally discharged at Springfield, Illinois.

Mr. Black sometimes supports the Republican party and at other times votes the Prohibition ticket, being a strong temperance man. He served as road commissioner one term but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and is serving as one of its trustees. In the enjoyment of a well earned rest, he is now living retired in Fithian and is one of the respected citizens of that locality.



ZACHARIAH ROBERTSON.

Zachariah Robertson has reached the eightieth milestone in life's journey and today he is numbered among the highly respected citizens and pioneer settlers of Vermillion county, his home being on section 36, Newell township, where he owns one hundred and five and a half acres of land. He was born in Harrison county, Kentucky, October 1, 1822, a son of Zachariah and Elizabeth (Jones) Robertson, who were also natives of Harrison county. Zachariah Robertson, Sr., was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. When our subject was twelve years of age the family came to Ver-

million county, Illinois. The father was married a second time and had nineteen children altogether. Mr. Robertson of this review has one sister living, Mrs. Delilah Starr, the widow of Solomon Starr. She is the second survivor of a family of ten children. When the Robertsons came to Illinois they made the journey overland in an old time "prairie schooner," camping out by the wayside at nights. Our subject waded the Wabash river driving the stock through. When they arrived here deer was plentiful and there were many prairie chickens, cranes, ducks and wild turkeys. Hunting and fishing were sports in which the settlers might easily indulge and find good reward for their expenditure of time. Zachariah Robertson, Sr., lived to be ninety-four years of age, dying in Newell township on the land where Bismark now stands. There his wife also passed away. Mr. Robertson entered forty acres of land and upon this he built a log cabin. He was numbered among the pioneers who felled the forests and broke the prairie, thus paving the way for civilization and laying the foundation for the present progress and prosperity of the county.

Zachariah Robertson of this review pursued his education in one of the old time log schoolhouses in which an immense fireplace occupied an entire end of the room. The seats were formed of slabs, resting upon wooden pins and the desks which were used were similarly constructed. In the summer months Mr. Robertson assisted in the work of the home farm. At the age of nineteen years he left school altogether and began working in the neighborhood as a farm hand, being thus employed for several years. He then rented land for a time and afterward entered fifty-two and one-half acres of wild prairie for which he had to pay one dollar and a half per acre. With char-

acteristic energy he began to break and improve this and to the property he has added from time to time until he now has one hundred and five and a half acres. He manufactured his first plow which had a wooden mold board and the next was a single shovel plow. He first cut his grain with a sickle and afterward with a cradle. He knew the use of a crane from practical experience and would light the fire with flint. It was the custom to always keep a fire burning and if it would go out one would often visit a neighbor and borrow a little fire. The old dipped candles were used for illuminating purposes before kerosene was used. When the young girls would go to church they would carry their shoes until they neared the house of worship, when they would sit down upon a log and put them on before entering the meeting. Such were pioneer customs and conditions but while the early settlers had to endure many hardships and privations they also experienced many pleasures which are not known at the present time. Through the greater part of his active life Mr. Robertson carried on general farming but is now largely living retired, leaving the care of his place to his sons. In early days he made several trips to Chicago, taking produce with him and it required twelve days to go and come. He would sleep out upon the ground at night by the side of his wagon. There were many sloughs and ponds, creeks and rivers to be forded. He saw Chicago when it was but a village and Danville a mere hamlet. Church was first held in the home of Peter Starr and afterward in a log schoolhouse. In his father's family there were eleven daughters, who aided materially in furnishing the family with clothing. Mr. Robertson would take the sheep to the creek and wash them and after this they were sheared and the

wool carded, then the daughters would take their place at the spinning wheel and thus the family clothing was supplied. Mr. Robertson has ever taken a deep interest in general progress and improvement, in the building of good roads, in the establishment of churches and schools and in the development of farms. He has served as township commissioner of highways and as school director and has ever been active and helpful for the general good.

On the 25th of August, 1842, Mr. Robertson wedded Abigail Starr, a daughter of Peter Starr. She was born in Preble county, Ohio, July 8, 1824, and by her marriage she became the mother of the following children: Priscilla J., the wife of Jacob Deek; Mrs. Rachel Mesmore; Celina, who was scalded to death when about seven years of age; Jacob, who married Melissa Brittingham; Peter, who wedded Belle Byers; Catherine, the wife of William Cox; Maggie, the wife of John Smith; Isaac, who married Irene Cox; William, who wedded Clara Ringel; James, who married Rebecca Phillips, and died in 1901; Anna, the deceased wife of William Chumley; and Delilah and Solomon, twins, who died in infancy. The mother departed this life December 25, 1877, when about fifty-two years of age. She was a devoted mother, a model wife and earnest Christian woman and thus she left to her family an untarnished name. Mr. Robertson is well preserved for a man of his years. His eyesight and physical faculties are scarcely impaired and he possesses the vigor of a man of much younger age. He has always voted the Democratic ticket and has long been one of the standard bearers of the party in this locality. At the age of sixteen years he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and has since been identified therewith, serving as a class

leader and as superintendent of the Sunday school for a number of years. He has long been numbered among the substantial, honored and respected citizens of Newell township and in this volume well deserves mention.

HENRY B. KESTER.

More than a half century ago Henry B. Kester became identified with building interests in Danville and to-day there stands in the city a building which he erected in 1851. Other structures of his building may also be seen as the visible evidence of his life of thrift and industry. At the present time he is living retired, making his home at No. 718 Wayne street. He came to this county on the 2d of May, 1850.

A native of West Virginia, he was born in Clarksburg, that state, May 28, 1828, his parents, George and Abigail (Bennett) Kester, being also natives of Clarksburg. The father there resided until 1831, when he removed to Morrow county, Ohio, settling on a farm which was his home until his death. His widow afterward came to Vermilion county and spent her last days here. Of their eleven children, but four are living, the eldest being Henry B. The others are: Mary, the wife of Thomas Mathews, a resident of Hoopston, Vermilion county; Russell B., a resident of Vermilion county; and Sarah J., the wife of James Whitbeck, of Lawrence, Kansas. Those who have passed away are: Alexander, Josiah, Simon, Milton, Hester A., William and Harriett.

When about three years of age Henry B. Kester was taken by his parents to Morrow county, Ohio, where he pursued his education in the common schools. He then

learned the carpenter's trade in Mt. Gilead, following it at that place for about four years. On the expiration of that period he came direct to Danville, arriving on the 2d of May, 1850. He soon secured employment as a carpenter and as a contractor was early recognized as one of the leading representatives of his line of business in this city. He erected some of the first buildings here and his patronage steadily increased as the years passed by until he employed a large force of workmen to assist him in executing his contracts.

On the 5th of May, 1853, Mr. Kester was united in marriage to Catherine Umphenour, who was born near her husband's boyhood home in West Virginia. Her father, George Umphenour, was an early settler of Danville and followed farming in this locality until his death. Seven children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Kester: Charles Edward, who died in infancy; George Franklin, deceased; Albert Eugene, who married Martha Lynch and is a carpenter of Danville; Henry Lewis, who died in childhood; Francis E., who married Flora E. Ailsworth and is a train dispatcher on the Wabash Railroad at Decatur, Illinois; and George W. and Minnie, who died in childhood.

After his marriage Mr. Kester continued contracting and building until the 6th of February, 1865, when he joined Company E, One Hundred and Forty-ninth Illinois Regiment, under the command of Captain Laferty and Colonel W. C. Keifer. This company did garrison duty until after the close of the war and at Dalton, Georgia, on the 27th of January, 1866, Mr. Kester was honorably discharged. He then returned to Danville, resumed his former business interests here and until his retirement continuously followed his trade with



H. B. KESTER.



MRS. H. B. KESTER.

the exception of the years 1881 and 1882, which he spent in Florida as a pattern-maker for the Florida Southern Railroad Company. In 1883 he again took up his residence in Danville and in connection with his building interests he also worked in a planing mill here until 1899, when he retired from business to enjoy a comfortable competence which had been secured through indomitable energy, perseverance and close application to the work in which, as a young tradesman, he embarked. In that year he built his present home which he has since occupied. He has held a few minor offices such as school director, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He votes with the Democracy on questions of national importance but at local elections votes independently of party ties. A prominent and influential member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Danville, he served as one of its class-leaders for several years. His life history illustrates most happily for the purpose of this work, that success is not a matter of genius but the outcome of judgment and experience and that an upright character commands respect and regard in this country which is not hampered by caste or class.

W. H. CURRENT.

W. H. Current, who is engaged in grain dealing in Indianola, was born in East Danville, on the 4th of September, 1860, a son of J. M. Current. He pursued his education in Danville and in the country schools, putting aside his text books when eighteen years of age. He afterward devoted his entire attention to work upon his father's farm until he was twenty-three years of age, when he was married and started out in life for

himself. On the 29th of November, 1883, he wedded Miss Lavina Gibson, who was born in Vermilion county, September 13, 1863, their wedding being celebrated at her home southwest of Fairmount. Her father was Thomas Gibson, a native of Marion county, Illinois. The home of our subject and his wife has been blessed with four children: Bertha M., born February 15, 1887; Fred F., born July 29, 1889; Clara L., born August 15, 1893; and Seymour M., born August 24, 1896.

After his marriage Mr. Current located on a farm near the old home place and there resided continuously until 1892, when he removed to Fairmount where he worked for his father, who was engaged in the grain trade. In 1899, however, his father sold out to the firm of Hill & Crow, and removed to Homer, Champaign county, Illinois, where he is now engaged in the grain trade. In 1898 Mr. Current of this review came to Indianola, arriving on the 12th of December. Here he purchased the Downey elevator and has since carried on the grain trade on his own account, handling a large quantity of corn and other cereals each year. He owns eighty acres of land four miles southwest of Fairmount, and his property possessions also include city real estate. He is likewise agent for a number of insurance companies and his varied business interests are successfully conducted, so that he is now regarded as one of the prosperous residents of his community. Politically he is an earnest Republican and is a member of Vermilion Lodge, No. 265, A. F. A. M., of Indianola, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of Danville, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Fraternal Army. He is also connected with the Royal Americans and in two of these lodges, the Masonic and Fraternal Army, he has filled the office

of secretary. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church of Indianola and is serving as one of its trustees and stewards. His life has been quietly passed in the faithful performance of the duties of public and private life in the direction of his business and in the promotion of measures or movements calculated to advance the general welfare.

A. H. CLUTTER.

A. H. Clutter, who is now living a retired life in Sidell, was for many years actively and prominently associated with farming interests in Vermilion county. He is also numbered among the early settlers of Illinois, dating his residence in the state from 1855, so that through almost a half century he has been a witness of the development and progress which has placed this great commonwealth in the front rank of the galaxy of states which forms the Union. Mr. Clutter is a native of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in Greene county, January 1, 1840. His father, Abraham Clutter, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1785, and the grandfather of our subject, John Clutter, was a native of New Jersey and served his country as a soldier in the war of the Revolution. The family is of German lineage and was founded in New Jersey at a very early epoch in American history. From his native state John Clutter removed to Pennsylvania where he lived to the ripe old age of ninety years. Abraham Clutter was there reared to manhood, and after reaching years of maturity he wedded Lydia Winget, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Stephen Winget, who removed from Ohio to Pennsylvania. A farmer by occupation, Abraham Clutter

followed that pursuit in order to provide for his family whom he reared upon a farm in Greene county, Pennsylvania. He died in March, 1845, in th prime of life. His wife, surviving him for a long period, carefully reared her family to whom she was a most devoted mother. A. H. Clutter of this review is one of a family of seven sons and seven daughters, all of whom grew to mature years and reached advanced ages, although the subject of this review and one sister are now the only survivors, she being Mrs. Mary Elliott, a widow who is residing in Ohio, West Virginia.

In the county of his nativity A. H. Clutter was reared upon his father's farm. He received but limited school privileges, but his training in the work of field and meadow was not limited. When a young man he came to the west, arriving in Illinois in 1855. He joined his three brothers who had previously located in Vermilion county and here he began work as a farm hand for one of his brothers by whom he was employed for three years, at feeding and caring for the stock. In August, 1864, Mr. Clutter and there took charge of the home farm which he continued to operate for eighteen years, purchasing the interest of the other heirs in the old homestead which he successfully conducted. He was married in Greene county in October, 1863, to Miss Mary Miller, who was born, reared and educated there and engaged in teaching prior to her marriage. Her father, Joseph Miller, was one of the early settlers of Greene county.

In 1881 Mr. Clutter returned to Vermilion county, Illinois, and located on the Asa Daniels farm near Armstrong, superintending that place. Subsequently he became superintendent of the Hiram Sibley farms in Vermilion county, acting in that capacity

for six years. He then rented land and engaged in farming on his own account until 1895, when he purchased a lot in Sidell and erected thereon a nice residence. He afterward sold that property and he has purchased and improved other property. At the present time he is living retired, enjoying a well merited rest, for his life has been one of industry and earnest toil.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Clutter was blessed with ten children, of whom two sons and three daughters are yet living: Joseph Reed, who resides in North Dakota upon a farm, and is married, and has two daughters and a son; Nevada, the wife of Robert Phillips, a druggist of Springfield, Illinois; Fannie, the wife of M. E. Pancoast, a contractor and builder of Danville, by whom she has two sons and a daughter; John, a resident farmer of Sidell township, who is married and has two sons; and Nettie, who is occupying a business position in Omaha, Nebraska; Thomas Miller, who was educated in this county and was one of its successful teachers. He died January 27, 1903, at the age of twenty-three, lacking three weeks. Of the children who have passed away, the first born died at the age of four years. William died at the age of eighteen years. Jennie grew to mature years and passed away at the age of twenty-four. Ida became the wife of James Morrison and died at the age of twenty-eight years.

Politically Mr. Clutter has been a life-long Democrat, having cast his first presidential vote for General George B. McClellan in 1864, and for each nominee of the party since that time. In local elections however, he has always been independent, supporting the men whom he thinks best qualified for office regardless of party affiliations. He was elected and served for one term as a member of the town board, filling

the position for three years, and he is now serving as police magistrate of Sidell. He also served for a number of years on the school board and did effective service in promoting the cause of education. Forty-seven years ago he came to Illinois, casting in his lot among the early settlers of Vermilion county at a time when the work of progress and improvement had scarcely been begun here. There were large herds of deer and venison was no rare dish upon the board of the early settlers. There were also wild geese and other wild game, and wolves were frequently killed, but all these have disappeared and the swamps and sloughs have been drained, the prairies broken and fenced and the work of cultivation carried on until now this is one of the garden spots of the great state of Illinois, famed throughout the nation as an agricultural district. He has also witnessed the introduction of the railroad, the telegraph and telephone, and along many lines of improvement and progress he has assisted materially, taking a deep interest in what has been accomplished here.

MRS. ANN E. SMITH.

For almost sixty-nine years this lady has made her home in Vermilion county and has therefore witnessed nearly the entire growth and development of this section of the state, her family being pioneers here. She has seen the wild lands transformed into fine farms, while towns and villages have sprung up and developed into flourishing cities with all the luxuries and advantages of the older east.

Mrs. Smith is the widow of Edwin G. Smith, who was also one of the early settlers of the county, having located here in

1848. He was a native of England, born in 1825, and was a son of Joseph Smith, who was also born in that country and with his family came to America in 1848. On landing in this country he made his way direct to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming until his death.

Edwin Giles Smith was reared and educated in his native land, being nearly grown on the emigration of the family to the new world. He had previously learned the blacksmith's trade and after coming to Danville, he followed that occupation throughout the remainder of his life, but he was not long permitted to enjoy his new home as he died on the 5th of October, 1854, at the early age of twenty-nine years. His political support was always given to the Democratic party. He was a very industrious, energetic and enterprising man and had already attained a fair degree of success when called to the world beyond.

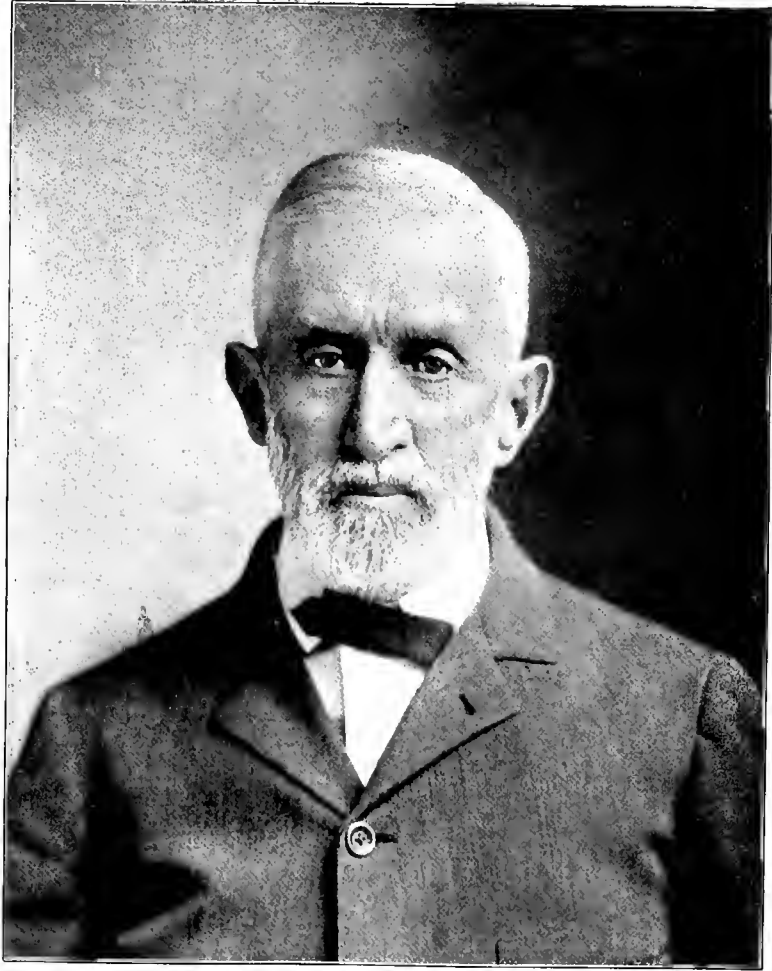
In Danville was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Smith and Miss Ann E. Greggson who was also born in England, October 24, 1827, her parents being George and Ann (Hazeldine) Greggson, natives of the same country, where the father was employed as a shepherd. In 1834 he brought his family to America and took up his residence in Vermilion county, Illinois, where he died the following year. Of the two children born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Charles E., the older, died in October, 1854, and Edwin G., who became a prominent druggist of Danville, died in 1860. The father was a charter member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge of Danville, and Mrs. Smith is a faithful member of the First Methodist Episcopal church. She owns and occupies a nice home at No. 305 North Hazel street and has other valuable property in Danville, including a residence at No. 307 the same street. She

is widely and favorably known in the city where she has so long resided and has a host of warm friends who esteem her highly for her sterling worth.

FRANCIS GAINES.

Francis Gaines scarcely needs an introduction to the readers of this volume. He was a participant in pioneer events, as well as those of later-day progress, and thus with the "Past and Present of Vermilion County" he has been identified, improving the business opportunities which the county has offered to its citizens, and in return rendering valuable aid in the work of improvement and progress here. For many years he was engaged in general farming and stock-dealing, but since 1883 has lived retired in Indianola, where he has a commodious and pleasant home. His circle of acquaintances is a wide one and all who know him are glad to claim the friendship of this honored man.

Mr. Gaines is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Clark county, near South Charleston, July 28, 1823. His parents were Alexander and Mary (Chrispin) Gaines, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of New Jersey. The Chrispin family was of German lineage and the Gaines family in America is descended from Irish ancestry and was represented in the patriot army during the war of the Revolution. Benjamin P. Gaines, the grandfather of our subject, went to Ohio in pioneer times, becoming one of the first settlers of Greene county. He was a shoemaker by trade and would travel from house to house, making shoes for an entire family, and then proceed to the next house on his route. The farmer would take his hides to the tan-



FRANCIS GAINES.

ner, returning home with the tamed leather, preparatory to the visit of the shoemaker. Benjamin P. Gaines lived to be about seventy-five years of age and followed his trade to the last.

Alexander Gaines spent his entire life in Greene county, Ohio. Settling in the midst of a heavily timbered district he began to clear a farm. He did not follow the cultivation of grain to any extent but gave his attention to the cattle business, first making his purchases in Ohio and later in Indiana and Illinois. He would come to this state, purchase two or three hundred head of cattle and then drive them to the east, selling in the markets of either Ohio or Pennsylvania. He continued to engage actively in the cattle business until seventy-five years of age, when he retired to private life, having in the meantime removed to Cedarville, Greene county, Ohio, where his last days were passed. He died September, 1886, and had he lived another month he would have reached the age of eighty-six years. He was regarded as one of the leading cattle men of Ohio, his excellent judgment concerning stock enabling him to make very judicious investments, and thus in his business he prospered. Unto him and his wife were born eleven children, of whom six are yet living, but none are residents of Vermilion county with the exception of our subject and his brother Jonathan, who was the fourth in order of birth and is now a resident of Carroll township. Another brother, James, is one of the large landowners and prosperous residents of Edgar county, Illinois. The mother died in 1882, at the age of eighty-five years.

The conditions which surrounded Francis Gaines in his youth were those of most farmers' boys. He had, perhaps, more op-

portunities than some and less than others. Altogether his early youth was a period of earnest toil for he was the eldest of the six sons of the family and his services were needed on the home farm. He had to begin plowing before he was ten years of age and he used a wooden mold board to turn the furrows. His educational privileges were exceedingly limited. He had to go two miles to school and after wading through the snow that distance would sit all day in wet boots. The schoolhouse was built of logs and had a pincheon floor, slab benches, and a plank placed on pins driven into the wall served as a writing desk. There were no blackboards and the text books were quite primitive. In one end of the room was an immense fire-place that would accommodate a six-foot log. Mr. Gaines was eleven years of age before he mastered the alphabet and most of his knowledge has been gained through observation, reading and experience, but possessing an observing eye and retentive memory he became a well informed man ere he had been in the business world many years. As a boy and youth he was always busy. His father believed in keeping his sons employed and when the work of the fields was over they were sent into the timber, so that there were few leisure moments that fell to their lot. The only coats which Francis Gaines had up to the time he was twenty-one years of age were woven and made by his mother, who spun and wove for her entire family. In early life the father had learned the tailor's trade and after working hard all day he would return home at night and assist his wife in cutting and making clothes for the children.

In February, 1842, Mr. Gaines came with his father to Illinois, visiting Edgar and Vermilion counties, where they bought

two hundred head of cattle, which they drove to market in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. It required about sixty days to make the trip to the east. Danville was then a little village with few improvements. James Gaines and our subject came west in 1846 and herded a bunch of cattle for his father for four months, the father proposing to give his sons half the proceeds for their assistance, so when the cattle was sold they found that they each possessed three hundred dollars, having sold them for fourteen dollars and fifty cents apiece. As Francis Gaines had married the year before he and his wife started west with four cows and twenty head of sheep. They left their Ohio home in August, 1847, accompanied by his sister and her husband, who had a similar outfit. On arriving in Vermilion county, Mr. Gaines took up his abode in a house which his father had purchased for him a short time before. Immediately after his arrival he entered forty acres of land and his father had purchased eighty acres for him. Four years later he bought one hundred and sixty acres that his father had entered. He made his first two payments with the proceeds on corn which he sold at twelve and a half cents per bushel, which was a good price in those days. Mr. Gaines now has three hundred acres of valuable land on sections 32 and 33, Carroll township.

On the 27th of November, 1845, Mr. Gaines was married to Mary J. McFarland, daughter of Arthur McFarland, one of the early settlers of Greene county, Ohio. They became the parents of seven children, but only two reached mature years. Sarah A. is the wife of F. D. Neblick, who is farming on her father's land, and they have three children, Dale, Mabel and Edith. Ed-

mund B., the son, resides near Virginia Hill, Montana, and has three children, Forrest, Raymond and Beulah. Mrs. Gaines died on April 20, 1871, and on the 29th of October following Mr. Gaines wedded Mrs. Josephine Gaines, a daughter of Leonard and Catherine (Baum) Patterson and the widow of his brother William. The only child of this marriage died in infancy. By her first husband Mrs. Gaines had a son, Frank, who is engaged in farming in Carroll township. He married Ada Kilgore and has one child, Buena Lillian. Mrs. Gaines was one of seven children and the eldest of the three now living, the others being: Emma, wife of William Vanneman, of Ridgefarm, Illinois; and John Harvey Patterson, who resides on the old Patterson homestead in Carroll township.

Mr. and Mrs. Gaines are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Indianola, to which he has belonged for fifty-two years and for a half century he has been steward and also a trustee. For many years he voted the Democratic ticket but is now a Prohibitionist. He served as school director for twelve years, was commissioner of highways three years, was school trustee six years and was elected supervisor but refused to serve. Until 1883 Mr. Gaines lived upon his farm and then built a commodious residence in Indianola, which he has since occupied. Here through the past twenty years he has lived retired from active business, having for more than a quarter of a century been an active factor in the agricultural circles of the county. His trustworthiness in business made his word as good as any bond ever solemnized by signature or seal, and his uprightness in all life's relations has commanded for him uniform confidence and regard.

J. A. INGLES, M. D.

Not to know Dr. Ingles, of Hoopeston, is to argue one's self unknown. He has for many years practiced here and his kindly manner, deep sympathy and sincere interest in his fellow men, combined with his medical skill, have made him the loved family physician in many a household. He traces his ancestry back to 1750, when the family was founded in America by representatives of the name who came from Scotland to the new world. The grandfather of our subject was James Ingles who settled in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, there carrying on the occupation of farming. When the country became involved in war with the mother country he joined the American army and fought for the independence of the nation. His death occurred in Beaver county when he had attained the advanced age of ninety-three years.

The Doctor's father was born in the same county and became a minister of the Associate Presbyterian church. As a pastor of that denomination he labored largely in northern Indiana, but his death occurred in Edina, Missouri, in 1864, when he was sixty-six years of age, his birth having occurred in 1798. His wife bore the maiden name of Eliza J. Hillis and was born in Madison county, Indiana. Her father being Judge David Hillis, a distinguished citizen of an early day who served as judge of the circuit court and later represented his district in congress. He was a civil engineer by profession and did much of the surveying of the state of Indiana, becoming a pioneer settler of Jefferson county. Not only did he render his country service in civil life but also in military circles was he known as a defender of the best interests of his nation, for he served in the war of 1812.

He was the only member of his family who ever took a prominent part in politics, but the judge was recognized as a leader of public thought and action in his community and he left the impress of his individuality upon the place of his residence. His daughter, Mrs. Ingles, died on the 31st of August, 1893, when more than eighty years of age. In their family were four children, James, J. A., Sarah and Ealy.

Dr. Ingles, whose name introduces this record, attended the district common schools of Indiana and worked for his father until the spring of 1864, when he started out upon an independent business career. Wishing to make the practice of medicine his life work he prepared for this calling as a student in the Starling Medical College, of Columbus, Ohio, which he entered in 1868. There he remained for two years, after which he began practice in southern Illinois, being located for twenty years at Morea. Continuing his reading he secured a certificate of practice from the state board of health in 1878. On the 19th of September, 1889, he came to Hoopeston, where he opened an office and has since remained, devoting his attention to medical and surgical work. He has a fair share of public patronage and his ability is being continually augmented by his reading and research in the line of his profession.

In Parke county, Indiana, in 1861, Dr. Ingles was united in marriage to Miss Amy S. Ramsay, a native of that state. They now have four children, David W., who is a barber, of Portland, Oregon, and married Carrie Chaffee; John S., who is express agent on the Illinois Central Railroad at Paxton, this state and married Marguerite McCoy; Harry E., a plumber, living at home; and Amy Grace, the wife of J. F. Mitchell, of Oklahoma.

The Doctor resides with his wife and son on South Market street, where he has a pleasant home. In politics he is a Republican. He is a member of the Tri-County Medical Society. For about three months he was in the United States service during the Rebellion, being connected with the Fiftieth Missouri Mounted Infantry as a member of Company A, under the command of Colonel Wirtz. The regiment was in the eastern part of the state, doing scouting duty to protect against bushwhackers, being engaged in chasing Quantrall's band most of the time. This was in the latter part of 1864. The Doctor is a man of many estimable qualities. His quiet, easy manner is certainly an excellent characteristic for a physician, in whom there should be no evidence of nervousness or excitability, quiet being an essential of the sick room. He has, too, a cheery manner and sunny disposition which have rendered him popular with a large circle of friends who also know him as a physician of worth.

ANDREW H. KIMBROUGH, M. D.

Among the citizens of Danville whose genuine worth and many excellent qualities have endeared them to their fellow men is Dr. Andrew H. Kimbrough, whose position in the public regard is not less the result of his professional power than of his irreproachable private life. The Doctor is a native of Hardin county, Kentucky, born on the 27th of February, 1823. He is descended from good old Revolutionary stock, his ancestors having taken part in the war which brought independence to the colonies. The line of descent can be traced back directly on the father's side to General Ethan Allen,

the distinguished commander of Vermont troops. Richard Calvin Kimbrough, the father of our subject, was a native of North Carolina and became a soldier in the war of 1812. He was wounded at the battle of Horseshoe Bend, his arm being almost entirely severed by the Indians. He was also in the battle of New Orleans. It was during the progress of the war of 1812 that the Kimbrough family was founded in Kentucky, the settlement being made near the birthplace of Lincoln, in Hardin county. In that locality resided the family of Colonel Morrison, who was an uncle of Dr. Kimbrough. Richard C. Kimbrough was united in marriage in Hardin county, Kentucky, to Jane Morrison. He was a tanner by trade and in Kentucky he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres which he continued to cultivate for some time. At length, however, he removed to Edgar county, Illinois, where he lived until his death, which occurred in 1833. In his political affiliations he was a Democrat and in his religious faith was a member of the Christian church. His wife long survived him and died on the 1st day of June, 1876. In their family were four children, three of whom reached years of maturity, but the Doctor is the only one who now survives.

In taking up the personal history of Dr. Kimbrough we present to our readers the life record of one who has a very extensive acquaintance in Vermilion county and who is honored by all who know him. He was but a boy when taken by his parents to Edgar county, Illinois, where he acquired his literary education. Determining to make the practice of medicine his life work, he then entered the Jefferson Medical College, in which he was graduated in the spring of 1858. He took up the subject of medicine, however, in 1842, and removed to Paris, Illi-

nois. He then practiced for four months. In the year of his graduation he located in Georgetown, Vermilion county, and in 1873 he came to Danville, where he practiced continuously and successfully until 1901, when, on account of his age and health, he was compelled to retire. He ever kept abreast of the times with the best thinking men of his profession. He read and studied extensively and had the ability to apply with accuracy and benefit to his fellow men the knowledge that he had acquired. He is a member of the Vermilion County Medical Society, the State Medical Society, the National Medical Society and he was one of the charter members of the Vermilion County Medical Society. The Doctor has been very prominent in the Odd Fellows fraternity of which he has been a member for fifty-one years, being one of the oldest representatives of the organization in the state. For sixteen years he was elected high priest of the order and for many years he has been a valued representative of the Knights of Honor. In politics he is now a warm Democrat and while he has always kept well informed on the issues and questions of the day he has always refused to accept public office, preferring to devote his time and energies to his business affairs which have been of an important character and extensive proportions.

On the 14th of March, 1847, near Marshall, Clark county, Illinois, the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Ashmore, who was born in that county April 10, 1820, a daughter of Amos Ashmore, whose birth occurred at Greenville, Tennessee. Her mother bore the maiden name of Patience McGuire, and was a native of Marion, Pennsylvania, in which place she was married. Mr. Ashmore was the first white child born in Greenville and lived in an old cabin there. His father entered eleven hundred acres of

land on Duck river, in Kentucky, but lost it through war claims. The great-grandfather of Mrs. Kimbrough was a professor in the University of Edinburg, in London, and a church and street of that city were named in his honor. Her grandfather was born in London to which place his parents had removed from Scotland. Her grandfather McGuire was born on the ocean when his parents were crossing the Atlantic to America. They were strong Catholics and fled from the Emerald isle during the period of the persecution of the Irish people. Both the paternal and the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Kimbrough served in the Revolutionary war under Washington. Her father was an own cousin of Sam Houston, the liberator of Texas, and was said to resemble him greatly in personal appearance. A farmer by occupation, he also engaged in taking contracts for the construction of public roads. For a time he resided near Newman, Tennessee, but before the birth of his daughter he removed to a place five miles from Terre Haute, Indiana, thence going to Clark county, Illinois. Later he became a resident of Georgetown, Vermilion county, and died in Elwood township in 1863, at the age of eighty-one years. His wife had passed away in 1861. In his political faith he was a Jackson Democrat and in religious belief was a Presbyterian. Mrs. Ashmore had four brothers who were Presbyterian ministers. One of these, Rev. Stephen Balch, was chaplain of the first congress that convened after the election of George Washington to the presidency of the United States. At his death his remains were interred in the Congressional cemetery at Washington. Mrs. Ashmore is also a distant relative of General Wayne and it is said personally resembled him. Mr. Ashmore in the paternal line was a lineal descendant of Rev. Wither-

spoon, a Presbyterian minister and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Mrs. Kimbrough now recounts many events of the Revolutionary war which she heard from her own people and if written would make a very interesting volume. She says that the Indians were very numerous in this state during her early girlhood, and she was personally acquainted with a number of noted chiefs, including Killbuck who traded with the whites. She came to Vermilion county in 1858 and from that time forward has been a resident of this portion of the state. She was one of a family of ten children, three sons and seven daughters, but only three of the number are now living: Margaret, who is the widow of Rev. Isaac Bennett and resides in St. Louis, Missouri; Mrs. Kimbrough; and Mary, the widow of Rev. Preston W. Thompson and a resident of Macomb, Illinois. Unto the Doctor and his wife have been born three children: Laura, at home; Eugene R. E. and Ardilla. The son has been a member of the state legislature for two terms—1878 and 1879, and was mayor of Danville for one term. When he was but a boy he said he was going to have three diplomas and he won the first from Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College, of Chicago, the second from the State University in 1873 and the third upon his admission to the bar. He was one of the leading oratorical contestants in the State University. He married Julia C., a daughter of Senator Fincher, and they reside in Danville, where he now owns a half interest in the Temple building. Their only child is deceased.

Dr. Kimbrough and his wife celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on the 10th of March, 1897, when they were tendered a magnificent reception at their beautiful residence by relatives and friends who presented them with more lovely and costly

tokens of esteem than have ever been given at a wedding party in Danville. Guests to the number of one hundred and thirty were assembled and the occasion was a most enjoyable one. For the past twenty years this worthy couple have attended the Presbyterian church and they are now living in their attractive home in Danville and in the evening of life are surrounded by many warm friends and by all that goes to make life comfortable and worth the living. Devoted to each other as they were in the days of their courtship, their mutual love and confidence has increased as the years have gone by and none of the older couples of this city are held in higher esteem or are more greatly beloved by their friends than are Dr. and Mrs. Kimbrough.

ABRAHAM MANN, SR.

While Danville is indebted to the men of the present for what they are accomplishing for her welfare and further upbuilding she can never repay the debt of gratitude which she owes to the pioneers of the county, the men who coped with the natural conditions, who bravely faced the hardships and difficulties ever incident to frontier life and who laid broad and deep the foundation for the present progress and prosperity of this section of the state. In the year 1832 Abraham Mann, Sr., made his way into the interior of Illinois, here to bear an important part in the founding of the county, and yet he was not the first of the name who penetrated into the wild of the Mississippi valley and aided in opening up this great section of the country for the uses of civilization. His father had preceded him into the central section of the country and these honored pioneers wrought along lines



of the greatest good, not only for their own generation but for their posterity.

John Mann, the father, was a native of England and came to America when this country was still counted among the colonial possessions of Great Britain. He belonged to a London firm dealing in paints and oils, and in the interest of the firm he came to the new world, locating first in New Orleans. From that point he penetrated into the interior at an epoch when few settlements had been made upon either side of the Mississippi from the source to the mouth. However, he proceeded up the Father of Waters in a canoe, passed stretches of country that extended along the river bank for miles unmarked by any habitation or indication of the ownership of the white race. He was one of the first to make his way up the stream and he penetrated into the interior of the country as far north as St. Anthony's Falls, which later became St. Paul, Minnesota, trading with the Indians and shipping his cargoes down the Mississippi to the Crescent City. After the Revolution congress gave him grants of land in Louisiana and New York to the amount of thirty thousand acres to compensate him for the losses which he suffered because of the hostilities. Later he returned to England and spent his last days in London.

Unto John Mann and his wife Elizabeth, on the 4th of October, 1785, was born a son to whom they gave the name of Abraham. The place of his nativity is Leighton-Buzard, Bedfordshire, England, and in that country he was reared and educated, becoming connected with agricultural pursuits, which he followed continuously until his emigration to America in 1832. The new world, which had attracted his father, also proved of interest to him, and desirous of making his home beyond the water he

sailed with his family for the United States, taking passage at Liverpool on a sailing vessel which after a voyage of seven weeks reached the harbor of New York. From that place he started inland, in company with his brother-in-law, Joseph Smith. They made their journey by way of the Great Lakes to Detroit, Michigan, where they purchased saddle horses and rode across the country to Vermilion county, settling near Danville, which was then but a hamlet. For miles around stretched the wild prairie, most of it still in possession of the government, and Mr. Mann entered a claim of six hundred and forty acres, on which he built a pioneer home—a log cabin—that stood near the present residence of his son until a few years ago. In the meantime, however, a commodious and attractive frame residence had been erected and into this the family moved, theirs being one of the fine country seats of the county. The work of cultivation, development and improvement was pushed forward rapidly upon the farm under the supervision of Mr. Mann, and as he found opportunity he entered other land from time to time until he had several thousand acres. He brought with him to the new world the advanced ideas of farming of the old country and combined with this was his ready adaptability to new conditions and surroundings. He not only kept abreast with the times but was a leader in the working of advancing agricultural interests and was equally prominent in regard to public affairs pertaining to the upbuilding of the county.

Ere leaving his native land Mr. Mann was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Smith, who was born in England, April 15, 1791, a daughter of Thomas and Mary Smith, also born in the same country. Her father died September 8, 1839, at the age of

sixty-eight years and nine months. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mann were born four children: Mary Ann, born in Leighton-Buzzard, England, July 14, 1823, died February 5, 1890. Abraham is the only surviving member of the family and his sketch is given in this work. John Thomas is also represented elsewhere in this volume; and Katherine was the fourth member of the family.

It would be almost impossible to give a complete account of what Abraham Mann, Sr., did for Vermilion county. Aside from his work in bettering agricultural conditions here, he labored earnestly and effectively for the general welfare along moral, intellectual and social lines. He burned the brick to build a residence upon his farm but as there was no church in the locality, he used this brick for the erection of the chapel which still stands on the homestead premises. It is nicely equipped and church services are still held therein. In religious faith he was a Methodist and he took an active interest in the work of the church and the extension of its influence, contributed generously to its support and by precept and example taught the power of Christianity. He would never consent to hold public office, although in every other way possible he labored to benefit the country and promote its upbuilding. A man of considerable artistic taste, he delighted in the beautiful works of art and when but a boy he displayed considerable skill in that direction by drawing a map of England in 1800. This was done in Bedfordshire and is a magnificent piece of work, now in possession of his son, Abraham Mann, Jr. He had business interests in his native country as well as in America, being connected with a large company that possessed landed mining interests in the new world.

Mr. Mann died October 19, 1875, at his home in this county, and his wife passed away September 13, 1839, both being interred in the cemetery on the old family homestead. He was a man of sterling rectitude of character and of integrity above question, of even temperament, of refined character—one in whom nature and culture vied in making an honored and interesting gentleman. During the formative period, the crucial epoch in the history of Vermilion county, he stood as the promoter of every measure tending to make a firm foundation for the later-day progress and improvement and the impetus which he gave to all that is good, beneficial and noble, is still manifest in his influence over the lives of those with whom he came in contact.

ESTHER E. BRANHAM.

The estimable lady who bears this name, is a resident of Indianola, Illinois, and the widow of Amnias Branham. She was born in Monroe county, Indiana, April 1, 1839, and in her maidenhood bore the name of Esther E. Summet, her parents being Jacob and Esther (Kerby) Summet, who were the parents of the following named children: Jeremiah C., who was killed in the Civil war, in 1862; Alice C. Everroad, who died in March, 1886; Esther E., of this review; William A., a real-estate dealer in Kansas City, Missouri, who have five children; Henry, a stone mason of Neodosha, Kansas, who has three children and was a soldier of the Civil war; and Emily, who died in 1875 and was the wife of James Wakefield, a soldier of the Civil war and a farmer by occupation.

On the 5th of April, 1860, Esther E.

Summet became the wife of Annanias Branham. He, too, was a native of Monroe county, Indiana. Their wedding was celebrated while the tocsin of war was sounding, and a year and a half after their marriage, true to the call of his country, Mr. Branham left his young wife with her people and joined the Twenty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry. For three years he served his country faithfully and well, and then, when his services were no longer needed he received an honorable discharge and returned to his home. From Indiana, Mr. and Mrs. Branham removed to Edgar county, Illinois, in 1870, and in 1875 they settled on a farm near Indianola, where they remained until Mr. Branham's death, which occurred August 19, 1894. Mrs. Branham remained on this farm until November 26, 1901, when she removed to the village of Indianola, where she now resides with her three sons, Walter, Lawson and Frank. For thirty-four years Mr. and Mrs. Branham lived together in happy wedded life, sharing the joys and sorrows, the prosperity and adversity which fall to the lot of all. When Mr. Branham was called away the community lost a good citizen and the family a devoted husband and father.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Branham was blessed with the following children: Florence, aged forty-one, is the wife of Edward Massie, of Boise, Idaho; Elmer E., thirty-seven years of age, married Ella Stewart in December, 1897, and had two children, but both are now deceased. Kerby E., thirty-four years of age and a carpenter of Indianola, married Melinda Martin, April 11, 1900. He served as a soldier of the Spanish-American war. Walter, aged thirty-two years, resides at home with his mother. Hazel O. is the wife of George Byer, a

farmer of Georgetown, Illinois. She is twenty-eight years of age and they have one little daughter, aged six years. Lawson, aged twenty-five years, is a prosperous young merchant of Indianola, and resides at home with his mother. Frank, also at home, is twenty-two years of age.

For a quarter of a century Mrs. Branham has been a resident of Vermilion county; and she has always been highly regarded here for her genuine worth of character. Her sons and daughters are worthy citizens of their respective communities and Mrs. Branham has the high esteem of all with whom she is associated.



J. J. HEALY.

A large and well equipped department store of Indianola is the property of J. J. Healy, and his business career is one which has ever been creditable and honorable. At the same time he has achieved success and his lifehistory shows that prosperity may be gained through persistent and well directed effort. Mr. Healy was born in Boston, Massachusetts, November 25, 1855, and is a son of Patrick and Mary (Tracy) Healy, both of whom are natives of Ireland, the former born in county Tipperary and the latter in county Limerick. Their marriage was celebrated in Boston, both having come to America in the year 1845. The father was employed as a stationary engineer in the east and afterward removed to Chicago, where both he and his wife died, his death occurring in 1896, while his wife passed away in 1893. The father was a Democrat in his political views. In the family of this worthy couple were five sons and one daughter, and of this

number the following are living: J. J. William and Thomas, who are employed in the Chicago postoffice; and Elizabeth and Dennis, who are residents of Chicago.

J. J. Healy pursued his education in the Skinner school of Chicago and from an early age was dependent upon his own resources for a living. When still quite young he worked during the day, attending school at night, thus paying for his own education for five years. He had begun work when but a youth of nine summers, carrying brick for the building of sewers in Chicago on the bulkhead. For three years he worked during the summer and attended school in the winter. He next went to St. Joseph, Missouri, when he was fifteen years of age, and there he continued his education at the same time following any employment that would yield him an honest dollar. His determination to secure an education was proof of the strong character which would develop with the passing years. He engaged in teaching school for four years in St. Joseph and then returned to Chicago, where he was employed as a salesman and bookkeeper in a commission house on South Water street. After filling that position for about two years he went to work for F. Salter, with whom he remained for four years. He continued to reside in Chicago until the latter part of 1882, when he came to Indianola, where he engaged in merchandising. This business he has continued to the present time. He has a very large department store which is heavily stocked with everything found in a first class establishment of this character. He carries drygoods, boots and shoes, groceries, and even farming implements and machinery, and his patronage is extensive. His business methods are such as require no disguise and will bear the closest investigation,

and because of his honorable dealing and his marked industry he has won very creditable success. He has an interest in the opera house here and owns an elegant modern residence which is built in the Queen Anne style of architecture and fitted up most tastefully.

In Chicago on the 15th of September, 1880, Mr. Healy was united in marriage to Miss Emma C. Pattison, of Indianola, Illinois, who was born in Ohio, November 25, 1848, a daughter of Elijah and Mary (Cox) Pattison. Her father was born in Ohio and her mother in Vermilion county, Illinois. She was a daughter of Samuel Cox, who came from Pennsylvania to this state and she was the first white child born in Vermilion county. She is now living in Indianola at the age of eighty years, and is a very active, intelligent lady, still doing her own housework. She became the wife of Mr. Pattison, in Indianola; and he afterward devoted his energies to farming until his death, which occurred in 1875. In politics he was a Democrat and he held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. In the family of this worthy couple were six sons and four daughters: W. George, who is vice president of the Bohart Livestock Commission Company, of Chicago; Simeon, deceased; Ed, who resides in Indianola; Anna E., of Chicago; Emma C., the wife of our subject; Franklin and Leander who are residents of Indianola; Mary Jane and John, both deceased; and Luella, who resides with her mother. Mr. and Mrs. Healy have had but one child, Anna M., who was born in 1882 and graduated with the class of 1900 in the Indianola High School.

Mr. Healy gives his political support to the Democracy and has been honored with a number of public offices. He has served as township clerk, was also mayor and treas-



Abraham Mann

urer of his town, and is now serving as a member of the county central committee from Carroll township. He was also postmaster of Indianola during President Cleveland's administration, succeeding a man who had held the position for twenty years. He belongs to Vermilion Lodge, No. 265, F. & A. M., and their lodge room is in his building. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp and has membership relations with the Fraternal Army and the Knights of the Globe. When he came to Indianola and established his present business he had a capital of only one hundred and fifty dollars. Since that time he has had twenty years' experience and during this long period he has been absent from his business altogether but three months and five days. He now owns one of the largest department stores in the county and his success is due to close application, a thorough understanding of trade relations and marked enterprise and diligence.

ABRAHAM MANN, JR.

Abraham Mann, Jr., living on section 26, Ross township, is one of the substantial farmers and stock-raisers and feeders of Vermilion county. He is, too, one of the largest land owners within its borders, having four thousand acres in Ross and Grant townships, all of which is well improved and valuable. No history of the county would be complete without the record of his life, not only because of the splendid success which he has achieved but also because he is one of the honored early settlers of this portion of the state, having resided in the county since 1834.

He is one of the worthy citizens that

England has furnished the United States, his birth having occurred in Leighton-Buzard, Bedfordshire, that country, February 17, 1829. John Mann, the grandfather of our subject, came to the new world prior to the Revolutionary war and traveled through the then largely unexplored west. He made a trip up the Mississippi river in a canoe with the Indians and is said to have been the first man that penetrated as far north on the river as St. Anthony Falls, now St. Paul, Minnesota. After the Revolutionary war congress gave him grants of lands both in Louisiana and New York in compensation for losses which he had suffered during the period of hostilities. He later returned to England and spent his last years in London.

Our subject's father, Abraham Mann, Sr., was born, reared and married in England, the lady of his choice being Mary Ann Smith. He carried on farming for a number of years on the merrie isle and four children were added to the family there. He then emigrated to the new world in 1832, spending the first winter after his arrival in Herkimer, New York. Then in connection with his brother-in-law, Mr. Smith, journeyed westward to Illinois and selected a location for his family in Vermilion county, Illinois. He entered six hundred and forty acres of land where the subject of this review now resides and with characteristic energy he began breaking the fields and improving the farm. In a log house, which he built, he made his home for several years and then replaced the pioneer cabin by a good frame house. He also bought more land and owned several thousand acres, thus becoming one of the extensive landholders in Vermilion county. He was a very prominent agriculturist, influential in public affairs, as well as successful in pri-

vate business interests and all who knew him respected him for his genuine worth. He spent his last years in this county and when called to his final rest many friends mourned his loss.

Abraham Mann, of this review, is the only survivor of a family of two sons and two daughters. He was reared to manhood upon the farm where he now resides and when a little lad of ten or twelve years he returned with his parents to England, where he was placed in school at Biggelswade, where he completed his course. Previous to this time he had pursued his education in Crawfordsville, Indiana. The family remained in England for about four years and then again came to the United States, taking up their abode on a farm here. After the father's death our subject and his brother John took charge of the old home place and the business and together carried on agricultural pursuits for several years. Abraham Mann has since purchased more land to the extent of about one thousand acres. He has on his home farm a very commodious brick residence, in the rear of which stand good barns and all necessary outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock. Around his home are beautiful shade and evergreen trees and a broad lawn which is well kept. He has also planted an orchard and the various equipments of the model farm of the twentieth century are there found. He also has several other farms in Vermillion county, all of which are improved with substantial accessories. He makes a business of raising and feeding stock for the market and ships on an average of from ten to twenty car-loads of cattle annually and a number of car-loads of hogs. He now has a fine herd of about one hundred head of registered short-horn cattle with a fine Cruikshank

bull at the head of the herd. He is one of the most extensive and prosperous stock-raisers and farmers of the county and is a business man of marked ability, far-sighted, enterprising and purposeful. He is likewise a stockholder in the First National Bank of Danville and one of its directors.

Mr. Mann was married in Vermillion county, June 13, 1882, to Miss Margaret Ann Dale, a sister of John W. Dale, of Danville. Three sons have been born unto them: John, who is a graduate of the Rossville high school; George Dale, a student in the Culver Military Academy, of Indiana; and Edward Harold, who is a student in the home school. Another member of the household is Miss Emma Dale, who has resided with Mr. and Mrs. Mann since the death of her mother.

When the Republican party sprang into existence, making the opposition of the further extension of slavery its leading issue, Mr. Mann joined its ranks and has since been one of its earnest supporters, voting for each presidential nominee of the party since he cast his ballot for John C. Fremont in 1856. His business interests have been too extensive to admit of his taking an active part in political work even had he so desired and he has never even wished for the rewards of office in recognition of his party fealty. He has, however, been a member of the school board and has done effective work in behalf of the cause of education. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, belonging to Manns Chapel, and Mr. Mann takes a most active interest in everything pertaining to the general good along material, social, intellectual and moral lines.

He has been a resident of Vermillion county during the great part of the time

of sixty-eight years and has witnessed the marked changes which have occurred as development and growth has transformed pioneer conditions into modern progress. He has seen deer and wild game here in great numbers, but these have disappeared and now herds of cattle and other domestic animals have taken the place of the wild ones. Mr. Mann has witnessed the construction of the roads and of the railroads and has seen Danville developed from a little village of three houses until it has become one of the leading cities of the state. He has seen the various farms opened and developed and at all times has given an active co-operation to measures pertaining to the general good. A most successful and enterprising business man, he possesses keen discrimination and sound business judgment, unflagging industry and strong purpose and these qualities have enabled him to gain an enviable position among the respected and wealthy citizens of Vermilion county.

J. H. RHOTEN.

J. H. Rhoten, who is actively engaged in gardening and in the cultivation of fruit and flowers just outside the city limits of Danville, owns a valuable tract of seven and one-half acres of land, and in the conduct of his business he has become well known for his reliability, as well as for the excellence of his products. As he has a wide acquaintance here his life history cannot fail to prove of interest to many of our readers.

J. H. Rhoten was born in Putnam county, Indiana, June 21, 1846. His paternal grandfather was James Rhoten, who was a native of England and came to America

in colonial days and fought for the independence of the country at the time of the Revolutionary war. He lived to the ripe old age of nearly one hundred years. While in the service he experienced all of the hardships and privations which befell the American troops and on one occasion he had nothing to eat for three days except two apples. Thomas Rhoten, the father of our subject, was born in Brown county, Ohio, where he spent the first sixteen years of his life and then became a resident of Putnam county, Indiana, where he attained his majority and was married, the lady of his choice being Sarah Woolery, who was born in that county. Mr. Rhoten carried on farming there until 1854, when he removed to Cumberland county, Illinois, where he opened up a farm, continuing its cultivation for several years. About 1869 he came to Vermilion county and took up his residence upon a farm near Danville, making it his home throughout his remaining days. He died about 1876 at the age of seventy years and his wife passed away in 1871.

J. H. Rhoten of this review was a little lad of eight summers when with his parents he came to Illinois and he was reared in Cumberland county, this state until seventeen years of age. In 1863 he enlisted for service in the Union army, joining the Sixty-second Illinois Infantry as a member of Company G. With that command he went south and joined the western department. The first battle in which he engaged was at Little Rock. The regiment arrived there after a forced march from Tennessee and they also did guard duty keeping the Arkansas river open for fifteen months, during which time they participated in a number of skirmishes. Later they were sent to Port Gibson, remaining there for six months, and in

March, 1866, Mr. Rhoten was honorably discharged. He then returned home, where he remained one year, after which he went to Douglas county, Illinois, spending a year on a farm there. On the expiration of that period he came to Vermilion county, where he engaged in farming for two years. He next turned his attention to bridge building and carpenter work in the employ of the railroad and was thus engaged for nine years. Subsequently he was employed in the coach building department of the shops at Danville for a similar period, largely doing repair work. While thus engaged he purchased the land on which his present residence was built and in the spring of 1902 he began the raising of fruit, vegetables and flowers, building a large greenhouse. The new enterprise has already proved a profitable one and his patronage in this direction is continuously increasing.

Mr. Rhoten was married in Vermilion county, in 1870, to Miss Lucy Martin, a native of this county, and a daughter of the Rev. Rolla Martin, one of the first settlers here, having come with his parents in early pioneer times. He was a minister of the Christian church and was also prominent in public affairs, being elected for two terms to the office of county treasurer. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rhoten have been born two children who are yet living. Jessie is one of the successful school teachers of the county, having been connected with the Tilton school for nine years, and Katie is at home. They also lost one daughter, Edith, who died at the age of two years. The parents and daughters are active members of the First Christian church of Danville, taking a helpful interest in its work. In his political affiliations Mr. Rhoten is a Republican and no one has reason to question his position on

any political issue. He is well known in this city where his fidelity to duty, his trustworthiness in business and his loyalty in friendship have made him a man worthy of the esteem and confidence of his fellow men.

JOHN THOMAS MANN.

The extent and scope of the business interests which claimed the attention of Mr. Mann were certainly sufficient to win for him the admiration and respect of his fellow citizens and yet he gained that regard through other qualities as well, his influence being exerted in behalf of many measures which contributed largely to the public good along intellectual and moral lines. The work begun by his illustrious father was carried on by him and his brother and Vermilion county has no more honored or honorable name upon the pages of its history than that of Mann.

He whose name introduces this review was born at Leighton-Buzzard, Bedfordshire, England, January 30, 1831, being the second son of the four children of Abraham and Mary Mann, who are represented elsewhere in this work. His education was largely acquired in his native country, although his parents came to the new world when he was only about a year old. His parents wishing him to enjoy educational privileges which could not be secured in the pioneer district in which they lived, sent him back to his native land, where he remained as a student for a number of years, mastering the branches of learning which would prepare him for the practical and responsible duties of a successful business career. When his education was completed he once more came to America, taking up



JOHN THOMAS MANN

his residence in the homestead villa, which had been erected by his father and in connection with his brother, Abraham Mann, Jr., he entered upon his business career. He always lived upon the old family homestead and the brothers were closely associated in extensive agricultural and commercial pursuits, making a specialty of the raising of cattle. John T. Mann became a great lover of stock and a most excellent judge of cattle, horses and hogs. He learned readily to recognize the fine points of a domestic animal and he studied closely their needs and the conditions which would produce the best grades of stock. He had both a scientific and practical understanding of the business and his opinions were regarded as authority on matters relating to stock over a wide territory of Illinois. The brothers made extensive purchases and after fattening their stock sold to the city markets. They bought all over the southern part of the state and then shipped to Chicago, where they never failed to command the highest market prices because of the excellent condition of the hogs, cattle and horses, which were sent to the western metropolis from the Mann farm.

Living in Vermilion county in pioneer days Mr. Mann could remember seeing large herds of deer running over the farm, while wolves were frequently killed and other kinds of wild animals were hunted. Various kinds of wild game were also to be had in abundance and pioneer conditions everywhere existed. The homes of the settlers were widely scattered and many of the early residents lived in log houses, in fact, such was the primitive home of the Mann family, but after a few years it was replaced by a large and pleasant country frame residence.

John Thomas Mann was united in marriage to Miss Martha Cable, who was born

on the 21st of December, 1846, in Long Crennan, Buckinghamshire, England, a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Sanders) Cable, who were natives of Bedfordshire, England, and came to America in 1855, locating in Attica, Indiana, where they remained for four years, the father there devoting his energies to agricultural pursuits. At the end of that time he went with his family to Iroquois county, Illinois, where he remained for two years and then took up his abode in Rossville, this state, which was his place of residence for three years. At the end of that time he removed to Salt Fork, near Danville, where he lived for thirteen years, next becoming a resident of Homer, Illinois, where both he and his wife spent their remaining days. They were the parents of eight children. After his marriage Mr. Mann took his bride to the home farm, living with his brother in the large family mansion. They had two children: Abraham, who was born May 15, 1869, and died November 17, 1889; and Mary Ann, who was born April 18, 1871, and died February 23, 1890. Mr. Mann passed away on the 19th of October, 1873, and his wife's death occurred in Santa Barbara, California, on the 27th of March, 1877. Both were laid to rest in the family burying ground on the old homestead.

Mr. Mann enjoyed more than local reputation as a splendid marksman and a great hunter. He always kept a pack of grey hounds and deer dogs and at different times killed a large number of deer. Hunting was one of his most enjoyable sources of recreation. While he was deeply interested in his county and its advancement he never sought or desired office and in fact steadily refused to serve in any position of a political character. He took a very active interest in school work, however, the cause of education finding in him a stalwart friend, and he

held membership in the Methodist church and by his presence as well as his material assistance aided in the upbuilding of the cause of Christianity. No worthy cause ever sought his co-operation in vain, and, while he did not believe in an indiscriminate giving which often fosters vagrancy and idleness, he was a most charitable and benevolent man and to those who were really needy or in distress he rendered ready and generous assistance. He possessed many excellent traits of character, not the least of which was his close adherence to the golden rule. He made it his course of action in business as well as in private and social life and no word was ever uttered against the honor and integrity of John Thomas Mann. His life record is one indeed well worthy of emulation and through the forty-two years of his residence in Vermilion county he so endeared himself to his fellow citizens that the ties of friendship were only broken by death and his memory is still cherished by those who knew him.

JOSEPH COL. VANCE.

In military and political circles Mr. Vance has been true to his country and its best interests and to-day in a position of public trust—that of justice of the peace—he is manifesting the same loyalty to the general good that he displayed when he followed the stars and stripes upon the battlefields of the south.

Mr. Vance is a native of Vermilion county, Illinois, his birth having occurred in Oakwood township on the 2d of June, 1844, his parents having been John W. and De-ziah (Rathborn) Vance. The father was a native of Germany and in his boyhood came with his parents to Illinois, in the year

1822, the family settling in Oakwood township, Vermilion county. The father of our subject was there reared and afterward conducted salt works. He also had farming interests and in his business affairs he met with creditable success. He died in 1856, at the age of seventy-five years, while his wife, the mother of our subject, was called to her final rest in 1865, at the age of fifty-two years. Of their family a son and two daughters now survive, the sisters of our subject being Lena G., the wife of Samuel Tilton, of Catlin, Vermilion county, and Bridget, who is living in Danville. There were nine children altogether in the family.

Mr. Vance of this review obtained a district school education in early life and started out to make his own way in the world when a youth of fourteen years. He conducted a farm in Oakwood township for some time and afterward came to Danville, in the year 1888. Here he became connected with official service and for five years was a capable member of the police force. For three years he filled the office of deputy sheriff under J. W. Newlon, and was then elected justice of the peace, in 1890, to fill out the unexpired term of Park T. Martin. He discharged his duties so faithfully and promptly that he was made the nominee of his party at the regular election, in the spring of 1901, and was again chosen for the office.

Mr. Vance manifested his loyalty to the Union at the time of the Civil war, by his enlistment in July, 1862, for three months as a member of Company A, Seventy-first Illinois Regiment. On the expiration of that time he re-enlisted and became a member of Company F, Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry. He went with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea, and took part in all of the engagements from the Atlanta campaign, in 1864, until the close of the

war, when he was mustered out, receiving an honorable discharge in July, 1865.

In 1869 Mr. Vance was united in marriage to Lydia E. Matthewman, of Vermilion county, Illinois, and unto them have been born the following named: Alta, the wife of James Gerringier; John F.; Alberta, the wife of Samuel Saylor; Josephine; Ethel; and Dean. Mr. Vance belongs to the Masonic fraternity and also has membership relations with the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Knights of Labor. Having always lived in Vermilion county, he has a wide acquaintance here and that his friendship is best prized by those who know him best, is an indication that his career has ever been an honorable one, worthy of the esteem and confidence of his fellow men.

C. M. BRIGGS.

As a distinguished member of the bar and as a leading Democratic politician C. M. Briggs is so well known in Vermilion county that he needs no introduction to the readers of this volume. His career has conferred honor and dignity upon the profession and the civic organizations with which he is associated and there is in him a weight of character, a natural sagacity, a far-seeing judgment and a fidelity of purpose that command the respect of all. He opened his law office in Hoopeston in 1892 and has since gained a distinctively representative clientage.

Mr. Briggs was born in Hardin county, Ohio, in 1865, a son of Matthew and Louisa (Webb) Briggs, who were residents of Richland county, that state. The father followed farming throughout the years of his

business career and is now living retired in Forest, where he served as postmaster under President Cleveland. In the family were four children: Louisa, the wife of C. E. Young, of Delphos, Ohio; W. J., a resident of Huntington, Indiana; Mrs. Olive Reynolds, of Fort Wayne, and C. M.

In taking up the personal history of C. M. Briggs we present the life record of one who is now widely and favorably known in Vermilion county. His early education was acquired in the common schools and supplemented by an academic course pursued in Forest, Ohio. At the early age of fourteen years he entered a drug store and after being employed there for some time, during which period he gained a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the business, he became the owner of a drug store in Hoopeston, Illinois. He also conducted a similar establishment in Morrison, this state, and is a registered pharmacist. Locating in Hoopeston he there conducted a drug store with excellent success for three years, after which, in 1892, he sold out to Dr. W. R. Wilson. In 1887 he had located permanently in Hoopeston and after a thorough course of law pursued under the direction of H. M. Steeley, he was admitted to the Illinois bar upon passing an examination before the supreme court of the state in 1892. He then opened his law office in Hoopeston and has since engaged in practice here. His business has constantly grown in volume and importance and he has handled much litigation which has attracted wide attention. Devotedly attached to his profession, systematic and methodical in habit, sober and discreet in judgment and diligent in research—these qualities have enabled him to take a position in the front rank of the legal profession in Hoopeston.

In 1885, in Paxton, Illinois, Mr. Briggs was married to Miss Belle Duke, who died in 1899 leaving one son, Jay, who is now sixteen years of age and is a student in his father's law office. On the 12th of June, 1901, Mr. Briggs was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Addie Snively, a native of Iroquois county, Illinois. They have a pleasant home on Second avenue in the south end of the town and its gracious hospitality is cordially enjoyed by their many friends. Fraternally Mr. Briggs is connected with the Knights of Pythias, with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He stands at the head of the silver element of the Democratic party in the northern part of Vermilion county and is very active in political work. He is a fluent orator, a logical and entertaining speaker and during the two campaigns in which Bryan has been the nominee of the Democracy for president he has delivered many addresses in behalf of the Nebraska statesman. His prominence in political work resulted in his nomination for congress in opposition to Joseph Cannon, in 1900. This nomination came to him not only unsought but entirely without his knowledge. At the time he was in Danville trying a case in court when a telegram was handed him announcing that his name had been placed on the ticket in connection with the office of congressman. Accepting the nomination he did effective work in the campaign, using his efforts for the success of the Democratic party. It was a foregone conclusion that his election was an impossibility but he carried the full vote of his party. He is a member of the Democratic county central committee and in 1898 he served as city solicitor of Hoopston. On numerous occasions he has been a delegate to the Demo-

cratic state conventions and in the convention of 1900 he was a member of the committee on resolutions. Mr. Briggs is a young man of marked ability, possessing excellent traits of character. He is manly, sincere and outspoken and he has gained a high place in his profession by hard work and by merit which is widely recognized not only by the public but by the members of the legal fraternity as well.

CHARLES BUHL.

For years an honored and respected resident of Danville, Charles Buhl passed away on the 10th of July, 1898, at the age of eighty-six years. As the day with its morning of hope and promise, its noontide of activity, its evening of completed and successful effort, ending with the grateful rest and quiet of the night, so was the life of this honored man, who was for many years prominent in business circles and after coming to Danville invested largely in real estate, doing much to improve property interests here.

He was born in Zelienople, Pennsylvania, on the 8th of February, 1812, his parents being Christian and Fredericka Buhl, both of whom were natives of Germany, whence they came to America prior to their marriage. The father took up his residence in the Keystone state and for a number of years was justice of the peace. He afterward served for a number of terms as county judge and his decisions were strictly fair and impartial. He left the impress of his individuality upon the early judicial history of his county. He was a man of marked personality, well fitted to become a



CHARLES BUHL.



MRS. CHARLES BUHL.

leader of public thought and action and in the community where he made his home he was honored and respected by all who knew him. He died at the age of eighty-seven years, and his wife passed away at the same age. In their family were eleven children, of whom Charles was the fourth in order of birth. All are now deceased with the exception of Mrs. Robert King, who is residing in Detroit, Michigan; and Mrs. Robert Hay, whose home is in Allegheny City, Pennsylvania.

In the common school Charles Buhl acquired his early education and after putting aside his text books he became connected with commercial life. Removing to the west he established a general furnishing goods store in Detroit, Michigan, where he carried on business for several years. Later he became a resident of Chicago, where he enjoyed an extensive trade in the same line of business for eleven years. On account of ill health, however, he was obliged to retire from business life and removed to a farm near Chicago, where he lived for ten years. In 1861 came to Danville, where he spent his remaining days. Here he made extensive investments in real estate. His money was so judiciously placed that he continually derived a growing income from his property interests, owing to the increase in value with the growth of the city's population. In business affairs his judgment was always faultless and he seemed readily to look beyond the exigencies of the moment to the possibilities of the future. His careful control of extensive commercial transactions brought to him splendid success and moreover he sustained an unassailable reputation as an honorable business man.

On the 9th of July, 1839, in Pennsylvania, Mr. Buhl was united in marriage to

Miss Elezan McConnaughy, a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Jones) McConnaughy, the former a native of Ohio. Unto this marriage were born six children, as follows: Charles; Sidney, who is a retired farmer, living in Danville; Walter, who died in infancy; Frank, also resident of Danville; Emma, who became the wife of William Myers and died at the age of forty-one years; and Laura, the wife of John Lawrence, of this city. Mrs. Buhl, the mother, was born on the 1st of January, 1820, and was the youngest and is now the only surviving member of a family of eleven children. She possesses remarkable vigor and strength for one of her years and is a most highly esteemed resident of Danville, where she has made her home for more than four decades.

In his political views Mr. Buhl was a stalwart Republican, always interested in the questions and issues of the day, yet never seeking or desiring public office. After a happy married life of fifty-nine years he was called to his final rest on the 10th of July, 1898. His was an upright character and his career displayed many sterling traits well worthy of emulation. A man of domestic tastes he was devoted to the welfare of his wife and children and he held friendship inviolable. In business transactions he was the soul of honor and at all times he was loyal to the best interests of the city, state and nation.

WILLIAM WHITE.

William White is now living on section 5, Newell township, and was born in Blount township March 20, 1830. Among the early settlers and prominent men of Vermilion was his father, James White, now deceased.

He married Nancy Wiles and both were natives of Switzerland county, Indiana. They took up their abode in Vermilion county, Illinois, when many red men still lived in this section of the state, the prairies were covered with the native grasses and in the forests the trees stood in their primeval strength. Deer roamed among the trees or over the prairies and there were many prairie wolves. The family arrived in a covered wagon after having forded the rivers and swamps and here they settled in the midst of a barren wilderness. He entered government land and erected a log cabin with a stick and clay chimney. The wolves often gathered around this pioneer home making the night hideous with their howling. Indians often visited them but were friendly. James White was a great hunter and shot many deer and even after game began to get scarce in this locality he would go miles to hunt. He saw Chicago when it was but a mere hamlet and many times drove his ox-team to that market, fording rivers and traveling over the sloughs which cut up the country, making the land of little value until it had been drained. Upon the way he would camp out at night. He frequently had his son William ride the ox in front which was harnessed up for the purpose. James White cut down many a forest tree in preparing his land for cultivation and he broke the prairie with oxen, using six to nine yoke to a breaking plow. He lived to see the whole country developed from an unsettled wilderness to one of the most highly cultivated farming districts in this great state dotted here and there with thriving towns and villages and a city of which the inhabitants have every reason to be proud. He was often heard to say that he and a friend swam nearly every stream between old Denmark and Chicago. At the birth of each of his children he would go on

a hunt for a deer and when his son William was born he brought home both a deer and a wild goose. Many times he trampled upon rattlesnakes, never knowing that they were dangerous. He served as a soldier in the Black Hawk war as did also Langford Wiles, the father of Mrs. William White. James White lived to the age of eighty-six years, dying in June, 1887. In his family were fourteen children, ten of whom reached adult age and reared families of their own, while four died in infancy. The following are yet living, namely: Mrs. Mary Shafer, of Nebraska; William Langford, of Blount township; Mrs. Robert VanVickle, of Blount township; Silas and Richard, who are living in the same township; Thomas, a resident of Minnesota; and James, of Blount township.

William White, the second in order of birth, acquired his education in the early subscription schools which he attended during the winter seasons and in the summer months he worked on a farm. From the time he was ten years of age he followed the plow to which a team of oxen was hitched. He often plowed with a wooden mold board and afterward with a single shovel plow, while the harness had a single line. He planted corn by hand, cradled the grain and bound his wheat by hand. He also assisted in dipping candles until the candle molds came into use and at times he saw a turnip hollowed out and in this was placed a greased rag. It was then lighted and served for a parlor lamp. In the father's family flax was used for making cotton clothing and thread and the wool was spun and woven into cloth for the winter clothing, spinning wheels forming a part of the furniture of every household. Many times Mr. White assisted his mother in that work. He can also remember the days when the girls

would carry their shoes to church, wearing them only during the service and then returning barefooted in order to economize because only one pair of shoes was allowed to each person for a year. People rode to church on horseback, sometimes as many as three people sitting upon a sheepskin upon a single horse. William White owned the last yoke of oxen used in the neighborhood. It was a splendidly yoked team, weighing forty-seven hundred pounds, but at length he sold these animals, keeping the yoke, however, as a relic of early days.

Mr. White was united in marriage to Elizabeth Wiles, who also came of a pioneer family. She was born in Blount township March 20, 1840, a daughter of Langford and Mary (Cassat) Wiles. Two children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. White. Mary was married in 1885 to Alfred Inglesby, a farmer of Blount township, and they have nine children, six sons and three daughters. Cordelia Edna is the wife of Ed. Neff and they were married in 1900. They have a little daughter, Iva E., ten months old, and their home is in Blount township. Mrs. White was reared upon a farm and many a day has dropped corn, following the plow. For seven weeks when she was two years old her mother was left all alone with her and a brother, while the father made a trip to Missouri. Some boys tried to scare her mother with dogs, but although she was alone with her young children she never flinched nor showed any signs of fear. When our subject settled on the eight mile prairie there was not a house within miles. They lived in pioneer style, cooking over a fireplace, but with the advancing years they have acquired all the comforts and conveniences that have been introduced. Mr. White now owns a valuable farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 27, Blount township,

and one hundred and fifty acres on section 8, a part of this being covered with timber. He also has other lands in Newell township. He and his wife and youngest daughter are members of the Baptist church, while the others are members of the Christian church, and in his political views he is a Democrat. He has served as commissioner of highways and as a school director for many years. He is now living retired in the edge of Blount township, his home being in Newell township.

JOHN L. STEWARD.

John L. Steward, deceased, was for about thirty years an honored and highly respected citizen of Vermilion county, having arrived here in 1851, at which time he located on a tract of wild prairie land in Newell township, twelve miles northeast of Danville. He was born on the 13th of July, 1816, in Broome county, New York, of which state his parents, John and Catherine (Catlin) Steward, were also natives. From there they removed to Fountain county, Indiana, where the father purchased land and engaged in its cultivation throughout the remainder of his life. Both he and his wife died in that county.

The primary education of our subject was obtained in the common schools of Broome county, New York, and he continued his studies in the public schools of Fountain county, Indiana, after the removal of the family to that state. As soon as old enough to be of any assistance he commenced to aid his father in the operation of the farm and was thus employed until his marriage, which important event in his life occurred on Easter Sunday, April 10, 1840, Miss Mary E. Johnson becoming his wife.

Mrs. Steward was born in Jackson county, Ohio, June 25, 1822, and is a daughter of Richard and Milbry (Graves) Johnson, the former a native of Chester county, Pennsylvania, born in 1793, and the latter of Chatham county, North Carolina. The father, who was an old tavern keeper, removed to Lafayette, Indiana, at a very early day when Indians were still numerous in that locality and when the present flourishing city of Lafayette contained but four houses. There he took charge of a hotel, known as the Seven Stars and continued to carry it on until his death, which occurred in 1830. In his family were seven children, three of whom are still living, as follows: Harvey, who married Amanda Sewell, now deceased, is a retired farmer and land owner residing in Bismarek, this county. Mary E. is the widow of our subject. Colonel Henderson Johnson married Susan Goodlow, of Kentucky, and is now living retired in Danville. He is one of the leading citizens of the place. Those of the family now deceased are Margaret Jane, James Clay, Josephine and William R.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Steward were born twelve children, namely: Harvey J., deceased, served all through the Civil war as a member of Company B, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry; Ella is the wife of Frank Gordon, a farmer of the state of Oregon; Mary, deceased, was the wife of Martin Barker, now an officer in the Soldiers' Home in Danville; William died at the age of eighteen years; John H. married Belle Pierce and is now a retired farmer living at Hoopeston, this county; Amanda is the wife of J. H. Henderson, a grocer of Crawfordsville, Indiana; Laura is the wife of Henry Peters, who holds a position in a lumberyard in Danville; Lizzie died at the age of twenty-four years; Sue is the wife of C. A. Parsons, a leading photogra-

pher of Danville, by whom she has two children: Harry, born November 9, 1886, and Edward, born October 21, 1893, and they make their home with Mrs. Steward; Annie is the wife of William C. Thompson, ex-county treasurer of Vermilion county; Bert L. married Alecia Jones and resides in Danville, Illinois; and Emma died young.

After his marriage Mr. Steward continued to engage in farming in Fountain county, Indiana, until 1852, when he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, and settled on what was known as Grand Prairie in Newell township, twelve miles northeast of Danville, where he purchased a farm of two hundred and sixty acres. He made many improvements upon that place and there successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising until 1879, when on account of ill health he sold his property and went west, locating on a farm near Portland, Oregon, where he spent three years. At the end of that time sickness again caused him to change location and he returned to Vermilion county, purchasing property near the village of Bismarek, where he lived until called to his final rest on the 1st of October, 1882. He held several minor offices while residing in Newell township, such as road overseer, school director, etc., and was accounted one of the valued and representative citizens of his community. His political support was given the Democratic party, and having always been a great reader he was well informed on the leading questions and issues of the day. At his death he left many friends to mourn his loss as he was a very popular and prominent citizen of the community in which he lived.

After her husband's death Mrs. Steward continued to make her home in Bismarek for two years, and then, disposing of her property there, she removed to Danville, where



MRS. ELIZA CAMPBELL

she bought a lot and erected her present residence at No. 119 East Madison street. She also owns other property on the same street. She is a most estimable lady, who has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, and is a consistent member of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Danville.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL.

Among the early pioneer settlers of Newell township, Vermilion county, the name of Joseph Campbell, now deceased, was prominent. He was born in New York, May 27, 1816, and his death occurred March 7, 1858. No more fitting tribute can be given to the life record of any man than to say that the county in which he lived and labored has been benefited by his life. This can truthfully be said of Joseph Campbell, for he was ever faithful to his duties as a citizen and as a man.

He was a son of Samuel and Mary (Harper) Campbell, both natives of New York, who came to Vermilion county, Illinois, and settled on the old Campbell farm on section 26, Newell township. There Samuel Campbell purchased land and the family made their home in a primitive log cabin, which was the only shelter of the early settlers of the county. At that time game abounded and the prairies were unbroken and uncultivated, the timber being uncut and the entire land untouched by the civilizing touch of man. The enterprise and energy of such people as the Campbell family, however, have wrought a great change in this great commonwealth and to-day it stands among the great states of the Union, through the united and consecutive efforts

of those who have labored for its welfare and upbuilding. Unto Samuel Campbell and his wife were born seven children, the subject of this review being the youngest of the family. In the Empire state he received his early education and there remained until eighteen years of age, when with his parents he removed to Vermilion county. Here he continued his education, which well fitted him for the duties of life. He engaged in farming on his father's farm, which afterward came into his possession.

An important event took place in his life when, on the 22d of December, 1840, he was united in marriage to Eliza Jane Mackeson, who was born November 28, 1810. This lady is now eighty-three years of age and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. McCowan, in State Line, Indiana. Mrs. Campbell is a daughter of Andrew and Hannah (Martin) Mackeson, both natives of Harrison county, Kentucky, and is the oldest in a family of four children. Unto Joseph Campbell and his wife were born five children, namely: Hannah Jane, who married James Gahn, September 14, 1871. They have two children. The elder, Joseph Franklin, is now a lieutenant in the United States army, stationed at Philadelphia. He is a graduate of West Point and was the lieutenant who hoisted the United States flag at Peking, China, on the famous walls of that city. He has been in the United States army for several years. He was married September 14, 1902, to Laura Andia Colt. Mary, the second child of Mr. and Mrs. Gahn, was married in 1901 to Fred Harding, and resides in East St. Louis. John D., the second child of Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, is now a farmer residing in Newell township. Andrew, of Newell township, is the next in order of birth. He also fol-

Jows farming. Samuel also carries on farming in Newell township. Mary is the wife of John McCowan, of State Line, Indiana. She was born September 12, 1852, and was married November 18, 1874. Mr. McCowan was born in Edgar county, Illinois, August 26, 1849, and was an extensive cattle dealer and shipper. Coming to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1870, he settled on section 18, Newell township. His parents were natives of Kentucky. In June, 1866, he retired to State Line, Indiana, where he resides in his comfortable dwelling, with his wife and mother-in-law, Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell is of sturdy Scotch ancestry and has many of the sterling characteristics of her race who have always held exalted ideas of what is right and have lived up to the same. She is among the pioneer residents of Vermilion county and has seen great transformation wrought here, the once unbroken prairies being now dotted by flourishing towns and villages. She is a virtuous and estimable lady and is one of the best known residents of the county.

WILLIAM LYNCH.

William Lynch, whose large business interests make him a valued representative of commercial and industrial activity in Muncie, was born in New York, September 15, 1854, and may truly be called a self-made man, for from an early age he has been dependent entirely upon his own labors. Early in life he was left an orphan and in 1861 went to live with Henry Sallee, who filled the position of township treasurer and township clerk for thirty-seven years. Mr. Lynch was permitted to attend school for about three

months during each year and throughout the remainder of the year his labors were given to his employers. When twenty years of age he left school altogether as a student. Mr. Lynch was permitted to attend for a short time in Ladoga, Indiana, and for six months he engaged in teaching. He then learned telegraphy which he followed for two years, after which he became connected with the grain trade and also bought and sold stock. He devoted his energies to dealing in grain and live stock for seventeen years, after which he managed a store for Mr. Reinstein. Later he purchased his employer's store and conducted the business himself in connection with his partner, A. L. Stearns, a relation that was maintained for ten years. On the expiration of that period he began operating the coal mine which he now owns and which has been very productive. He has three partners in the Muncie Coal Company but is one of the largest stockholders of the enterprise. The mine has a capacity of about five hundred tons per day and the output is therefore valuable. Mr. Lynch also owns a general mercantile store in Muncie and a good farm property of eighty acres besides city real estate and twenty-five acres in Muncie.

In his political affiliations Mr. Lynch is a Republican but has no aspirations for office. He belongs to Morning Star Lodge, No. 486, I. O. O. F., and Muncie Camp, No. 4878, M. W. A. He is also identified with the Fraternal Army of America and in these different organizations he enjoys the warm regard of his brethren.

He has been twice married, having in December, 1875, in Muncie wedded Margaret Lowman, who was born in Vermilion county. They became the parents of four children: Cato, Grace, Blaine and Elbert, but the last two are deceased. The wife and

mother died in 1886 and in September, 1888, in Indianapolis, Mr. Lynch was again married, his second union being with Sarah Campbell, who was born in Coles county, Illinois. They have three children: Olive, aged twelve years; Willie, nine; and Verla, eight.

This is a utilitarian age when the prominent factor of a community is he who controls important and extensive business enterprises and fortunate is the community if such a man not only has regard for the growth of his business but also for the development of the community. Such a quality characterizes the career of Mr. Lynch and while advancing his individual success he also contributes to the general prosperity by the controlling of his affairs and by the active co-operation which he gives to many measures for the public good.

WILLIAM M. ACTON.

Among the young men of Vermilion county successfully practicing at the bar and also prominent in political life is William M. Acton, whose birth occurred in this county on the 30th of August, 1876. He is a son of William H. and Eliza J. (Lafin) Acton. The father was a native of Ohio, and in 1839 removed to Vermilion county, locating in Pilot township, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising and was known as one of the progressive agriculturists of his community. He died February 27, 1899, at the age of sixty years, respected by all who knew him. His widow still survives him and is now living in Potomac, Vermilion county. The paternal grandfather of our subject was James Acton, a native of Kentucky, and he became a pioneer

settlers of this county. Matthew Lafin, the maternal grandfather, was also one of the early residents of the county and both aided in the material development and upbuilding of this portion of the state.

After acquiring his literary education in the public schools, William M. Acton further prepared for the duties of an active business career by a course of study in the Danville Business College, of Danville, Illinois. He also pursued the classical course in Greer College, in Hoopston, Illinois, where he was graduated in 1896 with the valedictorian honors of his class. Desiring to make the practice of law his life work, he then began reading in the office of C. L. Chamberlin, of Hoopston, while later, J. W. Keeslar, of Danville, was his preceptor. In October, 1899, he was admitted to the bar and formed a partnership with Mr. Keeslar. He is now assistant state's attorney, to which position he was appointed in December, 1900. His success has come soon, because his equipment is unusually good. Along with those qualities indispensable to a lawyer—a keen, rapid, logical mind plus business sense and a ready capacity for hard work—he brought to the starting point of his legal career eloquence of language and a strong personality.

On the 29th of November, 1899, Mr. Acton led to the marriage altar Miss Adolyn M. Herlocker, a daughter of the late U. R. Herlocker, of Danville. The young couple have many friends in this county. Mr. Acton is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen, to the Tribe of Ben Hur, and to the Methodist Episcopal church, all of which indicate the high character of his social life and his religious belief. In politics he is a Republican, takes an active part in campaign work and has delivered many addresses in behalf of his party, for he be-

believes that one of the salient features of good citizenship is the endorsement of political principles pertaining to good government.

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ISAAC CURRENT.

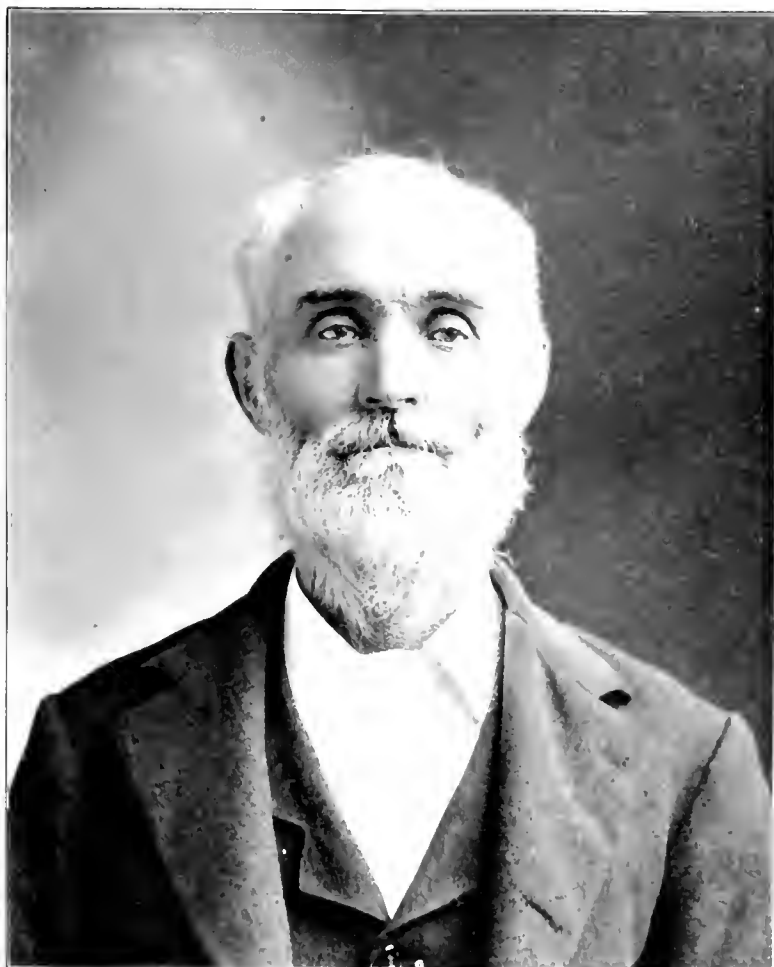
Among those who have, after long connection with agricultural pursuits, put aside the work of the farm and taken up their abode in the city of Danville is numbered Isaac Current, one of Vermilion county's native sons. His birth occurred in Newell township, on the 17th of November, 1845, his parents being William and Mary (Bastwin) Current, both of whom were natives of Virginia. The father was born April 20, 1803. The maternal grandfather, Henry Bastwin, was also born in Virginia, and on leaving that state traveled westward until he took up his abode in Danville township, Vermilion county, Illinois. Here he engaged in business as a hat maker, following that pursuit for a number of years. Later he went to southern Illinois and after his retirement from business he made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Current, for a short time. He next went to Iowa, where he lived with another daughter until his death, which occurred when he had reached the very advanced age of nearly one hundred years.

In 1829 William Current, the father of our subject, came to Vermilion county with a brother and sister, settling in Newell township, where he engaged in farming. He was a blacksmith and wagon-maker by trade and after coming west sold some wagons of his manufacture in Chicago, besides making those for his own use. In those early days Chicago was the market at which he sold his butter, eggs and other farm produce. He continued farming here until his

death, passing away August 6, 1851, and our subject now has in his possession many relics of his father, including a cowbell, a day book, a Bible and a pocket book, all of which are valued family relics. The mother died in 1885, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. They were the parents of fourteen children, of whom five are yet living, namely: Andrew J., who is a farmer residing in Tracy, Iowa; George, who lives in the Soldiers' Home at Quincy, Illinois; James, who is a grain merchant of Homer, Illinois; Isaac; and Samuel, a grocer of Franklin, Nebraska. Those who have passed away are: Henry B., Nancy, Martin W., John, Mary Jane, Susanna, Rebecca, Lucinda and Matilda.

Isaac Current attended the common schools in his youth and afterward engaged in farm work on the home place. He later purchased a tract of land on Covington Road in Danville township and there he carried on agricultural pursuits until he removed to Danville on the 17th of September, 1900, having for many years been actively engaged in farm work, whereby he won a competence that now enables him to enjoy a well merited rest, surrounded by all of the comforts and many of the luxuries which go to make life worth the living.

Mr. Current has been three times married. In 1862 he wedded Clarissa E. Lynch, who was born in this county, August 10, 1843, a daughter of Isaac P. and Mary Lynch, who were early settlers here and are now deceased. Mrs. Current passed away June 14, 1866, leaving a daughter, while their son, Samuel, who was born July 2, 1864, had died in infancy. The daughter, Rachel E., born December 8, 1865, is now the wife of Isaac Bowman and they reside upon her father's farm in Danville township. On the 28th of October, 1869, Mr.



ISAAC CURRENT.



MRS. ISAAC CURRENT.

Current wedded Mary (Campbell) Wyatt, of Vermilion county. Her father, Harp Campbell, having located here at an early period in the development of this portion of the state. The second wife died June 21, 1872. Her son, William Frederick, born March 20, 1871, died in infancy. For his third wife Mr. Current chose Mrs. Dorothy J. Noel and they were married January 20, 1873. The lady is a native of Parke county, Indiana, born January 13, 1843, and a daughter of Cornelius and Nancy Jones, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Miami county, Ohio. Her father was an own cousin of John Brown, the noted abolition advocate and for many years was a resident of Parke county, Indiana, but died in southern Illinois. By the third marriage of Mr. Current there was born one child, Charles Raymond, whose birth occurred November 17, 1876. He married Katie Shepherd and is a farmer by occupation, residing in Danville.

When Mr. Current removed to the city he built his present beautiful home at No. 711 Illinois street and he still owns his farm of one hundred and five acres on section 1 and 6, Danville township, together with a farm of forty acres on section 30 in the same township and another forty acre tract near Fairmount, this county. He had made splendid improvements upon the old homestead. He erected a nice residence there and it is to-day one of the best farms in the township. He also built houses on both of his small farms. He formerly gave his political support to the Democracy but is now a Republican and both he and his wife are consistent and devoted members of the First Methodist church of Danville. At all times Mr. Current has been actuated in his conduct and in his relations to his fellow men by honorable principles and by his Chris-

tian belief, and those who know him—and his acquaintance is extensive—therefore cherish for him high respect by reason of his genuine worth of character.

HARVEY SODOWSKY.

When civilization made its way into the Mississippi valley the great farms of this section of the country became the wonder of the world. The broad prairies of the valley were transformed into vast country seats, comprising hundred and sometimes thousands of acres. The more mountainous regions of the eastern country had made farming on this extensive scale impossible, but in the west nature provided splendid opportunities and agriculture and its kindred occupation of stockraising became the leading pursuit of the enterprising people who settled this region. Harvey Sodowsky directed his energies into these departments of activity and won a place second to none among the raisers of shorthorn cattle in America, and perhaps second to none in the world. His success was of gradual growth—the natural result of energy, perseverance, sound judgment and keen discrimination. In his life he exemplified many of the sterling traits of his Polish ancestry—the patriotism, the fearless defense of what he believed to be right and conscientious regard for the rights of others.

The Sodowsky family was founded in America by James Sodowsky, a Polish exile of noble birth, proud spirit and lofty patriotism. When his love of liberty could no longer tolerate the despotic rule of Russia, he became the leader in a rebellion against the czar, and when defeated, but not subdued, he came to America—"the land of the free and the home of the brave." Later he married

the sister of Governor Inslip, of the colony of Virginia, and among their descendants was Harvey Sadowsky, of this review. In the course of years representatives of the family changed the spelling of the name, including the brothers of our subject. Two of these brothers, William and Abraham Sandusky, are now prominent farmers and stockmen of Carroll township, Vermillion county. Harvey Sadowsky, however, retained the ancestral spelling of the family name.

The spirit which led James Sadowsky, the emigrant, first to fight for liberty and then come to America, has been manifest in his descendants throughout succeeding generations. It was shown by the Sadowskys who fought for the liberty of the colonists of the new world, and how their hearts must have rejoiced at the glorious outcome of the struggle; it was again shown by gallant soldiers of the name in the war of 1812; and in the subjugation of the western wilderness they bore a part. Daniel Boone opened the gates of Kentucky and soon he was followed into "the dark and bloody" region by the grandfather of our subject, who settled there just after the close of the Revolutionary war. Abraham Sandusky, the father, was born in that state and married Jane McDowell, by whom he had eight children, of whom Harvey Sadowsky was the eldest. In 1830 they removed with their family from Kentucky to Vermillion county and located September 29, 1830, on the Little Vermillion river, where Abraham Sandusky made his home until his death.

The birth of Harvey Sadowsky occurred in Bourbon county, Kentucky, May 17, 1817, and when he was about fourteen years of age he came with his parents to this county. He was early initiated into farm work

and he remained at home until twenty-four years of age when he was married to Miss Susan Baum, a daughter of Charles and Susan (Moyer) Baum, who had emigrated from Ohio and taken up their abode on the Little Vermillion river. Mrs. Sadowsky was of Polish lineage and the founder of the Baum family in America was her grandfather, Charles Baum. He married Miss Barbara McDonald, a relative of General McDonald, who was attached to the division of the Continental Army that won fame under the command of Francis Marion. He did reserve duty in protecting the frontier and when the war was ended he established his home in Bucks county, Pennsylvania. Following Wayne's treaty with the Indians he sailed down the Ohio river with his family, landing at the mouth of Bullskin creek, and there close to what is now the river town of Chilo, established the first settlement in the territory of Ohio. It was Charles Baum, Jr., a son of Charles Baum, the emigrant, who became the father of Mrs. Sadowsky. He wedded Susan Moyer, whose father, John Moyer, was one of the heroes of the war for American Independence and served for several years under the immediate command of General Washington. For some time following the close of hostilities he made his home in Pennsylvania and then joined the brave band of pioneers who reclaimed Ohio for the purpose of civilization, from the hands of the red men. In the year 1829 Charles Baum removed with his family to another pioneer district—Vermillion county, Illinois, and here he reached the age of ninety six years.

It was on the 20th of May, 1840, that his daughter Susan gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Sadowsky, and they began their domestic life on the farm which they after-

ward called the Woodlawn Stock Farm and which became known throughout the country because of the famous shorthorn cattle raised thereon. Throughout the surrounding states Mr. Sodowsky was known as a breeder of pure bred and high grade shorthorns and in his barns and pastures were seen some of the finest specimens of shorthorn cattle in America, if not in the world. The list of premiums which he won is perhaps longer than that of any other man whose exhibits of stock were often seen in the leading fairs and expositions of the country. Carrying on the business for a half century, Mr. Sodowsky gained wealth, and also won an honorable name, for his business methods were such as would bear the closest investigation. In the acquirement of his fortune he never took advantage of the necessities of others, but bought and sold, realizing only a fair profit upon his stock, and in this way adding annually to his income until he became one of the most prosperous men of eastern Illinois.

There has been no home in Vermilion county since the days of its first settlement more justly noted for warm-hearted hospitality than Woodlawn and both Mr. and Mrs. Sodowsky were most generous and charitable. The poor and needy found in them a friend and many a one has reason to remember them gratefully for timely assistance rendered in the hour of adversity. Their giving was always unostentatious, and in matters of citizenship Mr. Sodowsky was public-spirited and progressive. Any measure for the general good was sure of his support and he was a co-operant factor in many movements that resulted beneficially to the county. Both he and his wife were sincere Christian people, known and honored among their fellow men for their intrinsic worth and high character. The husband passed away

December 18, 1886, and the wife survived him only until March 21, 1888. For more than half a century they had lived in the county—theirs being a happy married life, while the example of citizenship and business integrity left by Mr. Sodowsky is one well worthy of emulation.



CARL FUNK.

Carl Funk, who is engaged in the grocery business in Rossville and has been connected with various lines of business activity in Vermilion county for thirty-one years, was born in Prussia, near the city of Wilsnack, June 28, 1828. His father, John Funk, was also a native of Germany and was a house carpenter. He married Helena Timm, also a native of that country, and his death occurred about 1838. His wife, however, survived him for some time.

Carl Funk was reared in the place of his nativity and in his youth learned the shoemaker's trade. Like most young men who start out in life for themselves he desired a companion and helpmate for the journey and thus on the 6th of October, 1854, he was united in marriage to Wilhelmina Felsch, a native of Havelberg, Germany. After his marriage he carried on business for over fifteen years in Germany and in 1860 he came to the new world, crossing the Atlantic to New York city. He did not tarry in the eastern metropolis, however, but continued his journey to Chicago and thence to Washburn, where he worked for a few months. He afterward began business at Pattonsburg, Illinois, where he remained for nearly two years and on the expiration of that period he came to Rossville and here established a shoe shop, which he carried on for several

years. He also carried the mail to Rossville for nine years and occupied the position of deputy postmaster under President Harrison, remaining in the postoffice for four years. On the expiration of that period he established a grocery business in 1805 and has since been actively engaged in this line of trade, enjoying a liberal patronage at the present time. His stock is large and well selected and his progressive business methods and earnest desire to please his customers have secured for him a good trade. He has also been a prominent factor in the improvement of Rossville and here erected two brick business houses, which he still owns, including the store in which he is now conducting his own trade. He has also built five residences here and has thus been an active factor in the improvement of the city.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Funk has been born one son, Oscar, who is married and resides in Cayuga, Indiana. He has seven children: Loola, the deceased wife of Charles Shelby; Otto; Minnie; Edith; Pearl; Emiel; and Roy. Mr. Funk also has one great-grandchild. Politically our subject is a staunch Republican, earnestly advocating the measures of the party and casting his ballot for its candidates. He has served for four years as a councilman. He and his wife belong to the Lutheran church and were reared in that faith. Mr. Funk holds membership in Rossville Lodge, I. O. O. F., in which he has filled all of the offices and is a past grand. He has also served as district deputy for two years. He came to Illinois a poor man with no capital, save strong determination and unflinching enterprise and, upon this as a foundation he has built his success. His life history is commendable because he has labored diligently and along lines which show that he has adhered closely to honorable principles. He is now well known in Ros-

sville and the surrounding country and enjoys the high regard of many with whom he has been brought in contact.

LAWRENCE M. WITHERSPOON.

L. M. Witherspoon is serving as postmaster of Jamaica and is one of the prosperous and leading farmers of Vermilion county. He was born in Gibson county, Indiana May 30, 1860, and is a son of W. P. Witherspoon, a native of Alabama. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a direct descendant of John R. Witherspoon, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. W. P. Witherspoon was united in marriage in Gibson county, Indiana, to Sitha A. McDaniel, a native of that county. He then engaged in teaching school until 1861, when with his family he removed to Fairmount, Illinois, and purchased a farm, upon which he lived until 1871. He then took up his abode on the old Witherspoon homestead, which was his place of residence until his death, which occurred February 19, 1884. His study of political issues and questions led him to support the Republican party and for fourteen years he served as assessor and collector of Sidell township. He also served as Republican committeeman from his township and did all in his power to advance the cause in which he believed so firmly. His religious faith was that of the Methodist Episcopal church. His first wife died February 12, 1876, and in 1876 he wedded Malissa Orr, a sister of his son's wife and a native of Indiana. By his first marriage Mr. Witherspoon had ten children, of whom Monroe and William, the first two, died in infancy. J. D. married Elizabeth Orr and died in September, 1881, his widow being now a resident of Homer,



L. M. WITHERSPOON.

Illinois. George married Ella Hes and afterward wedded Mary Woods, his home being now in Gibson county, Indiana. L. M. is the third of the family. Hattie is the wife of G. J. Gibson, a farmer living near Fairmount. Elmer E. wedded Jennie Carter and resides in Danville. Mabel is the wife of W. C. Hawkins, who resides upon a farm in Fairmount. Nora R. became the wife of J. B. Michener and after his death married J. Perdue, with whom she is now living in Princeton, Indiana. Lillie A. is the wife of W. B. Russell and they reside on a farm near Catlin.

Mr. Witherspoon, whose name introduces this review, pursued his education in the Dougherty and Liberty district schools of Vermilion county, his opportunities in that direction being somewhat limited. He attended only through the winter months, for in the summer seasons his labor was needed upon the farm. At the age of twenty he left school altogether, becoming an agriculturist, giving his entire attention to that pursuit. When twenty-one years of age he inherited forty acres of land of his father's estate and in a year sold that and purchased one hundred and thirty acres upon which he assumed an indebtedness. All this he paid for, however, in seven years, and in his farming operations he has ever been successful.

On the 13th of February, 1884, near Catlin, Mr. Witherspoon was united in marriage to Miss Milda Finley, who was born in that locality, March 18, 1864, a daughter of Ezra G. and Jane (Goodner) Finley, the former born in Westville, Illinois, and the latter in Georgetown, this state. They were married near Georgetown and Mr. Finley then devoted his attention and energies to farming and stock-raising. After a year he removed to his present home near Catlin,

where he owns a valuable tract of land. His wife passed away September 12, 1892. Mr. Finley has refused to serve in political offices, but is an earnest advocate of Republican principles and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In the early part of the Civil war he enlisted at Danville, in Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, and was wounded in the battle of Shiloh, after which he was honorably discharged in August, 1862, by reason of his disability. He now belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic. Having lost his first wife, in March, 1895, he was married in Catlin to Martha Thomas, also a native of Vermilion county. By his first union he had ten children, of whom six are yet living, as follows: Milda, now the wife of our subject; James M., who married Abbie Hewitt, and resides in Catlin; Oliver, who wedded Julietta White and resides in Danville; Ozias, who wedded Pearl Buchanan and makes his home in Catlin; Fannie, the wife of Augustus Talbott, of Sidell, Illinois, and John, who is living with his father. By his second marriage Mr. Finley has two children, Elmore and Henry, who are still with their parents.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Witherspoon has been blessed with four children: Elsie, who was born near Fairmount, March 4, 1885; Gertrude, born September 2, 1887, near Fairmount; Alta, born in Redlands, California, June 11, 1891; and Clyde F., born in Jamaica, Illinois, November 28, 1896.

For five years after his marriage Mr. Witherspoon remained in Vermilion county and then went to Riverside, California, while later he located at Redlands, where he was manager for the Mound City Land and Water Company. He also owned a nursery of his own and remained on the

Pacific coast for five years, after which he returned to this county and purchased a farm, upon which he is now living. He sold his property in California, which has since proved very valuable. On his return here he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. This, together with an additional tract of forty acres, constitutes the farm upon which he now resides. His landed possessions, however, aggregate four hundred and fifty acres and he is one of the prosperous and representative farmers of the community. In 1900 he erected his present handsome home which is built in Queen Ann style of architecture. Mr. Witherspoon has raised much stock for the market, including hogs and horses, and is unquestionably one of the most progressive, energetic and wide-awake farmers of Vermillion county.

In politics our subject is a stalwart Republican, and on the 4th of June, 1902, he was appointed postmaster of Jamaica, in which office he is now serving. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and to the Methodist Episcopal church of Jamaica, in which he is serving as a trustee and steward. He has also held several township offices and no trust reposed in Mr. Witherspoon has ever been betrayed in the slightest degree. Honor and integrity are synonymous with his name and his word is as good as any bond ever solemnized by signature or seal. His business affairs have ever been honorably conducted and because of this the most envious cannot grudge him his success.

ALBERT A. BERHALTER.

Albert A. Berhalter, who is engaged in the undertaking business in Danville, was born in Noble county, Indiana, on the 4th

of July, 1867, a son of Joseph and Frances (Schuender) Berhalter, both of whom were natives of Germany. When children they came together to America and were married in this country after attaining years of maturity. The father died September 4, 1881, at the age of fifty-six years, and his wife, surviving him for several years, was called to her final rest January 24, 1886, also when fifty-six years of age. The father engaged in cabinet-making and in the manufacture of coffins. This has been a family of undertakers. There were nine children, three of whom are now engaged in the undertaking business, all of the boys devoting their energies to this pursuit. Those still living are John, Joseph W., Louise, George, Etta, Charles and Albert A. Those who have passed away are: Frank and Minnie. With the exception of our subject the living members of the family are all residents of Kendallville, Indiana.

In the public schools of his native city Albert A. Berhalter pursued his education. The father died when the son was only thirteen years of age, after which Mr. Berhalter continued to attend school through the winter months until eighteen years of age. In the summer he assisted in the business which had been instituted by his father, becoming thoroughly familiar with the trade both in principle and detail. He also acted as manager of the opera house in Kendallville for a time. On the 11th of July, 1888, he arrived in Danville, where he has since made his home. Here he entered the employ of N. A. Kimball, an undertaker and the owner of the present location and business of the firm of Berhalter & Olmsted. This business has now been established for thirty-four years and throughout the period the enterprise has been a leading one in this line. On the 30th of June, 1893, in company with William C.

Olmsted, Mr. Berhalter purchased the business of his employer, Mr. Kimball, and the new firm has since conducted the trade with excellent success, their business constantly growing. This undertaking establishment is a model one of the state and has been especially designed, planned and fully equipped in the minutest detail. The building is a modern structure with a full stone front. You first enter a vestibule, then pass on into the hall and on the right is a pleasant and commodious waiting room, while on the left is a private office. In advance of the hall is a private chapel, morgue and stock room on the first floor. The entire second floor is occupied as a salesroom. The arrangement of the establishment is such that perfect seclusion and privacy may be obtained by those who have occasion to arrange for the burial of their dead from this place, thus preserving the sacredness and solemnity of the occasion.

On the 14th of September, 1892, Mr. Berhalter was united in marriage to Miss Mary Hurley, of La Salle, Illinois, and their union has been blessed with three children—Madeline Frances, Mary Hurley, and Lillian Nellie. Socially Mr. Berhalter is connected with the Knights of Pythias, the Improved Order of Red Men, Modern Woodmen of America, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. His social qualities and genuine personal worth have rendered him a favorite not only in fraternal circles but wherever he is known.

William C. Olmsted, the junior member of the firm of Berhalter & Olmsted, undertakers of Danville, was born in Catlin, this county, on the 13th of October, 1861, and is a son of Albert G. and Elizabeth (Wright) Olmsted. The father is still living, but the mother passed away on the 26th of July, 1901, at the age of sixty-nine years. The

paternal grandfather was Stanley Olmsted, a native of Jamestown, New York, who removed with his family to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1840. He was a lumberman and he and his son, Albert, conducted a sawmill near Danville. The grandfather had also carried on business in the same line in Jamestown, New York, prior to his removal to the west. He died at the comparatively early age of thirty-nine years. The subject of this review was one of a family of eight children, five of whom are yet living, namely: William C., Charles E., Mary, the wife of J. H. Palmer, George E. and Albert C., all of whom are residents of Danville.

At the usual age Mr. Olmsted, of this review, entered the public schools where he continued his studies until about sixteen years of age. At that time he became a factor in the business world, by entering the employ of A. C. Daniels, a merchant with whom he remained for sixteen years. This fact is certainly indicative of his capability, his fidelity to duty, his close application and also of the confidence and trust reposed in him by his employers. At length he severed his connection with that house and entered into partnership with Albert A. Berhalter in the undertaking business in Danville. For nine years they have conducted the establishment which was founded thirty-four years ago and they have kept it up to a high standard, making it not only one of the leading enterprises of the kind in this city, but also of the state because of its especially good equipment, because of the fine line of undertaking goods which they carry and by reason of the well arranged suite of rooms which they have, enabling their patrons who so desire to hold funeral services here with all the privacy and seclusion of a home. Their salesrooms are situated on the second floor and contain a fine line of undertaking goods.

As funeral directors the firm have gained a wide reputation by reason of their careful management.

On the 28th of January, 1886, Mr. Olmsted was united in marriage to Miss Eva E. Beck, and they now have two daughters—Lola and Helen. The family is one well known in Danville and the hospitality of their home is enjoyed by their many friends. Mr. Olmsted is identified with a number of fraternal organizations. He belongs to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias, the Royal Arcanum, the Tribe of Ben Hur and the Modern Woodmen.

WILLIAM CLARK McREYNOLDS.

William Clark McReynolds has won the gratitude and honor of his fellow citizens by his loyalty to his country under all conditions. As long as patriotism is an element of American citizenship, as long as the sons of the new world have love for their country, so long will the history of her soldiers be a matter of interest to the public. They are held in grateful remembrance by the people of their generation and their names will be honored through many ages by posterity. Among those who fought under the starry banner of the nation, both in the Mexican war and the war of the Rebellion was numbered William Clark McReynolds.

He was born near Paris, Edgar county, Illinois, September 10, 1825, and was a son of the Rev. John McReynolds, a Methodist minister, whose birth occurred in Kentucky and who came to Illinois at an early date. In the family were three sons and three daughters, the only surviving member, however, being Richard W. McReynolds, a resi-

dent of Covington, Kentucky, who is in the employ of the government as a gauger in a distillery.

Mr. McReynolds of this review acquired his early education in the schools near his boyhood home, and on attaining his majority he went to Paris and enlisted in the Mexican war as a volunteer in the United States army under the command of General Shields and Captain McConkey. He spent his twenty-first birthday in this service, belonging to Company H of the First Illinois Volunteer Infantry, of which he was made first lieutenant. Later he resigned on account of his father's death and returned home to take care of the family. When the country became involved in civil war, he once more entered the service and was instrumental in organizing the Fifty-second Indiana Volunteer Regiment, of which he became colonel. There was an urgent need for troops in Kentucky and as the regiment had not its full quota it was consolidated with another command, consequently Mr. McReynolds accepted the commission of lieutenant colonel. He accompanied the regiment to the front but eventually resigned his commission and returned to his home in Rushville, Indiana, taking his old position as cashier in the bank.

During early manhood Mr. McReynolds was engaged in merchandising at Paris, Illinois, and was also in business with Jacob D. Early at Terre Haute, Indiana, for some years. Friends of his who were interested in establishing a bank at Rushville, Indiana, persuaded Mr. McReynolds to accept the position of cashier, with George Hibben as president, and he was afterward highly complimented by Hon. Hugh McCulloch, then president of all the banks of the state, for the condition of the one under his especial charge.



COL. W. C. McREYNOLDS.

In the spring of 1864 he arrived in Danville and here secured a position as book-keeper for M. M. Wright, in whose service he remained for a number of years. Finally he resigned and became buyer for L. T. Dickerson, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, being thus a representative of the business interests of this place until his health failed.

In 1853 Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth M. Pearson, a native of Livingston county, New York, and a daughter of John and Catherine (Tiffany) Pearson, of Canada. In their family were three children, but she has only one brother yet living, G. C. Pearson, while her elder brother, George T. Pearson, has now passed away. Unto our subject and his wife were born ten children, seven of whom reached maturity: George, who is an engineer living in California; John, deceased; Mrs. Jane TenBook Johns, of Danville, Illinois; Mrs. Meta Doane, of Winfield, Kansas; William Gustavus, deceased; Mrs. Mary Reiley, who is a resident of Danville; Mrs. Fannie Pearson Sloan, whose husband is in the secret service of United States; Thomas, who, during the Spanish-American war, served with Battery A of Danville, and was a member of the Eleventh United States Cavalry which was sent to the Philippines; and Philip Barton, who was also a member of Battery A and was in active service. One child of the family died in infancy.

Mr. McReynolds was called to his final rest on the 1st of October, 1890, and his remains were interred in the Danville cemetery. He was a member of the Grand Army Post and of the Masonic fraternity, both of Paris, Illinois. He likewise belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics Mr. McReynolds was a Whig in early life and afterward became a Democrat. He held membership in the Holy Trinity

Episcopal church and was a man who in all the relations of life commanded the respect and confidence of those with whom he associated. During the years of his residence in Danville he won many friends. He was a citizen who by his blameless and upright life and honorable career reflected credit not only upon the city in which he made his home but upon the state. True to every trust, he commanded the unqualified confidence of those with whom he was associated in business and the warm regard of those whom he met in social life. For a number of years he served as alderman of Danville and exerted considerable influence in public affairs.

JAMES WILLIAMS.

An honorable retirement from labor has been vouchsafed to James Williams, who, having put aside business cares is now living in a pleasant home at No. 708 Fairchild street, in Danville, surrounded by many comforts which have come to him as the result of his former toil. He was at one time a progressive and enterprising farmer of Vermilion county, owning and operating three hundred and twenty acres of land in Jamaica township. He is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Coshocton county on the 22d of March, 1839. His father, Lewis B. Williams, was a native of the same county, while his grandfather was born in Maryland, his birth occurring in the city of Baltimore in 1765. The family were early settlers of that state. In 1811 the grandfather left the south and made his way to Ohio, settling in Coshocton county, where he entered land from the government. This was covered with a dense growth of timber,

but he cleared away the trees and in course of time developed a good farm. Lewis B. Williams was born upon that farm, was there reared to manhood and afterward assisted in carrying on the work of the home place. He married Rebecca McCoy, a native of the Buckeye state and a daughter of William McCoy, who was one of the early settlers of Ohio, to which place he had removed from Pennsylvania. During the greater part of his life Lewis B. Williams resided upon the old family homestead in Washington township, his last years were there passed and he died in the spring of 1870 at the age of forty years. His wife had passed away in 1844, when the subject of this review was a child of only five years.

James Williams was reared upon the old family homestead and his common school advantages were somewhat meagre, for he was enabled to attend only in the winter months while in the summer he aided in the work of plowing, planting and harvesting. After arriving at years of maturity he was married in Coshocton county, in November, 1858, to Miss Mindwell Roberts, a native of Ohio, born, reared and educated in Coshocton county. Her father, Dr. Martin Roberts, removed to the Buckeye state from New York. The young couple began their domestic life upon an Ohio farm where they lived for about six years and in 1864 they came to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county. Here Mr. Williams purchased land which was then in Carroll township. He and his brother-in-law, Isaac Turner, first bought one hundred and sixty acres which they broke and fenced, developing a good farm. They worked together for about four years at the end of which time Mr. Williams bought out Mr. Turner's interest and later he added to his farm from time to time purchasing and trading for more land. He

now owns three hundred twenty acres included within two farms which are about a half mile apart. On his home place he erected a good residence, substantial barns and outbuildings, having two sets of buildings. He also tiled and fenced the place, planting fruit and shade trees, and there continued the work of cultivation, development and improvement until his farm was one of the best in the locality. In connection with the cultivation of the grain best adapted to this climate he was also engaged in raising a good grade of stock, feeding cattle and fitting them for the market. He began life in Vermilion county with but little means, but by his own exertions, by unflagging industry and strong will he has steadily worked his way upward until he is now numbered among the substantial residents of this locality.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Williams were born four sons and four daughters: Miles, who is married and follows farming in Shelby county, Illinois; Winfield Scott, who is engaged in mining in Colorado; Lyman T., who is married and follows farming in Champaign county, Illinois; Fred, a resident of Vermilion county; Ella May, the wife of James B. Lamar, of eastern Colorado; Mary M., Jessie P., and Lizzie, all at home. The last named is a student in the high school of Danville. Both Mr. and Mrs. Williams hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being identified with the blue lodge of Danville. In his political views he is an earnest Republican and has supported each presidential nominee of the party since he cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1860. He has never sought office for himself, however, although he has served on the school board for a number of years and as township school trustee. He

carried on his farm work until 1900 when he purchased his residence property in Danville and has since lived a retired life in the city. He has made his home in Vermilion county for thirty-eight years, during which time many changes have occurred. Within this period the prairies have been broken and transformed into rich fields; roads have been laid out and have been cut off from private property by well kept fences; progress and improvement have also been carried forward in town and city; and in the work of development Mr. Williams has borne his part. He is a man of integrity and worth and he and his estimable wife and family are highly esteemed throughout the community. All that Mr. Williams possesses has come to him through his own enterprising efforts, his farm property being the just reward of his earnest labor.



J. M. McCABE.

Starting in business life as a farm hand and realizing that there is no royal road to wealth, J. M. McCabe early displayed the salient traits of his character which have made him a prosperous and leading man of Vermilion county. He is now residing in Fairmount where he owns and operates the tile works and has valuable property interests, while his real estate possessions also include farm lands in this county.

Mr. McCabe was born February 19, 1844, in Dearborn county, Indiana, a son of Alexander and Rhoda (Knapp) McCabe, the former a native of Ohio, while the latter was born near Niagara Falls, in New York. The McCabe family was established in Dearborn county, Indiana, when the father of our sub-

ject was but ten years of age. After reaching years of maturity he was married there to Miss Knapp and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he followed until sometime in the '70's, when he removed with his family to northwestern Missouri, there remaining for about twenty years. On the expiration of that period he continued his western journey to Independence, California, where both he and his wife spent their last days. In their family were eight children who reached years of maturity, while six of the number are yet living. Arad K., is now deceased. B. F. resides upon a farm in Dearborn county, Indiana. P. H. is a resident of Independence, California. S. L. lives in Oklahoma. J. M. is the next younger. William is engaged in farming in Oregon. Mrs. Olive A. Van Vaeter, a widow, is now living in Gentry county, Missouri. Emma, deceased, was the wife of Ed Myers of Indiana.

In the district schools of his native county J. M. McCabe acquired his preliminary education, which was supplemented by study in the high school of Danville, Illinois. He came to Vermilion county at the age of nineteen years and for six months he was employed by the month as a farm hand. During the succeeding winter he engaged in teaching school. Afterward he worked by the month on a farm and engaged in teaching school. Desiring a companion and helpmate on life's journey he was married on the 27th of November, 1865, in Fairmount, Illinois, to Miss Mary E. Dougherty, a daughter of Samuel and Jane (Dalby) Dougherty, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. Her father was one of the first settlers of Vermilion county and here engaged in farming, but both he and his wife have now passed away. In their family were

seven children. The home of Mr. and Mrs. McCabe has been blessed with four children, but only two are now living, Effie and Elsie.

As time has passed Mr. McCabe has prospered in his business affairs, and making judicious investments he has become one of the prosperous men of his adopted county. He now owns and operates the large tile and brick works of Fairmount, an important industry which proves of value to the community by affording employment to a number of men and at the same time brings him a very desirable return for his investment. He is also the owner of a zinc mine in Missouri, owns the bank building in this place and good residence property here, besides one hundred and thirty-five acres of valuable land. He possesses keen business discrimination and executive force. He forms his plans readily, is determined in their execution and through his persistency of purpose and honorable dealing he has gained a place which is alike gratifying and honorable as one of the prominent business men of his county.

Socially he is connected with Fairmount Lodge, No. 590, F. & A. M., and has served as its representative in the grand lodge. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and in politics he is independent, voting for the men and measures rather than for the party. He has himself filled several of the township and city offices, although he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. At the present time he is serving as school treasurer. Mr. McCabe belongs to that class of representative citizens who at all times have due regard for the welfare and upbuilding of the communities with which they are connected, and no matter how great their business interests, can always find time and opportunity to promote the general welfare. The entire period

of his manhood has been passed in Vermilion county and the friends who have known him throughout this period speak of him in terms of commendation, because his life has been consistent with honorable, manly principles.

LEONARD R. MYERS.

Leonard R. Myers, now deceased, was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, January 25, 1836, a son of Leonard and Hannah (Ratholan) Myers, who were of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. In the year 1854 Mr. Myers came to the west, believing that he might have better business opportunities in a less thickly settled district of the country where competition was not so great. Accordingly he came alone to Illinois and began farming in Vermilion county upon rented land. In the meantime he dealt extensively in stock, making a specialty of horses, and for some years he continued to rent land, but later he purchased a farm comprising what is now the greater part of the old homestead. There he lived for about eight years, when he purchased the McKnight farm on section 6, Oakwood township, upon which his widow is now living. This is pleasantly located one mile north of Pithian. As the years passed Mr. Myers prospered in his work and acquired a very comfortable and desirable competence, and when he died he owned about six hundred acres of valuable land all improved.

On the 1st of January, 1869, occurred the marriage of Mr. Myers and Sarah E. Lowman. She was born July 15, 1846, in Oakwood township, and was reared and educated here. She comes of an old Virginian family and her great-grandfather was burned at the stake by Indians in Virginia.



L. R. MYERS.



MRS. SARAH E. MYERS.

Her mother at the time of her death, which occurred in 1898, when she was seventy-two years of age, had thirty-six grandchildren and twenty-one great-grandchildren. Her husband had died many years before, passing away at the age of forty-two.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Myers were born eleven children: Mrs. Minnie Frederick, of Champaign county, Illinois; Mrs. Hattie Cessua, of Rochester, Indiana; William, who married Cora Black and is living in Lohrville, Iowa; Leonard, who married Zena Wray and resides in Fithian; Reuben, who wedded Doris Hayes and makes his home in Vermilion county; Mrs. Jeanette Mead, of this county; Sylvia, who died at the age of eleven months; Winfred, who married Fannie Bantz and resides upon the home farm; Gracie, Lola and George, all at home. Mrs. Myers was the third in order of birth in a family of eleven children born unto George and Margaret Lowman, and of the number five are now living. Her father came to this county at a very early day, east in his lot with the early pioneer settlers and Mrs. Myers assisted in the fields by dropping corn by hand, keeping up with the plow. She has seen wooden mold boards used with a breaking plow which was drawn by oxen, guided by a single rope line manufactured from flax. She can remember when the grain was cut with a sickle and later by a cradle, while all the clothing was of home manufacture, the girls wearing linsey dresses and flannel waists. The spinning-wheel at that time formed a part of the furnishings of every household and all cooking was done at an old-fashioned fireplace. The first mowing machine used in the neighborhood was brought into the county by Mrs. Myers' father, and people would come for miles to see it. In the early days Mrs. Myers aided in making candles by dipping

them and later candle molds came into use. On the 17th of April, 1897, she was called upon to mourn the loss of her husband. She has since remained upon the old homestead, where her son Winfred now resides, having charge of the home place. She has ten grandchildren and the family is one well known in the community.

WILLIAM J. BLACKSTOCK.

The life history of William J. Blackstock, if written in detail, would furnish a more thrilling story than is found on many of the pages of romance and fiction for his has been an eventful and varied career. He was born in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, August 14, 1848, and is a son of James and Mary (Ritchey) Blackstock. In the paternal line he comes of Scotch ancestry. His grandfather, Joseph Blackstock, was a native of the land of the hills and heather and in early life he crossed the briny deep to the new world, settling in Canada, where the greater part of his years were passed. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Samuel Ritchey, a native of Bedford county, Pennsylvania, and spent his entire life there, following the occupation of farming. James Blackstock, the father of our subject, was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, and about 1820 left that country and became a resident of Canada, his home being near Quebec where other members of the family were also located. He did not remain long in the Dominion, however, but removed to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he followed the trade of a carpenter and also engaged in taking contracts along that line. He was united in marriage to Mary Ritchey, a native of Bedford county and he died in 1862 at the

age of fifty years, while his wife, surviving him for some time, passed away at the age of sixty-six years. They were the parents of six children, two of whom are still living: Elizabeth D., the wife of M. F. Freidenrieh, of Philadelphia; and William J. Of the others all died in infancy with the exception of Mamie, who reached the age of three years.

William J. Blackstock attended school in his early boyhood but through a little strategic movement on his part he managed to become a member of the Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania Regiment for service during the Civil war and after serving for a time was discharged on his fifteenth birthday, the 14th of August, 1863. He was very young to have a soldier's record but while at the front he was always found faithful to his duty. Soon afterward he went up the Ohio river as a cook. In 1864 he left that service, however, and went to Dakota, living among the Indians for several years in that wild western district. In 1868-9 he traveled over the ground where Custer was killed and during his stay amid the various Indian camps he became acquainted with the leaders of all of the tribes of the northwest. For eight years he "roughed it" in Dakota and Montana and the history of that period of the development of the northwest is familiar to him through actual experience. In 1872 he went to Minnesota, where he engaged in lumbering but after a short time he purchased the Pine County News, at Pine City, Minnesota, continuing its publication for five years. On the expiration of that period in 1877 he disposed of his plant and returned to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he remained for one year and then removed to Sewickley, where he became the owner of the Valley News. He changed the name of this paper to the Sewickley Tribune and remained its editor and publisher until 1884,

when he sold out and again went to Pittsburg. There he secured a position as reporter in the interest of the Gazette and was also employed on the Pittsburg Dispatch. In 1887 he removed to Chicago, but after a few months he purchased the News at Crisman, Illinois, changing the name of that publication to the Courier. On selling the plant there he came to Danville in 1891 and has since been engaged in the painting, paper hanging and contracting business here. He receives a liberal patronage. He opened his present store in October, 1901, and the new enterprise has prospered from the beginning.

In 1881 occurred the marriage of Mr. Blackstock and Miss Ella MacNutt, a daughter of William and Matilda (McFarland) McNutt, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, born near Philadelphia in which locality they spent their entire lives, the mother dying when only thirty-three years of age, while the father reached the advanced age of eighty-six year. The McFarlands were highlanders of Scotland, there being only a slight trace of English blood found in Mrs. Blackstock's family. In his political views Mr. Blackstock is an earnest Republican, unflinching in his allegiance to the principles of the party and taking an active part in its work, doing everything in his power to promote its growth and insure its success.

WILLIAM T. SANDUSKY.

William T. Sandusky was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, March 1, 1829, his parents being William and Julia (Earp) Sandusky, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Virginia. They were married in the Blue Grass state and in the fall

of 1829 removed from Bourbon county to Shelby county, Illinois, making the journey overland in a covered wagon. Everything was new and wild and the father purchased a claim. He arrived in the fall of the year and died in the following March. His widow survived him only until 1840, when she, too, passed away. In their family were three children and the two sisters are now deceased.

William T. Sandusky was only eleven years of age when left an orphan. While he resided in Shelby county, he remembers to have seen the fires started with an old flint gun. He can well remember the first wheat bread that he ever saw, the flour being ground in a watermill. He also remembers of visiting a family in which were ten girls and they had two looms and all of the dresses for common and Sunday wear were made from cloth woven in these looms. They carded and spun their own cotton.

From early youth Mr. Sandusky has been dependent upon his own resources for a living. In the year 1848 he came to Vermilion county driving a herd of cattle to this portion of the state. He had previously journeyed on foot to Indiana in order to find work and had returned again in the same manner to Shelbyville, Kentucky, where he hired out to a Mr. Smith a cattle dealer, for whom he brought a herd to Vermilion county. His employer drove a herd to New York and after his return in connection with our subject took a second herd there. Mr. Sandusky left Mr. Smith in the east while he rode back to Illinois making the distance of over one thousand miles in twenty days. Arriving here he fed cattle during the fall and winter. He also worked in Shelby county, Illinois, for one hundred and twenty dollars per year and his board, spending three years on a farm. Thinking that this was a

slow way of making money he started for California in 1853 from Vermilion county. He had then but three or four hundred dollars. Proceeding to New York he went by steamer by way of the isthmus of Panama and spent three years in the gold regions of the Pacific coast, both mining and superintending a large farm. He was successful there and after his return he began trading in cattle in Illinois. It was his intention to again go to California but he decided otherwise and became interested in farming and stock dealing. At times he visited all of the western territories and the second time he started for California, going as far as Indiana. There he entered into partnership in a hotel business in Greencastle, Putnam county, and after three years he conducted that house alone. For a similar period he was proprietor of the Junction House and then with the capital he had acquired through his earnest efforts he returned to Illinois and purchased a farm in Vermilion county, buying one hundred and sixty acres for which he paid six thousand dollars in cash. After three or four months he purchased another farm of one hundred and ninety acres for which he paid eight thousand dollars. For his third farm he gave four thousand dollars. Thus from time to time he purchased land and the last farm which he bought was sold at seventy-five dollars per acre. To-day he owns about six hundred acres of valuable land, all under cultivation. Much of this is underlaid by a six foot vein of coal and his farming property is all in Catlin township and he is now numbered among the substantial and prosperous agriculturists in this part of the state. For thirty-five years he engaged in feeding cattle, following that business until about three years ago. He also fed about eighty hogs annually. He now has four tenement houses on his farms

and the rental from his places and the products of his fields return to him a splendid income. He did his first plowing with a wooden mold board and cultivated his land with a single shovel, driving his horses with a rope line. He used to drop sod corn with a breaking plow for ten cents per day and has driven a six-yoke team of oxen to a breaking plow for a similar wage. All that was in marked contrast to his present position as one of the prosperous agriculturists of the county. He cut grain with a reap hook and performed much arduous labor and experienced many hardships and trials. He drove cows and hogs in 1846, going barefooted. He was then in his seventeenth year. He took the cattle across the prairies to the Chicago market and on the return trip drove a yoke of oxen. It was necessary to ford the Kankakee river which was then unbridged and at nights he would camp out on the prairies. Taking his provisions with him he would fry bacon and make "slap jack" and coffee. All of the experiences of pioneer life were familiar to him through actual contact with its modes of living. He has worked for twenty-five cents per day and while still in Shelby county he made rails for twenty-five cents per hundred, and with the money thus earned he purchased cloth from a neighbor woman and from this had a suit of clothing made. He can remember that during his mother's time the only way of coloring cloth was with black walnut bark. The only overcoat Mr. Sandusky ever saw while living in Shelby county was made of an English piece of broadcloth and cost seventy-five dollars.

On the 30th of November, 1859, occurred the marriage of Mr. Sandusky and Miss Emily Clements, who was born in Shelbyville, Illinois, May 28, 1839, a daughter of John and Emily (Livers) Clements,

who were natives of Maryland and became very early settlers of Shelby county. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Sandusky were two children who are yet living: Mrs. Maggie Hickman, of Catlin township; and Katie, who keeps house for her father. She is certainly proficient in the work and makes a very pleasant home for her father in his declining years. Mrs. Sandusky died January 13, 1899, and her death was deeply mourned by her family and many friends. Mr. Sandusky is now in his seventy-third year and is one of the honored and worthy pioneers of the state. His has been a varied and eventful life, not only because of his experience as a frontier settler in Illinois, but also because of his career as a California pioneer and ranchman.

JOHN BALTHASAR WILLIUS.

It requires courage and resolution to sever the connections which bind one to his native land and cast in his lot with the people of a new country with whose language, habits and business methods he is unfamiliar. It is a venture the outcome of which cannot be foretold, and yet there are certain elements which are irresistible in business life throughout the world and if one possesses these the venture cannot but partake of success in some measure at least. Mr. Willius came to America from the fatherland, his birth having occurred in Mainz, in the province of Rhine Hesse, Germany, January 28, 1857. His parents were George Andreas and Katherina Willius, the former a merchant tailor.

The son began his education in the public schools of his native city and afterward entered the high school, in which pupils are prepared for entering mercantile life, and in



JOHN B. WILLIUS.

that institution Mr. Willius was graduated in the year 1872. There were many elements of character displayed in his boyhood that showed a strong love of nature and its beauties. During his school days he delighted to gather flowers, insects and ferns and to wander among the beautiful hills and fields that border the Rhine. All these propensities were indicative of the strong trait of character which has been manifest throughout his entire career and is now exemplified in the department of business activity to which he devotes his energies.

After completing his school life he entered his father's store and later he was apprenticed to a tailor to learn the trade, but it was distasteful to him and after a time he abandoned work in that direction. It was his desire to be a florist and accordingly his father paid five hundred marks to a representative of that business who would teach his son all he knew concerning the best methods of cultivating and producing flowers and plants. When he had mastered the trade Mr. Willius traveled over different sections of Germany and was employed in various cities, but the opportunities of the new world attracted him and he resolved to test the truth of the favorable reports which he had heard concerning America. Crossing the Atlantic to the United States he was employed in New York for a time and then went west to Chicago, but was unable to obtain work as a florist in that city and he therefore entered the service of a farmer and was sent to Waukesha county, Wisconsin, but in the autumn of the same year he returned to Chicago and as he was still unable to obtain employment in the field of his chosen calling he accepted a situation in a preserve factory. The following spring, however, he was more fortunate, for he secured work in a floral establishment and finally he

came to Danville, where he was made foreman of the florist business. When eighteen months had thus passed he returned to Chicago to his former employer, but the man whom he had served in Danville did not wish to lose his services and induced him to again come to this city. With a laudable ambition to engage in business on his own account he afterward went to Fremont, Nebraska, receiving favorable reports of the town and of the opportunities for a florist at that place. Accordingly he removed with his family to the west, but did not find things as represented and after six months he returned to Danville for the third and last time, for he has never since left this city and since the 1st of August, 1894, he has conducted a prosperous and growing business of his own. He established his greenhouse and gardens on the Covington road and for more than five years has engaged in the retail trade, in selling flowers at No. 134 Vermillion street, in Danville.

In Chicago, on the 1st of November, 1884, Mr. Willius was united in marriage to Lena Schultz and unto them have been born three children, but the eldest, a daughter, died in Chicago at the age of eighteen months. George Gottlieb, the second, is now fifteen years of age, and the third, Charles, is but three years of age. Mr. Willius has been a member of the Odd Fellows Society since 1893 and for one term he served as noble grand in his lodge. In 1895 he became connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and he belongs to the Methodist church. He has endeavored to make his life an exemplification of the golden rule and thus his business career has ever been honorable and straightforward, while among his friends he is known for his fidelity, benevolence and consideration. His greatest interest centers in his home, and he

finds his chief happiness in spending the hours outside of business with his wife and children.

While in his native country he served for two years in the Sixth Company of the Eighty-seventh Nassau Regiment of Infantry, at Mainz, and was discharged as officer of reserve. He was never under arrest for a single hour or paid a disciplinarian fine. In politics he is a prominent Republican never failing to cast his ballot for the men and measures of the party, yet he has never sought or desired office for himself. He is now a representative and successful business man of Danville, but he did not stumble upon his success by chance; he has earned it by a lifetime of solid work intelligently directed to a single end. Nor has he ever taken advantage of the necessities of his fellow men in his dealings with those who give to him their patronage.



J. M. WILKINS, M. D.

Dr. J. M. Wilkins is the loved family physician of many a household of Vermilion county. Through many years he has practiced his profession in this part of the state, carrying encouragement and comfort into the residences of the rich and poor alike. The qualities of an upright manhood and of a generous sympathetic nature as well as his professional skill have endeared him to those with whom he has come in contact.

The Doctor was born in Marion county, Ohio, September 22, 1826. The Wilkins family was founded in America by Thomas and Austin Wilkins, who came to the colonies from England at the time of the Revolutionary war. Thomas settled in Marion county, Ohio, and after his family had

grown up he and his wife, in the evening of life, went to live with their son Benjamin in Branch county, Michigan, remaining there until they were called to their final rest. The other brother settled in the state of Virginia. He had two sons, one of whom resides in Crawfordsville, Indiana, while the other is living in Charleston, Illinois, and is serving as circuit judge there. Both have been prominent in public office.

Sammel Wilkins, the father of our subject, was born in Ohio and after arriving at years of maturity he was married in Marion county to Miss Mary McIntyre, whose grandparents were killed by the Indians in New Jersey during colonial days. They were living in a log house and on one occasion their cattle strayed away from home and they followed them until finding them when they started on the way back with their stock. Before they reached home, however, they were surprised by a band of sixteen Indian warriors who shot the husband, Joe McIntyre, scalped him and took his clothes and rifle. They made his wife a captive and when the cattle returned home the sixteen year-old son realized that something was wrong. He then went in search of his parents and found the father dead. Telling the tale to the neighbors, a company of twenty men was formed and following the Indians, surprised them and killed all but one, who afterward died. The mother was found dead in the vicinity of their camp, having been murdered by the red men. At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins located in Ohio, where the father carried on farming until his death, which occurred about 1830. The mother afterward removed with her only child, our subject, to Lagrange county, Indiana. She gave her hand in marriage there to Thomas Gothup, who died in 1842. Later she became a resident of Michigan and

married John Sinclair. Her death occurred at Chillicothe, Missouri, in 1857. By her second marriage she had three daughters and a son, of whom two are living. Jane is the widow of William Townsley, a resident of Caledonia, Michigan, and Keturah is the wife of William Race, who resides at Turkey Prairie, near Ligonier, Indiana. By the mother's third marriage there was one son, Thomas Sinclair, who is now living in Quincy, Michigan.

Dr. Wilkins, whose name introduces this review, began his education in a log school-house which stood on the side of a marsh, in Branch county, Michigan. Later he attended school in Lagrange county, Indiana, becoming a student in Lagrange County Association school. Subsequently he engaged in teaching for one term in Steuben county and for one term in Porter county, Indiana, also one term in Lagrange county, Michigan. In 1845, when nineteen years of age, he took up the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. R. A. Cameron and later he attended lectures in the Indiana Medical College at Laporte, Indiana, where he was graduated with the class of 1850. Returning then to Branch county, Michigan, he there practiced for four years and on the 2d of January, 1854, he arrived in Newtown, Vermilion county, Illinois, where he opened an office.

On the 28th of September, 1852, in Branch county, Michigan, Dr. Wilkins was united in marriage to Miss Mahitable Pond, who was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, August 10, 1833. She was descended from one of two brothers, who came from England to America in an early day, her ancestor settling in Vermont, while the other brother located in Virginia. Her paternal grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier under Washington and afterward served his

country in the war of 1812, the government granting him a pension for his aid in the army. Mrs. Wilkins' father, Willard Henry Pond, was born in Sudbury, Rutland county Vermont, August 8, 1800, and died in September, 1869, while his wife, Miss Phebe Abbey, was born in Connecticut, February 11, 1802, and died November 27, 1869. They were married in Madison, Connecticut, in 1822, and the father was engaged in farming. During the girlhood of Mrs. Wilkins he removed with his family to Ohio and subsequently to Fairmount, Illinois, where his death occurred. In his political views he was a Republican and voted for Abraham Lincoln. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity and to the Baptist church, while his wife held membership in the Methodist church. In the family of this worthy couple were seven children, three boys and four girls, of whom two are living—Mrs. Wilkins and Mrs. Louis A. Smith, a resident of Odin, Illinois.

In the year of 1859 Dr. Wilkins and his wife removed to Conkeytown, Vermilion county, where they remained some time and in 1863 came to Fairmount, which was their place of residence until 1880. In that year they went to Garnet, Kansas, where the Doctor practiced for two years and then removed to Ottawa, that state, where he resided for twelve years. His next place of residence was in Fontana, Miami county, Kansas, where he remained until October, 1906, when he went to Chicago, Illinois. In May, 1901, however, he returned to Fairmount, where he is now living. Throughout all these years he has continued the practice of his profession, his entire life being devoted with conscientious zeal to the alleviation of human suffering. He has been a most studious physician and owns a large and valuable library with the contents of

which he is thoroughly familiar, in fact, he is regarded as one of the most learned and capable members of the medical profession of Illinois. The Doctor is also a courteous gentleman, charitable to a fault. Never has the road been too long or the weather too inclement for the Doctor to visit those who are suffering, no matter what their financial circumstances are in life, the poor receiving the same attention as that which is given to his richer neighbor. The Doctor was a charter member of the Vermilion County Medical Association and in 1883 he became a member of the State Medical Association of Kansas. Three years later he joined the National Medical Association and he is also a member of the Illinois State Medical Association. In his practice he has ever made a special study of the nervous system and of nervous diseases, claiming that this system is the most intricate and important of all the parts of the body.

Unto Dr. Wilkins and his wife have been born three sons and three daughters: Mary A., born August 6, 1852, died September 8, 1852. Ida May, born March 31, 1854, died in November of the same year. Jennie E., born February 12, 1856, is the wife of Charles Bezensen, a resident of Chicago, by whom she has two sons, Fred W. and John M. Charles A., born January 3, 1858, was married in Central City, Colorado, to Matilda Malmsburg, and is now a civil engineer, mine prospector and assayer of Leadville, that state. He has three children, Hattie, Phebe and Abasha. Frank L., born May 24, 1860, died October 11, 1862. Fred, born October 3, 1864, was married in Ottawa, Kansas, to Hattie Bement and their children are Tracey, Bessie and Albert. Their home is now in Englewood, Illinois, where Fred Wilkins is a well known professional musician.

Dr. Wilkins was made a Mason in 1868, becoming a member of Fairmount Lodge, No. 500, F. & A. M. He is also a member of Fairmount Lodge, No. 319, I. O. O. F., and belongs to the Odd Fellows Encampment of Danville, and is a member of the grand lodge of the state. For thirteen years he represented Fairmount in the grand lodge and for two terms he has been chief patriarch. He has always refused to hold public office, but in his political affiliations is an earnest and loyal Republican. Both the Doctor and his wife are members of the Baptist church and are most highly esteemed residents here. Many accord to the medical profession the highest rank among the callings to which man devotes his energies. At all events it is one of the most important and great are the responsibilities which rest upon the physician. Dr. Wilkins has fully met every obligation which has devolved upon him in this connection and with conscientious effort has met the demands of the public for his professional services. He has continually promoted his proficiency through comprehensive reading and study, and, moreover, he has a deep human sympathy without which medical research, bringing with it broad knowledge, is of little avail.

CHARLES W. WARNER.

The press has not only recorded the history of advancement, but has also ever been the leader in the work of progress and improvement,—the vanguard of civilization. The philosopher of some centuries ago proclaimed the truth that "the pen is mightier than the sword," and the statement is continually being verified in the affairs of life. In molding public opinion the power of the



Chas. C. Warner

newspaper cannot be estimated, but at all events its influence is greater than any other single agency. Mr. Warner is a well known representative of the journalistic interests of Vermilion county, being the editor and proprietor of the Hoopston Chronicle. Through the columns of his paper he has ever advocated progress, reform and improvement and has exercised marked influence in behalf of the general welfare here. He is also the efficient postmaster of the town and as a public official has gained the commendation of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Warner was born near Crawfordsville, Indiana, on the 24th of January, 1857, his parents being Abner and Mary (Caddwallader) Warner, the former a native of Ohio and the latter born near Crawfordsville, Indiana. They were married at Old Darlington and for many years they traveled life's journey together, but in 1888 were separated by the death of the husband. Mrs. Warner still survives and is living in Rossville. Mr. Warner was a farmer by occupation. He came to Illinois in 1850 and here herded cattle on the prairies, driving them across the country to the Philadelphia markets. He thus dealt in stock in his younger years but in later life he turned his attention to farming, which he followed in Vermilion county, meeting with fair success. His death occurred in Rossville. In the family were but two children, the younger brother being Perry M., who is manager of the Telephone Exchange at Rossville.

During his early boyhood days Charles W. Warner accompanied his parents on their removal to Rossville, where he acquired his preliminary education. He afterward engaged in teaching for two terms in the district schools of Champaign county. He received further mental discipline in the

"poor man's college"—a printing office,—learning the printer's trade in Rossville after leaving school and before teaching. When he had completed his work as an educator he came to Hoopston and was employed in the office of the Chronicle, which was then owned by Dale Wallace, with whom he remained for three years. During this time he also served as journal clerk in the state legislature of the thirty-second general assembly, appointed through the influence of Messrs. Butterfield and Holden, members of the house from his district. On the 1st of July, 1882, Mr. Warner purchased the Chronicle plant, incurring an indebtedness of three thousand dollars in order to do this. He has since been editor and proprietor of the paper, which he has successfully published. Owing to an increased circulation, to a good advertising patronage and to his capable management, he has been enabled to discharge the indebtedness and he now publishes both a daily and weekly edition of the Chronicle, which is regarded as one of the best papers which comes from the press of this portion of the state. He employs six people and has a well equipped office. There is a gas engine, a cylinder press and all of the latest improvements usually found in a first class printing office. The paper is devoted to the local interests and to the dissemination of general news and has proved a profitable investment.

In the year 1889 Mr. Warner was elected postmaster, Congressman Cannon calling an election for that purpose, because there were seven candidates in the field. Mr. Warner was the choice of the people and served acceptably in the office during President Harrison's administration. He tired and was superseded by a Democrat during President Cleveland's term of office and was then again appointed by President

McKinley, and was a third time appointed by President Roosevelt, so that he is now the incumbent. His administration is practical, business-like and progressive and the affairs of the office are capably managed by him. He has likewise served as city clerk and at the present time he is a member of the county committee of the Republican party, being a recognized leader in the ranks of that organization.

On the 13th of December, 1883, in Hoopston, Mr. Warner was united in marriage with Miss Lillian Clark, who was born at Wenona, Illinois, on the 6th of May, 1864, and they have one child, Gladys, born December 8, 1891. Mrs. Henrietta B. Clark, the mother of Mrs. Warner, is also a member of the household, and they have a pleasant home at the corner of Penn and Third streets. Mr. Warner is a prominent Mason, belonging to Star Lodge, No. 709, F. & A. M., Hoopston Chapter, No. 181, R. A. M., and Grant Council, No. 80, R. & S. M. He is also a member of Hoopston Lodge, No. 105, K. P., and Hoopston Camp, No. 257, M. W. A. He has passed all of the chairs in the Knights of Pythias lodge and has been a delegate to its grand lodge and deputy grand chancellor of the order. Mr. Warner's political, fraternal and business relations has brought him a wide acquaintance and he is justly esteemed as one of the progressive, enterprising and respected citizens of his adopted county.

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PATRICK MARTIN.

Vermilion county has been the home and the 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 may be numbered Patrick Martin, who died at his pleasant home in Danville on the 20th of April, 1896.

He was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, March 3, 1840, a son of Michael and Julia Martin, who were natives of the same county, where they continued to reside until 1851. That year witnessed the emigration of the family to America, and on landing in New York, March 17, they proceeded at once to Schenectady, New York, where they spent only a short time, however. They next went to Michigan City, Indiana, and a few years later lived for brief periods in Ottawa and Chicago, Illinois, finally locating near Stateline, where the father improved a farm. In the meantime he was looking up a favorable location with the intention of buying a place and was not satisfied until he found a farm near Fairmount, Vermilion county, upon which he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of five children, who are still living, namely: Bridget, now the widow of Thomas Cavanagh and a resident of Danville; Mary, widow of John Wall and a resident of Terre Haute, Indiana; Walter, an engineer on the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad and a resident of Indianapolis, Indiana; Ella, now Mrs. Patterson, of Cripple Creek, Colorado; and Annie, wife of Edward Langin, of Louisville, Kentucky.

Our subject's educational advantages were limited. At the age of eleven years he came with his parents to the new world and continued to assist his father in the operation of the home farm until the Civil war broke out. Having a sincere love for his adopted country he enlisted in 1862 for three years' service, becoming a member of

Company E, Seventy-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was under the command of Generals Sheridan and Grant. He was in a number of engagements, including those of the Atlanta campaign, and was wounded in the battle of Franklin by a bullet in the leg. After some time spent in the hospital he received an honorable discharge on account of his wound, March 25, 1865, and returned home.

In 1868 Mr. Martin married Miss Sarah Tighe, who was also born in Ireland, March 17, 1834, her parents, Dennis and Mary Tighe, spending their entire lives in that country. By occupation her father was a farmer. Of the four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Martin, Annie died in 1894, Mary is living with her mother in Danville, and the other two died in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Martin purchased a farm near Fairmount, where he continued to reside for several years, his time and attention being devoted to general farming and stock raising. Later he bought a farm near Homer, this county, where he made his home until his removal to the city of Danville in 1890. A hard working, industrious and energetic man, he had acquired a comfortable competence and was able to spend his last years in ease and retirement from active labor. By his ballot he always supported the men and measures of the Democratic party but never cared for the honors or emoluments of public office. Like his wife and daughter he held membership in the Catholic church, and his upright, honorable life won for him the confidence and high regard of all with whom he was brought in contact. Mr. Martin eminently deserves classification among the purely self-made men of the county who have distinguished themselves for their ability to master the oppos-

ing forces of life and to wrest from fate a large measure of success and an honorable name. He left to his widow some valuable property in Danville, including the beautiful residence at No. 442 Jackson street, which she and her daughter now occupy, and also a fine farm of one hundred acres near the village of Tilton in this county. She is a most estimable lady and was to her husband a faithful companion and helpmate, aiding and encouraging him in every possible way along the pathway of life.



JOHN A. PHILLIPS.

The subject of this review is a self-made man who, without any extraordinary family or pecuniary advantages at the commencement of life, has battled earnestly and energetically, and by indomitable courage and integrity has achieved both character and a comfortable competence. By sheer force of will and untiring effort he has worked his way upward and is numbered among the leading business men of Danville. He is now the proprietor of the Phillips Laundry, one of the leading enterprises of this character in Vermilion county.

John A. Phillips was born in Fountain county, Indiana, January 23, 1848, his parents being Jackson and Margaret (McQuig) Phillips. The Phillips family was originally from Virginia and the McQuigs are from Ohio. Unto the parents of our subject were born four children: Edward, who makes his home in Danville; Frank T., who is living in Montana; Ora, also of Danville; and John A. The father died at the age of fifty-eight years and the mother passed away at the age of sixty-seven years.

When a youth of only thirteen years

John A. Phillips started out to make his own way in the world. He is therefore largely a self-educated as well as self-made man and through reading, experience and observation he has gradually added to the knowledge he had acquired in the public schools in his early youth. He began to earn his own livelihood by working as a farm hand and in 1860 he accepted the position of assistant to a photographer who was deaf and dumb and who had formed an attachment for Mr. Phillips, teaching him the business in his art gallery in Fairbury, Illinois. Our subject continued this connection with photography for twenty years, fifteen years of which time he was engaged in business in Danville, having located here in 1871. In 1885 he and his brother, Frank T. Phillips, formed a partnership and established the Phillips Laundry, which is the leading enterprise of its kind in this city and our subject is now sole proprietor. He took charge of the business in 1893 and five years later he purchased his brother's interest and has since been sole owner. When they established their laundry they employed eight people, including two washers and two ironing men. Their business has so increased in volume that they now give employment to thirty people, including seven washers. The plant is splendidly equipped, having an eighty-horse-power boiler, two twenty-six inch extractors, a collar and cuff Troy ironer, number five and nine regular ironers, and their machinery is all run by gas, which is manufactured by a patent process in the building. Mr. Phillips also has a shirt and collar dryer which is a machine of his own device. There is also a carpet cleaning machine. It is the most modern and perfect plan of the kind in Vermilion county. Four wagons are utilized in calling and delivering

goods and the business has now grown in volume until it has assumed very extensive and profitable proportions.

In 1873 Mr. Phillips was united in marriage to Rosa Noyes, a daughter of William Noyes, a native of Kentucky now living in Danville. Four children have been born of this marriage: George A.; William, who died August 10, 1901, at the age of twenty-three years; Roy B.; and Frank A., who is an assistant in the laundry. The parents hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Phillips is a prominent Odd Fellow. For ten consecutive years he served as a representative to the grand encampment. He is also identified with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen, the Court of Honor and the Battery A Association. His success has been by no means the result of fortunate circumstances, but has come to him through energy, labor and perseverance, directed by an evenly balanced mind and by honorable business principles. He commands the respect of all with whom he comes in contact and his honorable career excites their admiration.

JAMES J. RICE.

This venerable and highly honored gentleman, now a nonagenarian, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, June 13, 1812, and since 1835 he has been a resident of Vermilion county. Although the snows of many winters have whitened his hair he seems to possess the vigor of a man of much younger age, for nature is kind to those who abuse not her laws and Mr. Rice's career has been one of right living. Throughout his long life he has ever commanded the regard

and confidence of his fellow men and his example should serve as an inspiration to the young and is well worthy of emulation. Mr. Rice comes of good old Revolutionary stock. His maternal grandfather was of Scotch descent and served for seven years as a member of the Colonial army, fighting for the independence of the nation. Silas Rice, the father, was born in eastern New York and died when away from home. His wife bore the maiden name of Phebe Leonard and was a native of Cayuga county, New York. She died in Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1857, at the age of seventy-seven. In their family were eight children, of whom only three are now living: J. J., of this review; Lucy and Hannah. The sister Lucy is the widow of Isaac Balengee, who was a soldier of the Confederate army and is now deceased. She makes her home in Danville. Hannah is the wife of Charles Clifton, of Omaha, Nebraska.

In the fall of 1835 Mr. Rice of this review came to Vermilion county with his mother and lived for nine years on Salt Fork. He then removed to Pilot township, taking up his abode in the eastern part, and there lived for five years, when he moved to his farm on section 16, where he resided until about fifteen years ago, when he and his wife removed to Charity, where he has since made his home. Since the death of his wife in 1901 Mr. Rice has made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Harter, of Charity. He started out in the business world with less than one hundred dollars, but now he is a man of affluence, owning two hundred and forty acres of valuable land, worth one hundred dollars per acre. All this has been acquired through his own perseverance, diligence and honesty.

On the 11th of September, 1845, Mr. Rice was united in marriage to Miss Mary

Davis, who was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, September 13, 1823. They traveled life's journey together for almost fifty-six years and then on the 12th of August, 1901, Mrs. Rice was called to her final rest, when nearly seventy-eight years of age. She was one of a family of seven children, her brothers and sisters being as follows: Irene, who is the widow of F. M. Brewer and resides in Indiana; Emily, the widow of George Wilson, her home being near Quincy, Illinois; Cynthia Ann, who is the widow of Milton Cannon, and lives in Chicago; Diana, the widow of Daniel Cannon, residing near Pithian; Lura J., the widow of James H. West, and a resident of Kansas; and Owen, who married Sarah Brown and is a farmer of Arkansas. Seven children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Rice, but only three are now living. Bruce L. died January 5, 1902, from blood poisoning caused by an injury sustained in a runaway. He was then fifty-six years of age. He served in the Civil war as a private, entering the army when only eighteen years of age for one hundred days' service. He had seven children: Mary, Grant, Minnie, Oscar, Lucy, Elmer and Grace. Isaac, who is living in Arkansas, has two children, Perry and Jessie. George C. was killed at Oakwood while weighing grain at the elevator. He fell into the hopper and was suffocated August 29, 1902. He had been a merchant in Oakwood for about fifteen years and had previously been a merchant and the postmaster at Charity. He was a graduate of the University of Champaign and was a very prominent and influential citizen here. Recognized as one of the leaders of the Republican party he served as a member of the county central committee. He was also a devoted Christian gentleman and his death, which occurred when he was fifty-two years of age, was very deeply

mourned. Emeretta is the wife of T. J. Harter, of Charity, and they have five children: John, Nellie, Lillie, Roy and George. Mr. Harter is now operating the old home place and Mr. Rice lives with him and his wife in Charity. John D. makes his home in Arkansas and has one child, Carl. Mary C. became the wife of Solomon Strong and died in Chicago, September 29, 1891. Jasper, the youngest of the family, has also passed away. All of the children were born on the old home place with the exception of two. There are also five great-grandchildren: Arvin and Leora are the children of Mrs. Mary E. Bates, of Des Moines, Iowa; Wesley is the child of Oscar Rice; Beatrice Irene is the daughter of Mrs. Nellie Scaff, of Charity; Edith May is the daughter of Lillie M. Cline, of Charity. Three of the children of Mrs. Emeretta Harter are also married: John wedded Daisy Eubank and lives in Fithian; Nellie is the wife of D. L. Scaff, of Charity; and Lillie is the wife of Mack T. Cline, of the same place.

Mr. Rice is now the oldest living settler of Pilot township and of the county now living in this township. He entered eighty acres of land from the government and afterward purchased forty acres of the school land when it was placed upon the market. With characteristic energy he began the development of his farm and though he had crude farming implements compared to the improved machinery at the present day, it was not long before his land was placed under the plow and made to yield good returns for his efforts. He always provided comfortably for his family and is to-day the owner of valuable interests here. For more than sixty years he has been a devoted member of the Church of Christ and through a long period has served as one of its elders. During the past forty years he has advocated

Prohibition principles. In his early life his political support was given to the Whig party and upon its dissolution he joined the ranks of the new Republican party. For the past twenty years Mr. Rice has voted the Prohibition ticket. For many years he filled the office of school director and has served on county and state juries. In matters of citizenship he has ever been public spirited and progressive, taking an active interest in whatever has tended to promote the general progress. He has ever been honorable and straightforward in all his dealings and relations with his fellow men and now in the evening of life he can look back over the past without regret and forward to the future without fear. His name commands respect because he has ever been true to upright principles. Certainly he deserves honorable mention in the history of Vermilion county and, indeed, the record of this portion of the state would be incomplete without an account of his life.

SETH FAIRCHILD.

Among the brave men who devoted the opening years of their manhood to the defense of our country during the dark days of the Civil war was Seth Fairchild, who throughout his active business life was identified with the interests of Vermilion county. He was a native of this county, born near Danville, Illinois, October 14, 1836, and was a son of Orman and Hannah (Wagnon) Fairchild. His father died here, and after his death his widow, who was a native of Kentucky, resided in Vermilion county.

It was in 1872 that Seth Fairchild took up his abode in Danville and for two years

carried the mail between this place and East Lynn. Later he made his home in Potomac, this county, for six years, and while residing there was employed to carry the mail between there and Danville. At the end of that period he removed to a farm in Blount township and throughout the remainder of his life was successfully engaged in farming, being a practical agriculturist and a man of good business ability.

When the south attempted to secede Mr. Fairchild resolved to join the boys in blue and it was not long after hostilities began that he enlisted on the 1st of June, 1861, in Company B, Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. With his company he participated in many important battles and skirmishes and during the engagement at Chattanooga was wounded in the foot, being confined in the hospital there nine days. When his term of enlistment expired he was honorably discharged at Springfield, Illinois, September 5, 1864, and returned to his home in this county.

In 1865 Mr. Fairchild married Miss Pleuma H. Lyon, who was born in Ohio Junction, July 26, 1846. Her parents, Frederick and Bolivia (McCleary) Lyon, were also natives of the Buckeye state, where in early life the father followed the carpenter's trade and later was captain on a canal boat, his home being at Ohio Junction, where he died when Mrs. Fairchild was young. Her mother married again.

Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild but only three are now living. Laura B. is the wife of William Crawford, a contractor of Danville. John, also a contractor, who lives with his mother, married Katie Trout and has three children, Lowell O., Edith L. and John Leo. Stella is now clerking in the Danville Department store in Danville. Those of the family now deceased

are Freddie, May, Luther and a daughter who died in infancy unnamed.

Mr. Fairchild continued to make his home upon his farm in Blount township until his death, which occurred on the 13th of March, 1886. By his ballot he always supported men and measures of the Republican party and took considerable interest in public affairs, aiding in promoting all enterprises which he believed would advance the moral, social or material welfare of the community in which he lived. He was a consistent member of the Kimber Methodist Episcopal church of Danville, to which his wife and children also belong. For two years and a half after his death Mrs. Fairchild continued to reside on the farm and then removed to Danville, erecting there her present comfortable residence at No. 1124 Gilbert street. Her son owns other Danville property, including a place on the corner of Madison and Chandler streets and in Vermilion Heights.

JOHN G. SHEA.

Prominent among the energetic, far-seeing and successful business men of Danville is John G. Shea, president of the Danville Brick and Tile Company, incorporated. 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 in his success and his connection with various business enterprises and industries have been of decided advantage to different sections of Illinois, promoting their material welfare in no uncertain manner.

Mr. Shea was born in Ireland, July 1, 1842, a son of Dennis and Honora (Sulli-

van) Shea, who were also natives of the Emerald Isle. In 1850 the father brought his family to the new world and took up his residence in Coburg, Canada, where he engaged in farming for several years. He then came to Illinois, where he followed the same pursuit up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1887. His wife passed away in 1889.

During his boyhood and youth John G. Shea attended the common schools of Canada and after completing his education went to Auburn, New York, where he was located when the country became involved in civil war. Feeling that his adopted country needed his services, he enlisted in 1861, in Company B, Nineteenth New York Infantry, which afterward became Battery E, Third New York Artillery, and served as an overseer on the engineer corps. He participated in a number of skirmishes but was never injured in any way and was finally discharged at Auburn, New York, in June, 1863.

Mr. Shea then came to Illinois and settled in Cumberland county, where he was engaged in farming for a year, and at the end of that time crossed the plains to the Pacific coast, the following four years being devoted to mining in California and Arizona. On the expiration of that term he returned east and located in Decatur, where he was engaged in the grocery business until 1888. He first embarked in the manufacture of brick and tile, becoming manager of the Decatur Tile Company. He also had charge of the erection of their plant, and he remodeled and became interested in two plants at Quincy, Illinois, manufacturing paving brick and dry pressed brick. In 1896 he sold his interest in the Decatur works, but is still connected with those at Quincy, his son being the present superintendent, secretary and treasurer of the same. Mr. Shea removed

to Danville in 1892 and settled at Vermilion Heights, where he bought his present plant and has since carried on business here. The business was incorporated in 1892 under the name of the Danville Brick and Tile Company, with our subject as president and treasurer; his son John C., vice president and his wife, secretary. They manufacture all kinds of paving brick, selling largely to the local trade, and have supplied a portion of the brick for the streets of Danville, but they have also shipped brick to Chicago and Mattoon, Illinois, and to South Bend, Indiana, having built up a large trade in these and other cities. The company has a very extensive plant and regularly employs over forty hands. Mr. Shea also owns a coal mine near his works, from which he gets his supply of coal to carry on the business. His office is at his residence at No. 100 Warrington ayenne, Vermilion Heights, in the same locality. Besides his valuable property in this state he also owns a nice ranch in southern California.

On April 17, 1872, Mr. Shea married Miss Lusannah Clark, who was born in West Virginia, on the 17th of July, 1845. Her parents, Cornelius and Abigail (Wright) Clark, were both natives of Massachusetts and she is able to trace her ancestry back to the Clarks that came to this country in the Mayflower. Her father was interested in a number of different enterprises. He not only followed farming but he owned and operated salt works in West Virginia and also run a grist and saw mill there. Later he came west and died in Coles county, Illinois, while the death of his wife occurred in Decatur, this state, at the age of eighty years.

Mr. and Mrs. Shea have two children, John C., the older, was born August 26, 1873, and was graduated at the university at

Urbana, Illinois, as an electrical engineer. He married Frances Meyers and is now living in Quincy, where he is superintendent of his father's tile works but expects soon to remove to Danville and assist in the works here. Willard W., born December 17, 1880, received a college education and was a soldier in the Cuban war, belonging to the battery from Danville. He married Elizabeth Dinwiddie and lives on one of his father's ranches in southern California.

In politics Mr. Shea is a Republican but is an advocate of the free coinage of silver. While a resident of Decatur he took quite an active and prominent part in local politics and served as alderman of the city for two years. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic order, the Grand Army of the Republic and the Royal Templars, all of Danville, and his wife is a member of the Unitarian church and was president of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Decatur. During the ten years he has been a resident of this city he has become one of its leading and influential business men. Thoroughness and persistency have characterized his entire business career and have been supplemented by careful attention to details and by honorable straightforward effort that has gained him a most excellent and enviable reputation.

WILLIAM H. YORK.

William H. York, who for many years has been a well known liveryman at Ridgefarm, was born in Phelps county, Missouri, November 24, 1854, and is a son of William and Mary (Dodd) York. The father went to Missouri from eastern Tennessee about 1833, being at that time nineteen years of age. He was reared as a farmer lad and on

attaining his majority he wedded Mary Dodd, and they became the parents of three daughters and two sons. The mother died near Rolla, Missouri, in 1862. The father remained in that state until 1867 when with his family he went to Edmonson, Kentucky, and in 1877 with his children he removed to Texas, where he is still living. Two sisters of our subject reside in the Lone Star state and one sister is now a resident of Sumner county, Kansas.

William H. York of this review pursued a common-school education and at the age of sixteen left his Kentucky home to make his own way in the world. He came direct to Ridgefarm where he has lived continuously since the year 1871. For some nineteen years he was engaged in railroading on various railroads, as station agent and operator. In 1898 he became connected with the livery business and has since owned and conducted a barn in which he has a number of good horses and fine vehicles. His earnest desire to please his patrons, combined with an obliging manner and honorable dealings has been the means of bringing to him a profitable trade.

On the 7th of March, 1877, Mr. York was united in marriage to Miss Alice Lewis, a daughter of Caleb and Esther Lewis, of Ridgefarm. Her parents were natives of Indiana and Mrs. York had three sisters, of whom two are still living. Our subject and his wife have resided continuously in Ridgefarm from the time of their marriage with the exception of a brief period of three years, when they were living in Vermilion county, Indiana, and one year in Texas. They have four children: Roy, who is now twenty-two years of age, is married and lives in Dallas, Texas, with his wife and one child; Glenna, eighteen years of age, Katie,

thirteen years of age, and Lewis, who is a little lad of seven summers, are at home with their parents.

Mr. York is independent in his political views and affiliations. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the Odd Fellows Society and the Knights of Pythias, and is a good citizen, active in support of measures for the general welfare and is popular with his many friends and neighbors. From an early age he has been dependent upon his own resources and as the architect of his own fortunes he has builded wisely and well.

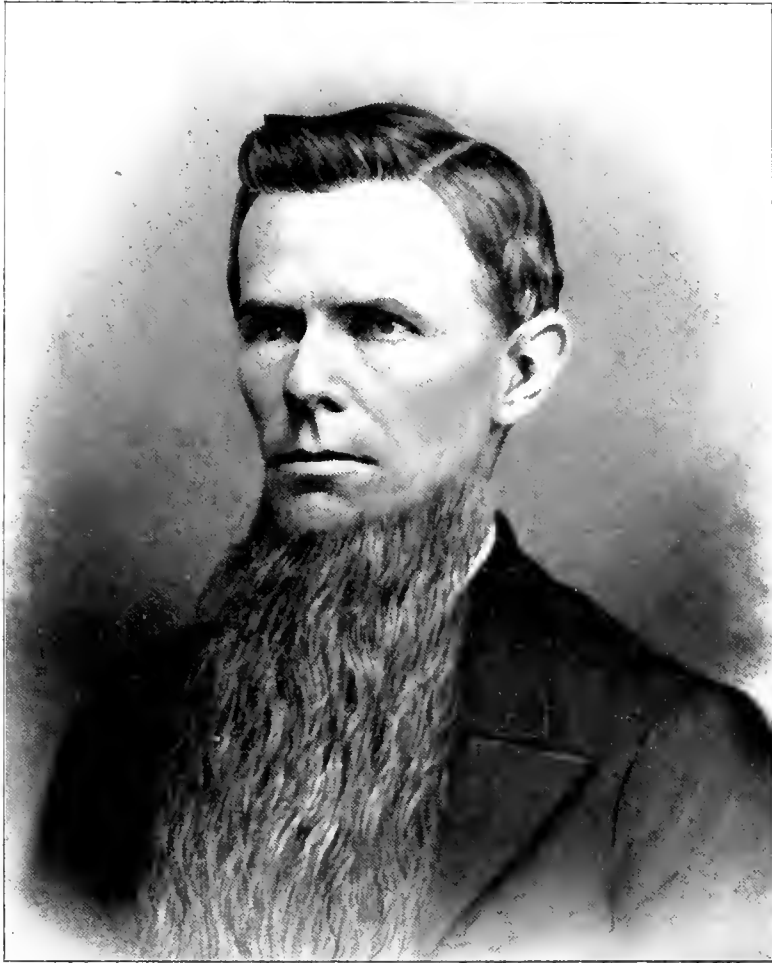
GEORGE DILLON.

In public office George Dillon won for himself a reputation for loyalty and fidelity and in private life he gained the highest regard of his fellow men by reason of his possession of many excellent traits of character. He was for many years a leading and influential citizen of Danville and he left the impress of his individuality upon the development of the city and upon its policy in public office. He represented one of the old Quaker families of the county and was born near Georgetown on the 16th of January, 1837, his parents being Luke and Charity (Wright) Dillon. His father removed from North Carolina to Ohio at a very early day and was a resident of that state until 1830, when he came to the west, settling in Vermilion county. He took up his abode on a farm near Georgetown and there devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits throughout his remaining days, passing away in 1852. His wife also died on the old home place there and after her demise Mr. Dillon was again married, his second union being with Miss Sarah Hayworth,

who is also now deceased. There were ten children born of the first union but none survive.

George Dillon pursued his education in the country schools of Georgetown township and after putting aside his text books he engaged in farming there, carrying on the work of tilling the soil and cultivating his crops until the country became involved in civil war. When it was seen that the rebellion in the south would not be easily crushed out and that more troops were needed Mr. Dillon enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry for three years. With his command he participated in many battles of importance and in the engagement at Dallas, Georgia, he was wounded in the right arm. He was then taken to the hospital at Chattanooga, Tennessee, and later was transferred to the hospital at Nashville, where his arm was amputated. Thus he made a great sacrifice for his country and he certainly deserves the gratitude of the nation because of the assistance which he rendered in preserving the Union. From Nashville he was transferred to the hospital in Mound City, Illinois, where, in 1865, he received an honorable discharge. Immediately thereafter he returned to his farm in Georgetown township, Vermilion county, and for a long period devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits.

Prior to entering the army Mr. Dillon had married on the 7th of March, 1861, Miss Desdemona F. Martin, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Morgan) Martin. Her father was a native of Virginia and also became an early settler of Vermilion county, having taken up his abode in Georgetown township in 1820. There he devoted his attention to farm work throughout the remainder of his life. He was also justice of



GEORGE DILLON.

the peace there for several years. Five children of his family are yet living, namely: Presley, a farmer of Blount township; Eliza, the wife of A. Spicer, a resident farmer of Georgetown township; Martha, the wife of Jesse Ragel, of Georgetown; Achilles, who is secretary of the water company of Riverside, California; and Mrs. Dillon. Unto our subject and his wife have been born eight children, but two of the number died in infancy. The others are: Lucretia Alma, the wife of C. S. Johnson, a printer of Danville; William S., a bookkeeper of the city; Hannah, the wife of Harvey Johnson, a traveling salesman of Danville; Grace, the wife of Phillip Yeager, a contractor of Danville; Joseph G., a bookkeeper of this city; and Robert M., at home.

While living on his farm Mr. Dillon held many township offices, proving a most capable and trustworthy official. In October, 1868, he removed to Danville and was elected circuit clerk of Vermilion county, which office he continued to fill for twelve years. No higher testimonial of his fidelity and promptness could be given than the fact that he was chosen by popular suffrage to the office so many terms. He was afterward a member of the board of supervisors of the county and has held other official positions. On his retirement from the office of circuit clerk he was elected justice of the peace and filled that office with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents until his death, which occurred on the 26th of September, 1891. To some extent he also dealt in real estate here and built a nice residence at No. 214 Robinson street, which is yet occupied by his widow.

In his politics he was a very earnest and pronounced Republican and took an active interest in the success of his party. He belonged to Kenesaw Post, No. 77, G. A. R.,

of Danville, and was its honored commander at the time of his demise. He was also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of this city, and both he and his wife held membership in the Church of Christ, of Danville. He took a very deep and helpful interest in the church work, served as elder for many years and at the time of his death was a member of the board of deacons. From the time the church was built in Danville he continuously served in one office or another and his labors in its behalf were effective and far reaching. Over the record of his public career and his private life there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. He left his wife in very comfortably circumstances and in addition to the property on Robinson street she is also the owner of several other dwellings in Danville and of a store building here. This property was acquired by Mr. Dillon through his marked energy, enterprise and careful management. His life was exemplary in many respects and he had the esteem of his friends and the confidence of those with whom he had business relations.



W. I. BAIRD.

W. I. Baird is well known in Jamaica, having gained a favorable place in public regard while acting as telegraph operator and station agent here. At the present time he is engaged in the grain trade, owning an elevator. Mr. Baird is a native of Champaign county, Illinois, born January 28, 1870, his parents being J. C. and Eliza (Jones) Baird, the former a native of Brown county, Ohio, and the latter of Clermont county, Ohio. They were married in Clermont county, locating upon a farm there and in 1869 they

single a home in Illinois, making their way westward to Champaign county, where the father again carried on agricultural pursuits. In 1802 he removed to Shelby county, Illinois, where both he and his wife are still living. In his political views he is a Republican and at the time of the Civil war he manifested his loyalty to the Union cause by enlisting as a member of Company B, Fifty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry in July, 1861. With the boys in blue of his command he went to the front and served faithfully until September, 1864, when his term of service having expired he was honorably discharged. He had participated in the battles of Shiloh, Missionary Ridge, Chickamauga, Kenesaw Mountain, Pittsburg Landing and in all of the engagements of the Atlanta campaign, preceding Sherman's celebrated march to the sea. At the battle of Shiloh he was wounded in the abdomen. He now belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic, thus maintaining pleasant relations with his comrades of the blue. He has held a great many township offices, proving capable and efficient in public service and he is a member of the Christian church. In his family were ten children: Charles, who died at the age of twenty years; Dora, who died at the age of twenty five years; W. L., who is the oldest living son; Martha, who died in infancy; Howard, who is married and resides in Niantic, Illinois; Bertha, who is engaged in teaching in the public schools and makes her home with her parents; Arthur, John, Ethel and Myrtle, all of whom are still under the parental roof.

W. L. Baird pursued his early education in the North Raymond school near Sidney, Illinois, and afterward attended in the Whitehall district near Broadland, Illinois. He subsequently was a student in the Normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana, after

which he returned to Champaign county. There he engaged in teaching for two years, after which he attended a school in Janesville, Wisconsin, taking up the study of telegraphy, in which course he was graduated in 1867. He next entered the services of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company, serving as relief agent for that road for six months on the Chicago division. On the 2d of January, 1864, he came to Jamaica as station agent and telegraph operator, continuously filling the position with marked capability until February, 1901, when he resigned and purchased the grain elevator which he now owns. Already he has become established in a good trade, which is returning to him a profitable income.

On Christmas day of 1864, at Goldfield, Iowa, was celebrated the marriage of W. L. Baird and Miss Ethel Jones, who was born in Moultrie county, Illinois, on the 13th of December, 1873, her parents being J. R. and Rebecca (Wilson) Jones, the former a native of Indiana, while the latter was born in Moultrie county, Illinois, where their marriage was celebrated. There they located and Mr. Jones engaged in farming until 1894, when with his wife he removed to Iowa, where they are now living. He is a Republican in his political adherence and is at present serving as notary public and justice of the peace. In his religious faith he and his wife are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Jamaica, and he is now superintendent of the Sunday-school and president of the Epworth League. Fraternally he is connected with Longview Lodge No. 254, I. O. O. F., and Jamaica Camp, No. 9222, M. W. A., in which he is serving as clerk.

Mr. and Mrs. Baird have a pleasant residence in Jamaica and the hospitality of the best homes is extended to them. His courtes-

ous obliging manner and helpful disposition made Mr. Baird a popular station agent and he is equally well and favorably known as a grain merchant.

JAMES O'NEAL.

James O'Neal has the distinction and honor of being the first white child born in Vermilion county. Here he has resided for more than eighty years, his birth having occurred in Georgetown township, on the 20th of April, 1822. People of the twentieth century can scarcely realize the struggles and danger which attended the early settlers, the heroism and self-sacrifice of lives passed upon the borders of civilization, the hardships endured, the difficulties overcome,—these tales of the early days read almost like a romance to those who have known only modern prosperity and conveniences. To the pioneer of the early day, far removed from the privileges and conveniences of city or town, the struggle for existence was a stern and hard one and these men and women must have possessed indomitable energy and sterling worth of character, as well as marked physical courage when they willingly selected such a life and successfully fought its battles under such circumstances as prevailed in the west. The parents of our subject were Thomas and Sarah (Howard) O'Neal, the former a native of Nelson county, Kentucky, and the latter of Indiana. It was in the year 1821 that the father came to this county, settling near Brooks Point, where he took up a claim that embraces what is now the Caraway farm. There he resided for three years and then entered eighty acres of land near the Big Vermilion creek. After

moving on the Vermilion river he established a tannery, made and dressed his own leather, and made shoes for his family. He made Indian moccasins for the use of himself and family and to sell to the Indians. These Indians were principally of the Pottawattamie and Kickapoo tribes. Most of the winter was spent in making rails and clearing up ground, thus adding about ten acres every season to the tillable land. After the Black Hawk war broke out he saddled his horse and with his gun on his shoulder went into the service, taking the place of his oldest son who had gone several months before, and there remained until the close of the war. He developed a good farm there and was engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his days, his death occurring in September, 1891. His wife died two years later and their family consisted of nine children: Samuel, John, Isaac and Cynthia Ann, all deceased; James; Perry, who has also passed away; Nancy, the wife of Lewis Bulla, residing on the old family homestead on Big Vermilion; Thomas; and Sarah.

James O'Neal was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life and shared with the family in the hardships and trials incident to pioneer settlement. He assisted in the work of the home farm until twenty-two years of age and during that period acquired his education in the subscription or common schools. He then began work in the old Morgan and Sheets grist mill in Danville township on the Big Vermilion, now known as the Kyger mill, being there employed for six years.

During that time Mr. O'Neal was married to Vesta Pratt, also a native of this county, born October 2, 1829, and died on the 10th of November, 1902. Her parents

were Jonathan and Nancy (Stevens) Pratt, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Kentucky. In a very early day her father removed to this county. Soon afterward he entered the military service in the Black Hawk war and died of cholera while thus engaged. His wife passed away in this county. They resided upon a farm which is known as the old Cole farm in Danville township. The home of Mr. and Mrs. O'Neal was blessed with ten children. Cynthia Ann is the wife of Simon W. Doop, a butcher of Casey, Iowa; Nancy J. is the deceased wife of A. J. Scott. Oliver Perry, born October 16, 1853, engaged in teaching school in Vermillion and Edgar counties for ten years and since that time has devoted his attention to farming, making his home with his father. Jonathan T. wedded Mary E. Smith and is a contractor of Westville. Sarah Hannah died in infancy. Mary L. is the wife of H. J. Kirby, of Danville. Sylvia A. is the widow of Thomas Sandusky and lives with her father. Clarissa E. also resides with her father. Effie L. is the wife of Alva Carrigan, who is employed in the railroad shops of Danville. James H. is a carpenter by trade working with his brother.

After his marriage Mr. O'Neal resided upon the old homestead farm for four years and then removed to his present farm. He purchased forty acres of land, made excellent improvements thereon and continued the work of cultivation for a number of years, but is now living retired and his sons manage the property. When the family first came to Vermillion county Moses Scott owned all of the land where the town of Westville now stands and a plum orchard occupied the site of the homes and business houses which now adorn that locality. Mr. O'Neal built his home before that town of Westville was

laid out. He has never held any political offices, save some minor ones, as he has always preferred to give his time and attention to his business affairs. His first presidential vote was cast for Henry Clay and upon the organization of the Republican party he joined its ranks and has since continued to follow its banners. Mr. O'Neal is identified through membership relations with the Christian Church, as was also his wife, and for some time he served as one of its elders. His life has been one of untiring industry crowned with success and there are few men better known in this county and none more deserve the confidence and good will of those with whom they have come in contact than does James O'Neal. He has now passed the eightieth milestone on life's journey, but he still manifests a deep interest in his native county and its welfare and throughout his career he has ever taken an active part in everything pertaining to the general good. No history of the county would be complete without mention of his life for his residence here anti-dates that of any other native son and he is one of the revered patriarchs of the community.

CHARLES E. CHESLEY.

Charles E. Chesley was born in Danville April 16, 1854, and is a son of Robert V. Chesley who is represented elsewhere in this volume. The son attended the public schools of his native city and continued his studies in the high school until he reached the age of seventeen years, when his father died and he put aside his text-books in order to provide for his own support. He secured employment in the carriage factory owned by Daniel Force, working as a painter there

for two years. He then entered the service of the Wabash Railroad Company as call boy and after a time was promoted to fireman. His fidelity to duty and his efficiency later won him promotion to engineer and subsequently he became roundhouse foreman at Tilton, where he remained for two years. He then again went upon the road but after a year he once more became foreman, acting in that capacity for two years. He was next assistant to C. F. Lape, general master mechanic. Once more he went upon the road as an engineer and then after twelve years' service with the Wabash Railroad Company he resigned his position in 1886 and established his present business, in connection with his brother, John L. Chesley. Under the business style of Chesley Brothers' Boiler Works, they are conducting a plant in which is manufactured tanks, boilers, stacks, and other sheet iron products which are shipped extensively to all parts of the United States. Their business is continually increasing and has already reached proportions that make it a leading industrial concern of this city. Mr. Chesley likewise owns real estate in addition to the plant and buildings of the firm.

In May, 1878, was celebrated the marriage of Charles E. Chesley and Miss Ida M. Dicken. They are the parents of five children, namely: Beulah V., Edna M., Annie, Alice and Robert E. Chesley. Mr. and Mrs. Chesley hold membership in the Episcopal church and fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Court of Honor. In his political views he is an earnest and stalwart Republican, and for one term he served as a member of the city council, during which time he was chairman of the sewerage committee, and under his di-

rection the large Jarets branch sewer was built. This is one of the best improvements the city has ever had. In matters of public concern Mr. Chesley has ever been found progressive and helpful, giving his co-operation to many movements for the general good. As a business man he is known for his enterprise, industry, and perseverance—qualities which form important elements in a successful career.

EARL MILLER, M. D.

Dr. Earl Miller, who is practicing in Indianola, was born in Marion county, Indiana, September 18, 1872. His father, Asher N. Miller, also a native of Marion county, was a son of Vincent M. and Elizabeth (Kise) Miller. After arriving at years of maturity Asher N. Miller carried on agricultural pursuits and stock-raising in the county of his nativity and became well-to-do because of his business ability and close application to his chosen work. He still resides upon his farm near Clermont, Indiana, at the age of fifty-eight years, and is regarded as one of the influential and prominent residents of his community. He is a man of strong character, who has lived a temperate, moral life, and his genuine worth has gained for him the warm regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact. He married Ettie L. Hornaday, also a native of Marion county, Indiana, and a daughter of Isaiah and Elizabeth (Wiley) Hornaday, who were natives of Rush county, that state. Their children were Harvey Hornaday, a journalist residing in Oklahoma; Henderson, who is a practicing physician of Indianapolis, Indiana; Santford, a resident of Indianapolis,

Indiana, a contractor of public works; Lillie, wife of Abraham Pollard, of Indianapolis; Miles G., of Indianapolis, an expert accountant; and Ettie L., the wife of Mr. Miller. By the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Miller seven children were born, of whom the Doctor is the eldest. The others are: Hattie, who died in childhood; Chester C., a dentist of Indianapolis; Verllinda, a teacher of Clermont, Indiana; Harry G., a student in the Central College of Dentistry at Indianapolis; Carl R., who is following farming near Clermont; and Janette, who is a student of the schools of Clermont.

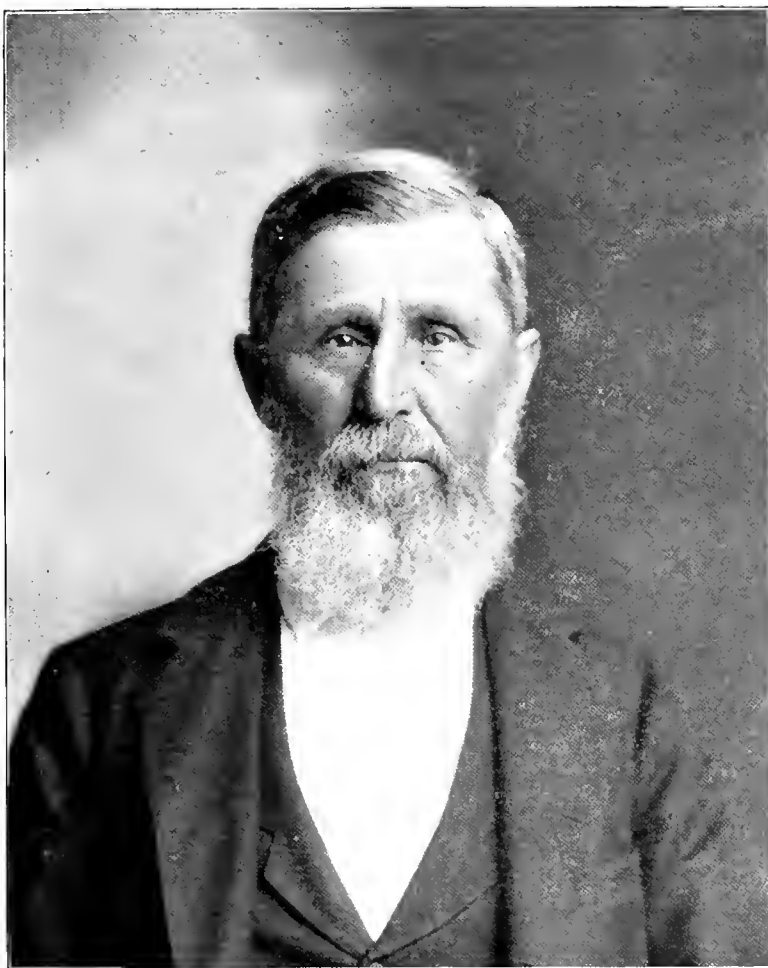
Dr. Miller pursued his early education in the common schools and subsequently became a student in Butler University where he remained for two years. When his literary course was completed he decided to enter upon the study of medicine, wishing to make its practice his life work, and on the completion of the prescribed course he was graduated in the Central College of Physicians and Surgeons at Indianapolis, Indiana, with the class of 1897. Locating in Indianola, Illinois, he has since been in active practice here and although the period of his residence in Vermilion county covers only five years, he has gained a reputation which many an older physician might well envy.

The Doctor was married on the 14th of June, 1897, to Miss Margaret D. Varner, who was born in Edgar county, Illinois, on the 17th of June, 1877. Mrs. Miller is the third child of Allan and Jemima (Dickson) Varner. Allan Varner was born April 18, 1829, and his wife, who was the youngest daughter of David and Margaret Dickson, early pioneers of Vermilion county, was born January 20, 1844. Unto Allan Varner and his wife, who are now residing

in Chrisman, Illinois, were born six children: J. D., born January 13, 1860, a business man of Indianapolis; Mary, born January 4, 1874, wife of T. W. Clayton, of Chicago; Margaret, born June 17, 1877, wife of the Doctor; Robert, born April 10, 1879, who graduated from the Indiana Medical College in 1903; William, born March 15, 1881, a resident of Chrisman, Illinois; and David, of Chrisman, born July 14, 1883. To the Doctor and his wife one child has been born, Jemima, born June 14, 1902. The Doctor is a member of the Masonic fraternity and is a Democrat in his political affiliations. Temperate in his habits and of a refined nature, he also possesses a sympathetic disposition which proves an important element in his successful professional career. He has the strictest regard for the ethics of his profession, an exalted view of his life work and while engaged in the alleviation of human suffering, he also commands the highest respect of those with whom he is associated.

ADAM H. MOZIER.

Adam H. Mozier, who is now extensively engaged in the dealing of hogs and was formerly known as a cattle dealer as well as general farmer, makes his home in Pilot township near Collison. He was born in Greene county, Ohio, in 1834, a son of Solomon and Christina (Cox) Mozier, both of whom died in Pilot township upon the farm where they settled on coming to Vermilion county. The father passed away in 1871 and the mother survived until 1887, when she, too, was called to her final rest, leaving five children, all of whom yet survive.



A. H. MOZIER.

Adam H. and John are twins and the latter is now a resident of Jefferson county, Illinois. William makes his home in Montgomery county, Kansas. Levi is engaged in the coal business in Danville. Harriet is the wife of D. C. Deamude, who is one of the commissioners of the National Park, living near Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Adam H. Mozier was but two years of age when his parents removed to Warren county, Indiana, there remaining from 1836 until 1840, when they came to Vermilion county, our subject being then in his fifteenth year. He acquired his education in the public schools and in Danville Seminary, which he attended through two terms. After his father's death he remained upon the home farm with his mother and cared for the property. After his mother's death in 1887, he wedded Miss Martha Cooper, of Miami county, Indiana, their parents having been neighbors in the Hoosier state. The Cooper family was established in Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1865. Both Mr. and Mrs. Cooper are now deceased and the family is quite widely scattered. Six of the children still survive: Mrs. Eliza Juvinal, of Oregon; Mrs. Millie Clarkson, of Kansas; Mary, who is living in Pilot township; Henry, in Muncie, Indiana; John D., who resides near Higginsville, Illinois; and Amos.

Throughout his entire life Mr. Mozier has carried on agricultural pursuits and he now owns two hundred and seventy acres of land, most of which is cultivable. Through a long period he planted his fields to the crops best adapted to the soil and climate but during the past ten years he has rented his farm land, retaining only his pasture lands for his stock. He feeds from sixty to seventy head of hogs annually and formerly was extensively engaged in feed-

ing cattle, in which branch of his business he has made most of his money. He raises his stock and sells to buyers, seldom making shipments himself to the city markets.

In his political views Mr. Mozier is a stalwart Republican and cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont. For two years he served as tax collector and has been school trustee for thirty years. In 1873 he was elected to that position and has been chosen at each consecutive election since. For several terms he was road supervisor and has ever been a faithful officer, discharging his duties with diligence and promptness. In 1884 he erected his present home on section 12, Pilot township, and in 1895 built his fine barn there. For more than half a century he has been a resident of the county, carrying on farming and stock-raising, and is widely known as a straightforward business man, whose word is as good as his bond.



LUTHER A. CLINGAN.

Luther A. Clingan belongs to that class of representative American citizens, who while promoting their individual success also advance the general prosperity. He is to-day numbered among the leading, influential and prosperous residents of Georgetown township. His business interests have been extensive and of important character, and he is now identified with agricultural and financial interests. He has also been called upon to serve in positions of public trust and at the present writing, in 1902, is filling the position of county commissioner of highways.

Mr. Clingan is a native son of this county, his birth having occurred in Danville township. His parents were James S. and El-

vira (Oleahy) Clingan, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Vermilion county, Illinois. William Clingan, the paternal grandfather of our subject, removed from the Buckeye state to this county in 1844, becoming one of the early settlers of Danville township, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until his death. James Clingan also became a farmer of this county and from the time of the removal of his parents to the west made his home in Catlin township until 1867. He then became a resident of Westville, where he lived retired until his death in August, 1899. His widow still survives and is yet living in Westville.

Luther A. Clingan was the youngest of their four children. In the district schools he pursued his education, mastering the branches of learning taught in such institutions. He assisted in the work of the home farm until his marriage, when he began farming on his own account. He wedded Miss Martha Graves, a daughter of L. H. Graves, who was also a pioneer of Vermilion county and became one of the first residents of Georgetown township, where some of his family are yet living. Mrs. Clingan was called to her final rest January 29, 1897. Of the seven children born of that union three are yet living: Blanche, Hershel and Roy. Those deceased are: Herman, Frankie, Fred and Ray. In 1899, Mr. Clingan was again married, wedding Miss Leeta Graves, a sister of his first wife.

In 1886 Mr. Clingan settled upon a small farm which was a part of the old Graves' estate and located near his present home. Soon afterward, however, he sold most of that land to the Westville Coal Company, which opened mines upon that tract. He then purchased his present farm on section 18, Georgetown township, also a part of the

old Graves' estate. Here he made many excellent improvements in keeping with the progressive spirit of the twentieth century. His is the finest farm residence in Georgetown and is pleasantly located near the state road between Westville and Georgetown. Mr. Clingan, himself, has done little farming as he rents his land. He is speculating to a considerable extent in land and his investments have been so judiciously made that they have returned to him splendid capital. As coal was found upon his farm he sold his land at a good profit and he has also made other purchases and sales wherefrom he has realized a good profit. He now owns three hundred acres in Edgar county, Illinois, and five hundred and sixty acres in Porter county, Indiana, and three hundred acres in Vermilion county, Illinois, all of which is rented. Mr. Clingan is the founder of the town of Unionville, Illinois, and his sale of town lots there amounted to more than seven thousand dollars. For the past three years he has been a director of the First National Bank, of Georgetown, and throughout this county he is regarded as a wide-awake enterprising business man, belonging to that class of representative citizens who have been the founders and up-builders of Illinois and the great west. He is well known in the city of Danville and throughout this portion of the state and in business circles he sustains an unassailable reputation.

In 1899 Mr. Clingan was elected to the office of commissioner of highways in which capacity he is still serving. He has always been a staunch Democrat in his political views and has taken an active interest in politics, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day, which enables him to support his position by intelligent argument.

For three years he served as a school director in his district. He is a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge at Westville and his wife belongs to the Christian church there. It is believed by some that fortunate circumstances are an important element in the success of the men who advance beyond the common plane of life in the acquirement of wealth, but in analyzing the history of a successful man it will always be found that there are certain elements in his career, and that among these is the ability to recognize and improve opportunities, combined with skillfully direct industry,—such is the case in the history of Mr. Clingan, who to-day is numbered among the most prosperous residents of Vermilion county. His success has been worthily won through honorable effort, keen discernment and enterprise, and the respect and confidence of his many friends is justly merited.

EDWARD C. KESPLER.

Edward C. Kespler, now deceased, was a well known farmer of Vermilion county and became a resident of this portion of the state in the year 1851. A native of Germany, he was born October 8, 1837, and his parents, Conrad and Elizabeth Kespler, were also born in the same country, there remaining until 1851 when they determined to seek a home in America and crossed the briny deep to the new world reaching the eastern shores of this country where they did not tarry long, but made their way to Vermilion county, Illinois. The father purchased a farm near State Line. There he carried on agricultural pursuits until his death, meeting with signal success in his work.

Edward C. Kespler was about fourteen years of age when he left the fatherland and came to the new world. He attended the common schools near State Line and assisted his father upon the home farm until after the country became involved in Civil war over the attempt of the southern states to secede. He enlisted on the 16th of November, 1864, and was assigned to Company C, of the Fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. This command was in a number of engagements of importance, including the battle of Franklin, where Mr. Kespler was taken prisoner. He was then sent to Andersonville prison where he underwent all the hardships and rigors of southern prison life until the close of the war. He then received an honorable discharge on the 24th of June, 1865. Returning to his father's farm he was there employed until his marriage.

That important event in the life of Mr. Kespler occurred on the 23d of December, 1866, the lady of his choice being Miss Anna P. Neigenfind, a native of Prussia, Germany, born on the 23d of September, 1847, and a daughter of Gotlieb Christ and Johanna Elizabeth Neigenfind. They too were natives of Germany and in 1861 the father came to America, settling first in Canada where he worked as a laborer for a year. He then went to Ripon, Wisconsin, where he was employed in a brickyard for a year. During that time he had saved some money which he sent to Germany for his family in order to pay their passage to the new world. Here he was joined by his wife and children in 1863. For a year thereafter they lived in Ripon and then removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling on Main street in Danville. In this city the father was employed as a laborer and afterward he engaged in gardening on his own account until old age

forced his retirement from business here. Both he and his wife now reside with Mrs. Kespler and Mr. Neigenind is now eighty-four years of age while his wife has reached the advanced age of seventy-eight years. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Kespler was blessed with four children: Mary E., now the wife of Louis Steck, a farmer residing in Ogden, Illinois; Frank E., who married Lydia M. Pratt, their home being in Georgetown, Illinois, where he is engaged in business as the leading druggist of that place; Anna Catherine, the wife of H. L. Smith, a butcher of Danville; and William E., who married May Wilke and is employed as a clerk in a clothing store in Danville. All of the children were provided with good educational privileges.

After his marriage Mr. Kespler resided upon a farm near Perrysville for one year and then returned to State Line where he carried on farming for another year. He then again took up his abode at Perrysville, purchasing a farm which he continued to cultivate until his death. He made his place very productive because of the care and labor which he bestowed upon it. The excellent improvements still seen there are the results of his hardiwork and everything about the place indicates his careful supervision and progressive spirit. He was a hard working man, industrious and honest and became well-to-do. He was never an office seeker nor did he desire political preferment yet he was known as a substantial and inflexible adherent of Republican principles. He passed away November 27, 1878, and his loss was deeply regretted not only by his immediate family but by many friends, for he had gained an enviable place in public regard.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Kes-

pler has removed to Danville and is living with her father and mother at No. 23 Hays street, her parents having there resided since 1865. She still owns thirty-six acres of valuable farming land near Perrysville and has some business lots on East Main street in this city. At one time she also had other property in Danville, but has sold most of this. She is a member of the German United Brethren Church and is a lady of many estimable qualities.

JOSEPH FAIRHALL, M. D.

Dr. Joseph Fairhall, a physician and surgeon of Danville, was born at Tadwell Hall, on the isle of Sheppy, in the county of Kent, England, on the 9th of February, 1813, and is descended from the old baronial family of that name. The ancestry can be traced back through many centuries and the name of Joseph was borne by the eldest son in each successive generation. From an early period in the history of England the Fairhalls were connected with progress and advancement in the counties of Sussex and Kent. Tradition says that the ancestors of the Doctor were paid soldiers of William the Conqueror. Joseph Fairhall, the father of the Doctor, was also born on the isle of Sheppy and there wedded Esther Shaw, whose birth occurred in the same locality. They located at Tadwell Hall, the father being a country gentleman. In 1868 they removed to Sittingbourne, which was a town in that locality, and there his death occurred in 1885, when he was seventy-two years of age. The mother survived until March 15, 1902, and both were laid to rest in the family vault at Queensboro, in Kent county, England.

Dr. Fairhall acquired his early educa-



DR. JOSEPH FAIRHALL.

tion in what was known as the National School of Minster on the isle of Sheppy and afterward entered the grammar school at Shoerness. Later he became a student in the University at London, England, in which institution he was graduated with the class of 1881. He next entered the Charing Cross Medical University in London, where he remained for three years. In 1877 he joined the Irish Rifles, in which regiment he served with credit as a volunteer for eight years, being mustered out in 1885. He continued to remain in London, however, until 1887, and in that year he came to America. Making his way westward, he became connected with the South Chicago Dock Company and also with the Grape Creek Coal Company, holding the office of vice president of both. During the first three years after his arrival in America he made his home in Chicago, having become interested in the coal company while enroute, and he acted as its vice president until the company went into the hands of a receiver in 1892. In 1890 he took up his residence on the property of the company at Grape Creek and was instrumental in inaugurating the village. While there he studied practical mining engineering and at the same time took the active management of the company's affairs. Both he and his wife gave their attention to the improvement of the social condition of the working classes in the community by inaugurating church and Sunday-school work, concerts and other means of entertainment of a beneficial character, and in 1892 he was the means of establishing the Grape Creek Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and became its first presiding officer. He was always very enthusiastic for the welfare of the order and passed through its various degrees until he had arisen to

high office in the Uniformed Rank of Patriarchs Militant. In connection with this division of the fraternity he founded the degree of Ladies Militant in 1901. In all of this work he was ably assisted by his wife who founded the White Oaks Rebekah degree lodge at Grape Creek and later was the first president of the Ladies Militant.

In the meantime the coal company became involved in litigation and after passing into the hands of a receiver Mr. Fairhall assumed control of the Grape Creek Clay Works and by close study of the various clays found in the vicinity coupled with his knowledge of chemistry, he was enabled to master the art of brick manufacture. He became a member of the National Brick Manufacturers' Association, at whose conventions he was always present, taking an active part in the work of the organization. Owing to the long litigation in which the coal company was involved and which precluded him from obtaining a lease of the clay works for longer than one year at a time, he found at the end of four years that he could no longer continue the work with profit and consequently determined to retire from business.

On the 27th of March, 1896, he went before the state board of health and applied for a license to practice the profession of medicine, and after satisfactorily passing the required examination the license was granted. In the spring of 1898 he took up his residence in the city of Danville, building a house and office near the Gilbert street bridge, commanding an extensive and picturesque view of the Vermillion river. In the same year—1898—he was elected a member of the staff of physicians of the Vermillion county hospital, and professor of anatomy and physiology in the Danville training school for nurses. Progressive in

his profession, he keeps abreast with the best thinking men who are connected with this line of business activity through his membership in the Vermilion County Medical Association, the Tri-County Medical Association, the Danville Physicians Protective Association and the National Medical Association.

On the 17th of November, 1877, Dr. Fairhall was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Sandys, the third daughter of William King, Esquire, of Elwick Villa, at Ashford, Kent county, England. When he emigrated to America he was accompanied by his wife and two eldest sons, arriving in this country on the 29th day of March, 1887. In 1893 a third son was born unto them while they were living in Chicago and in 1894 they became the parents of a daughter, Lucy Winnifred, born at Grape Creek. Both the Doctor and his wife have gained a large circle of friends in Danville and the hospitality of many of the best homes of the city is extended to them. Thoroughly equipped by his collegiate work for the profession which now engages his attention, and continually promoting his efficiency by reading and study, he is to-day one of the best informed members of the medical fraternity in this city, having gained a high standing in a calling where influence and wealth availeth little or naught but where merit is the foundation of advancement.

WILLIAM M. SMITH.

William M. Smith is now practically living a retired life at his home in Danville and well does he deserve rest from labor, but to a man of his nature it is almost im-

possible to utterly put aside business cares. Indolence and idleness have ever been utterly foreign to him and therefore he yet gives his supervision to the management of his invested interests, and his sound business judgment and enterprise are manifested in the capable control of his property. He resides at No. 142 South Logan avenue, in a nice home which is a monument to his indefatigable labor and capability.

Mr. Smith was born near the village of Potomac, Vermilion county, on the 16th of October, 1840, and is a son of Henry and Jane (Stewart) Smith. The father was a native of Oxfordshire, England, born November 20, 1806, and the mother's birth occurred in Birmingham, England. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Thomas and Mary (Fletcher) Smith, also natives of England where the grandfather followed farming and likewise engaged in conducting a dairy and cheese factory. He followed those lines of business until his later years when he came to America and after a year's residence in this country he was called to the home beyond. Henry Smith crossed the broad Atlantic to the new world in 1838 and settled in Cleveland, Ohio, where he established a meat market. He also engaged in buying and shipping stock there for three years, after which he removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling near the village of Potomac, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1847. In that year he came to Danville where he opened a meat market and was the third oldest merchant in that line in the city. He did his own butchering and engaged in selling fresh as well as salt meats, until 1867 when he disposed of his store and purchased a farm near the village of Tilton in this county. There he carried on the work of cultivating his fields until 1880 when

he returned to Danville and was again engaged in the meat business through the two succeeding years. Afterward he lived retired in this city until his death which occurred in 1897. His wife passed away here on the 14th of November. They were highly respected people esteemed because they were true to upright principles and were honorable in all their relations with their fellow men. Unto this worthy couple were born eleven children, but only four are now living, namely: William M.; Mary, the wife of Robert Stevens, of Danville; Fannie J. and Lucy, who reside at No. 116 South Jackson street in the old home which their father built here. Those who have passed away are John, Edwin, Sarah, Frank, Henry, Charlie and Joseph.

William M. Smith acquired a common school education in Potomac and in Danville and in early life he assisted his father in the meat market, being thus engaged until after the inauguration of the Civil war. He watched with interest the progress of events in the south, saw that the war was to be no mere holiday affair and that it would require the united strength of the great majority of the loyal sons of the nation in order to preserve the Union. Accordingly, on the 12th of August, 1862, he offered his services to the government enlisting as a member of Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, under command of Colonel Harmon. His company was commanded by Captain Ralston and afterward by Captain Brown. With his regiment Mr. Smith participated in many important engagements, including the battles of Kennesaw, Chattanooga, Atlanta and Perryville. Although often in the thickest of the fight, exposed to the hot fire from the enemy's guns, Mr. Smith was never injured in any

way. He was discharged at Washington, D. C., on the 1st of June, 1865, returning to his home with the consciousness of having faithfully performed his duty, his military record being a most creditable one.

After the war was over Mr. Smith again assisted his father in the meat market in Danville and after his father's removal to the farm he took charge of the market, conducting it successfully until 1880. He then sold a part interest in the establishment, and he also owns a slaughter house which is near his home. Mr. Smith is also engaged to some extent in the nursery business, having his place set out in nursery stock and shade trees which he sells to the local trade. In addition to all this he is the owner of several houses and lots on South Logan avenue and he owns some residence property in Vermilion Heights and in Danville.

On the 25th of December, 1867, occurred the marriage of Mr. Smith and Miss Mary A. Morgan, a native of Indiana and a daughter of John Morgan who was engaged in the livery business in the Hoosier state and came to Danville at an early day. Here he engaged in teaming until his death which occurred in 1864. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born six children: Bertie, at home; Kittie, the wife of Charles Milemore, of Danville; Belle, the wife of Ed Laffin, residing near her parents; Roena and Wilma, both at home; and Harry, who died in infancy. The family home is an attractive residence at No. 142 South Logan avenue, near the Vermilion river. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith hold membership in the Kimber Methodist Episcopal church of Danville and he belongs to the Grand Army Post in this city. In politics he is a Republican. Those who read between the lines can gain considerable knowledge of the life work of Mr.

Smith. A self-made man, he started out upon his business career determined to make the most of his opportunities and advantages and he is to-day one of the oldest representatives of the meat trade in this city. Moreover, he sustains an unassailable reputation because of reasonable prices, of honorable dealing and an earnest desire to please his patrons through his trade relations as well as in social life and he has won many warm friends who esteem him highly.



NOAH E. HUBBARD.

One of the extensive landowners of Vermilion county is Noah E. Hubbard, whose property possessions aggregate six hundred acres of valuable farm land. He has resided in this county since 1840 and is now living retired from active business, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves. One-half the width of the continent separates him from his birth place - Sheffield, Massachusetts, where he first opened his eyes to the light of day on the 20th of November, 1814. He is a son of Noah E. and Cynthia (Clark) Hubbard, both of whom were natives of the same locality. His father there conducted a distillery and sawmill and also engaged in farming in Massachusetts until 1819, when he removed westward with his family, settling in Michigan, which was his home for two years. He then purchased an ox team and started for Indiana, while his family made their way to that state in an old log canoe on the river. All were on the trip for about six weeks and a settlement was then made in Vermilion county, Indiana, where Noah E. Hubbard, Sr., purchased a farm

and also bought a hempmill. He engaged in the operation of the latter in connection with the cultivation of his fields until 1835, when he joined the Mormons. Leaving his family in Indiana, he went to Missouri, where he lived for three years. On the expiration of that period he returned to Illinois, settling in Nauvoo, where he lived with the Mormons until they left that part of the country. Mr. Hubbard at that time took up his abode in Vermilion county, Indiana, on the old Lone farm, where he had previously lived, continuing there for two years, when, with his wife, he started for Salt Lake City, Utah, to join the Mormons there. They only proceeded to Council Bluffs, Iowa, when the father was taken ill and died. The mother then returned and lived with her children until her own death. They were the parents of ten children: Parmela, who now resides in Topeka, Kansas; Lucy Ruth, deceased; Charles, a farmer living in Utah; Cynthia, who has passed away; Noah E.; Prudence, deceased; Lucy, who died in infancy; Clark, who is the owner of a large cattle ranch in California and makes his home in that state; William, a farmer of Benton county, Indiana; and David, who died in infancy.

At the age of seventeen years Noah E. Hubbard went to Terre Haute, Indiana, where he worked in a tanyard for four years, receiving his board and clothing in compensation for his services. He then returned to Vermilion county, Indiana, living upon the old home farm there until 1840, when he crossed the line to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling in Georgetown township at what is now known as Hubbards Ford on Big Vermilion creek. There he accepted a position as superintendent of a sawmill for fifty cents per day and followed that pursuit for six years. He next settled



MRS. N. E. HUBBARD.



NOAH E. HUBBARD.

on what is known as the Sprouls farm on section 36, Georgetown township, purchasing the land and living there until 1867. In that year he removed to his present farm and in connection with its cultivation also engaged in operating a sawmill until 1892, when because of failing health he retired to private life. His has been a useful, active and successful career, in which he has won prosperity and also gained an untarnished name.

In 1845 Mr. Hubbard was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Ogden, a daughter of James Ogden, an early settler of this county. Her death occurred in 1880 and many friends mourned her loss. Six children had been born of this marriage: Cardin, who married A. Hayworth and lives in the village of Georgetown; Cynthia, the wife of Ira Courtney, a farmer of Georgetown township; Lucy, who died in infancy; Azrell A., who married Marietta Hayworth and is engaged in farming near Ogden; Jacob, who wedded Sarah Commons and follows agricultural pursuits in Georgetown township; and Cornelia Alice, the wife of Joseph Gantz, by whom she has one child, Lilly. They reside upon her father's farm, Mr. Gantz carrying on the work of the fields.

When Mr. Hubbard first purchased land in Georgetown township the tract was all covered with timber, but soon the woodman's ax gave evidence that the trees were falling beneath his sturdy strokes. He cleared off the land, plowed and planted it and also made other improvements. As the years have passed great transformation was wrought in the appearance of his property, which became a very valuable and highly productive farm. His boundaries, too, were extended as Mr. Hubbard made additional

purchases until he now owns over six hundred acres of land in different parts of Georgetown township and he has likewise given some land to his children. He has a beautiful home on his farm which is now occupied by his daughter and her family, it being one of the most attractive residences in this part of the county. In early life Mr. Hubbard gave his political support to the Whig party. In the ante-bellum days he attended the debates held by Douglas and Lincoln, shaking hands with each statesman. Since the election of Lincoln he has always voted the Republican ticket, strongly endorsing the principles of the party. He has almost reached the eighty-ninth milestone on life's journey and no man is better known in this part of Vermilion county or is more highly esteemed. Splendid success has attended his efforts in business. He has worked earnestly and indefatigably and his labors have brought to him a rich reward so that he is now one of the wealthy agriculturists of this portion of the state. In recent years he has enjoyed an honorable retirement from labor and the competence which he formerly acquired supplies him with conveniences and many of the luxuries of life. Vast changes have occurred in Vermilion county during the time in which he has resided within its borders, its forests having been cleared away, its prairies cultivated and the entire district transformed into a rich agricultural tract. Towns and villages too have shared in the general progress and advancement has been made along material, social, intellectual and moral lines. In the evening of life Mr. Hubbard can look back over the past with just pride for what he has accomplished and he has always lived so that he has enjoyed the esteem and high regard of his fellow men.

MRS. RHODA M. HESTER.

Mrs. Rhoda M. Hester is one of the native residents of Vermilion county who through more than three score years and ten has been a witness of the growth and up-building of this portion of the state. She is now residing in Ridgefarm and enjoys the high esteem of all who know her. She was born December 7, 1827, near Vermilion Grove, a daughter of Ira and Esther, (Horney) Mills, and her father was a native of Jefferson county, Tennessee, born December 4, 1806, and came of a family of rich farming people. He was one of eleven children, all of whom are now deceased. When he was sixteen years of age he accompanied his parents on their removal from Tennessee to Illinois, a settlement being made on what became known as the Great Mills Farm, two miles west of Vermilion Grove. From that time to the present representatives of the family have lived upon the land which became the property of the grandparents. After arriving at years of maturity Ira Mills was united in marriage to Miss Esther Horney, who was born in Xenia, Ohio, December 12, 1805. Her parents were also farming people, and she was one of five children. About 1825 the family was established in Vermilion county and here on the 12th of December, 1826, she gave her hand in marriage to Ira Mills. They lived happily together until the 23d of November, 1836, when Mrs. Mills was called to her final rest, leaving a family of six children. The father afterward married Mary Dillon, who also belonged to an old family of Tennessee and came to Illinois during her early girlhood. By her marriage she became the mother of thirteen children. In the year 1868 Mr. Mills removed with his family to Carthage,

Missouri, and there he spent his remaining days. His second wife died there in 1872 while his death occurred on the 8th of April 1880. The brothers and sisters of Mrs. Hester are: Mrs. Louisa Lewis, who was the mother of nine children and is now deceased; John R., who has also passed away; Paris, who is a merchant of Syracuse, Kansas, and has one child; William, who died leaving four children; and Mrs. Lydia Smith, whose husband is a millwright, of Los Angeles, California.

Mrs. Hester was reared under the paternal roof and trained to the duties of the household, continuing her education in the district schools until she put aside her text books. On the 10th of November, 1853, she gave her hand in marriage to John Hester, who was born near Richmond, Indiana, March 11, 1827, and was one of a family of seven children. By his parents he was brought to Vermilion county in 1829 and was here reared as a farmer boy, early becoming familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. His entire life was spent in Elwood township and his attention was always given to farm work, which he conducted with profit.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Hester was blessed with the following children: Alfred, who is living at Ridgefarm; Ida M., who died at the age of eleven years; Mrs. Mary E. Rook, of Elwood township, who had six children, four of whom are yet living; Cyrus, of Ridgefarm who has two children; Ada, who died in childhood; and Paris J., a farmer of Ridgefarm, who has five children. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hester were reared in the faith of the Society of Friends. He was an earnest Christian man whose upright life commended him to the confidence and good will of all with whom

he was associated. He passed away July 17, 1899, leaving to his family the priceless heritage of an untarnished name and to the young an example well worthy of emulation. Mrs. Hester was always an able assistant of her husband. When she was but seventeen years of age she began teaching, following that profession for seven years in order to assist in the support of her father's large family. She had been a student in the Georgetown High School and is a lady of culture and intelligence. She also spun and wove in an early day in order to assist her family, and after her marriage she faithfully performed the duties of her household, while her husband was working in the fields. Mr. and Mrs. Hester continued to reside upon the home farm until 1891, when they came to Ridgefarm where she is now living, having here a comfortable home. Her memory forms a connecting link between the pioneer past and the progressive present of Vermilion county, and she can relate many interesting incidents of the days when this section of the state was upon the frontier, and can tell many pleasing tales of the mode of life in that early period. Kindly and generous, the sterling traits of her character and her good qualities of heart and mind have made her a loved friend, and one widely and favorably known in her native county.

BENJAMIN EVERHART.

On the roll of the dead, among the men who were prominent, honorable and successful in business, appears the name of Benjamin Everhart, and while he has passed away he is yet remembered by many who knew him in Danville and throughout Vermilion coun-

ty. He came to this city when the Wabash Railroad entered it, from Decatur, Illinois, driving a yoke of oxen. His entrance here was symbolical of his business connection with the city for throughout the greater part of his residence here he was engaged in teaming and his patronage grew as the years passed by until his business had assumed extensive and profitable proportions.

Mr. Everhart was a native of Switzerland, born on the 17th of September, 1833, and both his parents died in Switzerland during his early boyhood. He remained a resident of his native land until he was seventeen years of age when he sailed from that country for America, believing that he might have better opportunities to secure business advancement in this country where the energy of young men is not hampered by caste or class. Landing in New York he worked as a laborer in the Empire state for a few years, after which he came to the west, settling in Decatur, Illinois. There he purchased an ox-team and was engaged in the draying business until his removal to Vermilion county. After coming to Danville Mr. Everhart was here married in 1860 to Miss Dorothy Kline, who was a native of Germany, born February 27, 1842, her parents being Jacob and Dorothy (Miller) Kline, both of whom were natives of the fatherland. Coming to America they established a home in Michigan where Mr. Kline engaged in farming until he was called to his final rest. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Everhart was blessed with eleven children: John, who is now engaged in the baking business in Indian Territory; Charles, who married Maude Chaffield, and is engineer for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, his home being in Danville; Katherine and Bennie, both deceased; Mary, the wife of Charles Anderson, of Danville,

who left two children, Bennie and Bessie (twins), who have been adopted by Mrs. Everhart and now live with her; Annie, the wife of John Louek, of Fairmount, Vermilion county; Rebecca, the wife of Grant Elberson, a machinist of Danville; Emma and Bennie, who have also passed away; Elizabeth, who resides at home and is employed as a clerk in a store in this city; and Virginia, also with her mother. The children were all given good educational privileges and thus prepared for life's practical and responsible duties.

After coming to this city Mr. Everhart engaged in teaming with his ox-team and assisted in hauling the rock used in the construction of the first bridges over the Vermilion river at Danville. He also aided in the construction of those bridges. For several years he carried on general teaming and then took charge of the Danville dray line. During the last seventeen years of his life he was engaged in the draying business and his services were in constant demand. There was much difference between his good teams of horses and his outfit of oxen and old fashioned wagon which he had at the time of his arrival. His patronage, too, had increased with the passing years and as the result of his labors he had acquired a comfortable competence. He was always an industrious, hard working, energetic man, and these qualities brought to him the confidence and good will of those with whom he came in contact. He passed away July 28, 1895, but his memory is still cherished by many who knew him and respected him because his life was in consistent harmony with the principles of upright manhood. In politics he was independent, supporting the candidates whom he believed best qualified for office. He belonged to the Independent Order of

Odd Fellows, of Danville, and was highly esteemed in the fraternity. Mrs. Everhart is a member of the German Methodist Episcopal Church of this city and she now resides at her home at No. 31 South Walnut street with her daughters. She has long lived here and has a wide acquaintance. She has seen Danville grow from the conditions of a village until it has become one of the leading metropolitan centres of this great state. Like her husband she well deserves mention in this volume devoted to the worthy and representative citizens of Vermilion county.

HARRISON FAIRCHILD.

The history of a state as well as that of a nation is chiefly the chronicle of the lives and deeds of those who have conferred honor and dignity upon society. The world judges the character of a community by that of its representative citizens and yields its tributes of admiration and respect for the genius, learning or virtues of those whose works and actions constitute the record of a state's prosperity and pride; and it is their character, as exemplified in probity and benevolence, kindly virtues and integrity in the affairs of life, that is ever affording worthy examples for emulation and valuable lessons of incentive.

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 advantageously equipped or endowed. The subject of this review has through his own



HARRISON FAIRCHILD.



MRS. HARRISON FAIRCHILD.

exertions attained an honorable position and marked prestige among the representative men of the west, and with signal consistency it may be said that he is the architect of his own fortunes and one whose success amply justifies the application of the somewhat hackneyed but most expressive title, "a self-made man."

Mr. Fairchild, who is now living a retired life, in a beautiful residence at No. 1444 North Vermilion street, in Danville, comes of a very old and prominent family of Vermilion county. He is a native of this county, his birth having occurred on Christmas Day of 1840. His parents were Daniel and Lucy (Hemmingway) Fairchild. The father was a native of New York, born in 1810, and he and four brothers left the Empire state in 1828, coming direct to Vermilion county, Illinois, for the opportunities of the broad west attracted them. Daniel Fairchild settled in Blount township, among its first residents. He began making improvement upon a tract of wild prairie and timber land and built the first brick house in that part of the county, after which he devoted his energies to farming for many years. He was also a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church and in connection with his agricultural pursuits he devoted considerable time to the work of spreading the Gospel, and influencing his fellow men to walk in the straight and narrow path. In his later years he preached more funeral sermons and married more couples than any other minister of his day in the county. His influence, too, was of no restricted order and his memory yet remains as a blessed benediction to those who knew him. He was widely recognized as a prominent and influential resident of Vermilion county and his death, which occurred on the old home farm in Blount township, May 27, 1870, was the

source of deep regret to his many friends. His wife, who proved to him a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey and who assisted him largely in his work of redeeming men, also passed away on the old home farm January 10, 1891. In the family of this worthy couple were fourteen children, of whom seven are yet living. Ordilla, born March 26, 1832, is the widow of David Lindsey and resides in Cherryvale, Kansas. Eliza Ann, born November 27, 1833, is the wife of George Smith, a resident of Blount township, this county. Harrison is the next younger. Nathaniel Robins, born August 15, 1843, is a resident farmer of Blount township. F. Milton, born April 20, 1848, resides near and owns the old homestead in Blount township. Elizabeth, born January 9, 1851, is the wife of Joseph Ingram, an agriculturist of Blount township. Sophia Ella, born April 20, 1857, is the wife of John W. Duncan, of Alvin, Illinois. Of those who have passed away one died in infancy. The others were: Henry, who died before the Civil war; Wesley and Daniel C., who were killed while serving in the Union army during the war; Eli, who died in 1893; Elkanah, who served his country in the One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry in 1864 and died May 16, 1900.

Like the other members of the family Harrison Fairchild began his education in the old subscription schools of the county, later attended the common public schools and subsequently came to Danville, where for six months he was a student in the Red Methodist Episcopal Seminary, where he completed his education. He was a student in that institution at the outbreak of the Civil war and in June, 1861, he offered his services to the government, enlisting in Company B, Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry,

under Captain Walls and Colonel Collier. He participated in the following engagements: Pea Ridge, Corinth, Perrysville, Chaplin Hills, Noonday Creek, Pinctop Mountain, Chattahoochee, Stone River, Manchester and Chickamauga. At the last named Mr. Fairchild was slightly wounded by a ball in the leg. He was afterward in the charge of Missionary Ridge, where he was wounded in the arm by a piece of shell. Subsequently the company marched with Sherman to Atlanta and he was also in the battle of Peach Tree Creek, Georgia, and in many skirmishes. During the Atlanta campaign he was relieved from further duty, his term of service having expired, and returning to Illinois, he received his discharge at Springfield, Illinois, September 5, 1864.

Returning to Blount township, this county, Mr. Fairchild engaged in farming near the old homestead. He was married on the 8th of March, 1865, to Sarah E. Lanham, also a native of this county and a daughter of Robert A. Lanham, one of the early settlers of Blount township, where he followed farming for many years, passing away there in 1865. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild was blessed with thirteen children: Rev. Wilbur Daniel, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church and now a resident of Murdock, Illinois; Lilly Jane, the wife of John Crawford, a resident of Danville; Effie, the wife of Edward Bennett, who is living in Urbana, Illinois; Oscar H., a chemist of Denver, Colorado; John L., who now resides on the old home farm in Blount township; Myrtle, the wife of the Rev. J. M. Judy, a Methodist Episcopal minister at Delavan, Wisconsin; Roscoe S., who was born May 12, 1878, and is now a student in the Chicago University, having previously served as corporal in Battery A

in the Spanish-American war, being for two months in Porto Rico; Ethel, the wife of Jesse Kenney, of Higginsville, Illinois; Bessie, Ruby, Harrison and Albert, all at home; and Sarena, who died in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Fairchild purchased a farm near the old homestead in Blount township. He made all of the improvements upon that property, including the erection of substantial buildings. He uses the latest improved machinery in carrying on the work of the farm and has made his place a very attractive and valuable one. There he continued his business until 1895 when, wishing to give his children better educational facilities, he removed to the city of Danville, purchased here a lot and erected his present home at No. 1444 North Vermilion street. It is one of the pretty residences in that part of the city. He still owns his farm in Blount township, which is rented to his son John L.

Mr. Fairchild is now serving as one of the school directors in his district, No. 112, in this county, and has held minor offices in Blount township, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of Danville, and in his political affiliations he has always been a stalwart Republican. Both he and his wife are devoted members of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Danville and he is now serving as one of its stewards. He was elected by the quarterly conference, Bismarek circuit, Danville district, as a lay delegate to the Illinois quadrennial conference of the Methodist Episcopal church held in Jacksonville, September, 1879; Danville in 1883; Decatur in 1887; and Jacksonville in 1891. His wife belongs to several of the church societies and both are active in support of the church, contributing in many ways to its growth and upbuilding. In all

the relations of life Mr. Fairchild has proved himself to be an earnest, honest, upright man and a citizen of whom the community may justly be proud.

ELIJAH J. BOORDE.

In pioneer times, about a half century ago, the Boorde family was established in Vermilion county and the old homestead farm was the birthplace of the subject of this review, his natal day being May 17, 1859. He is a son of George and Sarah A. (Bowling) Boorde and the ancestry can be traced back through several generations to England the first of the name coming from Yarmouth, that country, to America, bringing with him his wife, their two children and their maid servants. They took passage on a vessel called Mary Ann, and on the 16th of October, 1637, they became residents of Newberry, Massachusetts. The progeny of these first American ancestors is now very numerous in the new world. Elijah Boorde, Sr., the grandfather of our subject, was a brick mason and farmer. He married Nancy Crane, who was born March 4, 1801, and was a representative in the sixth generation of the Tappan family, of English descent. Among their children was George Boorde, the father of our subject. He was born June 27, 1826, in Warren county, Ohio, and on the 9th of September, 1847, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Bowling, whose birth occurred October 21, 1829, in Fountain county, Indiana. Mr. Boorde was reared about seven miles east of Covington, in Fountain county, having accompanied his parents on their removal to that locality when the country was all wild and unimproved,

and in the midst of pioneer conditions he spent the days of his boyhood and youth, acquiring his education in the primitive schools of those days. He afterward engaged in farming through the summer months, while in the winter seasons he followed teaching, and his wife also engaged in teaching before her marriage. Mrs. Boorde was a representative of one of the earliest families of Covington, Indiana, and there she resided until 1854, when the family came to Vermilion county, Illinois. Here the father began farming upon a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land which was entirely destitute of improvements, not even a furrow having been turned upon the place. The journey westward had been made in a "prairie schooner" in the primitive style of the times, for there were no railroads and the work of progress and improvement had scarcely been begun in this portion of the state. With characteristic energy, however, Mr. Boorde began to clear and improve his land, using a plow which was drawn by an ox-team. The family lived in true pioneer style and while the father was engaged in the work of the fields the mother spun and wove the material used for clothing for the family. As the years progressed the labors of Mr. Boorde resulted in transforming his land into a very richly cultivated farm, the well tilled fields returning to him golden harvests while the excellent buildings placed upon the land also stood as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. He devoted his energies to the raising of grain and stock until after the outbreak of the Civil war, when his patriotic spirit being aroused he offered his services to the government, enlisting in Company C, of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, being with the regiment as

it marched to Nashville. The long, arduous march, however, undermined his health, and he was transferred to the Invalid Corps and afterward stationed at a camp in southern Indiana. Subsequently he was sent to Camp Dennison, in Ohio, and for some time was ill. Word reached his wife that he was worse and she immediately started for Columbus, Ohio, and on reaching there hastened to Camp Chase thinking to find her husband, but before her arrival he had passed away and was buried, his death having occurred November 5, 1863,—one of the brave soldiers who laid down his life as a sacrifice upon the altar of his country. He was a devout member of the Christian Church, a man of upright life and irreproachable character, and his remains were interred in the cemetery in Columbus, Ohio. Mrs. Boorde still survives her husband and is now living in Indianola in her seventy-third year. In the family were six children: Rosina, now deceased; Alpheus, who married Stella Jones, and is living in Oakwood township; Enoch F., who died at the age of two years; Martha, the wife of Joseph Fisher, of Fithian; Elijah J.; and Ida May, who died at the age of twenty-four years.

Elijah J. Boorde, the fifth in order of birth, named in honor of his grandfather, was reared upon the old home farm which is still his place of residence, and in the district schools of the neighborhood he acquired his education. He has always lived here with the exception of a period of two years spent in Danville and one year in South Dakota. He to-day owns the old homestead and has added to it a tract of eighty acres, making in all two hundred and twenty acres save that at the time of the building of the railroad a small portion was cut off, leaving

two hundred and sixteen acres, which constitutes one of the richest and best improved farms of the Prairie state, pleasantly and conveniently located on section 12, Oakwood township, about a mile and a quarter northwest of the town of Fithian. His farm is splendidly improved with all modern equipments and accessories for facilitating work. Mr. Boorde employs a number of men to perform the active work of field and meadow, and to the business of farming he gives his careful supervision, and his capable management and executive ability form important elements in its successful control. The land is well tilled, the fields highly cultivated and fine stock is raised. The home is a very attractive, commodious residence, forming one of the pleasing features of the landscape and all the other buildings of the place are substantial and well adapted for the use to which they are put. Mr. Boorde also owns an interest in the Fithian Telephone Company, the line extending from Fithian throughout the surrounding country and also into Champaign county.

On the 23d of February, 1888, Mr. Boorde was united in marriage to Miss Annie B. Thompson, whose birth occurred March 31, 1861, in Oakwood township, Vermilion county, while in the district schools she acquired her preliminary education which was supplemented by one year's attendance at the high school of Danville. She has been a popular teacher of her native county having successfully taught for about twelve terms in Oakwood township. She was the third in a family of twelve children born unto John R. and Elizabeth (Wright) Thompson. Her paternal grandparents were Joseph and Nancy (Stoughton) Thompson, the former a native of New Jer-

sey and the latter of Pennsylvania. John R. Thompson was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, April 12, 1830, and was the eighth in a family of eighteen children, twelve of whom reached years of maturity. On the 27th of November, 1856, he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Wright, and in order to provide for his family he engaged in agricultural pursuits, becoming one of the leading stock raisers of Vermilion county. He made a specialty of sheep, keeping on hand graded Shropshire and Merinoes. He herded a drove of over one thousand sheep upon the prairie in an early day. He was also a lover of good horses and owned four fine horses of Kentucky running stock. In business affairs he was prominent and influential, and was a citizen of worth in Vermilion county, honored and respected by all who knew him. Mrs. Boorde is a sister of Judge Thompson, of this county. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children, Mabel and John Rosslyn, both of whom are students in the schools of Fithian.

Mr. Boorde has served as school director and the cause of education finds him an advocate of progress and improvement along that line. He has also served as township trustee and has been Republican county committeeman for two terms, being a staunch advocate of the Republican party. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Fithian and he is a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp of that place. His entire life has been passed in this county and the circle of his friends is an extensive one. While there has been nothing exciting or sensational in his career it is that of a man who has always been loyal to duty, faithful in citizenship and true to the relations of the home and of friendship.

W. A. FLINT.

From the age of twelve years W. A. Flint has depended upon his own resources for a livelihood and the success which he has achieved has come to him as a result of his own labor and diligence. He was born in Lincoln county, Kentucky, on the 10th of May, 1862, and was reared to manhood in that state. His educational privileges were very meager, for his parents were poor and his services were needed upon the home farm. After his father's death, which occurred when the subject of this review was only eleven years of age, W. A. Flint assisted in supporting the family of eight children. When twelve years of age he entered the store as a clerk and there remained for five years, living during that time at East Bernstead, Kentucky. During the first year of his business connection at that place he sent ten thousand dollars by express, as the result of the year's trade. He remained there for three years and then sold out. He had had the entire management of the business and had displayed much ability in its control. On the expiration of that period he returned to his native county and entered the store in which he had formerly acted as clerk. In the meantime he had broadened his knowledge by attending night school and through reading and observation he had become a well informed man, realizing that mental training and education were necessities of a successful business career.

For two years he remained in his native county and after his marriage he went to Texas in 1886, making his way to Abilene. He took with him two hundred dollars in cash and there rented a house for twelve dollars per month. He entered the employ of a furniture dealer who paid him one dol-

far per day for the first year's wages. He proved so valuable to the owner that he won promotion rapidly and inside of three years he owned the building and the stock, acquiring this by reason of the stringency of the money market caused by the drought of 1887-8. Its proprietors became discouraged and on account of poor business prospects he left Texas and went to Central America where he is now living. When a year had passed Mr. Flint admitted a partner to the business. Sales had not been very good because of the drought and existing conditions of things in the south, but he persevered in his work and in 1888-9 he purchased the stock of all competitors in the furniture business, becoming the owner of two stores, one in the northern part of the town and another in the southern part. He did all of the furniture and undertaking business in this town of five thousand inhabitants for ten years, having no competition. His trade covered a radius of one hundred miles in all directions. He remained in business there for fifteen years meeting with splendid success in his undertakings. He also became the owner of two valuable ranches, one of twenty-seven hundred acres, and the other of four thousand acres. These were splendidly stocked, his horses numbering four hundred, his cattle five hundred. At length, however, Mr. Flint disposed of his various business interests in Texas and came to Hoopeston in 1898. At Lincoln, Illinois, he purchased a stock of shoes valued at ten thousand dollars and shipped these to Hoopeston, also adding a grocery stock. In the meantime he had purchased a stock of dry goods in Kansas City, which he also shipped to Hoopeston, and opening these various lines of goods he conducted business for about two years as an extensive and suc-

cessful merchant. At the end of that time, however, he suffered very serious losses amounting to about twenty-five thousand dollars. This was a result of a difficulty which he had with a man by the name of H. Kirby, who had falsely manipulated land deals for Mr. Flint, making these business relations result to his own benefit instead of to the owner of the property. Mr. Kirby had completely won Mr. Flint's confidence and later he abused this in the most shameful manner. Trouble arising between them in self-defense Mr. Flint shot the man but did not fatally injure him. In his course our subject received the support of the best residents of Hoopeston and was acquitted.

Starting out in business life anew at this place he became a broker and real-estate agent and has since continued his efforts along these lines. While maintaining his residence in Hoopeston he has to a large extent superintended landed investments scattered over the state which are the property of the Bank of Salem, acting as agent for Mr. Marshall, of that place. He sold one farm in southern Illinois for Mr. Marshall, for twenty-two thousand five hundred dollars cash. This tract comprised one hundred and sixty acres, and Mr. Flint succeeded in getting a higher price for the land than any that had ever been paid in that part of the state. He possesses sound judgment, keen discrimination and marked executive force—qualities which are very valuable in business life. Building a hotel in Pana, Illinois, he conducted it for a number of years and then sold out. He has also bought and sold farms in this state and he now owns six hundred and forty acres of valuable land on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad about fifty-five miles south of Chicago. He also owned the city electric light plant for a year and

managed it during that time, after which he sold it in 1901. He is also the owner of a half interest in the Cunningham Hotel. He has two hundred and forty acres of farmland near Salem, Illinois, and eighty acres near Kankakee, together with some town property.

Mr. Flint was united in marriage to Lockie B. Daniels, a native of Lincoln county, Kentucky, where they were married. Her people are now living in Abilene, Texas, while Mr. Flint's people still reside in Kentucky. Three days after the wedding was performed the young couple started for the Lone Star state, where they remained for a number of years. The marriage has been blessed with four children: Harold, Warren, J. P. and Ferris Audrey. In his political views Mr. Flint is a Bryan Democrat. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, of Abilene, Texas, and holds membership in the Baptist church. Such in brief is his life history and those who read between the lines may know something of the struggle which he has had in the business world, but though he has met difficulties and obstacles he has persevered in the face of such opposition and to-day he occupies an enviable position, prominent both because of his success and of the confidence reposed in him.



EPIHRAIM BARNHART.

Ephriam Barnhart, now deceased, followed farming throughout his entire life and was long a resident of Vermilion county respected as a worthy representative of its agricultural interests. He settled in Edgar county, Illinois, at an early day and thence came to this section of the state. Mr. Barn-

hart was a native of Pennsylvania, born July 10, 1834, and his parents, Jacob and Mary Barnhart, were also natives of the Keystone state. There they spent the greater portion of their lives, the father following the occupation of farming in Pennsylvania until his death. The mother, however, afterward came to Illinois and died at the home of her son George in Edgar county.

Mr. Barnhart of this review was indebted to the common schools of Pennsylvania for the educational privileges which he enjoyed in his youth. He resided in the state of his nativity during the period of his minority, assisting his father upon the home farm until after he became of age. He then made his way westward settling in Edgar county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm seven miles east of Paris. Here he began cultivating the soil on his own account and was engaged in the further development and improvement of his place. When the country, aroused over the issue of slavery and of the secession of the south, became involved in Civil war, he resolved to strike a blow in defense of the Union. It was on the 28th of May, 1862, that Mr. Barnhart enlisted, becoming a member of Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, at Paris, this state. He was under the command of Captain Campbell and Colonel Birge and with his regiment he participated in a number of important engagements including the battles of Fort Donelson and Shiloh. He was never injured, however, in an encounter with the enemy, but because of failing health he received an honorable discharge. He then returned to the farm in Edgar county and was there living at the time of his marriage.

In 1863 Mr. Barnhart was joined in wedlock to Miss Eliza J. Barrow, a native

of Augusta county, Virginia, born November 16, 1835, her parents being Bayless and Nancy (Myers) Barrow. They were natives of Virginia and removed to Vigo county, Indiana, during the early girlhood of Mrs. Barnhart and there they lived until their death. The father devoted his attentions to agricultural pursuits. The home of our subject and his wife was blessed with four children: Halbert, who resides with his mother, and is engaged in farming near the city; Carrie, the wife of Walter Hamm, a plumber of Danville, by whom she has two children, Howard and Walter; Eleonora, the wife of Robert Sage, a boiler maker in Chicago; and Mayme, the wife of William H. Carson, a plumber of Danville, who is a member of the firm of Carson & Company. They reside with Mrs. Barnhart and have two children, Thomas Henry and Freddie Barnhart.

Our subject and his wife began their domestic life upon his farm in Edgar county, Illinois, and there remained for eight years, after which they removed to Denison, Texas, where our subject carried on agricultural pursuits for two years. He then returned to Illinois, settling in Clark county, where he carried on farm work for four years, or until 1884 when he moved with his family to Danville. During the summer months he continued his farm work and during the winter seasons he followed teaming in this city until his health failed him and he was obliged to put aside business cares, living retired from that time until called to his final rest. He passed away December 24, 1898, deeply regretted by his many friends. He had very firm faith in the principles of the Republican party and always supported its men and measures. Socially he was connected with the Grand Army Post of this city. Brooking

no obstacle that could be overcome by determined and earnest effort, he achieved success in this way and at the same time he won a good name and left to his family and friends an example well worthy of emulation. Mrs. Barnhart is a member of the First Cumberland Presbyterian church of Danville. She occupies a nice residence at No. 907 Robinson street, where she is living with her son and with Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Carson.

WILLIAM COSSAIRT.

Upon a good farm on section 4, Middlefork township, lives William Cossairt and his place of one hundred and sixty acres is equipped with modern accessories which indicate him to be a progressive agriculturist. His land adjoins the town of Potomac on the west and thus the comforts of town life are easily secured. A native son of Illinois, he was born near the city of Danville, July 5, 1836. His father was David Cossairt, his grandfather Albert Cossairt and both were natives of Kentucky. The latter removed with his family to Illinois in early pioneer times, settling in Vermilion county north of the present city of Danville. There he secured a tract of wild land, which he transformed into a good farm, becoming one of the prosperous and well known agriculturists of his community. Upon that place he reared his family and there lived to the ripe old age of more than ninety years.

David Cossairt was reared upon the old homestead and early became familiar with the arduous task of developing new land. He also shared with the family in the various hardships and trials incident to frontier life. He was married in Vermilion county



MRS. WILLIAM COSSAIRT.



WILLIAM COSSAIRT.

to Jane Caldwell, a native of Germany, who came with her parents from Ohio to Illinois. In order to provide for his wife and for the children who were afterward added to the family, David Cossairt followed farming, living near the old homestead for several years. In 1842 he purchased the place now owned and occupied by his son William and here he began farm work, making the first improvements on the place. His home was a hewed log house, in which he resided until the time of his death, which occurred about 1845, when he was yet a young man. His wife survived him for several years. Of the family of two sons and two daughters William Cossairt is the eldest. His brother John was a soldier of the war of the Rebellion, serving in Company I of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, and he died at Nashville, Tennessee, during the war. Mary, one of the sisters, grew to womanhood, was married and at her death left a son, William H. Young, who now resides in Idaho. The other sister, Margaret, is the wife of Isaac Dwiggin, of Waynetown, Indiana.

In taking up the personal history of William Cossairt we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in Vermilion county. He grew to manhood on the farm where he now lives and bought out the interest of the other heirs in the old home place, thus succeeding to the ownership. He has cleared and broken the land, has fenced the fields and made the farm what it is to-day—a richly developed tract splendidly adapted for agricultural pursuits. He also erected a neat and substantial residence and planted an orchard, the trees of which now bear good fruit. Some of the trees of his own planting are at the present time more than two feet in diameter, these being set out fifty-eight

years ago. He has also tilled his land and added many equipments of value to facilitate farm work. He is now making a specialty of feeding and fattening hogs and cattle for the market and is justly numbered among the successful stockmen of the county.

In Middlefork township in 1861 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Cossairt and Louisa A. Smith, a daughter of Septimus Smith, a native of England, but his daughter was born and reared in Vermilion county. By this union there have been born nine children: William S., who is a practicing physician of Potomac; Adeline S., at home; David S., who is married and follows farming in Middlefork township; Samuel A., also a farmer of the same township; Laura Grace and Mary May, both at home; and John. They lost two children, Emma, the first born, who died at the age of twenty months; and Josephine, who died in infancy.

Mr. Cossairt became of age in 1857 and it was therefore that in 1860 he cast his first presidential vote. His ballot was deposited for Abraham Lincoln and he has since been an earnest supporter of the Republican party, its men and its measures. He has served as school trustee since twenty-seven years of age, covering a period of more than four decades. He has also been township trustee for a number of years and for four consecutive years has been assessor. He has likewise served as a delegate to numerous conventions of his party and in all public offices of trust he has been prompt and faithful in the discharge of his duties. He and his wife hold membership in the Potomac Methodist Episcopal church and have been true to its teachings as exemplified in their noble relations with their fellow men. For over sixty years Mr. Cossairt has

resided upon the farm which is yet his home. Perhaps this record is equalled by that of no other resident of Vermilion county. His entire life has been passed within the borders of this county and he has watched its wonderful transformation. Great indeed have been the changes which have been wrought as the swampy land has been made to produce abundant harvests. As towns and cities have been built the work of progress and improvement has been carried forward along all lines. There is not a man in the community more highly respected than William Cossairt and no history of this portion of the state would be complete without the record of his life.

JESSE LEEKA, M. D.

The qualities which make a successful physician have long been manifested in the career of Dr. Leeka, who is now practicing in Oakwood, Vermilion county, and his professional business has long been of an important as well as of an extensive character. The Doctor was born in Clinton county, Ohio, May 19, 1830, and his father, Philip Leeka, was born in Washington county, Virginia, in 1799, while the grandfather of our subject was of German birth and was one of the Hessian soldiers that were hired by England without their consent to serve in the Revolutionary war. Contrary winds, however, delayed the ships in which they embarked and the war was over before they arrived in the new world. Mr. Leeka, however, decided to remain and settled in Virginia. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Hodson, who was born in North Carolina in 1797. It was in

Clinton county, Ohio, that she gave her hand in marriage to Philip Leeka, who was a farmer by occupation. He removed to that county about 1815, settling upon a tract of land there. He spent his remaining days in that locality and died in June, 1884. The mother of our subject had passed away in January, 1843, and Philip Leeka later wedded Miss Frazier, who is also now deceased. His political adherence was given to the Whig party in early life and he afterward became a Republican. In the family were ten children, namely, Jonathan, who resides at New Vienna, Clinton county, Ohio; Sarah, who died in September, 1900; Hannah, who became the wife of Joseph A. Hansel and lived for a time in Cedar county, Iowa but afterward removed to Linn county, that state, and died in Marion, Iowa, in the spring of 1900; Christian, who died at the age of seven years; the Doctor, who is the fifth in order of birth; Henry, who was twice married and who served as a Union soldier in the Civil war and made his home in Clinton county, Ohio, where he died in May, 1901; Mary, who wedded John Ingold, who died in 1879 in New Vienna, Clinton county, Ohio, where his widow now resides; Mathew, who married Lucinda Butler, of Hancock county, and has one child, a daughter, and resides upon the old homestead farm in Clinton county; John Wesley, who enlisted in 1861 as a member of Company A, Forty-eighth Ohio Infantry, and served for three years with the Union army and while on duty was wounded in the foot at Pittsburg Landing; and Martha E., who is the youngest of the family, now living in New Vienna, Clinton county, Ohio.

Dr. Leeka pursued his education in the Hoskins district school and in New Vienna, Ohio. He afterward engaged in teaching

for four months and later he came to Illinois, settling in Tuscola, Douglas county, where he taught school in the winter of 1883-4. From 1876 until 1878 he was a student in the Indiana Physio Medical College at Indianapolis, in which he was graduated with the class of 1878. He afterward practiced in Jerome and Kokomo, Indiana, and later went to Missouri and to Kansas, but after a few months spent in the west he returned to Illinois and engaged in teaching school in Tuscola. From that place he removed to Fairmount, where he practiced medicine until 1886, when he came to Oakwood and entered upon a professional career which has been profitable and has demonstrated his skill in a marked degree.

On the 22d of February, 1855, in Rushville, Rush county, Indiana, the Doctor wedded Rebecca A. Macy, who was born in Henry county, Indiana, June 1, 1835. Her father, Francis B. Macy, was a native of North Carolina, and was descended from one of three brothers of the name, who came from England to the new world when the Quakers were being banished from that country. They took up their abode in Nantucket and there, intermingling with the Indians, married some of the maidens of the red race. Francis B. married Hulda B. Hunt, a native of North Carolina and a representative of an old family of that state, prominent in public affairs and active as members of the Quaker Society. They were married in Henry county, Indiana, where the father followed his trade of a tinsmith. Subsequently he removed to Rush county, Indiana, and afterward to Kokomo, where both he and his wife lie buried. He voted with the Whig party and was identified with the Society of Friends. Mrs. Leeka was one of a family of four children, but the

only one now surviving is John L. Macy, a resident of Kokomo. Mrs. Leeka died April 14, 1873, and on the 3d of May, 1885, in Fairmount, Illinois, the Doctor wedded Miss Elizabeth J. Timmons, who was born in Carroll county, Indiana, in 1838. By the first marriage there were five children. Francis Edgar, who married Sarah Sisson, is manager of the Durango Smelting Works of Durango, Colorado. Charles F., who resides on a farm in Porter county, Indiana, wedded Ida Ailsworth and they had five children, of whom two are living. Theodore and Ethel. William L., who became a physician but is now a photographer of Fairmount has been twice married and by his union with Mary Gibson had three children, while by the second marriage one child has been born. Cora Ann, the fourth of the family, died at the age of twelve years. Daniel K., who is a practicing dentist, is also a photographer.

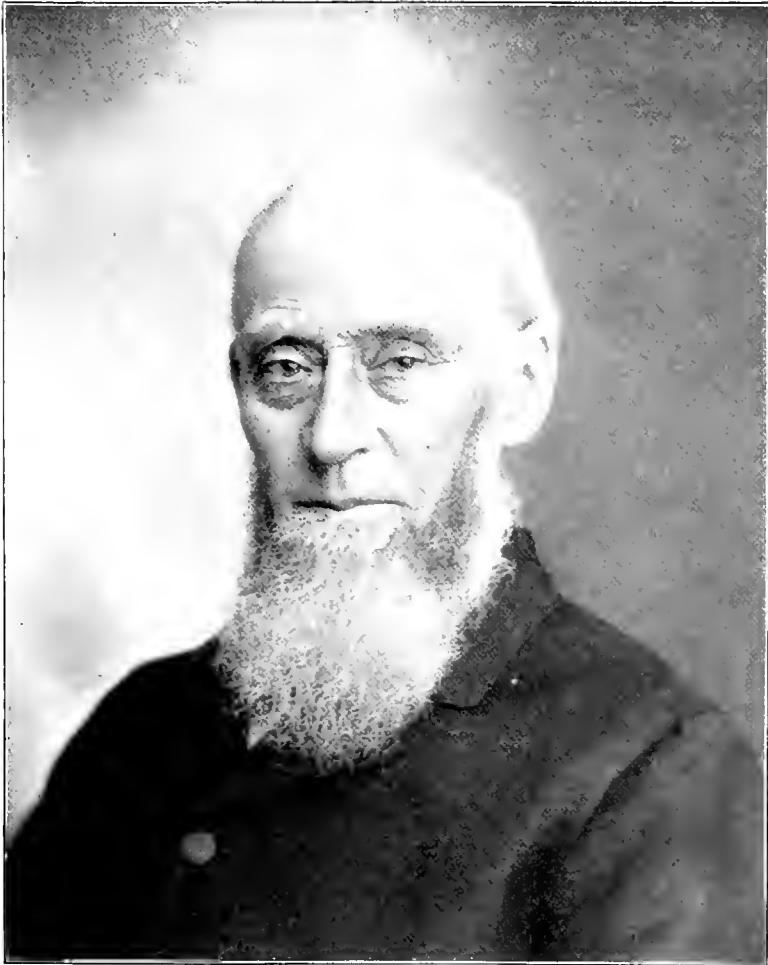
Dr. Leeka is a staunch Republican and for two terms served as coroner in Henry county, Indiana. For fourteen years he has been notary public and for four years was postmaster, while at the present time he is serving as clerk of Oakwood township. He belongs to Newton Lodge, No. 714, F. & A. M., having been a Mason for forty-nine years, becoming a member of the craft in New Vienna, Ohio. He has served as examiner for all the insurance fraternal organizations which have representatives in Oakwood and for many insurance societies. He is a member of the American Physio Medical Association and of the Illinois Physio Medical Association and through these relations he keeps in touch with the advanced thought of the profession, with the investigations which are continually being made and with the experiments which result in broad-

ening knowledge and promoting the efficiency of the physician. The Doctor is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and of the Grand Army of the Republic. He is entitled to membership in the latter because of his services as a Union soldier in the Civil war. He enlisted at Carthage in Rush county, Indiana, December 12, 1863, as a member of Company E, Ninth Indiana Cavalry, with which he served until the 20th of September, 1865. He was then mustered out at Vicksburg, Mississippi. His regiment participated in a number of noted engagements and while at the front he contracted rheumatism because of the dampness occasioned by the swamps by which the troops were many times surrounded. Dr. Leeka is to-day as true and loyal in matters of citizenship as he was when he wore the nation's blue uniform and in civic office and in professional life he is most faithful to the trust reposed in him. He stands to-day among the prominent respected and honored men of his community, and no history of Oakwood or this section of Vermilion county would be complete without the record of his career.

WILLIAM J. DAVIS.

William J. Davis, a real-estate operator of Danville, was born in Vermilion county, August 1, 1838, and is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of that locality. His father, James A. Davis, was a native of England and in the year 1828 sailed for America, landing at Savannah, Georgia, where for a time he was employed as a clerk in a store. He afterward started up the Mississippi river in the boat, Brandywine, but the vessel caught fire and he jumped into the river, swimming ashore with the aid

of a board. He lost all he had, however, and after being furnished transportation to Natchez, he walked from there to Danville. He had been given a suit of old clothes and a little money, but he had only twelve cents upon his arrival here and he had never worked out of doors before in his life, being entirely unused to the hard labor of a farm or other such occupation. He was accompanied by a man of the name Russell, who was also without funds. An old Quaker gave them shelter over night and then made a gift of one dollar and twenty-five cents to each, sending them on their way rejoicing. The first thing which Mr. Davis did in Vermilion county was to conduct a school. The settlers built a little log school-house in the spring of 1832 and he became a teacher of the first school ever taught in Danville, thus laying the foundation for the educational development of this portion of the state. The building was located at what is now the foot of Hazel street and there Mr. Davis taught for three months, after which he volunteered for service in the Black Hawk war and not only did he do his military duty but he also acted as nurse to some old soldiers who had cholera. He was never sick or wounded, however, and after the war he returned to Danville, where in the following spring he was married and then engaged in farming. It was on the 22d of March, 1833, in this city that he wedded Lavina Canady, a native of Kentucky, and for a year he lived upon a rented farm, after which he took up government land near Stateline, continuing there until 1847, when he removed to a large farm in the north-western part of the county, carrying on agricultural pursuits until the 15th of May, 1851, when he retired from farm life and removed to Danville, where he lived until 1888. He then went to California in the



WILLIAM J. DAVIS

hope of benefiting his wife's health and they lived in Anaheim, Orange county, until called to their final rest, Mr. Davis passing away May 1, 1902, and his wife on the 17th of August, 1895. He was a Republican in politics and by appointment served for several terms as deputy sheriff, but he always refused to become a candidate for any elective office. He was, however, deeply interested in public affairs, contributing of his time and efforts to the promotion of all measures calculated to prove of general benefit. For many years he was a member of the Odd Fellows Society and was an active and helpful member of the Christian church, his life being in harmony with its teachings, in fact, to known James A. Davis was to esteem and honor him for his upright career made him win the regard of all and he should also be held in grateful remembrance by the people of Vermilion county for what he did in its behalf, for he assisted in laying broad and deep the foundation of pioneer development, upon which rests the present prosperity and progress of this section of the state.

William J. Davis is one of a family of five children, all yet living, and was the first born. The others are: Frances P., the wife of W. R. Harker, a resident of California; Mary, the widow of Leonidas M. Brown, who died in Los Angeles, California, where she is now living; Julia, who is the widow of John Lane and resides in Garden Grove, Orange county, California; and Alice, who makes her home with her sister Julia.

In his early youth William J. Davis pursued his education under his father's instruction in a country school in Newell township and afterward attended the public schools of Danville until nineteen years of age, when he accepted a clerkship in the Le Seuer store, where he remained for a year.

He was afterward in the employ of W. R. Gessie for six months and then accepted the position of deputy county clerk under J. C. Short, serving for four years. At the end of that time, in August, 1862, Mr. Davis became a defender of the Union, joining the boys in blue of Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, enlisting at Danville under Captain William W. Fellows and Colonel O. F. Harmon. He was then ordered to Louisville, Kentucky, to join the Army of the Cumberland and served for four months when he was taken ill, because of exposure and was discharged for physical disability. He returned to Danville but for a year thereafter was confined to his home and when he had sufficiently recovered his health he entered the office of the circuit clerk, who had been county recorder when Mr. Davis served as deputy. For four years he occupied that position and then was engaged in the abstract business for five years, since which time he has been engaged in real estate dealing. Perhaps no better idea of Mr. Davis' high reputation as a business man can be given than to quote a letter which was signed and endorsed by many of the leading citizens of this section of the state and other portions of Illinois. It read: "This letter will introduce to you Mr. William J. Davis, a man whom I have known for many years as a careful, honest, indefatigable worker. He has been in the real estate and abstract business for a great many years and he is well qualified to attend to anything in that line of business as any man in the county. I heartily commend him to your careful consideration.

"Very truly yours,

Thomas J. Dale, county clerk.

W. C. Thompson, county treasurer

"I heartily and cheerfully concur."

J. G. Cannon, member of congress.

E. B. Johnson, Judge of the Supreme Court of the Fifth Judicial District.
 M. J. Pinger, contractor.
 C. A. Gave, manager of Vermont County Vesting Company.
 W. J. Colburn, former state, now state commissioner.
 C. M. Swallow, president of Glenburn Coal Company.
 "The ocean in the groove!"
 William P. Cannon, president Second National Bank.
 "So to E!"
 John C. Black, Manufacturer, Building, Chicago.
 J. B. Mann, Lawyer, Marquette Building, Chicago.
 Leola W. Williams, one of the judges of the Supreme Court of Illinois.
 James Sloan, Sheriff.
 M. W. Thompson, county judge.
 L. D. Gass, cashier First National Bank.
 M. J. Wolford, cashier Palmer National Bank.
 John G. Thompson, assistant attorney general of Washington, D. C.

On the 16th of December, 1863, in Danville, Mr. Davis married Charlotte E. Baker, who was born in Fort Kent, Essex county, New York, October 22, 1843. Her father, J. R. Baker, was a native of England and in New York was married to Margarette Frazier, a native of Fort Kent, New York. In the year 1850 they came to the west and after ten years located in Danville, where Mr. Baker was engaged in the boot and shoe business until his death, which occurred in 1881. His wife survived him until 1888. In politics he was a Democrat. Mrs. Davis had three brothers. Unto our subject and his wife have been born three children: Charles E., who died at the age of eighteen years; Edwilda E., the wife of Walter E. Rabb, a resident of Englewood, Illinois, by whom she has one child, Ina, and Harry W., who married Clara Shultz, who died in 1864, since which time he has wedded Lena Burroughs. They reside in Danville and have two children, Charles E. and James A.

In his political views Mr. Davis is a Republican but has always refused to become a candidate for office. He was formerly a member of the Odd Fellows Society and he belongs to the Christian church. He owns property in Danville and has an office in the Daniels Building, where he conducts a good real estate business.

C. H. GILLESPIE.

C. H. Gillespie is thoroughly familiar with the builder's art and through a number of years has been closely associated with the building interests of Danville where many fine structures have arisen as monuments to his skill and enterprise. He was born in Detroit, Michigan, November 21, 1849, his father being William G. Gillespie, who was born in the Shenandoah Valley of Pennsylvania. In Michigan he was united in marriage to Eliza Swan and in order to provide for his family he followed agricultural pursuits. They became the parents of five children, all of whom are yet living, namely: C. H., Lovell, Frank, Baxter and Grace. The last named is now making her home with her mother in Birmingham, Michigan. The father is deceased, having departed this life in 1887.

At the usual age C. H. Gillespie entered the public schools and thus he acquired his education. In the periods of vacation he worked upon his father's farm, becoming familiar with the labors of field and meadow. He was thus employed until twenty-one years of age when he abandoned the plow for the saw and plane. He mastered carpentry work in Michigan and in 1875 he came to Danville, where two days later he secured a posi-

tion in the coach department of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company. There he was employed for four years and ten months, giving excellent satisfaction. On leaving that service he worked for two years as a journeyman carpenter and then began general contracting and building which he has since followed with signal success. He has erected many of Danville's substantial and attractive residences and business houses. He built the Young Men's Christian Association block, the Germantown school building, the Hendricks flats and the Gimbell store building, together with many others. In fact he has enjoyed a liberal share of the patronage in his line in Danville. For two years he was associated with a partner, but throughout the remainder of the period since beginning business on his own account he has been alone. During the past few years his work has been confined chiefly to this city and he has executed many important contracts which indicate his ability in the line of his chosen occupation. He is most trustworthy and reputable in business affairs and this, combined with his mechanical skill, enables him to enjoy in a large measure the support and confidence of the public.

Mr. Gillespie is a member of the Knights of the Globe. His political support is given the Republican party and he was solicited to become a candidate for alderman from his ward but refused to do so, having no political ambitions, being content to devote his entire time and attention to his business affairs which are now extensive and important, so that he employs from ten to twenty men during the building season. He erected his own home at the corner of Hazel and Davis streets and has other city prop-

erty valued at about twenty thousand dollars.

In 1876, in Danville, occurred the marriage of Mr. Gillespie and Miss Delilah Clutter, who was born in Vermillion county February 2, 1856. Her father died during her childhood and her mother now resides in Homer. She has one sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Morrison, who lives near Homer. Four sons have been born unto our subject and his wife. Lovell married Lei Dora Cass, and is acting as foreman for his father. He was with Battery A from Danville, under Captain Yeager, of this place, with the command of General Miles, in Porto Rico; William, the second son, is also in his father's employ; Dane lives at home; and Harry, the youngest son, is in the Indian Territory and will probably become a rancher. In analyzing the life work of Mr. Gillespie it will be found that his history is one which will bear the closest scrutiny, for his entire career has been colored by straightforward dealing with his fellow men. Courteous, genial, well informed, alert and enterprising, he stands to-day among the leading representative men of his city.

TILGHMAN A. BRATTON.

Through almost forty-six years Tilghman A. Bratton has been a resident of Vermillion county and to-day is one of the successful and enterprising farmers of Ross township where he owns one hundred and sixty-four acres of good land. He is a native of the neighboring state of Indiana, his birth having occurred near Waynetown, in Montgomery county, September 4, 1849. His father, Charles S. Bratton, was born in

Montgomery county, in 1828, while the grandfather of our subject, Archer Bratton, was a native of Kentucky. The great-great-grandfather was born in Ireland and on leaving that country crossed the Atlantic to the new world becoming one of the pioneer settlers of the Blue Grass state. Archer Bratton grew to manhood in that state and was there married, after which he removed to Indiana, becoming one of the first settlers of Montgomery county. There he cleared away the trees from a tract of land, turned the furrows in his fields, planted the crops and in course of time reaped good harvests. Upon the farm which he developed he reared his family, including Charles S. Bratton. The latter after arriving at years of maturity wedded Sarah Armontrout, born near Waynetown, Indiana. They began their domestic life upon the Shawnee prairie and while living there Mrs. Bratton died, leaving two children, Tilghman and Mrs. Eliza Jane Hamilton, who is now a widow living in Vermilion county, Illinois. After the death of his first wife the father married again and about 1856 came to this state, purchasing land in what is now known as Butler township, Vermilion county. He entered a tract of three hundred and twenty acres which he broke and improved. Later he sold one hundred and sixty acres and on the remaining quarter section placed substantial improvements and developed a fine farm, rearing his family there. In 1888 he removed to Rossville, purchased property in the town and spent his last years there in honorable retirement from labor, passing away in August, 1892. His second wife still survives him and makes her home with the subject of this review.

On the old home farm Tilghman A. Bratton was reared. His school privileges

were limited and he is almost entirely self-educated, but he has greatly broadened his knowledge since arriving at years of maturity. He remained with his father and carried on the home place until 1888. His father then removed to the town and our subject continued to operate the home farm until 1893. The following year he came to Rossville and in 1901 he purchased the farm in Ross township which he now owns and to the cultivation of which he devotes his energies.

In 1870, in Butler township, Mr. Bratton was united in marriage to Maria Biddle, who was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, and is a daughter of Stephen Biddle, who removed to Porter and afterward to Jasper, Indiana, and about 1861 came to Vermilion county, Illinois, where Mrs. Bratton spent the greater part of her girlhood. By her marriage she became the mother of two children, but Lennie died in 1890 at the age of eighteen years. The son, Charles S., is still with his parents. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bratton are devout members of Rossville Christian church in which he is serving as an elder and trustee, and in the work of the church they take an active and deep interest. Politically he is independent, casting his ballot in support of the candidates whom he regards best qualified for office and of the measures which he thinks will most largely serve the general good. He is a friend of the cause of education, believes in having good schools and employing competent teachers, and for a quarter of a century he has done effective service in this regard by serving as a member of the school board. He has been on the town school board for seven years and used his influence to secure the present substantial school buildings of which Rossville has every reason to



MR. AND MRS. JAMES H. DICE.

be proud. During his long residence in Vermillion county he has become widely and favorably known. The traveler of to-day looking upon the cities with their pulsing industrial and commercial activity and upon the fine farms of Vermillion county can scarcely realize that within the memory of Mr. Bratton this district of the state was largely a wild and unimproved region crossed with sloughs, while much of the land therefore was swampy. He has seen deer and wolves in the county and has ridden for miles over the wild prairie unimpeded by a fence, but there came to this region a class of people with resolute spirit and progressive ideas and through their efforts Vermillion county has been splendidly developed, Mr. Bratton bearing his share in all the work of improvement.

JAMES H. DICE.

James H. Dice, the well known proprietor of the South Side Jersey farm and one of the leading business men of Hoopston, is a native of the neighboring state of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Fountain county on the 10th of January, 1862. His parents, George and Catherine (Workman) Dice, were also born in that county, the former in 1833 and the latter in 1843. Throughout his active business life the father has engaged in agricultural pursuits and still owns and operates a fine farm of two hundred acres in his native county. In his family were twelve children, nine of whom are still living, namely: James H., of this review; Frank, a resident of Grant township, Vermillion county, Illinois; Carrie, wife of Dr. Saylor, of Covington, Indiana; Alvessa, wife of Frank Good-

win, also of Grant township; Amanda, wife of Walter Harris, of Fountain county, Indiana; Winifred, wife of Mr. Crooks, a school teacher of Vermillion county, Illinois; Josie, a singer of much ability who is now with a traveling evangelist; and Katie and Clifford, both at home.

James H. Dice, whose name introduces this sketch, grew to manhood in Van Buren township, Fountain county, Indiana, and is indebted to the public schools of the locality for his educational privileges. As soon as old enough to be of any assistance he commenced to aid in the work of the home farm and continued to give his father the benefit of his labors until his marriage.

It was on the 18th of December, 1887, that Mr. Dice wedded Miss Kittie B. Ray, who was also born in Fountain county, Indiana, November 20, 1867, a daughter of W. L. and Mary Jane (Carpenter) Ray. Her father is still living and makes his home in Lafayette, Indiana, but her mother is now deceased. She has three sisters, namely: Victoria, wife of Henry Bushing, of Denver, Colorado; Julia, wife of W. D. Coffing, of Stone Bluff, Indiana; and Cretie, wife of Harry Dice, of Hoopston. Our subject and his wife have three children: Glen Lloyd, Chauncey and Marie.

In 1888 Mr. Dice came to Vermillion county and has since made his home in Grant township, living upon rented land for twelve years. In the meantime he purchased a farm of one hundred acres near Royal Center, Indiana, which he sold three years later and then bought a tract of two hundred and twenty acres southwest of Hoopston, which he held for two years. In September, 1900, he purchased his present farm, then consisting of fifty-two acres adjoining the corporation on the south, on

which was a good residence costing forty-five hundred dollars. He has since platted fifteen acres of this tract, dividing it into forty-five lots facing Second avenue and Orange street, which he subsequently traded for a farm of two hundred and forty acres near Rochester, Indiana, so that he now has about thirty-seven acres of the original purchase, which he has fitted up for dairy purposes, and now gives his entire time and attention to that business. He has a fine herd of twenty-seven Jersey cows and finds a ready market for his milk and cream in Hoopston. In May, 1900, Mr. Dice purchased a half interest in a brick and tile factory south of the town, covering ten acres, and operated it in connection with E. A. Smith for about a year, when his partner sold out to Peter Anderson. The works were burned, however, on the 26th of May, 1901, and the following July Mr. Dice traded his interest in the land on the property near Rochester, Indiana, previously referred to. Since that time he has given his attention exclusively to his dairy business, renting his farm in the Hoosier state. He is a very wide-awake and energetic business man and in all his undertakings has met with a well merited success. Religiously Mrs. Dice is connected with the Christian church and socially he is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters, while politically he is identified with the Republican party.

JOSEPH B. MANN.

Joseph B. Mann was the first city attorney of Danville and almost continuously since that time he has been a member of the Vermilion county bar, his practice covering

all departments of jurisprudence, showing a comprehensive knowledge of the science of law. Mr. Mann is a native of New Jersey, his birth having occurred in Somerville, Somerset county, on the 6th of November, 1843. The Mann family is of Holland lineage and was founded in Pennsylvania prior to the Revolutionary war. The paternal great grandfather of our subject was a colonel in the Pennsylvania militia and participated in the battle of Germantown during the struggle for independence. After the cessation of hostilities he took up his abode in Berks county, Pennsylvania, among its earliest residents. John M. Mann, the father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, but in early youth accompanied his family on their removal to Middlesex county, New Jersey, and later to Somerset county, where he was reared to manhood. Preparing for the bar he became one of the distinguished lawyers of that state and left the impress of his strong mentality and marked ability upon its judicial history. He was also a recognized factor in political circles, but never sought the rewards of office in recognition of party fealty. He served, however, as clerk of courts and also as surrogate for two terms, and later in life he was elected a member of the New Jersey legislature. He was several times offered the nomination for congress in his county, where such a nomination was equivalent to election, but he always declined the honor. He was never ambitious for political preferment, content to do his duties as a private citizen and in that way to exercise his influence in behalf of public progress and improvement and as a molder of public opinion. He was united in marriage to Eliza Bonnell, of Hunterdon county, New Jersey, who was of French lineage on the paternal

side and of Irish ancestry in the maternal line. Her great-grandfather served as a private in the Revolutionary war. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mann were born eight children, five of whom are yet living: Mrs. A. Bishop Baldwin, the widow of General A. Bishop Baldwin, of New Jersey; Alexander V., who is president of the Lumberman's National Bank, of Muskegon, Michigan; Charles B., a merchant of Muskegon; Samuel B., who is the treasurer of the firm of Aiken & Lambert, of Maidens Lane, New York; and Joseph B. Of those who have passed away one died in infancy. William, the second, was an adjutant of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry in the Civil war and served for three years. For a long period he was a prominent merchant of Danville, but has now departed this life. Charles B. was a major of the Seventy-fourth Indiana Infantry with which he served until the close of the war and both he and William Mann went with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. Samuel B. was sergent-major of the Third New Jersey Infantry and John W. was adjutant of the Twenty-seventh New Jersey Infantry and died from disease contracted while in the service.

When a boy of six summers Joseph B. Mann became a student in the common schools of Somerville, New Jersey, and later pursued a preparatory course at Flatbush, Long Island, and at Poughkeepsie, New York. He then entered Rutgers College, at New Brunswick, New Jersey, in the fall of 1863, becoming a member of the sophomore class. He pursued the full course and was graduated in June, 1865, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, while in 1868 the degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by his alma mater. When in col-

lege he was an active and influential member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, and he was appointed to fill the position of junior orator in his junior year.

After his graduation Mr. Mann made his way westward to Chicago and became a student in the law school at the corner of Clark and Washington streets. He was led to locate in that city because his brothers had previously taken up their abode in the West. A year later, however, Mr. Mann came to Danville to study law in the office and under the direction of Judge O. L. Davis. He entered the office in July, 1866, and in February, of the following year he was admitted to the bar, passing an examination before the circuit judge and the prosecuting attorney. In May, 1867, he was elected attorney of Danville, which city had just been incorporated and thus he was the first one to hold the office. The following year he refused a second nomination, having in the meantime entered into partnership with Judge Davis, his former preceptor. This relation was continued until the judge was re-elected to the bench in 1873, after which Mr. Mann practiced alone for a few years, when he entered into partnership with W. J. Calhoun and later D. W. Frazier was admitted to the firm under the style of Mann, Calhoun & Frazier. This partnership was maintained until Mr. Calhoun was elected prosecuting attorney of Vermilion county, which necessitated a dissolution of the business relationship, because the practice of the firm included criminal cases. The firm of Mann & Frazier thus existed until the retirement of Judge Davis from the bench in 1885, when the firm of Davis & Mann was again formed, a most harmonious relationship existing between the two men until the Judge retired from the active prac-

tice of law. At that time Mr. Calhoun again became a partner of Mr. Mann's and so remained until 1861, when our subject went to Chicago, there entering into partnership with Curtis H. Remy, under the firm name of Remy & Mann. Thus he practiced until July, 1901, and since his return to Danville he has been alone in business.

On the 1st of January, 1874, Mr. Mann was united in marriage to Miss Lucy A. Davis, a daughter of Judge O. L. Davis, and they now have three children: Fred B., Oliver D. and Nellie. The eldest is in the employ of the Western Steel Car Company, of Chicago, while Oliver is studying law in the office of his father and Nellie is at home.

A prominent Mason, Mr. Mann is a member of the blue lodge, chapter, council and commandery of Danville and he also belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In his political views he has followed in his father's footsteps and all of his brothers have likewise been staunch advocates of the Democracy. He has served as city attorney, as alderman, as a member of the board of supervisors and of the thirty-second general assembly of Illinois, was a delegate to the national convention in Chicago in 1884, when Grover Cleveland was nominated, and has been a delegate to every state convention that has been held during his residence in Vermillion county. To the student who can read between the lines this is an evidence of his prominence in political circles. His opinions carry weight in the councils of the party. While undoubtedly he is not without that honorable ambition which is so powerful and useful as an incentive to activity in public affairs, he regards the pursuits of private life as being

in themselves abundantly worthy of his best efforts. Well versed in the learning of his profession, and with a deep knowledge of human nature and of the springs of human conducts, with great shrewdness and sagacity and extraordinary tact, he is in the courts an advocate of great power and influence. Both judges and juries always hear him with attention and deep interest.

DARIUS DUNCAN.

In the days when Vermillion county was situated upon the frontier Darius Duncan became one of its residents. Illinois has afforded very splendid opportunities to the farmers and stock-raisers, its broad lands being rich and fertile and its meadows furnishing excellent pasturage. Recognizing business possibilities in this direction Mr. Duncan became an active factor in agricultural circles, his business constantly growing both in volume and importance until it had assumed great magnitude. Thus he became quite wealthy and was also recognized as one of the prominent and influential residents of his county.

Mr. Duncan was born December 2, 1813, in Kentucky. His father, James Duncan, was a native of Pennsylvania and with his family removed to Kentucky at an early day, there engaging in farming and stock-raising until his death. The subject of this review acquired a limited education in his native state. He assisted his father in the work of the home farm in Kentucky until 1833, when he resolved to locate in Vermillion county, Illinois, recognizing that the business opportunities here would lead to success. Accordingly he took up his



DARIUS DUNCAN



MRS. DARIUS DUNCAN.

abode near Stateline, where he began making improvements, engaging in farming at first on a small scale. In course of time his lands began to return to him excellent harvests and thereby his financial resources were materially increased. He then turned his attention to the stock business, raising fine stock. His operations in that enterprise also were enlarged from year to year until he became one of the most extensive buyers in this portion of Illinois. He purchased cattle, horses, hogs and sheep and shipped to the markets of New York and Chicago. He handled hundreds and thousands of grades of stock and gained a wide reputation as one of the leading stock dealers upon the broad prairies of Illinois. At the same time he was also investing his capital in land and dealing in real estate. His judgment concerning farm property was equally reliable with his opinions concerning stock and he bought and sold many farms and at one time was the owner of a valuable farm of one thousand acres near Stateline. He was, too, in a limited degree engaged in agricultural pursuits, having most of the work done upon the farm while his attention was devoted to the purchase and sale of stock and to his real estate interests. He continued his business until it had assumed mammoth proportions and then he decided to retire to private life, finding that his commercial affairs made too heavy demands upon his time and strength. In 1865 he sold one farm for fifteen thousand dollars and removed to Danville. Later he sold another farm for twelve thousand dollars. In the city he purchased a lot adjoining the Temple on the north and erected a home. He afterward sold ten feet of his lot to the Temple. To a man of his enterprising nature, indolence and idle-

ness were utterly foreign. It was impossible for him to entirely put aside business cares all at once and for a few years he engaged in shipping stock to a limited extent. Gradually, however, he ceased his efforts in this direction and then lived retired until his death. He was a man of remarkable business sagacity and enterprise and carried forward to a successful completion whatever he undertook.

In 1843 occurred the marriage of Mr. Duncan and Miss Mary Caldwell, a native of Circleville, Ohio, born March 22, 1829, and a daughter of James and Mary (Hoover) Caldwell, both of whom were natives of Virginia, whence they removed to Ohio and later they came to Vermilion county, Illinois, casting in their lot among the early settlers here. Her father was a farmer by occupation in his early days and subsequently he engaged in speculating in land and in buying stock, his time and attention being thus occupied until his death. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Duncan were born two children: Irwin, who was a clerk in a retail house in Danville, died June 20, 1892, at the age of thirty-two years. Charlie married Miss Emma Day, and resides on Lafayette street in Danville. He is now a salesman in the Ike Sterns Clothing House of this city, where he has been employed for a number of years.

Mr. Duncan was never an office seeker, although he held several minor offices in his township and for one winter he served on the United States jury at Springfield, Illinois. Although his father and seven brothers were Democrats, he was always a staunch Republican and never wavered in his allegiance to the party. He was a personal friend of Abraham Lincoln and it is said that in appearance they were much alike.

He had the honor of entertaining Mr. Lincoln several times in his own home and the friendly relations between them was maintained until the President's death. Mr. Duncan held membership in the First Methodist Episcopal church of Danville and his widow still belongs to that church. From an early day dependent upon his own resources, a splendid success in life was the result of his labor. His career proved that the only true success in life is that which is accomplished by personal effort and consecutive industry. It proves that the road to success is open to all young men who have the courage to tread its pathway, and the life record of such a man should serve as inspiration to the young of this and future generations, and teach by incontrovertible facts that success is ambition's answer. Mr. Duncan passed away February 8, 1893, honored and respected by all who knew him and thus one more of the pioneers of Vermilion county joined the silent majority.

Mrs. Duncan is now residing at No. 129 Franklin street. She is the owner of several fine residences in the northern part of the city. She expects soon to erect a beautiful home for herself here. She has a very wide circle of acquaintances and all who know her are her friends, giving to her their warm regard in recognition of her many excellent qualities of heart and mind.

REV. SYLVESTER HODGES.

For twenty-three years Rev. Hodges devoted his life to the ministry of the gospel and through long years he has been an active factor in business in Vermilion county. He has now passed the seventy-fourth milestone

on life's journey, having been born in Ripley county, Indiana, April 12, 1828, his parents being William and Deborah (Creith) Hodges. The father was a farmer and also operated a sawmill. He died in the year 1833, our subject being left fatherless at the early age of five. In the family were seven children. The mother long survived her husband and passed away in 1879, at the home of her son, Sylvester, in Catlin. Three children were left to mourn her loss, of whom our subject is the eldest. The others are: William A., of Mattoon, Illinois; and Benjamin E., of Danville. The deceased are: Mrs. Malinda Peterman, Gabriel, Thanson and Mrs. Margaret Tait.

For a half day Rev. Sylvester Hodges was a student in a log schoolhouse. Later he took up his studies in a frame schoolhouse but he never attended school for more than four months in his life altogether. He was reared upon a farm and at the age of eighteen years he left home and learned the blacksmith's trade, which he has followed for more than fifty-six years. He opened a shop in Ripley county, Indiana, before he attained his majority and assisted in the support of his father's family. Emigrating to Vermilion county, Illinois, he made the journey in a covered wagon through the black swamps of Indiana. He had been married in the Hoosier state and he and his brother, with their respective families, came to Illinois, camping out by the way at night. For a few months our subject resided in Georgetown, then gave his attention to farming for a time and afterward established a blacksmith shop east of Danville, conducting the business for two and one-half years. On the 17th of July, 1861, he removed to Catlin and opened his shop in this place, conducting business there for

a number of years, his good workmanship securing him a liberal patronage. In 1879 he began preaching and was ordained as a minister the following year. At the present time he is not actively connected with the ministry save that he occasionally fills a pulpit in the absence of the regular pastor or preaches a funeral sermon. For twenty-three years, however, he continued to labor in the ministry and throughout this time he also carried on work at his trade. Soon after he came to the county he was offered eighty acres of land near Tilton for three hundred dollars and in an early day he could have bought land at the Junction for six dollars. There was much wild prairie in Vermilion county over which the deer roamed and many years passed before this was claimed and cultivated.

On the 4th of November, 1847, Mr. Hodges was united in marriage to Mary A. Tait, who was born June 18, 1820, a daughter of Benjamin and Sally (Tilton) Tait, natives of the Keystone state. Unto our subject and his wife have been born five children. Deborah is the wife of J. H. Harkly, of Oklahoma, and has two daughters, Pearl and Mande Harkly. Galvin married Fannie Champion, a daughter of F. M. Champion, of Catlin, and has one child, Blanche. The deceased of the family are: Barnabus T., Malan H., and Mrs. Lizzie Chamberlin.

Mr. Hodges has served as a member of the town council for several terms and was elected justice of the peace but never qualified. He was also a school director for some years and throughout the county he is well known. He retains his church membership with the Christian church of Tilton. He owns the property where his shop stands and also his comfortable residence

in the south part of Catlin. His residence here covers a very long period antedating the building of the Wabash Railroad. He saw Danville when there were but three dry goods stores in the town and the jail was an old log structure. For the past twenty years he has voted the Prohibition ticket and the cause of temperance finds in him a stalwart advocate, his aid and influence having ever been given to any movement or measure which tends to promote general welfare or to uplift his fellow men.

R. H. MATER.

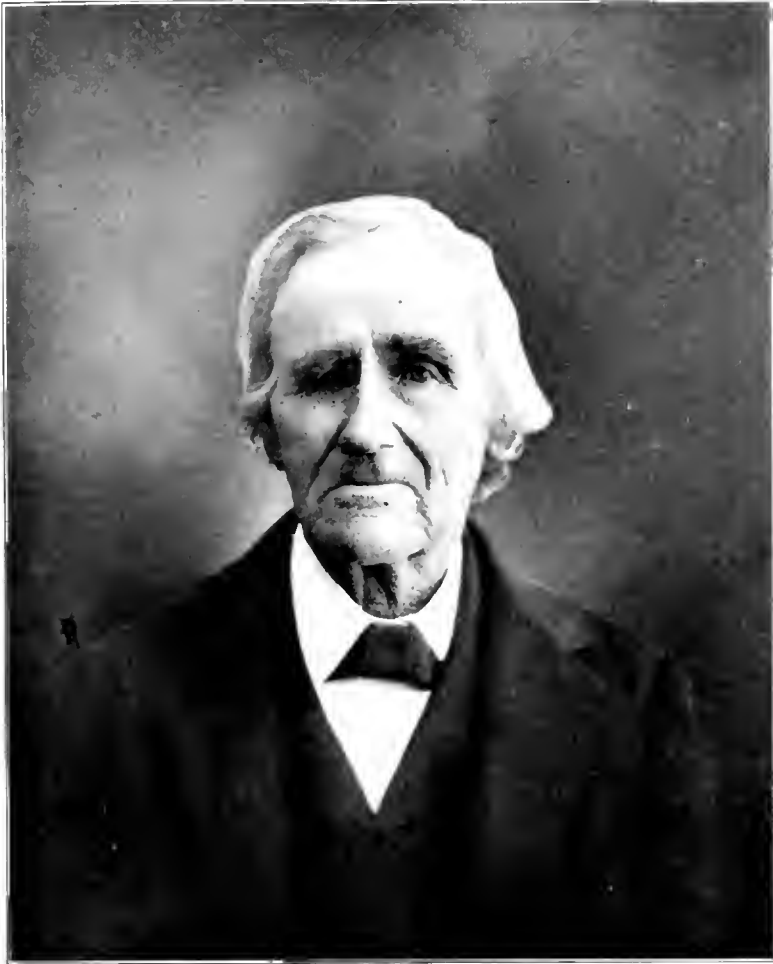
R. H. Mater, who is one of the best known contractors of Vermilion county, his extensive interests connecting him in a large measure with the substantial improvement of Danville and surrounding towns, was born in Parke county, Indiana, February 20, 1839. His parents were Daniel and Sarah (Sowers) Mater. The Mater family came originally from Germany and was established in Maryland whence representatives of the name removed to Ohio. In the latter state both the parents of our subject were born and married. In the maternal line Mrs. Mater is also of German lineage, her maternal grandparents having been born in the fatherland whence they emigrated to Ohio at an early day. Daniel Mater was a minister of the United Brethren church. About 1836 he removed to Indiana, settling five miles from Rockville and in that locality he lived until his death which occurred on the 15th of August, 1893, when he was eighty-three years of age. In his political views he was a Republican. His life was largely devoted to the work of uplifting his

fellow men and in the ministry he was a man of considerable influence. His wife passed away in 1840 and about eighteen months later he was united in marriage to Elizabeth Finney, a native of Annapolis, Parke county, Indiana. She was a daughter of a Mr. Finney, of Maryland. By the first marriage there were five children, of whom there are yet living: Josephine, the widow of S. F. Roberts, a resident of Hopkins, Missouri; R. H., of this review; and J. D., who resides in Morristown, Tennessee. By the second marriage of Rev. Mater there were born four children, all of whom reached maturity and are yet living, namely: John R., a resident of Danville, Illinois; Reiley, who is living in Ottawa, Illinois; Mary, the wife of Lee Phillips, of Terre Haute, Indiana; and Hiram, who is living near Terre Haute.

In the district schools R. H. Mater pursued his education and early became familiar with farm work in all of its departments, living upon his father's farm until twenty years of age. He learned the carpenter's trade in Parke county, Indiana, and has since been connected with building operations. While living in that county on the 8th of August, 1861, Mr. Mater was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Matticks, who was born in Parke county April 17, 1843, and was a daughter of Jesse Matticks, a native of Kentucky. Her mother bore the maiden name of Nancy Collins and she too was born in Kentucky but became the wife of Mr. Matticks in Indiana. The father of Mrs. Mater was a farmer and in 1863 removed to Illinois, settling near Fairmount, where he lived until 1870, when he came to Danville and in this city he and his wife still make their home. In his political views he is a Republican and is a member of the

Methodist Episcopal church. Unto him and his wife were born five children, namely: Mrs. Mater; Mary, now wife of J. D. Mater, of Morristown, Tennessee; Anna, the wife of R. Cass, of Danville; Phara-aba, the wife of S. P. Swisher, of Danville; and W. P., who resides at Ridgefarm, Illinois. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Mater has been blessed with four children, only two of whom are now living. Howard, the elder, married Cora Woods, and is a merchant tailor residing in Terre Haute, Indiana. He has three children, Mildred, Benjamin, and Robert. Lucy is the wife of A. E. Dague, of Danville, bookkeeper for the N. E. Holden Lumber Company, and they have two children, Byron and Madaline.

In 1868 Mr. Mater removed to Terre Haute, Indiana, where he resided until the succeeding fall. In December of that year he came to Danville, where he has since engaged in carpentering and contracting. In the following July he built his present business block and admitted J. N. Lewis to a partnership. Mr. Mater has erected some of the best residences in this city. He also built the Martin block, the Illinois Printing Company building and has erected in every town in the county churches, schools, elevators and residences. In fact, he is one of the best known contractors of Vermilion county and his business has assumed extensive proportions. He built the Jackson street school building of Danville and many other public structures here. His faithfulness to the terms of a contract, his reliability and his excellent workmanship have been factors in his splendid success, winning him a substantial and growing patronage. In addition to his business he owns some valuable residence property in Danville,



C. E. LORING.



MRS. C. E. LORING.

having made judicious investments in real estate.

In his political views Mr. Mater is a Republican Prohibitionist, but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him and he has steadily refused to become a candidate for political preferment. He is a member of the Royal Templars of Temperance and has been an Odd Fellow. He is also a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, in which he has held office. His prosperity is largely due to his thorough mastery of the business in which as a young tradesman he embarked. His persistency of purpose has also been an element in his success and throughout the years of his connection with building operations in Danville he has maintained a reputation for honesty and reliability that has made his word as good as his bond.

ASBURY LORING.

The history of the early growth and development of a county or state is always interesting to those who, witnessing to-day the advancement and prosperity of the same, are glad to give tribute to those whose labors have resulted in its accomplishment. To the pioneer settlers of Vermilion county, Illinois, is due all respect and honor, and none are more worthy of this than the Loring family.

Daniel Loring, the grandfather of Asbury, spent his early life in Massachusetts and Utica, New York. He wedded Miss Mary Ann Stone and to them were born four sons, but three died from yellow fever in childhood, at Utica, New York, where they had previously moved, leaving C. E.

the only survivor. His first wife dying in 1815, Daniel Loring subsequently married Mary Steward, and in 1823 they removed to Coal Creek, Indiana, whence they came to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1834, the journey being made in a covered wagon constructed from sawed logs fitted on axles. This was one of the most solid wagons ever brought to the county and the only one of its kind. The grandfather died in August, 1862, at the age of eighty-one years. By his second union five children were born, but all are now deceased but the youngest daughter, Mrs. J. C. Felix, who resides in Kansas.

C. E. Loring, our subject's father, was born in Maine, December 4, 1808, and accompanied his parents on their various removals until finally becoming a resident of Vermilion county, Illinois. He received one hundred and fifty dollars from his mother's estate on attaining his majority, but in order to get this he was obliged to go east. He hired out as a hand on a flat-boat and in that way made the trip down the Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi rivers and thence by the Gulf and Atlantic to Boston, Massachusetts. He returned by way of the Ohio river. With one hundred dollars of his money he purchased eighty acres of land from George French and wife, in 1833, it being a part of the farm on which our subject now lives and which at that time was all wild and unimproved. There was not even a rail upon the place. The country was then over-run with prairie wolves and sloughs were on every hand. Nothing daunted, Mr. Loring in 1834 began to break his land with a yoke of oxen which he had purchased with the remaining fifty dollars, and to otherwise improve his place. He lived the first year with a fam-

ly named Patterson. He worked early and late to accomplish what he had set out to do—acquire a good home. By capable management and hard labor he became an extensive land owner, having in his possession five hundred and ninety-five acres of the richest farm land. Nearly all of this was under a high state of cultivation at the time of his death. His early life was that of a pioneer. He hauled grain to Chicago, La Fayette, Attica and Covington, which were the nearest trading points. He was working on the canal during the year of the "falling stars." When he settled on the farm now owned by our subject, Chicago was a mere village and Danville had two small stores. On returning from Chicago on one of his trips he endeavored to swim his oxen across Sugar Creek, having a horse in the lead, but the horse could not pull them. However, a friend appeared on the scene and with an ax broke the lock and they managed to get safely across, otherwise the oxen would have drowned. When C. E. Loring settled in Vermilion county wolves roamed over the prairie and hunting was fine, deer, ducks, wild turkeys and prairie chickens being very plentiful. He saw the towns and villages of the county spring into existence and as the years have passed they have grown and prospered, adding their quota to the general growth, prosperity and advancement of state and nation. In this work of advancement he took an active part as an individual and a citizen of his community.

C. E. Loring was united in marriage to Minerva J. Morton, a native of Ohio, born in January, 1826. She died September 23, 1885, as the result of an accident. Their marriage took place in Vermilion county, Illinois, September 4, 1851, and they be-

came the parents of eight children, three of whom died in infancy and one at the age of two and one-half years. The four living children are: Mattie E., the wife of Z. Starr, of Newell township, Vermilion county; Asbury, the subject of this review; Olive A. Mills, now deceased; and Frances, who now makes her home with her brother, Asbury, acting as his housekeeper.

C. E. Loring suffered the misfortune of losing his sight in the '70s. He was at the time acting as school treasurer, which position he had filled for about sixteen years. He was about to resign and turn over the books to his successor when this occurred. He prepared the books, had everything arranged and was about to resign when he noticed that his eye-sight had left him. He remained in this way for over thirty years, patiently bearing his affliction, which did not, however, prevent him from taking an active interest in the management of his affairs. He formed his own plans and his son Asbury, of this review, helped to carry them out and to manage his large estate. He was a great lover of books and his loss of sight was therefore the more keenly felt. He bore the loss with fortitude, and his patience and kindness of manner endeared him to all who knew him. He was a prominent man of affairs in his community and his opinions carried weight with his fellow men. He was actively interested in educational work and during his public service did much toward the material, moral and intellectual culture of the young. He helped to build the schools and churches of his community and was always deeply interested in the general welfare. He was a Republican in his political views and cast his first presidential vote for William Henry Harrison in 1840. For sixty-five years he

lived on the old homestead and his death there occurred January 12, 1899, when he was over ninety years of age. His memory is held sacred by many friends and relatives who regretted deeply his demise.

Asbury Loring spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the home farm, attending the district school during the winter term and working upon the farm with his father during the seasons of plowing, planting and harvesting. He thus gained a practical knowledge of the occupation which has been his life work. He received a good education, attending school until he attained his majority and continuing it for one year thereafter. He remained continuously upon the farm where he was born, assisting his father and receiving a share in the profits of their labor. All his life he has been an energetic, thrifty and economical man, who has done much toward improving his farm and making it one of the richest and most productive in the county. He now owns one hundred and sixty-eight and a half acres, twenty-six acres of which is timber land. He has led a sober, industrious and quiet life, such as is led by our best American citizens, and in the rich fields of grain which are annually garnered on his farm he sees the result of his honest toil.

The saddest event in the lives of himself and sister was when they lost their dear mother through an accident. She was in a two-seated buggy with two of her daughters, the buggy being driven by her son Asbury, on their way to the Danville Fair, when they encountered two horses that were racing. Mr. Loring tried to give them the road, but one of the horses ran into their vehicle, completely demolishing it, throwing out Mrs. Loring and the rest of the party.

The accident occurred on the 18th of September, 1885, and she died five days later, September 23d, from the result of her injuries. Thus the family were left to mourn the loss of the faithful wife and mother. The brother and sister, Asbury and Frances Loring, now make their home together, on the old farm where they were born. Frances was educated in the district schools and was eligible for graduation when she left school. She kept her father's books during his lifetime and helped to make him comfortable in his declining years, which were made very happy, although bereft of his dear wife and his eyesight. His son Asbury has followed the principles and precepts which he learned from his father and he stands to-day among the honored and influential residents of Newell township, respected by all who know him.

THOMAS GONES.

It is the enterprise and character of the citizen that enrich and ennoble the commonwealth. From individual enterprise has sprung all the substantial improvements of this great west. The greatest merchants have developed from the humblest origin; from clerkships have emerged men who have built up great enterprises. America is a self-made country and those who have achieved prominence as men of marked ability and substantial worth, as having created this prosperity and development, are self-made men. Among this number Danville is proud to name George Gones, who occupies a prominent position. He is now extensively engaged in the furniture business here and is meeting with creditable success.

Mr. Gones is a native of Clark county, Ohio, born September 23, 1847, and in 1854 he was brought to Vermilion county, Illinois, by his parents, who settled upon land in Catlin, where the son was reared. He has two brothers and three sisters: Mary Jane, the widow of Jacob Sandlusk and her brother's partner in business; Surene, the wife of Henry Bentley, who is living near Catlin; John W., who resides near Fairmount; Charles H., of Danville, who is living with his brother Thomas; and Hannah, the wife of Milton Hodge, of Iowa. The parents are both deceased. The father followed farming throughout his entire life and died in the year 1882, while his wife passed away in 1886.

Thomas Gones was reared on the old family homestead in Catlin, which was then known as Butler's Point. There was but one house at a crossroads and no railroad had been built into the neighborhood. He pursued his education in the district school at Catlin and in the periods of vacation worked on the home farm with his father, continuing agricultural pursuits until after his marriage. Mr. Gones wedded Mary E. Morris, who was born and reared in Ohio. Her parents are now deceased and she died in 1884, her remains being interred in the Catlin cemetery. She left five children, of whom three are yet living: William married Anna Williams and resides in Danville; Charles B. married Anna Stickrod and is also living in this city; Mrs. Olin Whiteford makes her home with her father in Danville; Arthur died at the age of nineteen years and six months; and Cora, who became the wife of James Jones, died at the age of twenty-one years.

After his marriage Mr. Gones carried on agricultural pursuits for some time. He

rented land near Catlin until 1892, when he removed to this city and in connection with his brother, G. H. Gones, entered the furniture business, the firm existing as originally formed until 1900, when C. H. Gones retired and was succeeded by his sister's son, C. L. Sandlusk, who is now the partner of our subject. They deal exclusively in furniture and have a large and well selected stock of goods, including both modern and high priced goods. Their business is constantly growing and the house sustains an unassailable reputation for reliability. The home of our subject is at No. 712 North Walnut street and he also owns property on Harmon avenue and Oak street. His political support is given to the men and measures of the Republican party. Socially he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America and he belongs to Kimber Methodist Episcopal church. Through his own exertions he has attained an honorable position and marked prestige among the successful business men of the city and it may be said with consistency that he is the architect of his own fortunes and one whose success amply justifies the application of the somewhat hackneyed but most expressive title, "a self-made man."

E. H. PALMER.

Few men are more prominent or more widely known in the enterprising city of Danville than E. H. Palmer. He has been and is an important factor in business circles and his popularity is well deserved, as in him are embraced the characteristics of an unbending integrity, unabating energy and industry that never flags. He is public

spirited and thoroughly interested in whatever tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of the city. He was for many years the cashier of the First National Bank and for a long period has been identified with mercantile interests, being at the present time a wholesale grocer of Danville. His success in all his undertakings has been so marked that his methods are of interest to the commercial world, and an analysis of his life work shows that he has based his business principles and actions upon strict adherence to the rules which govern industry, economy and unswerving integrity.

Few native sons of Danville can claim a longer residence in the city than E. H. Palmer. His birth occurred in the family home at the corner of Walnut and Main streets, August 10, 1830. He is a son of Dr. Asa R. Palmer, a native of Connecticut, who was born at Coventry, in 1786. The grandfather, Abel Palmer, was born in New England and was of English ancestry. The family has become very numerous in this country and in 1880 the subject of this review attended a re-union held at Stonington, Connecticut, at which about twelve hundred representatives of the family were present. Dr. Asa R. Palmer became a resident of Vermont and his boyhood days and later lived in the Black River country of New York. Subsequently he became a resident of Moscow, where his parents both died. While in the Empire state Dr. Palmer studied medicine and practiced there to some extent. He was three times married, being first married ere his removal from New York. His trip to Illinois was made on horseback in search of a location and he took up his abode here about 1825. This journey was made by boat to Pittsburg, thence down the Ohio river and up

the Wabash river. Danville, or rather the site of the present city, was the place of his destination. For miles throughout the country Dr. Palmer engaged in the practice of medicine, being one of the old time pioneer physicians, whose professional duties took him over a broad territory. Eventually, however, he gave up the practice of medicine and lived retired. In connection with his son, E. F. Palmer, he established the first drug store in Danville and was a leading and influential resident of the city from the time that he came to Vermilion county until his death, which occurred about 1861. It was in this city that he married Adelia Hawkins, who was his third wife and the mother of our subject. She was born near Rochester, New York, and was a daughter of Ebenezer Hawkins, also a native of the Empire state and one of the honored pioneers of Vermilion county. His interment was the first burial in the old graveyard of this city. Mrs. Palmer, the mother of our subject, died in 1851, and E. F. Palmer, the druggist, a half-brother of our subject, passed away here. Dr. Palmer was one of the original members of the Presbyterian church and aided materially in the upbuilding and progress of the town.

E. H. Palmer, whose name introduces this record, was reared to manhood in Danville, acquiring his elementary education here, while later he pursued a four years' course in Wabash College. He entered upon his business career in the employ of J. M. Cubertson when a lad of thirteen years, and thus acted as a clerk for four years, after which he pursued his college course. When he had completed his studies he again engaged in clerking for a year or more and next entered into a business partnership, as a member of the firm of Humphrey, Palmer & Company, general merchants and

druggists. This was about 1855 and since that time Mr. Palmer has been one of the active, influential and successful business men of this city. He was at one time appointed to fill out an unexpired term as county superintendent of schools, succeeding his uncle, who had died in office. On the expiration of his term Mr. Palmer aided in organizing the First National Bank and became one of its stockholders. At that time he was also elected its cashier and occupied the position continuously for twenty-six years, his efforts being a potent factor in establishing the institution on a safe financial basis. He was a popular official, always courteous and obliging, and he had a comprehensive knowledge of the banking business, which made him valuable in the control of the institution. On his retirement from the bank he was presented with a fine gold watch, which bears his name and the date, January 15, 1885, engraved on the inside case, and of this token of esteem he is justly proud. On severing his active connection with the banking business he embarked in the wholesale grocery trade, with which he is still connected. He has also contributed to the improvement of the city by the building of three good residences here. He now has a large, substantial and pleasant home just outside the corporation limits of Danville, while his other property he has sold.

Mr. Palmer was married in Urbana, Illinois, in 1854 to Frances B. Nelson, who was born near Carlisle, Pennsylvania, her father, William Nelson, also being a native of the Keystone state. He died during her girlhood and she came to the west with her brother, locating in Champaign county, Illinois. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Palmer have been born four children: Flora; Frank N., who is a minister of the Presbyterian church, now

located in Dayton, Indiana; Lula C.; and Della, the wife of Loren E. Shetts, who occupies a responsible position in the Palmer Wholesale Grocery Company.

The father of our subject was a Whig in his political affiliations and a staunch Abolitionist. He did everything in his power to oppose the growth of slavery, and when E. H. Palmer attained his majority he voted with the Republican party, which was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery, his first presidential ballot being cast for John C. Fremont in 1856. He has since been identified with the party, never wavering in his allegiance. He served a few terms on the school board and has ever been a warm friend of the cause of education, believing in having competent teachers in charge of good schools, realizing that intellectual training is the bulwark of the nation. Mr. Palmer also served as alderman for a few terms but has otherwise never filled public office, having no ambition in this direction. He and his wife belong to the First Presbyterian church. For seventy-two years he has resided in Danville and has watched almost its entire growth as it has developed from a cross-roads village to one of the great cities of this state. He at one time knew every man, woman and child in Vermilion county and to this day not to know E. H. Palmer is to argue one's self unknown in Danville. Although he has passed the allotted psalmist's span of three score years and ten he is yet an active factor in the business world. Old age does not necessarily suggest helplessness or want of occupation. There is an old age which grows stronger and better with the passing years and gives freely out of its rich stores of learning and experience, thus proving a benediction to all!—such has been the career

of E. H. Palmer, whose sterling manhood, unflinching honor and Christian principles have made his life an example one well worthy of emulation.

H. H. PAINTER.

H. H. Painter is one of the oldest harness manufacturers of Vermilion county, having been connected with the business through a continuous period of twenty-two years. Since 1882 he has engaged in business on his own account in Fairmount, and a liberal patronage has been accorded him. He was born in Zanesville, Ohio, June 19, 1844, and is a daughter of George and Sarah (Mills) Painter. The father was born in Pennsylvania, and the mother in Virginia, but they were married in the Buckeye state, and there lived for many years. Mr. Painter carried on farming in Ohio until 1853, when he removed to Monticello, Illinois, his wife having died in Ohio in 1850. He then lived upon a farm at Monticello until 1855, when he, too, was called to his final rest. In his political views he was a Whig. The family of this worthy couple numbered ten children, of whom H. H. Painter is the youngest. Two sisters and three brothers are now living, namely: Harrison, who is engaged in the livery business in Attica, Indiana; Emily, the wife of Andrew C. Varner, a farmer of Monticello, Illinois; Eliza, the widow of William Dickson, and a resident of Charleston, Illinois; George W., who is living retired in Attica, Indiana; and J. M., who resides in St. Joseph, Missouri.

H. H. Painter began his education in the Bush Row school in Greene county,

Ohio, the little temple of learning being a log building, and his brother-in-law, A. C. Varner, was the teacher. His educational privileges, however, were somewhat limited and he never attended school after he was seventeen years of age. In early life he began work on his father's farm and continued to engage in the labor of field and meadow until 1862, when thinking that he would find some other pursuit more congenial he began learning the harness maker's trade under the direction of Theodore Swagert, who now resides in Newman, Illinois. After serving a three years' apprenticeship Mr. Painter worked as a journeyman harnessmaker for three years. He was employed in various states and in 1880 he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, entering the employ of F. Kehoe, of Danville, with whom he remained for two years. Later he was in the service of B. F. Daugherty and then returned to Mr. Kehoe, who in the meantime had removed to Fairmount. In 1882 he purchased his employer's business, which he has since conducted with good success. His expert workmanship, his thorough understanding of the trade, his earnest desire to please his patrons and his reasonable prices have been qualities which have insured him a successful career.

In May, 1882, in Fairmount, Illinois, the Rev. Crawford performed the wedding ceremony which united the destinies of H. H. Painter and Lizzie L. Love, who was born in Danville, Illinois, in 1839, a daughter of William and Lizzie (Gish) Love whose birth occurred in Bedford county, Virginia. They were married in the Old Dominion and removed to Illinois at an early day, settling in Danville. There the father engaged in brick-making for a time

but afterward removed to a farm near Catlin, where he spent his last days. His wife has also passed away. In their family were four daughters and a son: Sarah, now the deceased wife of John Church, who resides near Catlin; Hannah, who is now the widow of Frank Keeney and makes her home in Winfield, Kansas; Wallace, a resident of Catlin; Amanda, the wife of Aaron Tidrow, who is residing in Georgetown, Illinois; and Mrs. Painter.

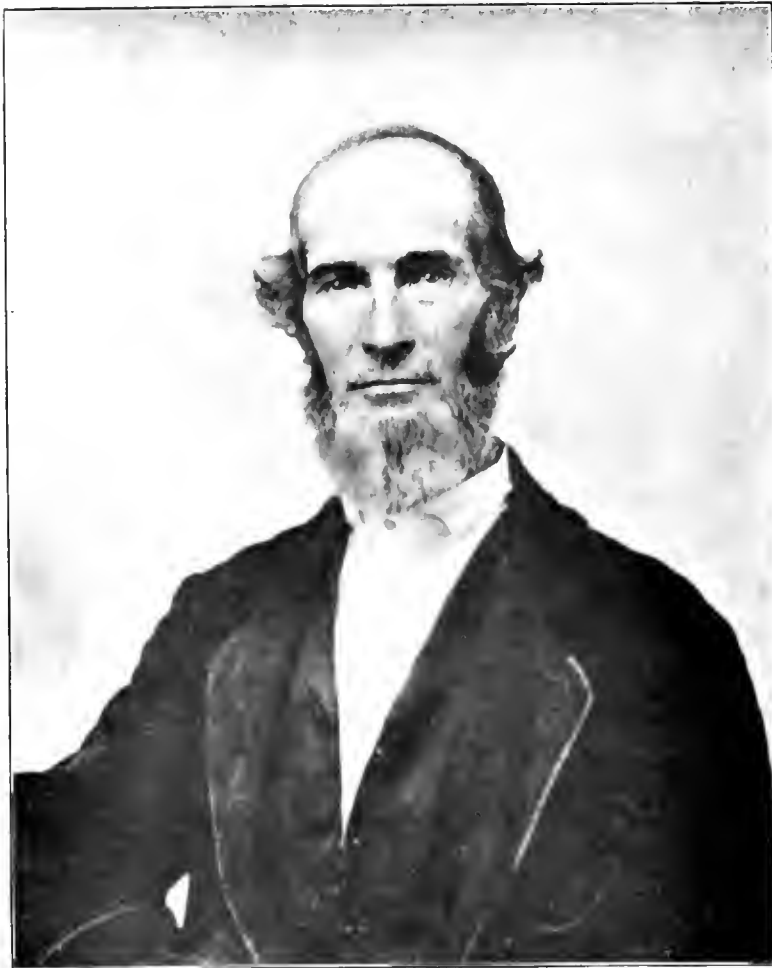
In his political affiliations Mr. Painter is a stalwart Republican, and he belongs to Fairmount Lodge, No. 591, F. & A. M., and to Normandy Lodge, No. 510, K. P. He also holds membership relations with Catlin Post, No. 791, G. A. R. He is entitled to this because of his military service which began in 1864, although he was under military age. He enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Indiana Infantry, under command of Captain Lucas and Colonel William Nelson, serving for six months, after which he received an honorable discharge at Indianapolis in September, 1864. Mr. Painter is now serving as collector for the Twin City Building & Loan Association, of Champaign, Illinois, and he has a most successful business in Fairmount as a harness-maker. He is a courteous and pleasant gentleman—one whom it is a pleasure to meet, and as a representative citizen of Fairmount he well deserves mention in this volume.

JOHN FRAZIER, SR.

This well known and prominent citizen of Georgetown is one of the typical business men of the west—prompt, energetic and reliable, to which elements in his char-

acter he owes his success in life. He was born in Georgetown on the 13th of May, 1850, and is a son of Abner and Mary (Millican) Frazier, the former a native of Newmarket, Tennessee, and the latter of Indiana, her parents having removed to that state from near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at an early day. It was about seventy years ago that Abner Frazier came to Vermilion county and located in Georgetown, where he embarked in general merchandising and continued to carry on that business for many years. He was thus engaged at the time of his death when well advanced in years. In his family were eight children, all of whom are now living and are married. Those residing in this county are Perry, Mrs. James Snapp; Mrs. Sophia Newlin and John, while Mrs. John Rodgers and Mrs. Dr. Mendenhall live in Lacygne, Kansas; and Mrs. W. E. Moore makes her home in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, her husband being a leading real estate dealer of that place.

On attaining his majority Mr. Frazier of this review began his business life as a clerk in his father's store in Georgetown, in which capacity he served for about two years and then entered into partnership with his father and brother William, under the firm name of Frazier & Sons, which connection continued for about fourteen years. At the end of that time our subject sold his interest in the store to his brother and purchased an improved farm three and one-half miles northwest of Georgetown, which he rents on the shares, taking his pay in grain. This he believes is for the best interest of his tenant, for in case that the crops are a failure the owner then bears his rightful share of the burden, instead of renting for cash and securing notes and mortgages as his pay. The farm is kept in first class con-



ABNER FRAZIER.



JOHN FRAZIER, SR.

dition, is well tiled and supplied with good buildings. Since selling his interest in the mercantile business Mr. Frazier has engaged in buying, feeding and shipping cattle, hogs and sheep, and handles a large amount of stock each year. To this business he has now devoted his attention for twenty years and is to-day at the head of his line of trade in the eastern part of the county. Besides his farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 24, Georgetown township, Mr. Frazier owns two lots fronting on Mill street and two on Walnut street, Georgetown, on one of which he has erected a nice four-room cottage. His own home is a neat and commodious residence on Main street, where he has one and a half acres of land laid off into beautiful grounds. It has all modern conveniences which the place affords, including telephone connection, while the Danville electric car line passes the door.

On the 1st of September, 1881, Mr. Frazier was united in marriage to Miss Laura Richmond, a daughter of Samuel and Susan (Bolton) Richmond. Her father, who was a native of Hamilton, Hamilton county, Ohio, died in Parke county, Indiana, when Mrs. Frazier was only fifteen months old, and her mother, who was born in Kentucky, has also passed away. She had two brothers, both of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Frazier received a good academic education and prior to her marriage taught school in Georgetown for three years with marked success. She is now an active member of the school board of that city and has served on several important committees, among them the building and supply committee. Religiously she is connected with the Methodist church, is active in all its lines of work, and is now secretary of the Ladies' Foreign Missionary Society.

She presides with gracious dignity over her home, where hospitality reigns supreme.

In politics Mr. Frazier is a Republican but has never cared for political honors, having several times been proffered offices which he would not accept, though he once served as town trustee. At another time he was elected justice of the peace but refused to qualify, preferring to give his undivided attention to his extensive business interests. He is a man of excellent business and executive ability, whose sound judgment, unflagging enterprise and capable management have brought to him a well merited success. In manner he is pleasant and cordial, which, combined with his sterling worth, makes him one of the popular citizens of the community.

WILLIAM A. LOTTMAN, M. D.

In taking up the personal history of Dr. William A. Lottman we present to our readers the life record of one whose prominence in his profession has come as a direct result of merit, comprehensive knowledge and skill. He was born in Franklin county, Missouri, March 27, 1871, a son of Frank and Minnie (Berman) Lottman. The father was born in Pennsylvania, the mother in St. Louis, Missouri, and they were married in Franklin county of the latter state, where they still make their home, Mr. Lottman devoting his attention to farming. He is a Republican in his political views. Three children were born unto this worthy couple, the Doctor being the eldest. The others are: Carrie, the wife of August Myer, a resident of Shotwell, Franklin county, Missouri; and Fred, who is with his parents.

The Doctor began his education in Beaufort, Franklin county, Missouri, and

afterward attended high school in Washington, that state. Subsequently he became a student in the University of Kentucky, at Lexington, and was there graduated. In the meantime, however, he had engaged in teaching for two years in his native state. After his graduation in the Kentucky University he entered the Chillicothe, Missouri, Normal School, where he was graduated in the spring of 1862. He then taught school and was appointed superintendent of the schools of Exeter, Berry county, Missouri, where he remained for a year. He was then elected assistant superintendent of the public schools at Seguin, Texas, where he spent two years. During all of this time, however, he was reading medicine preparatory to entering upon his professional career as a member of the medical fraternity. He further continued his preparation by becoming a student in the Medical University of Texas, at Galveston. He then located in Mason, Texas, where he practiced for three years, after which he removed to St. Louis, and matriculated in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at that place, being graduated on the 7th of April, 1902. After passing a severe examination before the Illinois and Missouri Medical Board, he located in Oakwood, where he is now living. Well equipped for his professional duties, he has manifested marked ability in handling many important cases and the public has great confidence in his superior skill.

On the 18th of July, 1864, in Danville, Dr. Lottman was married to Miss Jennie Glick, who was born near Georgetown, in Vermilion county, August 9, 1871, a daughter of Aaron and Catherine (Goodner) Glick, the former a native of Indiana, while the latter was born in Vermilion county, Illi-

nois, near where the Fairview church now stands. Their marriage was celebrated at Glenman, this county, and to provide for his family the father has always carried on agricultural pursuits, his present home being near Sullivan, Indiana. Unto him and his wife were born four children: Jennie, now Mrs. Lottman; George, who married Ora Coe, and resides at Sullivan, Indiana; Floy and Francis, both with their parents. Mr. Glick is an earnest advocate of the Democracy and is a member of the Presbyterian church.

Dr. Lottman is connected with the Woodmen of the World, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Sons of Herman. He is a Republican, strong in support of the party, but has no time nor desire to seek public office. He holds membership relations with the National, the State and the County Medical Associations, and is medical examiner for the New York Life Insurance Company, the Mutual Life Insurance Company, of New York, the Equitable Life of New York, the Modern Woodmen, Woodmen of the World, and other organizations. He also holds a special diploma in railroad surgery. He is widely regarded as a growing man in his profession. Already he has attained success and gained a reputation which many an older man might well envy. His equipment was unusually good and in the exercise of his professional duties he manifests strict regard for the ethics of the profession.

A. J. LEITZBACH, M. D.

Since 1887 Dr. A. J. Leitzbach has been engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Fairmount, and his professional

skill has won recognition in a liberal and constantly growing patronage. He was born in Robertsville, Connecticut, August 3, 1862, and is a son of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Eslinger) Leitzbach, both of whom were natives of Germany. They were married, however, in Winsted, Connecticut, and in the east the father followed his trade of cabinetmaking for many years. In the spring of 1887 he removed to Humboldt, Kansas, where he was engaged in the manufacture of furniture in connection with his son. His wife died there in 1891. He continued a resident of Humboldt until 1901, when he removed to Ottawa, Kansas, where he is now living retired. His political allegiance is given the Democracy. Three children, all of whom are yet living, were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Leitzbach: Anna L. is the widow of Rev. Clinton L. Wood and a resident of Ottawa, Kansas, and has two sons. The Doctor is the second in order of birth. Edward H. is a resident of Humboldt, Kansas, where he is engaged in the furniture business.

Dr. Leitzbach began his education in his native town, later becoming a student in the public schools of Riverton, Connecticut. Afterward he attended the State Normal School at New Britain, Connecticut, where he was graduated with the class of 1882. After teaching a term of twenty weeks in the country he was then appointed principal of the school at Riverton, which position he held until he entered medical college. He began his reading in the office and under the direction of Dr. Bidwell, of Winsted, Connecticut, and later entered Bellevue Hospital Medical College, where, on the completion of a three years' course, he was graduated in 1887. After visiting several states he came to Fairmount, Illi-

nois, in the fall of 1887 and has practiced here continuously since, his efforts being attended with a high degree of success. He is a member of the Vermilion County Medical Association and is now serving on the medical staff of the Vermilion County Hospital. He is likewise examiner for a large number of insurance companies. His private practice is also extensive and the public have firm faith in the ability of Dr. Leitzbach because his skill has so often been manifested in the skillful conduct of important cases.

On the 28th of December, 1893, near Fairmount, the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Clara K. Dougherty, who was born in this place, August 25, 1869, and is a daughter of James M. and Sarepta (Taylor) Dougherty, the former a native of Ripley, Ohio, and the latter of Romney, Indiana. Her parents were married near Catlin, and the father engaged in farming in this county until 1876, when he removed to Danville and erected the Arlington Hotel. He then returned to his farm and there died January 15, 1889, his remains being interred in the Dougherty cemetery. He was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and his strong temperance principles were embodied in the political support which he gave to the Prohibition party. Mrs. Leitzbach is one of a family of six children, four of whom are now living, namely: Emma, the wife of H. J. Sterns, who resides upon a farm at Manson, Iowa, and has one son; Eva F., the wife of William T. Pankey, a lawyer and abstract and loan agent of Danville; Maud, who resides at home with her mother; and Mrs. Leitzbach. The marriage of the Doctor and his wife has been blessed with one daughter, Elizabeth, born June 16, 1896.

In his political views the Doctor is an earnest Democrat, and for one term he served as supervisor of Vance township. Socially he is connected with the Modern Woodmen Camp of Fairmount, which he organized. He owns real estate interests in this place, including one of the finest homes in the city. A pleasant, genial and courteous gentleman, he is widely known here and both he and his wife have a large circle of warm friends. They are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, in which the Doctor has held office for several years.

CHARLES MORAN.

Charles Moran, now deceased, was one of the pioneer business men and leading citizens of Danville for many years, having located here in 1852. He was a native of Ireland, born in County Antrim in 1826, and was a son of John Moran, who spent his entire life upon the Emerald Isle, our subject being the only one of the family to come to the new world. He landed in New York city in 1848, and after spending a short time in the eastern metropolis went to Mount Vernon, New York, where he worked at his trade, laying the first stone for many of the stone buildings of that place.

On leaving Mount Vernon in 1852 Mr. Moran came to Danville, Illinois, though the site of the city at that time was covered with timber and gave little promise of its present flourishing condition. He selected a home near the old Fair Grounds and became closely identified with the up-building and development of the place as a stone mason and contractor. In partnership with Mr. McCormick, he erected the first stone buildings in the city and built

the old stone jail which was then located on the public square. As a contractor he was connected with the Big Four Railroad Company at Danville, doing all their stone work, such as curbing, etc., and he also superintended the stone work on all the bridges of Danville and many of the old and fine residences that are still standing.

On November 18, 1855, Mr. Moran was united in marriage to Miss Catherine O'Connor, who was born in Londonderry, Ireland, on the 19th of February, 1835. Her father, Charles O'Connor, was a bookkeeper by occupation and followed that pursuit in Ireland throughout the greater part of his life, but his last days were spent with his children in this country. On first coming to America he spent a short time in New York city, then came to Danville, Illinois, and from here went to St. Louis, Missouri, where he died at the home of one of his children. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Moran were born eleven children, five of whom are still living, namely: Eliza and Mollie, both at home; Ruth, who is a telegraph operator in Danville; Catherine, who is married and resides in Chicago; and Helen, a teacher of Chicago. Other children died in infancy.

Mr. Moran continued to work at his trade in Danville throughout life but was also interested in other business enterprises, opening a retail grocery store in 1873 and conducting it for several years. He was also interested in the coal business, owning and operating a mine at Grape Creek, this county, and in all his undertakings he met with deserved success, being a man of untiring industry and sound business judgment. The nice residence which his widow still occupies at No. 309 Jackson street, was erected by him, and having prospered in business affairs he was able to leave his family in comfortable circumstances.



CHARLES MORAN.

Mr. Moran was unwavering in his support of the Democratic party, but was a friend of Abraham Lincoln, and was never an office seeker. He was a devout member of the Catholic church, to which his family also belong, and the first meeting for the purpose of making arrangements to erect a house of worship at this place was held at his home and there they raised the first money for that purpose. Upright and honorable in all his relations of life he commanded the respect and confidence of those with whom he came in contact, and in his death the community realized that it had lost one of its best citizens. He passed away on the 12th of August, 1901. His family is quite prominent socially, their circle of friends being extensive.

CHARLES T. PUTMAN.

The commercial and industrial activity of Hoopeston finds a worthy representative in C. T. Putnam, a man of enterprise and energy whose success in business is creditable and demonstrates the possibilities which are before all young men who have the will to dare and to do, and who base their business affairs upon strict adherence to business ethics. Mr. Putman was born near Attica, Indiana, April 22, 1858. His parents, Zachariah and Mary Ann (Witmer) Putman, have both passed away. They were natives of Ohio and the father was a farmer by occupation. In their family were ten children, seven of whom are yet living: David C.; Hettie V., the wife of L. J. Harker, of Winfield, Kansas; Mrs. Jonas Rush, of Milford, Illinois; George B., of Hoopeston; Charles T., of this review; Mrs. Car-

rie B. Hernden, of Winfield, Kansas; and Edward C., who is also living in Winfield.

When a little lad of five years Charles T. Putman went with his parents to a farm in Bean creek settlement eight miles southwest of Rossville, Vermilion county, and there he was reared until fifteen years of age, when the family removed into the town, after which he enjoyed the advantages of schooling there. At the age of seventeen years he entered a railroad office to learn telegraphy, and later he went to Remington, Indiana, entering the office of the Pan-Handle Railroad at that place. He secured a position on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, at Beecher, Illinois, at night work, acting as operator. He remained as agent for that road for sixteen years and during the last nine years of the time was its representative at Hoopeston. During that period he acquired an interest in a lumber business here, becoming a member of the firm of T. B. Tennery & Company. His partnership in this continued until 1892, when he severed his connection with railroad interests and also sold his interest in the firm of Tennery & Company. At that time he purchased the W. R. Wilson lumber yard, which he conducted successfully for nine years, during which time he was also associated with the Enterprise Canning Company. He further extended the scope of his labors by purchasing a marble business and in 1900 he sold his lumber business and planing-mill interests and since that time has devoted his attention to the conduct of the granite and marble works of Hoopeston, with the result that his efforts have been attended with very gratifying success. He employs expert workmen in handling the marbles and his trade has continually increased, owing to his careful su-

pervision, his straightforward business dealings and his earnest desire to please his customers.

Mr. Putman was married in Boswell, Indiana, on the 28th of October, 1878, to Miss Ella Ammerman, but she died on the 15th of November, 1879, while they were residing in Chicago, Mr. Putman being at that time dispatcher and clerk in the yards of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, of that city. There was one child by this marriage, Gertrude Belle, who was born October 27, 1879, and is now the wife of Russell Follett, of Hoopeston, by whom she has one child. On the 20th of January, 1881, in this city, Mr. Putman was again married, his second union being with Molly E. Myers, a native of State Line, Indiana, born on the 7th of January, 1862. Her father, Adam Myers, died in Hoopeston in 1902. He was a bridge superintendent on the Wabash Railroad for several years, and later on the Lake Erie & Western road, and maintained his residence in this town. His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah Schaefer, and is now living with our subject. In their family were four children, three of whom survive, as follows: M. P., who is bridge superintendent of the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs Railroad, at St. Joseph, Missouri; H. C., who is a farmer; and Mrs. Putman. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed by an interesting little daughter, Lila Mae, born August 20, 1886.

The parents hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mr. Putman is serving as trustee. He votes with the Republican party and at one time was alderman and city treasurer. He is the present chairman of the cemetery committee and he has taken little part in politi-

cal work, preferring to devote his time and energies to the marble and granite business. Fraternally he is connected with Star Lodge, No. 709, F. & A. M., and with the Modern Woodmen of America, No. 207.

His home is on South Market street and he owns other real estate in Hoopeston valued at twenty thousand dollars. In business he has achieved success through honorable effort, untiring industry and capable management. He has been watchful of his interests, careful in controlling his affairs, and in his actions has been guided by sound judgment which has come as the result of mature reflection. He has, moreover, a name which is above reproach, because of his allegiance to honorable business principles, his integrity standing as an unquestioned fact in his career.

FRANK SANFORD.

The pre-eminence of Danville is due not only to the men of light and learning who controlled her affairs in the early days, but even more to those men whom she is constantly attracting from other cities. In 1897 Frank Sanford removed to this place, enlarging the scope of his business activities and to-day is numbered among the foremost merchants of the city, controlling an extensive furniture trade which because of its extent is bringing to him an excellent profit. It is a well known fact that the greatest merchants of our country have developed from the humblest origins and from clerkships have emerged men who have built up great enterprises. Mr. Sanford had no especial advantages in his youth, in fact, he depended upon his own resources from

the time when he completed his education and left the public schools.

He was born in Ionia, Michigan, November, 30, 1861, and is a son of J. B. and Maria (Yeomans) Sanford, both of whom were natives of Connecticut. Becoming residents of Galena, Illinois, having resided in Michigan for a time, Mr. Sanford there established a dry goods business, which he conducted for five years. He next opened a dry goods store in Chicago, where he remained for three years and then returned with his family to Ionia, Michigan. Later he resided in St. Louis, Michigan, and there died in 1893. His widow still survives him and is yet living in St. Louis. Mr. Sanford was a Republican in his political views and was a member of the Episcopal church, honored and respected by his fellow men for his excellent traits of character. In his family were nine children: Edward, who married and died in Ionia, Michigan; Marian, who is living in Denver, Colorado; Herbert, a locomotive engineer located in Grand Rapids, Michigan; Willard, a contractor and builder residing in Springfield, Illinois; George, who has mining interests at Chattanooga, Tennessee; Frank, of this review; Adelaide, the wife of Fred W. Hughes, of Mecosta, Michigan; Frances E., the wife of John Burns, of St. Louis, Michigan; and S. B., who is a locomotive engineer living in Decatur, Illinois.

In his native city Frank Sanford pursued his education, putting aside his text books at about the age of twenty-two years. He also engaged in teaching school in Ionia, Michigan, for two years. In connection with his brother he established an agency for a wringer and washer in Indiana and Illinois, traveling in the interest of that business for two years. He then formed a part-

nership with C. E. Akers, at Decatur, Illinois, in the installment business and with this beginning he built up a large trade as a dealer in furniture. In 1897 he sold his business to his partner and came to Danville, where he opened a store at No. 40 Jackson street. His business steadily increased until he had three rooms completely filled with a large and well selected stock of furniture. In 1901 the Edwards business block was erected especially for his use and he now occupies that new and modern structure. In 1898 his sister, Mrs. Marian Hobbs, a widow residing in Denver, Colorado, became his partner. In the conduct of his affairs Mr. Sanford has been energetic, enterprising and determined. His large stock of furniture now occupies three floors and a basement, and he also has a large ware-room in another part of the city. He has thoroughly studied the trade so that he understands the wishes of the public and his labors have brought to him a substantial financial return. He is also a partner in the Frank Sanford & Company furniture store in Springfield, Illinois, and another store conducted under the same name at Westville, Illinois. It will thus be seen that he is a leading representative of the furniture trade of the state and his establishment in Danville is headquarters for all novelties as well as articles of a utilitarian character. He carries goods of all grades, including some of the finest manufactured, and he receives his patronage from a good class of citizens.

In November, 1887, in Ionia, Michigan, Mr. Sanford was united in marriage to Miss Ida Terry, who was born in Ionia, August 20, 1864, a daughter of John Terry, who is a native of New Jersey and is a fruit gardener. Both he and his wife are still

living. In their family are four children: Samuel, who resides in Aiden, Michigan; Myra, the wife of Samuel Arntz, of Ionia, Michigan; Ida, the wife of our subject; and Elizabeth, the wife of Charles Jack, who is living in Ionia. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Sanford has been blessed with four children: Myrtle M., Otto F., Adelaide and Frances.

In his political affiliations Mr. Sanford is a Republican. Fraternally he is connected with Olive Branch Lodge, No. 184, F. & A. M., having been made a Mason in Danville in June, 1901. He is also a member of the Danville Lodge of Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a ruler of the Royal Circle Lodge of Danville, to which his wife also belongs. She is likewise a member of the Women's Club of this city and both Mr. and Mrs. Sanford hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. Although they have resided here but for a brief period they are well known and the hospitality of the best homes of the city is extended to them.

HENRY SMITH.

For many years this gentleman was a worthy citizen of Danville and he was also classed among the honored pioneers of the county, having come here in 1834 when the greater part of this region was still wild and undeveloped. He was born in Oxfordshire, England, on the 20th of November, 1806, and was a son of Thomas and Sarah (Fletcher) Smith, who were also natives of that country. After the emigration of our subject and his wife to the new world his father joined them in this country but died a year later.

In his native land Henry Smith was reared and educated no event of special importance occurring during his boyhood and youth. Before leaving England he was married in 1834 to Miss Jane Jordan Stewart, who also claimed that country as her birthplace. Of the eleven children born of this union three died in infancy, the others being as follows: John, now deceased; William, who is living retired in Danville; Edwin, deceased; Sarah, deceased wife of Charles Coten and a resident of Danville; Frank, deceased; Mary, wife of Robert Stevens, of Danville; and Fannie J. and Lucy, who are living at the old homestead in the same city.

Not long after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Smith sailed for America, and on landing in New York city made their way direct to Cleveland, Ohio, where he was engaged in buying stock for two or three years. In 1838 he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, and first located on a farm near the village of Potomac, where he was engaged in farming until 1845. He then removed to Danville and opened the first meat market at this place, being engaged in business here until 1867, when he sold his shop and engaged in farming in Danville township near the village of Tilton. There he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1880, when he rented that place and returned to Danville, where he lived a retired life until his death, which occurred in 1898, when ninety-one years of age. His wife passed away on the 14th of November, 1900. With the First Methodist Episcopal church of Danville they had long held membership and were consistent and useful members. Their daughters, Misses Fannie J. and Lucy Smith, are also members of the same church and are prominent in society here. They have



HENRY SMITH.

a pleasant home at No. 116 North Jackson street, which was erected by their father in 1845 and also own other residence property in the city.

In his political views Mr. Smith was a Republican and he ever took a commendable interest in public affairs. He enjoyed the well earned distinction of being what the public terms a "self-made man," and an analysis of his character revealed the fact that enterprise, well directed effort and honorable dealing were the essential features in his prosperity.

JOHN M. BALDWIN.

The agricultural interests of Vermilion county form a very important part in the prosperity which it enjoys. A representative of this honorable and useful occupation is John M. Baldwin, who was born September 20, 1857, near Ridgefarm, in Vermilion county, Illinois. His grandparents on the paternal side were James and Rachel (Parry) Baldwin. He is a son of Franklin and Editha (Naylor) Baldwin. The father was born in Brown county, Ohio, April 26, 1832, and came to Vermilion county, Illinois, when he was but six years of age, brought here by his parents. They settled in the village then known as Sunover, near the present village of Georgetown. At that time the primeval forests covered a great deal of the land, and there the grandfather followed farming and he and his wife spent their remaining days. Their son Franklin was left an orphan when but eight years of age. He remained on the home place until 1863, when he came to a farm near Indianola, with other members of the fam-

ily. Here he followed the occupation of farming until 1886, when he removed to Sidell, Illinois, where he is engaged in the hardware business. His brothers and sisters were farmers and farmers' wives, and their names are as follows: Caroline Cord, Amanda Flaughner, Betsy Bates, Darius B., John M., Polly Graham, James, Elijah, Thomas, Franklin, Jane Golden and William. Jane lives in Dallas county, Iowa; Thomas at Ridgefarm, Illinois, and the others are deceased. All grew up, married and reared families, except William, who died in infancy. The mother of our subject was born in Vermilion county, Indiana, June 11, 1840. Her parents were John and Betsey (Stewart) Naylor. Her brother and sister are Benjamin Naylor, who was a Union soldier and died in Sidell in 1901, of army troubles, and Mary Rutherford, now living with her family at Longview, Illinois. Franklin and Editha (Naylor) Baldwin became the parents of the following named children: John M. is the eldest; Perry is a farmer of Indianola, who married Ella Lawrence, in 1882. They have a fine family, consisting of three boys and four girls, all healthy and bright. Charles M. is a farmer of Franklin county, Illinois. He married Emma Kries and had four boys and four girls. Of these two boys and one girl are deceased. They had three pairs of twins, a boy and girl in each pair. Thomas W. lives in Sidell and assists his father in the hardware business. He first married Nora E. Allison, by whom he had a boy and a girl, but the girl is now deceased. His first wife died and he married Hattie Harroll, and they have one child. William A. is a twin brother of Wilbur A. He is a farmer and for his first wife chose Sadie Harroll, by whom he had one boy

and a girl. His second marriage was with Gertie Harroll, a sister of his first wife, and they have one boy. Wilbur A., the twin brother of William A., married Mary Burke. Benjamin F. is a blacksmith living at Sidell, Illinois. He married Florence Canada, who is now deceased. By this marriage there is a little girl, seven years old. Nora E. died in infancy. Robert W. is a farmer of Franklin county, Illinois. He married Cana Linn, and they have two girls.

John M. Baldwin of this review was educated in the district schools and in the common schools of Indianola, and he is now the possessor of a beautiful and valuable farm of one hundred acres lying just west of the village of Indianola. This is under a high state of cultivation, being equipped with all the accessories which go to make up a well conducted farm of the twentieth century. On this farm he has a fine residence, an ideal home for the family. He has made his own way in the world, starting out with no capital, and through his untiring efforts, ably assisted by his devoted wife, he has won success.

Mr. Baldwin was united in marriage December 25, 1879, at Indianola, to Miss Lucy F. Thornton, who was born August 30, 1859, at Catlin, Illinois, her parents being David and Nancy (Spicer) Thornton, who were natives and pioneer settlers of Vermilion county. Her father died in the Union army in 1864 and her mother afterward became the wife of Charles Cole, and is living in Indianola. Mrs. Baldwin had one sister, Martha Thornton, and ten half-brothers and sisters. The family were agriculturists, and her father was a valiant soldier, giving up his life upon the altar of his country. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin were born the following named children:

The eldest, born October 30, 1880, died in infancy. William M., born June 27, 1882, was one of the most popular and bright young men in Vermilion county. He graduated from the Indianola schools before he was eighteen, with high honors, being president of his class. He was converted and joined the Methodist church at the age of seventeen years, immediately became an active worker in the Sunday-school and church and was soon made assistant superintendent of the Sunday-school. He became a teacher in the schools of the county and was recognized as a young man of ability. He had good oratorical qualities, was a very brilliant speaker, and studied law, completing the college course with a grade of ninety-seven per cent. He entered Austin College, but at the end of one term returned home, and on March 9, 1902, he died. His death caused the family and many friends heartfelt grief, and his fate seemed doubly sad because of his bright intellect and the promising future before him, but He who doeth all things well, saw fit to take him in the flower of his youth. His loss was the cause of sorrow to the entire community. Samuel F., the second son of Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin, born June 3, 1884, was graduated from the Indianola schools in 1902, and is now teaching. Clyde A., the fourth in order of birth, was born October 30, 1886. Eva and Evert, twins, were born November 3, 1880, and died in infancy. Russell, born January 14, 1893, is now in school.

Mr. Baldwin is a member of the Masonic fraternity, of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Court of Honor. He has been a member of the board of school directors of Indianola for the past nine years and is now president of the board. He was census enumerator for Carroll

township in 1900 and has been a trustee of Woodlawn cemetery for the past nine years. This is the finest cemetery in Vermilion county outside of Danville. In religious faith Mr. Baldwin is a Methodist, and in politics is an earnest Republican. In all movements and measures for the general improvement and upbuilding he takes an active and helpful interest, and he is justly regarded as a valued and representative farmer of Carroll township.

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W. R. NASH, M. D.

Dr. W. R. Nash, who is engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in Fairmount, is a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Hendricks county, on the 12th of May, 1841. His parents, R. T. and Frances (Smith) Nash, were both natives of Kentucky, and were there married. The father engaged in farming in that state until his removal to Hendricks county, Indiana, where he entered land from the government and carried on farming until his life's labors were ended in death. He passed away on the old homestead there in 1846, and his wife in 1852. Both were devoted and zealous members of the Baptist church. In his political views the father was a Democrat. In the family were four sons and three daughters, of whom two sons and two daughters are yet living: George W., a physician of Indianapolis; Parthenia, the widow of John T. Burns, who was an attorney of Brownsburg, Indiana; W. R.; and Martha H., the wife of Charles Ridgeway, a millwright of Newcastle, Indiana. Those deceased are: Isaac N., who was killed during the assault at Weldon Railroad, while a member of the Seventh Indiana Volunteer

Infantry, during the Civil war, and was buried at City Point, Virginia; Richard T., who was a member of Company K, Seventieth Indiana Infantry, the regiment commanded by Benjamin Harrison, and died of smallpox while in the service, his remains being interred at Chattanooga, Tennessee; and Mahala J., the deceased wife of William F. Dinwiddie, of Brownsburg, Indiana.

In the district schools of Brownsburg Dr. W. R. Nash pursued his literary education. Later he removed to Indianola, Illinois, where he entered upon his business career as a clerk in the store of John Grace, also looking after the stock upon his employer's farm. He remained with Mr. Grace for twenty-eight months and then donned the nation's blue uniform as a member of Company D, Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, the first company that went to the front from Vermilion county. The date of his enlistment was June 1, 1861, and the place Indianola, Illinois. He was mustered in at St. Louis, where W. W. Osborn was elected captain of the company and Colonel William Coler of Decatur was chosen to command the regiment. With his command Dr. Nash was ordered to Jefferson City and thence to Sedalia, Missouri, and on to Pea Ridge, participating in the battle there. He was also in the engagement at Pittsburg Landing, and at Corinth and Iuka, after which he made the famous march to Louisville, Kentucky, and on to Perryville. Subsequently he was in the battle of Stone River and under the command of General Rosecrans took a part in that hotly contested engagement at Chickamanga. After meeting the enemy's fire at Missionary Ridge the troops of General Thomas went south and fought the battles of Resaca, Burnt Hickory, Big Shanty, Kenesaw

Mountain, Chatahoochee River and Peach Tree Creek. Dr. Nash was also in the battle of Atlanta, and on the 4th of August, 1864, was relieved and sent to Springfield, Illinois, where he was honorably discharged by reason of the expiration of his term of service, and was mustered out at Springfield September 5, 1864, having been with the army for three years and four months. He took part in a number of battles and skirmishes in addition to those already named and was five times promoted for valorous service, from fifth to first sergeant. At the battle of Stone River he was wounded in the left thigh by a pistol ball, and still carries the bullet. At Chickamauga, he was wounded in the right shoulder by a piece of shell, and after the battle he took command of his company with his arm in a sling. He displayed wonderful resolution and courage, refusing to go to the hospital when wounded, continuing instead in active service with his company.

When his military experience was over Dr. Nash returned to Brownsburg, Indiana, and was there engaged in the drug business. In the same city on the 14th of May, 1865, he was married to Miss Ruth J. Caywood, who was born in Hendricks county, Indiana, October 20, 1844, a daughter of Henry V. and Rebecca (Wells) Caywood, who was born and reared in Kentucky. The father was a farmer by occupation and he served as a loyal soldier of the Union army for three years in the Seventy-ninth Indiana Infantry. Removing to Wilson county, Kansas, both he and his wife died there, the former in 1892 and the latter in 1890. Mr. Caywood was a member of the Christian church and a Republican in his political views. Mrs. Nash was one of three children and her brother William is now resid-

ing in Wilson county, Kansas. The other member of the family has passed away. Two daughters were born unto the Doctor and his wife, of whom one is living, Mabel E., now the wife of Dr. Goodwin, of Fairmount.

After his marriage Dr. Nash located in Brownsburg, Indiana, and took up the study of medicine under Dr. Joseph A. Eastman. He was graduated in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Indiana, in 1876, and then located at Ridgefarm, Vermilion county, in the spring of that year, practicing there until 1882, when he came to Fairmount, where he has since lived. He is a member of the American Medical, the State Medical and the Vermilion County Medical Societies, and is continually broadening his knowledge and thereby promoting his efficiency through reading, investigation, and study. The Doctor belongs to Fairmount Lodge, No. 590, F. & A. M., having been made a Mason here in 1888. In 1866 he was made an Odd Fellow in Brownsburg, Indiana, and he likewise belongs to Catlin Post, G. A. R. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Republican party and is well read on political subjects, but otherwise is not active in politics, preferring that his undivided attention shall be given to his professional duties which are onerous and important, and which are discharged with conscientious fidelity.

JOHN G. LEVERICH.

For many years John Goldsmith Leverich filled the office of master in chancery in Danville and at the age of seventy years he passed away, leaving behind him the record



JOHN G. LEVERICH.

of a life of great usefulness and of honor. He was born in Newtown, Queens county, New York, on the 10th of October, 1819. His father, John Leverich, was born January 30, 1789, and in the year 1814 he was united in marriage to Alletta Berrien, whose birth occurred July 18, 1788. They located on Long Island, where the father followed the blacksmithing trade for a time, but eventually he removed to the west and lived for a time with his son, John G. Later, however, he retired from active life and eventually returned to Newtown, where he died April 25, 1858. He had served his country in the war of 1812, holding the rank of sergeant. His wife passed away at Newtown, December 1, 1863, having survived him only for about five years. Both were devoted members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Leverich was a Whig in his political affiliations. In their family were four children, but the only surviving representative of this family is Mrs. M. E. Witte, who resides at Northport, on Long Island.

John Goldsmith Leverich pursued his education in his early boyhood in a school on Long Island and later became a student in a private academy in New York city. He accepted a clerkship in the wholesale drug store of McKessen & Roberts on entering upon his business career, and remained with that house until 1841, when he came to Illinois in company with O. L. Davis. Danville then became his place of residence and he accepted a position as a salesman in the store of L. T. Palmer, while later he engaged in business on his own account in partnership with his brother, R. T. Leverich. They conducted a general mercantile store for five years and in 1800 Mr. Leverich of this review was appointed master in chancery, which position he held for

nineteen years, a longer period than almost any incumbent of a similar office in the state. In 1881 he retired from the position with the confidence and good will of the public, and spent his remaining years in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former labors.

On the 13th of October, 1847, in Danville, Mr. Leverich was united in marriage to Miss Sarah A. Tilton, who was born in Shipton, Canada, December 25, 1822, a daughter of Abial Foster and Cynthia (Thompson) Tilton, the former a native of New Hampshire, and the latter of Massachusetts. They were married in the Green Mountain state and on their removal to the west located first in Ohio, where they remained for a short time, the father following the millwright's trade. He then came to Vermilion county, Illinois, and erected a mill on Vermilion creek, being thus identified with industrial interests for some time. Subsequently he removed to Middle Fork, where he owned a large farm, operating it successfully until his death, which occurred about 1866. Mr. Tilton was a Whig in his political affiliations and was a man of strong character and sterling purpose. In his family were nine children, but only one of the number now survives—Charles, who is a traveling salesman and resides in St. Louis, Missouri.

After his marriage Mr. Leverich took up his abode in Danville and continued to occupy the position of master in chancery until his retirement from active life. Unto him and his wife were born five children: Edward, who died August 24, 1856, at the age of seven years; Mary Bonette, who died September 14, 1853, when a year and a half old; Alletta B., who became the wife of H. A. Hall, a resident of Danville, and died June 20, 1900, leaving two children,

Janette A. and Edward L.; Sarah, the wife of O. D. Pollock, who is living in Danville; and Catherine E., who is a twin sister of Sarah and also lives in Danville, the family home at No. 14 Gilbert street being now owned by her.

In politics Mr. Leverich was known as an earnest Republican, believing firmly in the principles of the party, yet never a politician in the sense of office seeking. In manner he was quiet and unostentatious, yet he possessed strong character and determined purpose and he commanded the respect and confidence of all by whom he was known. In the discharge of his official duties he was strictly fair and impartial, equity being one of the salient traits of his public service. While he never connected himself with any church organization he believed in the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of mankind and closely followed the golden rule. He was charitable and benevolent, kindly in spirit and in thought, was absolutely honest and never afraid to express his honest convictions. He passed away March 18, 1889, and his wife, who was a member of the Presbyterian church, departed this life October 30, 1902. They were laid to rest side by side in Sprung Hill cemetery of Danville, but the influence of these worthy people is still made manifest in the lives of those with whom they came in contact. While unassuming and quiet in demeanor Mr. Leverich was by no means a negative factor in Danville. There was nothing of the pessimist about him, nor was his the character of a visionary optimist; he looked at life from a practical standpoint. He possessed strong humanitarian principles and closely adhered to the rules of conduct which govern an honorable, upright manhood. He indeed stood as

a representative of a high type of American citizenship and well does he deserve that his name should be inscribed high on the roll of representative men of the city in which he so long made his home.

EDWARD DONNELLY.

Through twenty-two years Edward Donnelly was numbered among the prominent farmers of Danville township. He therefore deserves mention in this volume among the men whose efforts have contributed to the general welfare and who in matters of citizenship have always been loyal and true. He was born in county Cavan, Ireland, in the year 1822, his parents being John and Frances Donnelly, who were also natives of that county, where the father resided until his death. In 1851 our subject bade adieu to his native country and crossed the broad Atlantic to America settling first in the Empire state, and afterward removed to Indiana. Some of the brothers of our subject came to Danville in 1864, among them John Donnelly, who now resides in this city, being engaged in the grocery business on the corner of Jackson and South streets.

Edward Donnelly spent the days of his boyhood and youth on the Emerald isle and pursued his education in the common schools there and then came to America to America. After living for a few years in the state of New York, he made his way westward to Indiana, locating first at Williamsport, where he was engaged in farming. During that time he was united in marriage to Mary Demmeny, a native of New York. Her parents, Thomas and Catherine Demmeny, were natives of Ireland and

after coming to the United States they settled in New York and afterward made their way westward to Williamsport, Indiana, where the father carried on agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his career, his life's labors being ended in death. Both he and his wife passed away at Williamsport. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Donnelly was blessed with twelve children: Cornelius, now deceased; Frances, the wife of John Gross, a resident of Benton county, Indiana; Katherine and William, who have also passed away; Edward, who resides in Alton, Illinois; Thomas, who married Annie Brennan and conducts a fine saloon on South street in Danville; Elizabeth, who is living at home with her mother; James, who is employed as a salesman in his uncle's grocery store on South street and who also resides with his mother; Nellie, the wife of John Belton, of Danville; Annie, deceased; Harry, at home; and one that died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Donnelly began their domestic life upon a farm near Williamsport, Indiana, where they remained until February, 1866, when they came to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling on a farm two and one-half miles from Danville and near the town of Perrysville. Through the succeeding twenty-two years Edward Donnelly conducted this place his time and attention being given to its further development and improvement. His labors were attended with a high degree of success and as a result of his cultivation of the fields he annually harvested rich crops which found a ready sale on the market and brought to him a very gratifying income. He was a Democrat in his political affiliations and although he was never an office seeker he held the position of assistant road commissioner

of Danville township for several years. He belonged to the Catholic church of which his wife and children are also communicants and he died in that faith on the 12th of June, 1888. Loyal in citizenship, faithful in friendship and devoted to the welfare of his wife and family he was a man who possessed many sterling traits of character worthy of emulation. After the death of her husband Mrs. Donnelly removed with her children to Danville, where they have since lived. They now reside in a very pleasant home at No. 507 Green street and in addition to this property Mrs. Donnelly also owns a farm of ninety-six acres and another of forty acres, both in Danville township. These are rented and return to her a good income. Mr. Donnelly was a successful business man and thus provided a comfortable living for his family after he passed away.

RICHARD ARTHUR BLOCK.

Among the young men of Vermilion county whose worth in the business world is recognized is Richard Arthur Block, cashier of the recently established bank of Indianola. He was born July 14, 1874, in Sidney, Illinois, a son of Theodore L. and Mary P. Block, both of whom are of German ancestry. William Block, the grandfather came to America from the fatherland in the year 1856 and immediately after his arrival in Illinois purchased the farm which is still owned by his son, Theodore L., and is known as the William Block farm. In the family were two sons, Theodore L. and August F., both still residents of Sidney. The mother of our subject had

two brothers, Charles T. and Albert A., the former residing at Broadlands, Illinois, and the latter at Sidney. Theodore L. Block has always carried on the occupation of farming and is one of the leading agriculturists and capitalists of Champaign county. He owns about one thousand acres of fertile land, most of which is adjacent to Sidney, Illinois, while a portion adjoins Lafayette, Indiana, and his extensive agricultural interests have proven a safe guarantee for the Indianola Bank, which has been established by the father and his son, Richard A. There is also another son, Edgar W. Block, and three sisters: Mrs. L. Hartzigg, a resident of Lafayette, Indiana; and Mrs. G. S. Gerhold and Lanora A., of Sidney.

Having acquired his preliminary education in the public schools of his native town Richard A. Block afterward entered the University of Illinois at Champaign in 1891. Subsequently he prepared for business life by entering the Draughen's Business College at Nashville, Tennessee, where he was graduated in 1898. Until his removal to Indianola in the spring of 1902 he always resided in Sidney except during the period when he was attending college. In the fall of 1901 he accepted a position in Winston's Bank in Sidney, where he remained until the spring of the following year. He then joined his father in the organization of the Indianola Bank of which the father is president and the son cashier. The latter then removed to Indianola, where he is now living. The bank has an individual responsibility of over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and has already gained a good start. It was eagerly welcomed by the people of the village for prior to this time their business had been carried

on through the banking institutions of Danville. The new bank is fitted up with a National Cannon Screw door safe, steel vault chambers, absolutely burglar proof and is insured against burglary or loss by one of the great casualty companies.

In 1899 Mr. Block became a member of Sidney Grange, No. 502, in which he held various offices and at the time of his removal from his native town he was filling the position of master of the Grange of Sidney. At the age of fifteen he became a member of the Evangelical church with which he has since been connected. He is a young man of good business ability and his previous experience in banking well equipped him for the work to which he is now devoting his energies. In manner he is genial, courteous and obliging and these qualities have made him a popular bank official.

ANDREW HEBEL.

The German element in our national citizenship is an important one. From the fatherland have come many men who have been active and prominent factors in developing different sections of the country. They have taken an important part in promoting business activity and have been found loyal and progressive in citizenship. Such a one is Andrew Hebel, who for more than twenty years was a manufacturer and representative business man of Vermilion county, living in Rossville, Illinois. He has been a resident of Illinois since July 6, 1879, and his birth occurred on the River Rhine, in Germany, December 21, 1818. He came to the new world in 1833 and was reared to manhood in Cincinnati, Ohio,



ANDREW HEBEL.



MRS. ANDREW HEBEL.

where he learned the brick-maker's trade. He made his home in that city until 1854, when he removed to Ripley county, Indiana, where he followed brick-making for a number of years prior to the Civil war.

When the country became involved in hostilities over the slavery question and the south attempted to withdraw from the Union, he offered his services in behalf of the government, enlisting in June, 1862, as a member of Company G, Eighty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry. The regiment then went south, was attached to the Army of the Tennessee and the first fight in which Mr. Hebel participated was at Chickasaw Bayou. Later he took part in the engagements of Arkansas Post and in the siege of Vicksburg, being present at its surrender. He was also in the battles of Resaca, Kennesaw Mountain and the Atlanta campaign, and assisted in the capture of Atlanta. His regiment was attached to the Second Brigade, Second Division of the Fifteenth Army Corps, and marched with Sherman to the sea, participating in all of the fights en route and in the last battle of the war at Bentonville. With his command Mr. Hebel then marched through Richmond and on to Washington, D. C., where he was one of the vast host of victorious men who marched in grand review before the president of the United States, carrying the banners of victory. He lost but little time through illness while in the service and was never in a hospital, although he received a gut-shot wound in the right cheek and still carries the scar—an honorable token of his faithful defense of the old flag and the nation. He was discharged in Washington, in June, 1865, but was paid off at Indianapolis, and with a most creditable military record returned to his home.

Mr. Hebel located in Lawrenceburg, In-

diana, where he worked at his trade of brick-making, continuing there for some years. Later he removed to Sunman, Ripley county, Indiana, where he worked for two years, establishing a brick and tile yard of his own at that place. In 1879 he came to Rossville and took charge of the Armstrong Tile Works, acting in that capacity for five or six years. He afterward became owner of a brick and tile plant at Potomac, which he purchased for his sons, who carried on the business for several years. Our subject afterward sold that property and bought a plant in Rossville, where the sons have since carried on a large brick and tile business. They also own and operate another factory at Henning. Mr. Hebel was an active factor in the control of the plant at this place until about 1890, since which time he has lived in honorable retirement from labor, having in former years acquired a comfortable competence.

In Aberdeen, Ohio, on the 14th of September, 1851, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hebel and Miss Margaret Kuntz, who was born in Germany July 1, 1834, and came to America when eight years old. She passed away on the 24th of June, 1901. They were the parents of seven children, five sons and two daughters: George H., who is now engaged in business in San Francisco, California; Thomas A., who is conducting the brick and tile manufactory in Henning; Theodore E., postmaster of Rossville; Benjamin J., who is engaged in the manufacture of brick and tile in Rossville; Charles F., a jeweler of Rossville; Mary I., the wife of George Kammeier, a drayman of Rossville; Margaret B., the wife of Lewis Overling, who is engaged in the harness business in Cincinnati, Ohio.

When Mr. Hebel became an American citizen he endorsed the principles of the

Whig party and cast his first presidential vote for William Henry Harrison in 1840, when the rallying cry of the Whigs was "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too," but as the years passed a new issue arose and this led to the formation of the Republican party to prevent the further extension of slavery. John C. Fremont entered the field as its first presidential candidate in 1856, and Mr. Hebel gave to him his support and has never failed to vote the Republican ticket at each presidential election since that time. He has served as police magistrate for one term, but otherwise has always refused to accept public office, preferring to give his attention to his business interests. He is a Master Mason, and belongs to Rossville Post, No. 277, G. A. R., in which he has twice served as commander. He has never had occasion to regret the fact that in early life he became an American citizen. He has enjoyed the business privileges and opportunities afforded by this country and through the exercise of industry, enterprise and honorable dealing he has steadily progressed in the business world until a comfortable competence, acquired through his own efforts, enables him to live a retired life. He has reached the advanced age of eighty-four years, but can look over the past without regret, for his career has been honorable and straightforward and in his life he has accomplished much that is worthy of commendation.

JOHN CARSON.

Public-spirited and progressive, John Carson is a worthy citizen of his adopted county and is deserving of creditable men-

tion in this volume. He was born in County Antrim, Ireland, but his paternal grandparents were both natives of Scotland. His father, James Carson, was united in marriage to Rachel McCoy, and it is thus that our subject is of Scotch-Irish parentage. His father was in quite humble financial circumstances and both he and his wife died in the Emerald isle. The natal day of our subject was August 26, 1834. He acquired a limited education in his native country and remained upon the farm of his uncle and grandfather until he came to America in the year 1854. He was then a young man of twenty years, who, wishing to see something of the world and believing that he might better his financial conditions in the United States, crossed the briny deep. Continuing his westward way he at length reached Decatur county, Indiana, and settled near Greensburg, where he was employed as a farm hand for four years.

He was then married in 1858 to Martha C. Glass, a native of County Antrim, Ireland, born February 3, 1832. Her parents were John and Jane (McDowell) Glass, both of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Carson came to America in the fall of 1857, to join her brother, Henry, who had made the voyage across the Atlantic in company with our subject. Mr. Carson had accumulated a small sum of money prior to his marriage and at that time he rented land, engaging in farming on his own account. In the fall of 1860 he removed to Tipton county, where he continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until the spring of 1865, when he arrived in Jasper county, Illinois. There he remained for about five years and then returned to Tipton county, Indiana. Later he bought eighty acres of land which he continued to cultivate from 1871 until 1900.

when he put aside business cares. He came to Hoopeston, selling all of his Tipton county property, and purchased property in this town, becoming the owner of an attractive home valued at twenty-five hundred dollars.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Carson have been born the following children: Margaret Jane, the wife of Edwin Moss; Emma G., the wife of Silas Hughes; William A., who married Agnes McCracken; Melvin W., who wedded Emma Mendenhall; Atlanta, the wife of E. A. Ogle, and six who have passed away, four having died in infancy. Thomas Henry, who was a twin brother of Margaret, died at the age of eleven years, while attending school in Indianapolis. John Edwin, who was a graduate of a law college and was just beginning to practice in Tipton, died at the age of twenty-nine years. He was quite well known as a prominent Republican of his party in that locality.

Mr. Carson gave to his children good educational privileges, the different members of the family having attended college at Indianapolis, Valparaiso or in Hoopeston. When they have arrived at years of maturity he has assisted them in starting out on their business careers. His home has ever been to him the dearest place on earth and he has put forth every effort in his power to promote the welfare and advancement as well as the happiness of his family. For forty-six years he has been a member of the United Presbyterian church, has been very active in its work and served as chairman of the building committee when the parsonage was erected in Hoopeston. He has been liberal in his support of the church and the Sunday-school. A Republican in politics he was tendered the office of sheriff of Tipton county, Indiana, but he refused

to become a candidate, caring nothing for political honors, but after coming to Hoopeston he was elected alderman from the fourth ward and re-elected in the spring of 1902, so that he is now serving as a member of the common council of this city. He is a member of the committee on streets and alleys and is doing his utmost to promote the welfare and improvement of the place. He and his wife are esteemed and honored residents here. Comfortably situated in life, they have the warm regard of all who know them. The welfare of Hoopeston is dear to the heart of Mr. Carson, whose many excellent qualities have gained for him the friendship of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

PROF. LINN H. GRIFFITH.

Professor Linn H. Griffith is the superintendent of schools in Danville. He was born in Ohio, September 23, 1858, and is a son of Benjamin B. and Margaret Griffith, both of whom were natives of Piedmont, Harrison county, Ohio, where their entire lives were passed. The father was born in that county in the year 1836 and both he and his wife have now passed away.

Professor Griffith was one of a family of six children and in the public schools he acquired his preliminary education which was supplemented by a special course of study in Franklin College of Ohio in which institution he was graduated with the class of 1883. During his college days he also engaged in teaching to some extent and his entire life since arriving at man's estate has been devoted to educational work. Soon after his graduation he came to the west, locating first in McLean county, Illinois.

For five years he was superintendent of the schools of Potomac, Vermilion county, and in 1889 he was elected county superintendent of schools of this county, holding the position continuously for ten years. In 1890 he was chosen assistant state superintendent and filled the office for two terms, and in 1899 he was elected superintendent of the Danville city schools, the position he now holds.

In 1884 Professor Griffith was united in marriage to Lulu Heffling, of Leroy, Illinois, who died in October, 1886, leaving a daughter, Viola. On Christmas day of 1887 Professor Griffith was again married, his second union being with Miss Nannie Heaton, of Hoopeston, Illinois. They now have four children, Helen, Florence, Robert, and Howard. The father is a member of the Masonic fraternity, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Knights of Pythias Lodge, the Modern Woodmen Camp, and of the Sons of Veterans Camp, all of Danville. He is also a trustee of the city hospital and is a citizen deeply interested in public progress and improvement. He has long occupied a position as one of the distinguished educators of this state, his ability winning him recognition and promotion. His scholarly attainments and broad general knowledge are also supplemented by the humanitarian spirit which promotes not only the study of sociology and of the questions affecting mankind, but also lends an active co-operation in many measures for the general good.

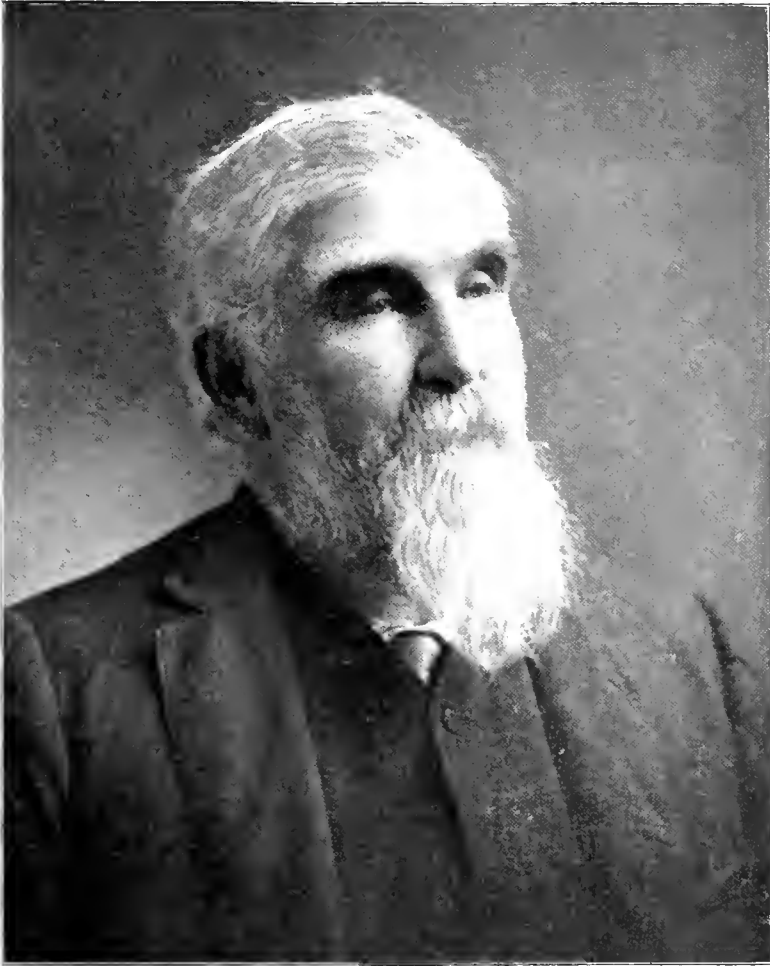
JOHN W. DIEHL.

John W. Diehl, of Hoopeston, was born in Pennsylvania, January 8, 1843, within seven miles of Gettysburg. His parents

were Samuel and Catherine (Brame) Diehl, both of whom were natives of the Keystone state and were of German descent. The father was a farmer by occupation and died about 1865, while the mother's death occurred six or seven years later. Mr. Diehl has one sister, Ellen, now the wife of William Saddler, of Pennsylvania.

In the place of his nativity John W. Diehl was reared and pursued his education in the subscription schools. He was about twenty-one years of age at the time of the battle of Gettysburg, one of the most hotly contested engagements of the entire Civil war. He well remembers that terrible fight when the shells screamed over the little town nestling among the mountains. There came an order from the government that the settlers should remove all of their stock and effects across the Susquehanna or the government would not be amenable for any losses. In consequence of this order the family property of the Diehls was taken across the river before the battle. After the engagement our subject and his brother returned with the stock to the home farm, the father having died in the meantime.

In the year 1869 John W. Diehl made his way westward, and after spending a part of the summer in Iowa he returned to Indiana, where he engaged in farming for a year. He then came to Hoopeston in 1872, at which time the town was just being established. Here he became connected with Miller Brothers in the grocery business under the firm name of Miller Brothers Company. After two years he sold out and gave his attention to teaming until he embarked in the livery business, which he conducted successfully for six years. He then traded his livery stock for a part of his present place. He now has about sev-



JOHN W. DIEHL.

enty-eight acres of land, of which thirty acres is within the city limits of Hoopeston, including fifteen lots which have been platted and form a part of Diehl's subdivision. In 1881 he took up his abode at his present home and since that time has been engaged in farming, in the raising of fruit, and has a large vineyard. He practically leaves the care of his property to his son, while he is enjoying a well earned rest.

In 1875, in Hoopeston, Mr. Diehl was united in marriage to Miss Mary Robinson, of Ohio, whose parents were then living in Hoopeston but are now deceased. Her father was a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Diehl has two sisters and three brothers: Robert; William; Edward; Sally, the widow of S. Thurman; and Jane, the wife of Ed. Cory, a resident of Hoopeston. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Diehl was blessed with two children, but George died at the age of seven years. The living son, Charlie, is now carrying on the farm work for his father and is an enterprising, wide-awake young business man.

In his political affiliations Mr. Diehl has always been a stalwart Republican, and for two years he served as street commissioner. He made no mistake when he determined to establish his home in the west, taking advantage of the business opportunities in this portion of the country. These opportunities he has improved, and through his capable management and untiring energy he has gained a place among the men of affluence of the community.

CHARLES F. CROW.

Charles F. Crow, proprietor of a grain elevator in Fairmount, is one of the native sons of Illinois, his birth having occurred

in Macon county on the 10th of August, 1876. He comes of New England ancestry, his grandparents having been born in that part of the country. His father, E. W. Crow, is a native of Ohio, and in Macon county, Illinois, at Blue Mound, was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Deatley, whose birth occurred in Indiana. The father has long been engaged in the grain trade and has resided continuously at Blue Mound since the time of his marriage. There he owns considerable real estate. He is a man whose successful career has been the legitimate result of his own efforts and to-day he is accounted one of the prosperous residents of his locality. His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have frequently called him to public offices of trust and he has served in all of the township offices, elected upon the ticket of the Republican party, of which he is a staunch adherent. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and for twenty-five years he has been a devoted member of the Christian church, of which he is now serving as elder. In the family are seven children: Myrtle, who resides at home; Charles F., of this review; O. L., who makes his home in St. Louis, Missouri; Earl, Roy, Grace, and Eva, who are still with their parents.

Charles F. Crow acquired his early education in Blue Mound and afterward became a student in Eureka College, of Eureka, this state, where he was graduated with the class of 1894. Subsequently he engaged in teaching school for three years in Blue Mound and then went to Butte, Montana, where he had charge of a commission house. In 1900 he located in Fairmount, Illinois, succeeding J. M. Current as proprietor of the elevator of the elevator which he now owns.

He is a young man of perseverance, energy and laudable ambition, and the business has doubled under his capable management. He also has a grain station at Bennett, on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, and his business is in a prosperous condition, bringing to him an excellent return from his investment.

In Fairmount, April 16, 1901, Mr. Crow was united in marriage to Miss Belle Howard, who was born in Vermilion county, January 18, 1874, and is a daughter of J. J. and Alice (Gunder) Howard, the former a native of Iowa and the latter of Indiana. They were married, however, in Illinois, and the father is now engaged in farming, his home being in Vance township, where he owns extensive landed interests. He is a Democrat in his political views and in the spring of 1902 was elected supervisor in a Republican township, a fact which indicates his popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens. He is also a valued member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Court of Honor, and his high moral character is indicated by the fact that he is now serving as a deacon of the Baptist church. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Howard were born two daughters, Belle, the wife of our subject; and Stella, who resides with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Crow have a beautiful home in Fairmount, elegantly furnished and celebrated for its good cheer. Mr. Crow strongly endorses Republican principles and is now serving as one of the city aldermen. He belongs to Fairmount Lodge, No. 500, F. & A. M., of which he is the secretary and is also a member of Lodge, No. 1868, M. W. A., and the Court of Honor. He has won for himself a host of friends in Fairmount and belongs to the class of wide-

awake, representative young business men who are a valued addition to any community. Already he has attained the success that many an older man might well envy. His ambitious, resolute nature and conformity to commercial ethics argue well for the future.

GEORGE BUSH YEOMANS.

With the development of the world history is no longer a record of wars and conquests but the account of the upbuilding of community, city, state or nation, and their business activities and they who are prominent in public affairs are the ones who control extensive and important business interests and who, through a close following of correct commercial ethics, maintain the reputation of their locality as a commercial center and uphold its legal and moral status. It is therefore fitting that George Bush Yeomans should be prominently mentioned in this volume, whose purpose it is to record the life records of the representative men who have been and are residents of Danville. Mr. Yeoman was a leader in mercantile circles and by straightforward dealing, as well as enterprise and ability, commanded the confidence and esteem of those with whom he came in contact.

A native of Massachusetts Mr. Yeomans was born August 24, 1835, and in his early boyhood days was taken by his parents to Warsaw, New York. His father, Rev. Nathaniel T. Yeomans, was a Congregational minister and wedded Miss Frances Bush, a sister of the noted Dr. George Bush. The subject of this review was the eldest of their five children. He acquired his early education in the Empire state and fitted himself

for college but did not pursue a collegiate course. Instead he entered upon his business career, becoming a salesman in a hardware store in Wellsville, New York, where he was employed at the time the Civil war was inaugurated. With patriotic spirit he responded to his country's call for aid, enlisting in the First New York Dragoons, as the regiment was then known. For three and one-half years he remained at the front. Joining the army as a private, his meritorious conduct on the field of battle won him promotion and he was mustered out with the rank of first lieutenant, participating in a number of important engagements, including the battles of Winchester, Washington Courthouse and the Wilderness and was at Appomattox when General Lee surrendered his sword to General Grant and thus practically terminated the war. He acted as an aide on the staff of a cavalry general and was always most loyal and fearless in the discharge of his duties. He was mustered out in Washington, D. C., and there participated in the Grand Review, which was the most celebrated military pageant that has ever been seen in the new world, company after company of the victorious army marching by the place from which the president cheered the return of the brave boys in blue. His brother, Henry, was also in the service and, being captured, was confined in Andersonville prison for many months, where his sufferings were so great that he died three weeks after his release.

Soon after the close of hostilities Mr. Yeomans of this review made his way westward to Chicago and was there engaged in the hardware business until 1866, when he came to Danville and entered into partnership with A. L. Webster, as proprietor of a hardware store. This they conducted for

some years, after which Mr. Yeomans engaged in the lumber business up to the time of his death, enjoying a large trade, because of his capable management, his keen sagacity in business affairs, his close application and his unremitting diligence.

On the 11th of May, 1870, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Yeomans and Miss Alice Merrill, a native of Danville, and a daughter of Guy Merrill, one of the pioneer settlers of this city. Her father was born in Massachusetts and at an early day located in Danville, the year 1835 witnessing his arrival in what was then a mere hamlet, frequently visited by the Indians. He first engaged in merchandising here and later became county surveyor, laying out many of the farms of this county. Subsequently he was elected probate judge and held the office for many years. He wedded Anna Kingsbury, a sister of the Rev. Enoch Kingsbury, a celebrated divine of the early days who established the Presbyterian church at Danville. Unto Judge Merrill and his wife were born two children, but one died in infancy, Mrs. Yeomans being the younger. The Judge was a Republican in politics and a very strong and influential man in his party at the time when Lincoln, Davis and Sweet were noted actors on the political stage, and of all these men he was a warm personal friend. He died in 1867 and his wife passed away in 1855. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Yeomans were born five children: Frances, who is a teacher in the high school of Sandusky, Ohio; Edith M.; Ruth; George M., who is connected with the Western Brick Company; and Henry, who is now a student in the high school.

Mr. Yeomans was a leading member of the Presbyterian church to which his widow also belongs and for many years he served

as one of the elders. In politics he was a Republican and was a very strong temperance man. He once served on the board of supervisors, but with this exception he would never hold office. He passed away January 16, 1897, after an illness of a few hours and was laid to rest in Spring-hill cemetery. His friends cherished him as a man worthy of their utmost confidence and regard. In his family he was most devoted to the welfare of wife and children and he stood as a high type of American citizenship and chivalry.

FRANCIS M. ALLHANDS.

No public officer of Vermilion county was ever more faithful to duty or more deserving of the unqualified confidence of his fellow men than was Francis M. Allhands, and that he was ever loyal to the trust reposed in him is indicated by the fact that he was long continued in office by the power of popular suffrage. He came to Vermilion county in 1843 and his life work was interwoven with business and official activity here until he was called to his final rest.

Mr. Allhands was a native of Vermilion county, Indiana, born January 17, 1832, his parents being Andrew and Margaret Allhands. They, too, were born in Indiana and at an early day the father came to Illinois, purchasing a farm in Blount township, Vermilion county, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until his death. But three of their children are now living: Rebecca, who resides in Fairbury, Illinois; Parmelia Fredericka, who is also living in this state; and Martha, who resides near Monticello, Indiana. The father provided his children with good school privileges, their educa-

tions being pursued in Indiana and in Vermilion county.

Francis M. Allhands spent the first eleven years of his life in the county of his nativity and with his father came to Illinois. After completing his education he assisted his father upon the farm on the old home in Blount township and also in Catlin township. During this time and while yet a young man he began to learn the carpenter's trade and followed it in different parts of the state, assisting in the building of many country residences and school houses. He was thus associated with the improvement of the county until his marriage. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Mary J. Hilliary, the wedding taking place on the 4th of March, 1858. The lady is a native of Ohio, born September 19, 1836, and a daughter of George and Sarah (Freese) Hilliary. Her father was a native of Ohio and became an early settler of Vermilion county, Illinois. He entered land from the government in Danville township, for all of the district had not yet been claimed by the white race. Upon his farm he resided for many years, devoting his attention to agricultural pursuits. He was also a tailor by trade and he followed that business for a year in Danville, but throughout the remainder of his life he made his home upon a farm and both he and his wife died in Danville township. Unto the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Allhands were born eight children: Orpha, now deceased; Orrilla E., the wife of W. P. Myers, of Danville; Grant W., who has also passed away; Nettie M., the wife of H. W. Fimek, of this city; Luella and Sarah W., both deceased; one that died in infancy; and Mabel E.

After his marriage Mr. Allhands followed carpentering in Vermilion county



F. M. ALLHANDS.

and also carried on farming, being thus engaged until after the breaking out of the Civil war, when in September, 1861, he enlisted for three years' service as a member of Company E, thirty-fifth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. He was in many hard fought battles of importance, including the engagements of Missionary Ridge, Chickamauga and Pea Ridge. In the last named he was wounded by a bullet in the left leg and he was in the hospital from May until September. His wife being sent for, quickly made her way to his side, nursing him back to life, but it was found necessary to amputate his leg and he was thus left a cripple for life. Being then brought home he received an honorable discharge in January, 1865.

It was impossible for him afterward to do hard work and he was elected to the office of assessor and collector of Catlin township, filling that position until 1869. He then left the farm and removed to Danville, where he was elected county treasurer of Vermilion county and in that office he served for a number of terms, discharging his duties with marked capability, promptness and fidelity. Upon his retirement from the position he did various kinds of office work in Danville until his later years, when he retired to private life and rested in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil until called to his final home on the 3d of September, 1898. In politics he was a staunch Republican, giving a firm support to the principles of the party. He was regarded as one of the most prominent citizens of Danville and had a very wide acquaintance among county officials. His friends, too, were numerous and many have expressed a wish that his life record be recorded on the pages of this work. His widow is a member of the Kimber Method-

ist Episcopal church, of Danville, and she and her daughter now reside in her beautiful home at No. 330 Harmon avenue. She is also the owner of other residence property in Danville. The name of Mr. Allhands deserves to be inscribed high upon the role of honor of the soldiers of the Civil war. He made a great sacrifice for his country, yet he made it willingly because he believed in the Union and wished to aid in its preservation. In times of peace he was equally faithful to the old flag and the cause it represented, and his loyalty to his family and friends was also one of his marked characteristics.

O. W. MICHAEL, M. D.

Dr. Michael is one of the native sons of Vermilion county, his birth having occurred in Oakwood township August 4, 1875. His paternal grandfather, Robert Michael, was one of the honored pioneers of this section of the state, locating in Vermilion county when the Indians still inhabited this district. He came from Booneville, Kentucky, and was a son of John Michael, a native of Scotland, who, on crossing the Atlantic to America, located in South Carolina. After being pressed into naval service and serving for fifteen years, he managed to escape from the English war vessel. During all of that time he had never set foot on land without being attended by a guard. At length, when the Revolutionary war was inaugurated, he managed to obtain his freedom from English servitude and enlisting in the Colonial army he served under General Washington, fighting for the cause of American independence. Robert Michael, the grandfather of our subject, married a lady who was a

granddaughter of John Rutledge, of South Carolina, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

James K. Michael, the father of our subject, was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, and after arriving at years of maturity he wedded Mary Burton, also a native of this county, her parents removing from southern Indiana to Pilot, Illinois. They were among the early settlers of this county. James K. and Mary (Burton) Michael were married in Oakwood township and the father there engaged in farming. Through many years he carried on that business with excellent success and then with a handsome competence he retired to private life, his present home being in Pilot, Illinois. In politics he is a Democrat and has held a number of township offices. In his family were seven children: J. T., an attorney of Danville, who married Rose Ohmke; the Doctor; Delia, who died at the age of seventeen years; Bertha, who is a teacher in the public schools of this county; Chester, James and Van, who reside with their parents.

Dr. Michael first attended the Newtown district school and afterward became a student in the Normal School at Normal, Illinois. He next went to Lyons county, Iowa where he studied under a preceptor until he entered the University of Indianapolis, there pursuing a medical course. He was graduated March 29, 1898, and located in Muncie on the 25th of April of the same year. Here he has succeeded in gaining a most lucrative practice because of his thorough understanding of the principles of medical science and his correct application of his knowledge to the needs of suffering humanity.

On the 31st of December, 1899, in Cincinnati, Ohio, the Doctor wedded Miss Alice

Pricer, who was born in Vermilion county, January 1, 1877, a daughter of James and Arminta (Abbott) Pricer, both of whom were natives of Ohio and were there married. Mr. Pricer is also a farmer and in 1869 he came to Vermilion county, locating west of Pithian, in Oakwood township, close to the county line. There he purchased a good farm, which he continued to successfully cultivate for ten years. He then removed to Potomac, Illinois, where he lived for seventeen years. Here he also engaged in farming. His next home was established in Muncie, where both he and his wife resided until the spring of 1903, when they purchased a farm on the outskirts of Rossville, where they now reside. A Republican in politics, he has held a number of township offices. He is a valued member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He served for four years in the Civil war, having enlisted in an Ohio regiment. He was in the campaign of the Carolinas, went with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea, and at one time was captured by Quantrell's band and sent home. He then re-enlisted as a member of Company F, Eighty-first Ohio Infantry, and with that command served throughout the remainder of the war. Mrs. Pricer had two uncles who were soldiers in the war of 1812. Mrs. Michael belongs to a family of ten children: Charles A., who married Etta Possee, and resides in Mahomet, this state; Luella, the wife of Lovette Williams, of Ambia, Indiana; John L., who married Dora Tomm and resides in El Paso, Illinois; Nancy, the wife of C. C. Young, of Oakwood; Artie, the wife of Thomas Reynolds, of Rossville, Illinois; Alice, the wife of the Doctor; George, Thomas and Clara, who are at home; and Clyde, who died at the age of four months.

Dr. Michael belongs to the Vermilion County Medical Association and through extensive reading and study he keeps well informed concerning the progress made by the profession. His specialty is the treatment of the diseases of women and children, and in this branch he has been very successful. One of his most noteworthy cases was the saving of the life of a woman who was shot through the lungs. She still lives although she carries the bullet. The Doctor has been exceptionally successful in his surgical work. This is due to his accurate knowledge of anatomy and his understanding of the component parts of the body, combined with masterly skill in handling his instruments of surgery and his coolness and deliberation in trying circumstances. He is examiner for the Court of Honor, for the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Mutual Life Insurance Company, of New York. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp and in his political views he is a Prohibitionist. The Doctor possesses superior musical ability and is a proficient performer on the violin, mandolin, guitar, clarinet, and cornet. To some extent he has engaged in teaching music, and his ability in this direction makes him very popular in musical and social circles. The public and the profession accord him prominence in the ranks of the medical fraternity, while his genial manner and sterling worth have gained for him many friends in social life.

W. J. PAYNE.

For six years W. J. Payne has occupied the position of assistant postmaster of Danville and now practically has control of the

office, in which the volume of business has largely increased during recent years. He was born in Vigo county, Indiana, April 10, 1855, and is the second son of Allen F. Payne, who carried on general merchandise in Clay county and died there. W. J. Payne of this review acquired his early education in the public schools and afterward attended Grafton Seminary, at Staunton, Indiana. In connection with his brother he became the owner of some coal lands and was engaged in the coal business for a number of years. On the expiration of that period he went to Texas and was overseer on a cotton plantation for two years, this sojourn in the south being made in the hope of benefitting his health. Returning to Brazil, Indiana, he secured a position with the Singer Manufacturing Company, first traveling on a wagon and afterward as special agent. In August, 1879, he removed to Rockville, Indiana, where he was again connected with the Singer Company. In July, 1887, he came to Danville, where for four years he occupied a position with the Illinois Printing Company, after which he became connected with the Danville News, serving as its business manager for eight years. On the 27th of March, 1897, he was appointed assistant postmaster by W. R. Jewell, and is now serving in his sixth year under that gentleman. During this long period he has become thoroughly familiar with the office in every detail and practically has charge at this time. During the last six years the business of the office has nearly doubled and the office force has been correspondingly increased. Danville has been made a depositary for postal money order funds and nine rural routes have been established, Mr. Payne being largely instrumental in this.

On August 10, 1879, he was married to Rachel A. Oliver, who was born June 13, 1859. Of this union nine children were born, seven of whom are living: William A., born October 28, 1881; Gertrude, born January 26, 1884; Frank, born May 18, 1886; Harry, born September 12, 1888; George O., born February 28, 1894; Isabel, born July 26, 1896; and Joseph C., born September 26, 1900.

Mr. Payne is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a charter member of Lodge No. 254, the first organized in Vermillion county. His political views are in accord with the principles of the Republican party and for eight years he has been a member of the county central committee and was chairman of the Danville township committee, in 1868, when the township was won for the Republican party. That for which the community stands chiefly indebted to him is his marked fidelity to duty and his excellent executive ability combined with an accurate, farsighted knowledge of men and affairs which constitutes him naturally an eminent assistant in large enterprises.

GEORGE W. PRATHER.

George W. Prather, who is now engaged in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising owns a valuable farm of two hundred and seventy acres located in Ross and Grant townships. He has placed his land under a very high state of cultivation and has added to his farm all modern equipments and accessories so that it is to day a valuable place and in its neat and thrifty appearance indicates to the passerby the careful supervision of the owner.

Mr. Prather is a native son of Vermillion county, his birth having occurred here on the 15th of March, 1845. His father, Uriah Prather, was born in Kentucky in 1821, while the grandfather, Jonathan Prather, was a native of Virginia. The family comes of German ancestry and the first of the name to emigrate from the fatherland to America settled in Pennsylvania. In pioneer times of Virginia the family was also established in that state and Jonathan Prather removed from the Old Dominion to Kentucky, becoming one of the first settlers of Bath county. He was one of nine brothers and three sisters who became residents of the Blue Grass state. Subsequently the grandfather of our subject removed to Illinois, settling here in the year of the Black Hawk war—1832. He took up his abode near the present city of Danville and was one of the first to establish a home in this locality. Later he removed across the state line into Indiana, his home being in Vermillion county, that state, and there he opened up a farm which he cultivated and improved. By trade, however, he was a cabinet-maker, and after establishing his home in Indiana he was employed in making the seats for the old Union chapel on the Prairieville road.

Uriah Prather, the father of our subject, was reared to manhood in Vermillion county, Indiana, and was there married to Sarah Ritter, who was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of John Ritter. He removed from the Keystone state to Ohio, where both he and his wife spent their remaining days. During her childhood Mrs. Prather came to Illinois with a cousin and was reared here. For four or five years the father of our subject engaged in farming near Danville and then



G. W. PRATHER.



MRS. G. W. PRATHER.

removed to a farm two and one-half miles east of Rossville, in the fall of 1850, purchasing more than four hundred acres of land, which he broke and improved, his richly cultivated fields in time yielding to him golden harvests. He died while in the prime of life, passing away in January, 1855, at the age of thirty-two years and eleven months. Mrs. Prather survived him and reared her family of six children, five sons and a daughter, all of whom are yet living with the exception of one son.

George W. Prather of this review was the eldest and in the county of his nativity he was reared, pursuing a common-school education, although his advantages in that direction were somewhat limited, for his services were needed to carry on the work of the home farm. In July, 1862, he offered his aid to the government for a one hundred days' service, and joined Company A of the Seventy-first Illinois Infantry, with which he went south to Cairo and joined the Western army. He was engaged in guarding railroad and government property and later was in Kentucky until the expiration of his term of service, when he received an honorable discharge in Chicago in October, 1862. From the age of seventeen years he has depended upon his own resources for a living and all that he possesses has been acquired in this way. For several years he was largely engaged in stock-raising.

As a companion and helpmeet on the journey of life Mr. Prather chose Miss Cynthia A. Beebe, their wedding being celebrated May 10, 1877. The lady was born near Williamsport, Indiana, and was there reared. Mr. Prather secured eighty acres of raw prairie land, which he broke and fenced, and the early spring plowing and planting was followed by good harvests in the autumn. He also rented other land

which he operated and as his financial resources increased he bought more land from time to time until he has to-day three farms in the same neighborhood, comprising two hundred and seventy-seven acres of valuable land, on which are three sets of farm buildings. He has tiled and fenced his land, has added all modern equipments and now has a very desirable property which returns to him a good income. In connection with the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to the soil and climate, he makes a specialty of raising, buying, feeding and shipping stock, fattening about two or three carloads of cattle and about three carloads of hogs each year. He is accounted one of the successful farmers and stock-raisers of the county and certainly deserves all the prosperity that has come to him.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Prather has been blessed with three children. Mary is the wife of Andrew A. Miller, a farmer of this county, and they have one son, Harold. Carrie is the wife of Louis Mouery, a merchant of Rossville, and they have one son, Clarence A. Albert, the youngest, is at home. In 1895 Mr. Prather purchased property and built a neat residence in Rossville, where he has since made his home and from this point he superintends his farming and stock-raising interests. Politically he is a staunch Republican, although he was reared in the faith of the Democratic party. He cast his first presidential ballot for General U. S. Grant in 1868, but had previously voted for Joseph Cannon for congress. He has never sought nor would he accept political office, preferring that his attention should be given to his business affairs. His wife is a member of the Christian church.

During fifty-seven years, covering the period of his entire life, he has witnessed

the wonderful growth and advancement of this portion of Illinois. He lived here when the country was so new that deer and other wild game were to be seen and the farmers had to watch very closely in order to keep the wild geese and cranes from eating the young crops. Great changes have since occurred as civilization has advanced, population increased and the work of improvement and development been carried forward by a progressive and contented people who have made the county one of the richest agricultural districts of the state, while its towns and villages have taken on metropolitan proportions and have become imbued with all the industrial and commercial activity known to the older east. Both Mr. Prather and his wife are highly esteemed in the community and have many friends who will be glad to read the record of their lives in this volume.

FRANK E. KESPLER.

This well-known druggist of Georgetown is a man whose sound common sense and vigorous, able management of his affairs have been important factors in his success and with his undoubted integrity of character have given him an honorable position among his fellow men. For twenty-four years he has been a resident of Vermillion county, and throughout his active business life has been identified with its commercial interests.

Mr. Kespler was born in Perrysville, Indiana, November 19, 1869, and is a son of E. C. and Anna P. (Neigenfind Kespler, both natives of Germany, the former born in the Hessian province and the latter in the Schlesien Province. In early life they

came to the United States and were married in Danville, Illinois, in 1865. Removing to Indiana, the father purchased a farm adjoining the city of Perrysville, where he followed agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his life, dying there November 27, 1878. His funeral was under the auspices of the United Brethren and was attended by a large number of friends and acquaintances who gathered to pay their last tribute of respect to their fellow townsman. He was a prominent man of his township and was highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him. In politics he was an ardent Republican and took quite an active part in local politics, though he was never an office seeker.

After her husband's death Mrs. Kespler rented the farm and returned to Danville, Illinois, to make her home with her parents. She had four children, namely: Mary L., now the wife of Louis Steck, a farmer of Ogden, Illinois; Frank E.; Anna K., wife of H. L. Schmidt, who is conducting a meat market in Danville; and W. P., who married May Will, a daughter of Henry Will of Danville, and is now clerking for the Bell Clothiers of that city.

Frank E. Kespler began his education in the public schools of Perrysville, Indiana, and later attended the city schools of Danville, Illinois, being only nine years of age on the removal of the family to the latter city. Laying aside his text books at the age of fourteen he entered the drug store of E. C. Winslow, of Danville, as an apprentice, and after five years spent there he matriculated at the Illinois College of Pharmacy in Chicago, where he completed the prescribed course. He then took the examination before the state board of pharmacy, and passing it satisfactorily he accepted a position as managing druggist of

the T. R. Davis drug store at Hinckley, Illinois, where he remained two years and a half. He was next in the employ of Arthur Esslinger, a druggist of Danville, for a little over two years, and on resigning that position he purchased the drug store of Donnelly & Shepherd, at Germantown, which he conducted for a year. He then removed his stock to the McCusker block, No. 40 Jackson street, Danville, and after two years spent at that place removed to the corner of Main and Hazel streets, at which point he carried on business for three years and a half. He then sold out to U. J. Overman, and in October, 1900, opened his present up-to-date drug store in Georgetown, where he is now carrying on business with most gratifying success. He makes somewhat of a specialty of putting up physicians' prescriptions and family recipes. Besides the best line of drugs and patent medicines, he handles paints, oils, turpentine, putty, window glass, stationery, cigars, tobacco, etc.

On the 16th of May, 1894, Mr. Kespler was united in marriage to Miss Lydia M. Pracht, a daughter of John G. and Rosa M. (Schmidt) Pracht. The father, who was a native of Germany, is now deceased, and the mother is now the wife of Joshua Schecter, a liveryman of Georgetown. Unto our subject and his wife has been born one child, Blanche Esther, now seven years of age. The family is one of prominence in Georgetown, standing high in social circles.

Politically Mr. Kespler is identified with the Republican party but takes no active part in politics aside from voting, though he is interested in good government. Fraternally he is a member of Ionian Lodge, No. 502, K. P., of Georgetown; Weltonomah Tribe, No. 120, I. O. R. M., of Westville;

and Georgetown Camp, No. 188, M. W. A. He may well be classed among the self-made men of his adopted county, for his success in life is due entirely to his own well directed and energetic efforts. His store is a model of neatness, and with his thorough knowledge of the business and affable manner he is sure to meet with success wherever he may go.



J. F. McCOY.

Comparatively few of the citizens of the Union have attained eminence in affairs of state or in military circles, but the field of business is limitless and the man of ability in his chosen calling can always win success if he but guides his efforts by correct business principles. Mr. McCoy chose as a life work the profession of the architect and builder. He thoroughly mastered the business both in principle and in detail and thus well equipped for his calling he has become a factor in the building interests of Vermilion county, gaining for himself a reputation that is second to none in his line in this part of the state.

A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. McCoy was born in Carlisle, that state, July 2, 1840, his parents being Joshua and Eliza (McCarroll) McCoy, both of whom are natives of the Keystone state and were there married. The father was a shoemaker and continued to reside in Pennsylvania until called to his final rest in the year 1876. His wife passed away the year previous. In his political affiliations Mr. McCoy was a Democrat. In his family were twelve children, eight of whom are yet living: Sarah, the widow of Jonathan Etter, a resident of Shippensburg, Pennsylvania; William, who resides in Car-

lisle, Pennsylvania; Margaret the widow of Samuel Pystle and a resident of Roxbury, Pennsylvania; Ellen, the wife of William Keifer, of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania; J. Keifer, of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania; David, who is residing in Newville, Pennsylvania; J. F., of this review; Archer, whose home is in Newburg, Pennsylvania; and Daniel, who is residing in Blount township, Vermilion county, Illinois. Those who have passed away are as follows: Rosanna became the wife of John Wolf, and after his death married Mr. Burkholter, who is also now deceased. By her first union she had one child, Samuel Wolf, who now resides in Kirkwood, Illinois. By the second marriage there was one daughter, Ella, who is married and resides in Pennsylvania. Joshua died at the age of eighteen years, being accidentally poisoned through eating pie while serving his country in the Civil war, being at that time with McClellan on the march to Richmond. Lacy became the wife of William McMullen, who resides in Oakville, Pennsylvania, and died leaving three children. Rebecca was also married and is now deceased. She resided near Stonchstown, Pennsylvania, and had one child.

J. F. McCoy, whose name introduces this record, attended the district school near Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and when only sixteen years of age he became a teamster in the Civil war, acting in that capacity in Pennsylvania. When seventeen years of age he began learning the carpenter's trade, serving a three years' apprenticeship. In 1872 he came west, locating first at Stateline, Indiana, where he resided for eleven months. He then removed to Danville and has since been an active factor in the business affairs of this city.

In the meantime he had married, having on the 7th of March, 1870, near Carlisle, Pennsylvania, wedded Miss Martha J. Gibbons, who was born in Perry county, Pennsylvania, January 13, 1851. She was a daughter of David and Mary (Smith) Gibbons, both of whom were natives of Perry county, where they were married, locating then in Blaine. Her father was a blacksmith and resided in the county of his nativity until his death, which occurred about 1858. His wife long survived him, passing away in 1891. In their family were five children, of whom four are yet living: Mrs. McCoy; Kate, the wife of Edward Hawk, of Danville; Reuben, who is also living in this city; and David, who makes his home near Canton, Ohio. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. McCoy has been blessed with six children: Clarence, who married Anna Clark and resides in Danville, where he is following carpentering and contracting; Myrtle, the wife of Robert Kinningham, of Danville; Kate, the wife of Harry Conover, of this city, by whom she has one child, Edna; May, who is an architect in her father's office; Ethel and Harold, at home with their parents.

In 1873 Mr. McCoy began business in Danville, since which time he has engaged in contracting and in doing architectural work. He devotes his time largely to the latter branch of his business and to superintending the construction of buildings. He has erected or assisted in building many of the finest structures of this city, including the opera house; the First Methodist Episcopal church; St. Patrick's Catholic church, St. Mary's Academy; the Daniels building. He remodeled the First National Bank building; built the Danville high school; Lincoln, Franklin and Grant schools; also



CHARLES B. HART.

the First Church of Christ; the Lincoln street church; the Methodist Episcopal church at Vermilion Heights; the Greer College and the public school, of Hoopston, the Methodist Episcopal church of Hoopston and at least fourteen business blocks there; the Methodist Episcopal church at Catlin; the Catholic school at Westville; the Baptist church at Sidell; and the public school there. He is now engaged on the construction of the Cumberland Presbyterian church in Danville, the Presbyterian church in Pithian; and the public library of Danville. He has erected not less than one hundred of the business blocks of this city and one hundred of its best residences, besides hundreds of attractive homes in the county. He is one of the most widely known architects and contractors of this part of the state. The beauty of the designs which he makes, combined with his excellent workmanship manifested in the execution of a contract, have made him an important factor in the progress and improvement as well as the adornment of Vermilion county. He has offices at No. 305 First National Bank Building.

Mr. McCoy is a strong temperance man and his views on this subject are embodied in the political support, which he gives to the Prohibition party. He is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He has gained for himself the confidence and respect of the entire community in which he lives by his honorable, straightforward career. We read of the lives of the heroes of the past and they not only prove of historical interest but serve to inspire and encourage us, yet we need not go to former days for examples that are worthy of emulation. The men of to-day who have won distinction and honorable success equal in

exemplary traits of character those who have passed away and the life record of Mr. McCoy may well prove of great benefit if we will but heed the obvious lessons which it contains.

CHARLES B. HART.

The large concourse of people who gathered to pay their last tribute of respect and love to Charles B. Hart when his remains were interred in Spring Hill cemetery, spoke eloquently of the place he had held in the affections of those with whom he was associated. Seldom within the history of Danville has there been brought together on a similar occasion such a large number of people. The deepest regret throughout the community was felt, for Mr. Hart had endeared himself to all. He was pleasant, frank and jovial in manner and had gained a host of warm friends. Certainly he should be classed among the representative men of this city and upon the pages of the history of Vermilion county his life record deserves a place.

Mr. Hart was born in Mooresville, Indiana, May 28, 1859, and is a son of Richard and Emma Leah (Farrend) Hart. The father was a native of Virginia and his father was of German birth, while John Farrend, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was of Scotch-Irish lineage and was a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Hart was born in Cincinnati, in which city her marriage was celebrated. There the father of our subject worked at the carriage-building trade and subsequently carried on the same business at Mooresville, Indiana, remaining there for a time, or until he took up his abode in Terre Haute, that state. In the last named place he was extensively

engaged in the carriage manufacturing business. In 1871 he came to Danville, where he embarked in stair-building, and he is now superintendent of the turning department in the Watson Planing Mill, occupying the position at the age of eighty years. Such a life record of usefulness and activity should put to shame many a man who, grown weary of the burdens and responsibilities of a business career, would relegate to others the work which he should perform. About fourteen years ago Mrs. Hart passed away. In the family were seven children, but only three are now living: Alice, the wife of L. B. Wolf, who resides at No. 16 Fremont street, in Danville; Jesse, of Homer, Illinois; and Randolph, of Lafayette, Indiana.

Charles B. Hart acquired his early education in the schools of Terre Haute, Indiana, and of Danville, Illinois, having come to the latter city when a youth of ten years. On leaving the schoolroom he began learning the trade of a painter, paper hanger and decorator, and became so expert in this line of work that his skill was equalled by few in this part of the state. He soon left the ranks of a journeyman to become a contractor in the business, and in his industrial career he prospered, his patronage becoming so extensive as to enable him to employ a number of men. Large and important contracts were awarded him by reason of the excellence and attractiveness of the work, and as the years passed he gradually acquired a competence.

In his political views Mr. Hart was an earnest Republican who believed firmly in the principles of the party, but refused to hold office. Fraternally he was connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Court of Honor, the Royal Americans, the Royal Circle and the Fraternal Army

and he was a consistent and helpful member of the Methodist church.

On the 24th of June, 1886, at the residence of Congressman Joseph G. Cannon, in whose family the lady had lived for twenty-three years, Mr. Hart was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie A. McIntyre, who was born in Montreal, Canada, September 22, 1859. Her father, Samuel McIntyre, also a native of Canada, was of French ancestry, a son of Samuel McIntyre, who was born in France and carried on merchandising in Canada. He married Agnes Hays, who was born in the same country, a daughter of William Hays, who was of Scotch birth. Their marriage was celebrated in Montreal, Canada, and Mr. McIntyre followed the carpenter's trade there until 1862, when he removed to Camargo, Douglas county, Illinois, where he engaged in contracting and building. Subsequently he took up his abode in Tuscola, Illinois, where he resided for many years and then went to Hammond, Illinois, where his last days were passed. He erected many public buildings, residences, schools and churches, which still stand as monuments to his skill and enterprise. In his political views a stalwart Republican, he served as constable and filled various township offices, taking an active part in political affairs. He held membership in the Presbyterian church and died in that faith October 14, 1891, his remains being then interred in the cemetery at Camargo, Illinois. His wife had passed away when Mrs. Hart was but five years of age. In the family were three sons and three daughters: John, who resides in Tuscola, Illinois; William, of Hammond, Illinois; Mrs. Hart; Samuel, who is in the west; Martha, the wife of Charles Combs, of Denver, Colorado; and Jennie, the deceased wife of Christopher Cross, who re-

sided in Tuscola, this state, and left two children—Harry E., who is married and lives in Tuscola; and Agnes, who is a singer of that place. Mr. and Mrs. Hart became the parents of one son and two daughters: Le Roy, who was born June 14, 1887, and is a member of the class of 1903 of the high school of Danville; Mabel Helen, who was born January 18, 1888, and is now in her first year in the high school; and Gertrude Hazel, who was born January 2, 1891, and is now attending the public school.

It was on the 25th of August, 1902, that the family were called upon to mourn the loss of the husband and father, who passed away on that date and was laid to rest in Spring Hill cemetery. As the result of his business activity he was enabled to leave his family in comfortable circumstances, and moreover he left to them an untarnished name and pleasant memories of the many happy hours spent in his company, for his greatest interest centered in his family and he considered no sacrifice on his part too great if it would promote the happiness or enhance the welfare of his wife and children. Wherever he went he made friends by reason of his genial, kindly and sympathetic manner. He was always good natured and jovial and belonged to that class of citizens who shed around them much of the sunshine of life.

Mrs. Hart is a member of the Fraternal Army, of the Court of Honor, and of the Tribe of Ben Hur, and she is likewise a devoted member of the First Methodist Episcopal church. She, too, is widely and favorably known in Danville and with her family she resides at No. 437 Outten street. Her many excellent traits of heart and mind are recognized by her many friends and like her honored husband she certainly deserves mention in this volume.

FRED H. AYERS.

Fred H. Ayers is extensively engaged in real-estate dealing in Hoopeston, largely operating in farm lands, and his own investments in property have been extensive and profitable. Mr. Ayres is a native of Grundy county, Illinois, born in the year 1850, his parents being William Henry and Eliza Jane (Benedict) Ayres. They were residents of New Haven, Connecticut, and he emigrated westward taking up his abode in Grundy county, Illinois, in 1846. On both sides Mr. Ayres comes of English ancestry. The Ayres and Benedict families were founded in the new world prior to the Revolutionary war and representatives of the latter name have frequently been mentioned on the pages of American history in connection with affairs of prominence bearing upon the substantial development and upbuilding of the nation. While residing in the east the father of our subject engaged in business as a tanner and currier, and after coming to Illinois he secured a homestead in Grundy county where he carried on farming until 1883. In that year he sold his property there and removed to Iroquois county, living upon a farm with his son, F. H. Ayres, until 1894. In that year the parents of our subject came to Hoopeston, where the mother died in March, 1898, and the father in February, 1899. Fred H. Ayres always resided with his parents and in their declining years, by his filial attention and regard he repaid them for the care and love which they had lavished upon him in his youth. There was one daughter in the family, Louvica, now the wife of the Rev. Dana Sherrill, a retired Congregational minister of Hoopeston who at one time engaged in preaching the gospel at For-

rest and at Marshall, Illinois, and afterward went to Savannah, Georgia, as superintendent of the colored schools there. The father, William Henry Ayres, was a plain, unassuming man, who possessed sterling traits of character that brought him the confidence and good will of all with whom he was associated.

Fred H. Ayres spent his boyhood days with his parents in the pursuit of education. His business training was received under the direction of his father. He assisted in the cultivation and improvement of the home farm, father and son working together in complete harmony. He was married on the old home place near Morris, Grundy county, to Miss Mary E. Leach, a native of Wheeling, West Virginia, who at an early age became a resident of Kendall county, Illinois. Both of her parents are now deceased. The marriage of the young couple was celebrated on the 15th of January, 1873, and has been blessed with one child, Mary L., who is now the wife of Marion R. Clements, a music dealer of Hoopston. Mr. and Mrs. Ayres also lost two children in childhood.

From the time of his marriage until 1883 Mr. Ayres operated his father's farm. In the latter year the Grundy property was sold and he removed to Iroquois county, settling in Prairie Green township. He remained on this place until 1894. The family then came to Hoopston and in January, 1895, our subject embarked in business with F. W. Nelson, as a dealer in farm implements, harness, buggies and hardware. This partnership was continued until the 1st of January, 1902. Since that time Mr. Ayres has been engaged in the real-estate business—handling farm lands on an extensive scale. He to day owns eight hundred and sixty

acres of land in Fulton county, Indiana, which is splendidly improved and yields to him a good financial return. The family home is on East Penn street and is a charming residence noted for its pleasing hospitality. In his social relations Mr. Ayres is a Knight of Pythias and politically is a Republican. He served for two terms as supervisor of the township in which he was reared, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. While possessing the qualities of a successful business man and a desirable social companion, perhaps Mr. Ayres' most strongly marked characteristic is his unswerving fidelity to duty. His private interests must always give way to the public good and thus he has become honored, esteemed and distinguished by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance or who have met him in a business way.

REV. M. M. ALISON.

Rev. M. M. Alison, who is now living a retired life in Alvin but for more than a quarter of a century was one of the enterprising and progressive farmers and stock-raisers of Vermilion county, came to this portion of the state in the spring of 1864 and has since been deeply interested in its improvement along material, intellectual and moral lines. He is one of the worthy citizens of the locality that Ohio has furnished to this state. His birth occurred in Jefferson county, Ohio, December 15, 1823, and is a representative of one of the old families of Virginia. His paternal grandfather, Ross Alison, lived in that state and there Samuel Alison, the father of our subject, was born and reared. As a companion



MRS. M. M. ALISON.



REV. M. M. ALISON.

and helpmate for life's journey he chose Margaret McGavran, who was of Irish parentage. Thinking to better his financial condition in a newer region he emigrated to Ohio, becoming one of the first settlers in Jefferson county. Subsequently he removed to Jackson county, where he reared his family and spent his remaining days, being called to his final rest in 1858, when about sixty years of age. Our subject was the younger of his two sons, the older being Ross Alison, now a well known business man of Danville.

Rev. Alison of this review spent the days of his manhood in Jackson county, working upon his father's farm from the time of early spring planting until crops were harvested in the autumn. He then entered the public schools, where he pursued his studies until returning spring again brought new duties. After arriving at mature years he engaged in teaching in Jackson and Vinton counties, of Ohio. He followed that profession continuously for five years and during the winter months of many years. Ere he left Ohio he was married in Jackson county, on the 8th of March, 1849, to Sarah Salmans, who was born in Guernsey county, that state, but spent her girlhood days largely in Jackson and Vinton counties. Her father, William Salmans, was one of the pioneers of Ohio from Delaware.

Different farms in the Buckeye state were owned and operated by Rev. Alison, who carried on agricultural work there until 1864, when he packed up his belongings and came to Illinois, accomplishing the journey to Vermillion county with a team and wagon. This was a long, hard trip, but at length he safely reached his destination and purchased land in Ross township, becoming the owner of one hundred and

sixty acres of land, a small portion of which had been fenced and cultivated, while a little house had also been built. With characteristic energy he began the further improvement of the property and afterward bought more land, extending the boundaries of his farm from time to time until he had four hundred acres in one body. He also erected a comfortable residence and barn and planted two orchards upon his place. His farm work there was continued until about 1882, when he divided his farm among his children and purchased twenty acres where he now resides, on which he erected a comfortable home. He has since bought land adjoining the original tract until he has seventy-six acres in his home place and his time and energies are given to the further improvement of the property.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Alison have been born two children, who are yet living: Cicero, a prominent business man and grain dealer of Alvin; and Almira, now the wife of John N. Ross, of Chicago. They also lost four children, of whom two died in infancy. Sarah Margaret grew to maturity, married Harvey J. Stewart, and after his death became the wife of Andrew Copeland, with whom she removed to Oklahoma, where her death occurred on the 17th of April, 1895. Rachel F. married Wallace Salmans, of Danville, and died in that city, in December, 1892. William and Mary Ada both died when three years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Alison have seventeen grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

In early manhood the subject of this review joined the Methodist Episcopal church and was afterward ordained to the ministry. He was first licensed to preach in Wilkesville in 1852 and later was ordained in Chillicothe, Ohio, about 1856. He has always been active in church work and

continued to serve as a local minister of the church both in Ohio and in Vermilion county until 1900. His labors have been effective in promoting the cause of Christianity and his influence has been a potent element for good in whatever community he has lived. When the Republican party was organized and nominated John C. Fremont as its first candidate for the presidency, he gave to it his support and has never wavered in his allegiance to the organization, believing that its principles are best calculated to conserve the cause of good government. He believes in advancement along all lines tending to develop character and therefore is a warm friend of the cause of education and has been a member of the school board for a number of years. He also served as village treasurer of Alvin for eight years and is still the efficient treasurer of the town board. He has a wide acquaintance among the early settlers of Danville and the northeastern part of the county, and is a man of tried integrity and worth. He and his estimable wife and also their children have many friends in this locality who will be pleased to receive the record of their history.

LEVIN VINSON.

Levin Vinson, whose well developed farm is located on section 1, Oakwood township, was born in Parke county, Indiana, February 26, 1828, and is a son of Henson and Abigail (McDowell) Vinson, both natives of Kentucky. At an early day they removed to Indiana and there they reared their family of nine children, of whom four are living: Mrs. Delia Ann Burton of Oakwood township; Levin; Henson, who resides on the old homestead; and Abigail

Dizard, of Oakwood township. Three sons and two daughters have passed away. When the subject of this review was ten years of age, the parents removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, and the father purchased land in Oakwood township, living in a log cabin while to general farming and stock-raising he devoted his energies. Upon the place which he there developed, he resided until his death and his wife's death also occurred there.

Levin Vinson was educated in a log schoolhouse furnished with slab benches and greased paper windows. In the summer months he worked upon the farm, greatly assisting his father in the care and cultivation of the home place, in fact, much of the work devolved upon him because his father was in poor health. He plowed in the early days when he used a wooden mold board plow and a single shovel plow for the corn. The grain in those early days was dropped by hand. When the summer sun had ripened the crops he used a reap hook and cradle in the harvest field. The family wore homemade clothing and raised the flax from which were spun and woven the garments. They also raised their own wool, which was taken to carding machines where it was spun and woven into cloth at home. Each member of the family had but a single pair of shoes a year. In order to have a fire they would go into the timber and pick punk and then with this and the flint and tow would make a fire, for there were no matches at that time. Economy was practiced in all lines of life, even to the carrying of shoes to church by the children, who wore them only during the services, removing them as soon as they left the meeting house. The pioneer families drove to church with ox-teams, Mr. Vinson never seeing a buggy until he was sixteen years of age. Many

times he watched his mother dip candles before the days when candle molds came into use and in the home the old grease lamp was also utilized.

Mr. Vinson remained with his parents until he attained his majority and afterward engaged in breaking prairie with oxen for many years. He once drove eight yoke of oxen in turning the first furrows on the prairies of Illinois. In those days trading was done at Covington, Perrysville and Danville, the last named then containing only one store. On the 12th of November, 1850, he married Miss Naomi Liggitt, who was born in Ohio in March, 1832, a daughter of Jesse and Mary (Coddington) Liggitt. In order to provide for his wife Mr. Vinson continued to break prairie and follow farming and was thus engaged until after the Civil war broke out. He and his brother John, who became a lieutenant and is now deceased, formed a company which was mustered in as Company I of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, September 4, 1862, the regiment being commanded by Colonel Harmon, while Mr. Vinson was given command of the company. The first battle in which he participated was at Perryville, Kentucky, and after taking part in the engagement at Crab Harbor he returned with his men to Nashville. Being taken ill he only served for a year, resigning February 29, 1864, when he returned home. In the spring of that year he located upon his farm, where he remained until he went into business at Glenburn, dealing in meat and groceries. He now conducts the only general store at that place and he also owns one hundred acres of rich farming land on section 1, Oakwood township, all of which is under a

high state of cultivation and is pleasantly located a half mile east of the village.

In politics Mr. Vinson is a Republican and has served as road overseer and school director. He belongs to the Grand Army Post at Glenburn, of which he has served as commander. In the work of improvement and progress here he has taken an active and helpful part, has seen the county grow from a wilderness to its high state of cultivation and has been one of the upbuilders of Oakwood township, having broken more land than any other man within its borders, while he has made as many rails as any one living here. In the improvement of the county he has taken a deep interest and he well deserves mention among the early settlers.

RICHARD A. CLOYD, M. D.

Through a longer period than any other physician in Catlin, Dr. Richard A. Cloyd practiced his profession in this place. He was born in Georgetown, Illinois, May 24, 1864, and is a son of John P. Cloyd, a leading physician of Vermilion county. The paternal grandparents were William and Julia (Northington) Cloyd, the former a native of Washington county, Tennessee, and the latter of Virginia. William Cloyd was a wagon manufacturer and made the celebrated six-horse wagon, known as the old schooner. He died in 1848, leaving a widow and three children, John P., David G., and James W. After John P. reached manhood his mother married again and by that union there was one child. She died in Greenville, Tennessee, at the age of sixty-

seven years. William Cloyd, an uncle of our subject, is a practicing physician of eastern Tennessee.

John P. Cloyd has been a resident of Georgetown since 1869. He pursued his studies in Rhea Academy at Greenville, Tennessee, where he completed a preparatory course and at the age of seventeen years he became a student in Washington county, Tennessee. At the close of the first term he started for Vermillion county, Indiana, where he engaged in teaching school for two years and in 1859 he came to Illinois, following the profession, teaching in this state until 1864. He then went to Chicago, where he entered the Rush Medical College and after pursuing two courses of lectures was graduated with the class of 1869. Three and one-half years prior to receiving his diploma, however, he had begun the practice of medicine at Yankee Point, but since he graduated he has been located in Georgetown and is one of the oldest physicians of the county. In 1859 Dr. Cloyd was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Golden, a native of Vermillion county, Illinois, and a daughter of Jacob and Alice (Frazier) Golden, who removed from eastern Tennessee to Vermillion county, becoming pioneer settlers of Elwood township. Unto the marriage of Dr. and Mrs. Cloyd have been born five children, namely: Richard; Belle, the wife of Rev. D. G. Murray, of Texas; F. N., a practicing physician of Westville, Illinois, who married Jessie Summers, a native of East Park, Indiana, by whom he has one child, Mildred; Grace D., the wife of C. E. Pritchard, of Georgetown; and John, who is now a student of dentistry in Indianapolis, Indiana. The father, Dr. Cloyd, is a very prominent Mason, belonging to the lodge in Georgetown and to Athelstan

Commandery in Danville. He is also a charter member of the Vermillion County Medical Association and in his political views is a Democrat.

Dr. Richard A. Cloyd acquired his primary education in the schools of Georgetown, and after completing a high school course there entered Wabash College at Crawfordsville, Indiana, as a member of the class of '86. Later he attended the Eastern Illinois College, after which he engaged in teaching for three years preparatory to becoming a medical student. He taught school altogether for eight years. He spent one year in Rush Medical College of Chicago, and in the class of 1890 he was graduated in the Indiana Medical College of Indianapolis. Subsequently he entered the Wabash Railway Hospital at Peru, Indiana, where he acted as house surgeon for two years. On the expiration of that period he returned to his native county, locating in Catlin, where he has since successfully engaged in practice, securing a good patronage. He is a member of the Vermillion County Medical Association and the Sydenham Medical Society of Indianapolis and the Illinois State Medical Society. He thus keeps in touch with the advanced thought and knowledge of the profession and is continually augmenting his efficiency by this means and through personal reading and investigation. He was president of the pension board of examining surgeons, to which he was appointed in 1895, and in that capacity he served until the end of the presidential administration. He is now serving as examining physician for Woodman Camp, No. 431, and is examiner for twelve of the large eastern old line insurance companies.

Dr. Cloyd was married in Chicago in

1897 to Miss May Terpening, a daughter of D. H. Terpening, who was born in the Empire state and whose wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Pritchard, was a native of North Carolina. Mrs. Cloyd is a lady of superior culture and refinement and is one of the popular residents of Vermilion county. She graduated from the Catlin schools, diligently pursuing her studies until she had successfully passed an examination, which prepared her to become a teacher. When only sixteen years of age she began teaching and was very successful and popular as an educator. She has also graduated from the Chautauqua course of study and attends many of the annual meetings of the Chautauqua circle. She has gained a wide reputation as a reader of marked ability and has won several gold medals in oratorical contests, including the Demorest grand medal. She does excellent crayon work, but is more widely known because of her elocution, which ranks her among the best representatives of the art.

The Doctor is a member of the Phi Gamma Delta, a college fraternity of Crawfordsville, Indiana. While engaged in teaching school he enlisted on the 10th of August, 1887, in Battery A, of the Illinois National Guard under Captain Edwin Winter, serving until August 8, 1888, when he was honorably discharged by special order on account of disability. Fraternally the Doctor is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge of Georgetown, the Improved Order of Red Men at Catlin, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masonic fraternity of Catlin. He has passed all of the chairs in the Odd Fellows Lodge and is its medical examiner. He is also a member of the chapter of Royal Arch Masons and Athelstan Commandery in Danville, and of

the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks and his wife is a member of the Rebekah degree of the Odd Fellows society, the Royal Neighbors and Eastern Star. Dr. Cloyd deserves much credit for what he has accomplished. His education was acquired through his own efforts, his labors bringing to him the fund sufficient to meet his expenses of a college course. In his profession he ranks high and has strict regard for professional ethics and at the same time possessing marked ability in administering to the needs of the sick. In political faith he is a Democrat and is a public-spirited and popular citizen of Catlin.

JOSIAH RUSK.

It would be impossible to give an accurate account of business development in Hoopeston without mention of Josiah Rusk, who occupies a most enviable position in industrial and financial circles owing to his honorable, straightforward business policy as well as to the brilliant success he has achieved. He was born in Fountain county, Indiana, November 11, 1838. His father, Benjamin Rusk, was a pioneer of Fountain county, settling there at an early day amid the wild woods where he secured one hundred and sixty acres of land. He died when our subject was less than a year old and his widow afterward became the wife of Abraham Dove. Three children were born of this union, of whom two are living, David W. and William. George Dove, the oldest of the three children of the second marriage was for many years a prominent resident of Hoopeston, where he died.

Josiah Rusk was reared in Richmond township, Fountain county, Indiana, re-

maining with his mother after his father's death until he was twenty-one years of age. He acquired a common-school education and on attaining his majority he started out in life for himself, going to Kansas. He there purchased land and made a prospecting tour over the state. After holding his property in the west for about seven years he sold out. Inheriting some land in his native county, he lived upon the farm upon which he was reared, devoting his attention with marked energy to its cultivation. The old home place comprised one hundred and sixty acres and later he added to this a tract of two hundred and ten acres, remaining on the farm for four years. After his marriage he took up his abode near Covington, Indiana, and later sold his original property. About seven miles from the city of Covington he bought two hundred and eight acres, part of which was improved, while the remainder was covered with timber. There he continued his work as an agriculturist until 1880, when he came to Hoopeston, in the meantime having transformed his property into a very valuable and productive farm. His wife had inherited three eighty-acre tracts of land southeast of Hoopeston and our subject purchased four hundred acres in this locality. Subsequently, by additional purchase, he secured a tract of two hundred and forty acres and still later he bought two hundred and eighty acres adjoining Talbot, Indiana. He also purchased another eighty acres in Grant township, Vermilion county. Thus from time to time he increased his realty possessions until they became quite extensive. Now all of this land with the exception of eighty acres in Grant township, the Talbot farm and his town property, has been divided among his five children.

On the 20th of April, 1862, in Indiana, Mr. Rusk was united in marriage to Miss Malinda Brown, who was born and reared in the neighborhood in which her husband spent his early life. Her parents were Jacob and Susan Brown, both of whom are now deceased. They were pioneer farmers of this section of Indiana and at the time of their death had become well-to-do, in fact were considered in splendid circumstances for that period. Her father entered about eleven hundred acres of land in Vermilion county, but retained his residence in Fountain county. There he died in 1884, after which the mother lived among her children and died in Hoopeston, October 17, 1895. Mrs. Rusk has one sister, Mrs. Miranda Dove, of Hoopeston. In the family there were originally four children, Mrs. Rusk being the third. Our subject was one of three children and has a living brother, James, also one sister, Ellen Roher, deceased, who invented the New remedy for the lungs. Noah Brown, a brother of Mrs. Rusk, came to Hoopeston and was one of the founders of the town, the northern part of the town being platted upon his land. At the time of his death he was associated with William Moore in extensive real-estate operations. Miss Miranda Brown, the sister of the wife of our subject, married George W. Dove, a half-brother of Josiah Rusk. Mr. Dove was engaged in general merchandising in Hoopeston for many years and his widow is still living here. As above stated Mr. Rusk has largely divided his landed interests among his children. His daughter, Sarah Susan, is the wife of Phineas Rempster and to her he gave two hundred and forty acres. John, who married Maggie Glover, also received two hundred and forty acres. Ellen is the wife of

Charles Reynolds and she was given one hundred and sixty acres. Albert, who married Ellen Sherrin, also received one hundred and sixty acres. Miranda, the wife of Karl Matthews, was given a quarter section of land. Mr. Rempster is residing near Cheneyville but the other four live in Hoopeston. John Rusk, the second child, is the inventor of the Rusk evener, and is giving his attention to the manufacture and sale of the same, in which he is meeting with splendid success. Mr. Rusk of this review owns about fifteen thousand dollars' worth of property in houses and lots in Hoopeston. While not actively engaged in business affairs he still looks after his farming interests and his town property.

At the time of the Civil war Mr. Rusk was drafted in the United States service in Richland township, Fountain county, Indiana, but was never sworn in. He had been reared in the faith of the Quaker church and was therefore opposed to war. In politics he was formerly a Democrat but is now a Prohibitionist. His wife was reared in the faith of the United Brethren church. After her marriage she joined the New Light church, in which Mr. Rusk held membership, but both joined the United Brethren church just before coming to Hoopeston. For many years he served as a deacon and was very prominent in church affairs. About 1887, however, he became deeply interested in Christian Science and studied the literature bearing upon that subject. There was no church organization of that denomination here, but a reading circle was formed and many became interested. Mr. Rusk also took lessons in the Christian Science school, in Chicago, and after coming to Hoopeston he was among the leaders that organized the society here and conducted

it for a few years. About 1899 the church was organized and secured a charter, there being at that time a membership of fourteen which has now been increased to nineteen. Our subject and his wife have been leading spirits in the building of the present new edifice, a modern church building which was erected at a cost of between seven and eight thousand dollars, including the ground. The trustees are Michael Hausz, Josiah Rusk, and Charles Reynolds. Mrs. Rusk's subscription to the new church was fifteen hundred dollars, and he also donated twelve hundred dollars. He was the treasurer of the building fund, is clerk of the church, and his wife was formerly a director but later resigned. Miss Stella F. Sabin was the first reader and Miss C. H. Catherwood the second reader. Before work was commenced on the church not only had the entire amount necessary for building been subscribed, but it had also been collected and placed in the bank.

In the character of Josiah Rusk there is something he obtained in the early schools where he was educated and in his early farming experiences — something which might be termed solidity of purpose and which is a characteristic worthy of emulation. In the school of experience he has learned lessons that have made him a well informed man, broad minded and liberal in his views and with a charity that reaches out to all humanity.



JOHN JOHNS.

The name of this gentleman is well known to every early settler of Vermilion county and it is also honorably inscribed

upon the pages of pioneer history, for Mr. Johns settled here in 1829 when this portion of the state was yet an unbroken wilderness, few having taken up their abode in what is now Vermilion county. He was born in Kentucky on the 25th of May, 1805, a son of George W. Johns who was likewise a native of Kentucky and was a farmer by occupation. On leaving the Blue Grass state he removed to Indiana, where he lived until his death.

John Johns accompanied his parents on their removal from Kentucky to Vigo county, Indiana, and there was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life, experiencing all the hardships which fall to the lot of the pioneer. He assisted in the arduous task of developing a new farm and there carried on agricultural pursuits until 1828, when he returned to his native county in Kentucky and lived for a year. In 1829, however, he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, casting in his lot among its first settlers. He secured a tract of land in Blount township of wild prairie and timberland. Clearing away the trees he prepared the fields for cultivation and soon made extensive, valuable and important improvements. As the years passed his place was transformed into a fine farm and thereon he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1866, when having acquired a handsome competence through his untiring efforts and capable management he retired to private life and removed to Danville, where he made his home until his death.

Mr. Johns was twice married. He first wedded Miss Jane Myers, who died and left two children, Charles, who is employed as a clerk in the Temple Department store of Danville, and Amelia, who is conducting a millinery store in this city. For his second

wife Mr. Johns chose Miss Mary Humphrey, a daughter of John Humphrey, of Virginia, who removed from the Old Dominion to Kentucky, where he entered land from the government and developed a farm, to the further cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his energies until his death. By the second marriage of Mr. Johns were born eight children, but only one of this number is now living. Sarah is the deceased wife of Perry Copeland. Eliza is the deceased wife of J. H. Miller. Sue is a resident of Danville. Martha became the wife of R. S. Partlow, of Oregon, and has also passed away. Margaret is the wife of Charles Haeker, and her husband now resides in Danville. William H., Emily and Charles, have also passed away. The children were provided with good educational privileges in the best schools of this city.

In his early days Mr. Johns was a Whig, earnest and faithful in support of the party, and upon its dissolution he joined the ranks of the new Republican party to which he firmly adhered throughout the remainder of his life. He was quite prominent in public affairs and for two terms he served as alderman of Danville and was also a member of the city school board. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Danville and he took a deep and active interest in church work and was also a zealous advocate of the cause of temperance. The first Methodist service held in Vermilion county was at his country residence in Blount township, in 1829. His influence was ever on the side of right, of progress and of Christianity. In matters of citizenship he was true and faithful and he performed no unimportant part in the early development of this portion of the state, contributing of

his time and means to many measures for the general good. He was also successful in his business and his name is interwoven with the early history of Danville county as that of a man whom to know was to respect and honor.

Miss Sue Johns, the only surviving member of the family, was one of the efficient and successful teachers in the public schools of Danville for twenty years. On account of her health she then gave up school teaching and afterward conducted a private school in this city for several years, leaving the impress of her individuality upon the educational work and intellectual advancement in this portion of the state. She now owns a beautiful home at No. 428 Franklin street and she has a large circle of friends in Danville.

FREDERICK HACKER.

Frederick Hacker, now deceased, became a resident of Vermilion county in 1877, and for a number of years was a respected and honored agriculturist here. A native of Germany, he was educated in the common schools of that country and afterward assisted his father upon the home farm where he remained until his marriage. He wedded Miss Eliza Freis, also a native of Germany, in which country her parents spent their entire lives, both being now deceased. Fourteen children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Hacker: Fred, a carpenter residing in Danville; Emma, the wife of William Evert, a brick manufacturer residing in this city; Annie, William Ella, the wife of Isaac Keene, their home being with Mrs. Hacker; Caroline, Johnnie, Eva and six who died in early childhood.

In the year 1862 Mr. Hacker came with his family to the new world, for he believed that he might have better business opportunities in this country. Crossing the Atlantic to America, he took up his abode in Buffalo, New York, where he worked as a laborer for several years. He had a sister living in Vermilion county and it was this that induced him to become a resident of this county, in the year 1877. After his arrival he purchased a farm on the old state road in Danville township and at once began making improvements, there carrying on the work of development and cultivation throughout his remaining days, following farming with good success, although owing to ill health his sons largely relieved him of the active work of the farm. However, he supervised its management and his excellent business judgment contributed in a large measure to the success of the business. In his political views he was an earnest Democrat, supporting the party from the time he became a naturalized American citizen. He held membership in the German Lutheran church of Danville and died in that faith on the 17th of October, 1891, respected by all who knew him. He never had occasion to regret his determination to seek a home in the new world, for he found that the favorable reports which he had heard prior to his emigration were not exaggerated. Taking advantage of opportunities offered, he steadily worked his way up in the business world and gained not only a comfortable competence but a good home and many friends. Mrs. Hacker is also a devoted member of the German Lutheran church. In 1892 she sold the home farm and removed to Danville, where she is now living with her son-in-law, Isaac Keene, at No. 1119 Tennessee street, in the suburb

of Germantown. She has now been a resident of the county for a quarter of a century and is widely known here.

ALFRED ATWOOD.

Alfred Atwood was one of the soldiers of the Union army who laid down his life upon the altar of his country, for though he did not pass away on the battlefield, his death resulted from his army experience only a few weeks after his return from the front. He was a native of Ohio, born in 1823, and when but six years of age he was brought to Vermilion county. In 1847 he was united in marriage to Diadama Bloomfield, whose parents were neighbors of Mr. Atwood's parents in Ohio. He had been reared in Pilot township and in early life he learned the blacksmith's trade, which he followed for some time, being a good workman so that his services were in continual demand. Later, however, he turned his attention to farming and also gave considerable time to the work of the ministry, as a preacher of the Christian church. At one time he was pastor of the church which met in the Gorman school house, was also pastor at Burr Oak Grove and at Craig school house, before he entered the army. His influence was widely felt as a potent power for good in the community and his labors resulted greatly to the benefit of the moral development of this portion of the state.

As before stated Mr. Atwood was united in marriage to Miss Bloomfield, who was born in Pilot township in 1832 and has always lived here. Her father, Samuel Bloomfield, was a native of Virginia or Ohio and in the latter state he wedded Margaret Kirkham,

who was born in Kentucky and was of Irish descent. They became the parents of twelve children, Mrs. Atwood being the sixth in order of birth and four of the daughters are yet living, namely: Mrs. Nancy Mozier, Mrs. Eliza Masters; and Margaret, who is living with her sister, Mrs. Atwood. At an early day the father came to Illinois, settling near Georgetown in Vermilion county and subsequently he removed to Pilot township. His remaining days were here passed, his death occurring upon the farm in Pilot township that is now occupied by Isaac Atwood. His widow survived him for some time and spent her last days in the home of a daughter in Missouri.

Mrs. Atwood was educated in the district school and reared under the parental roof. After her father's death she purchased the interest of the other heirs in the old home place of ninety-two acres and she secured forty acres through the division of the estate. They lived upon the home farm and Mr. Atwood not only supervised the management of the property but also labored earnestly for the promotion of the cause of Christianity. He was an earnest speaker, full of zeal for his religion and the cause of the Master found in him an able exponent, who taught by example as well as precept.

After the inauguration of the Civil war Mr. Atwood enlisted for three years' service, but returned home before his time had expired, owing to ill health. He was in a hospital for nearly a year, being first in a hospital in Kentucky, whence he was transferred to Chicago and there he was honorably discharged. He had joined the army as a member of Company I, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, under the command of Captain Vinson and Captain Harmon. He joined the army as a



MRS. DIADAMA ATWOOD.



ALFRED ATWOOD.

private but was promoted to the rank of orderly sergeant at Danville before the regiment was sent to the front. He participated in no battles, his regiment being held in reserve. His health, however, was undermined through the hardships and exposures of army life and he lived only twelve weeks after his return, passing away on the 2d of June, 1865. In his political views he was an earnest Republican and in all life's relations was found true to his honest convictions, never faltering in the pursuance of a course which he believed to be an honorable one. He left to his family the priceless heritage of an untarnished name and his example is still a potent influence for good in the lives of those who knew him.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Atwood were born four children. Mary Margaret became the wife of George Johnson, of Danville, and they have four children, Diadama, Lulu, Elmer and Alfred. Isaac J., of Pilot township, married Rachel Johnson, and they have two children, Edna and Charlie. Samuel A. married Belle Goodner, of Pilot township, and their children are George A., Maude V., Robert and Walter. James William, also living in Pilot township, married Fannie Brooks, now deceased, and they had a son and daughter, Gilbert and Gertrude May. After her death he married Anna Rickard, and they have one child, James Russell. Mrs. Atwood also has four great-grandchildren, Palmer and Roland Craig, Marion Leland Van Allen, and Dorothy L. Atwood.

Like her husband, Mrs. Atwood is an earnest Christian, for thirty-five years having held membership with the Christian church, and to the cause she is most devoted, taking an active interest in everything pertaining to its growth. Her youngest child was but four years of age at the

time of her husband's death, so that upon her devolved the task of rearing the family, educating them and preparing them for the practical and responsible duties of life. At the time of his death Mr. Atwood owned one hundred and sixty acres of land, but before the property was divided, owing to the capable management and business ability of the widow this estate had been increased to three hundred and seventy-two acres. She gave to each of her children forty acres of land, retaining possession of one hundred acres upon which she lives and she also has eighty acres in two other farms. She has always been the manager of her own landed interests, has built a home and barn upon her place and with the aid of hired men carries on agricultural pursuits. She has fed as high as forty-three head of cattle of her own raising, and has sold and shipped much stock. She has always handled stock since her husband's death and is well known as a lady of marked enterprise, executive force and keen business discernment. She certainly deserves great credit for what she has accomplished, not only in a business way but in rearing her family of children, all of whom are members of the church and are a credit to this excellent mother.

CHRISTOPHER MULVANY.

Christopher Mulvany, who is filling the office of justice of the peace and engages in the practice of law in Fairmount, was born in eastern Tennessee on the 7th of April, 1845. His father, G. W. Mulvany, was a native of Pennsylvania, while the mother of our subject, likewise born in that state, bore the maiden name of Susan Stansberry, and was of German lineage

her father having been born in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Mulvany were married in Tennessee and there he carried on farming until 1853, when he removed with his family to Marion county, Illinois, making his home there until June, 1881, when he was called to his final rest. His wife had died in the '50s, during the early childhood of our subject, and he was again married in 1860, his second being with Annie E. Adams, who was born on the Bermuda islands. She yet resides in Marion county upon the old home place. Mr. Mulvany was a Democrat in political affiliations and his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. By his first marriage he had ten children, of whom five are yet living, namely: Catherine, who is the widow of William Hoekaday, and a resident of Missouri; Christopher, of this review; Hiram, who resides in Nebraska; J. H., who makes his home in Clark county, Illinois; and George W., who resides in Marion county, this state. The children of the second marriage were five in number, and three yet survive: Wesley, Florence and Asbury, all of Marion county.

In the district schools of Marion county Christopher Mulvany pursued his education, but his opportunities in that direction were somewhat limited. He was only about eight years of age when his father came to Illinois and here he was reared upon the old homestead, assisting in the work of the farm until the 4th of October, 1862, when he placed his name upon the roll of volunteers for service in the Civil war, enlisting in Salem, Illinois, as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Eleventh Illinois Infantry, under the command of Captain Joseph Shultz and Colonel James S. Martin

He was mustered in at Paducah, Kentucky, July 3, 1863, having served for nine months before being mustered into the United States service. After his enlistment he was ordered to Columbus, Kentucky, and remained there through the winter, going in the spring to Fort Hindman, Kentucky. From that place he proceeded to Paducah, and afterward to Eastport, Mississippi, and Pulaski, Tennessee. He next went to Decatur Junction, Alabama, and on to Lawrenceville, Alabama, after which, under the command of General Giles A. Smith, he went on the raid against Atlanta. He took part in the engagement at Snake Creek Gap and Resaca, Dallas and Kennesaw Mountain, and afterward proceeded to Rossville, crossing the river on the 22d of July and taking part in an engagement at New Hope Church on the 28th of the same month. He was afterward in the battle of Jonesboro, was encamped at Camp McPherson, Georgia, and then followed Hood to the Chatanooga valley, after which his command returned to Atlanta and joined General Sherman's forces on the march to the sea. The next battle in which Mr. Mulvany participated was at Fort McAlister, after which his division went by transport to a point where they landed and captured a large number of supplies. Throughout the Carolina campaign our subject followed the old flag and was at Raleigh, North Carolina, when General Johnston surrendered. With his command he then participated in the grand review at Washington, which marched through the streets of the capital city and passed the reviewing stand on which the president stood watching the victorious troops who had saved the national honor and preserved the Union intact. In May of that year Mr. Mulvany was trans-

ferred to Company F, Forty-eighth Illinois Infantry and sent to Louisville, Kentucky, where he remained until June. The regiment then proceeded by steamer to Duvall's Bluff, Arkansas, and on to Little Rock, after which they returned by steamer to Cairo, Illinois, and on the 15th of August, 1865, our subject was honorably discharged at Camp Butler, Illinois. He was mustered out on the 15th of September.

Returning to Marion county, our subject engaged in farming and remained there until August 18, 1881, when he came to Fairmount, Vermilion county, where he turned his attention to teaming. The following year he began work for J. H. Parrish, in the grain business, remaining with him for seven years. He afterward spent two years in the employ of Mr. Benson in the grain trade, but during that period, in 1883, he was elected constable. The following year he was chosen justice of the peace and has since occupied that position, proving a most capable officer, his decisions being strictly fair and impartial. He has held several other offices in the village, including that of clerk and village attorney, and in his political views Mr. Mulvany is a stalwart Republican.

On the 2d of October, 1866, in Paoli, Indiana, Christopher Mulvany was united in marriage to Miss Mary J. Adams, who was born in New York, September 11, 1850, a daughter of John and A. E. (Mortin) Adams. Her father was a native of Ireland and her mother was born in the Bermuda islands, where they were married. They located first in Canada and in 1855 removed to Farina, Illinois, where they remained for a number of years, Mr. Adams being engaged as section foreman for the Illinois Central Railroad Company. In

1860 he went to California, settling near San Diego, where he resided for twenty years, his death occurring there in 1886. He was a member of the Catholic church. His widow afterward married G. W. Mulvany, who died in 1881. She is now living in Marion county, Illinois.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Mulvany have been born seven children: A. T., who married Anna Crane, by whom he has three children, and resides in Marion, Illinois, where he is employed as house engineer for the coal company; Etta C., the wife of J. L. O'Harrow, a telegraph operator of Fairmount, by whom she has five children: Charles A., a coal operator of Riverton, Illinois, who wedded Maggie Menzer and has one child, Nora, who is employed in the telephone exchange in Fairmount; M. S., who is engaged in the jewelry business; O. H., who follows farming; and Gracie B., who is employed in the wall paper store of Lock & Robinson. The last four are all at home with their parents in Fairmount.

Mr. Mulvany is a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp and is well known in the town where he makes his home. For eighteen years he has filled the position of justice of the peace, and no higher testimonial of his capability and his efficient service could be given than the fact that he has so long continued in this office. He is today as true and loyal to his duties of citizenship in times of peace as he was when he followed the old flag on southern battlefields.

DAVID JOHNSTON.

David Johnston was born in Mason county, Kentucky, February 6, 1826, his parents being John and Sarah (Matheny)

Johnston, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Ohio. Her father was Elias Matheny, who served under Washington in the Revolutionary war. They removed from Mason county, Kentucky, to Adams county, Ohio, during the infancy of our subject and in 1844 he came on horseback to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling in the edge of the prairie a mile and a half from the present site of Oakwood. While in his native state he had worked as a farm hand for eight dollars per month and he continued to earn his living in that way until 1850, when he secured three yoke of oxen, which he used breaking the prairie. That fall with an old Virginian wagon filled with apples he started for Chicago, peddling his fruit along the way. In 1852 he went to Chicago with a team of horses and brought back a load of shingles for a neighbor. He hauled oats to Covington, where he sold them at ten cents per bushel and his trading point in those early days was Danville.

On the 11th of November, 1852, Mr. Johnston wedded Mary Brittingham, a daughter of A. W. and Matilda (Watson) Brittingham, the former a native of Vermilion county and the latter of Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston began life here in a primitive way. Her mother had given her a bedstead which she still has in her possession, cherishing it as a relic of those pioneer times, but with the exception of this piece of furniture all that the little home contained was made by Mr. Johnston. Driving some wooden pins into the logs, he placed thereon some boards and thus formed a cupboard. All cooking was done in skillets or in kettles in the great fireplace and cornbread was baked upon a smooth board, placed amid the coals.

Mr. Johnston was but fourteen years

of age when his mother died and he had nothing with which to begin life save what he made, but with the assistance of his estimable wife he has managed to not only provide his family with the necessities of life, but to secure many of its comforts. In the early days, when riding horseback, he run prairie wolves down and knocked them on the head and he has seen as many as twenty-five deer at a time, while wild turkeys were to be shot in vast numbers and other wild game was plentiful. The picture of farm life at that time is very different from that presented at the present day. Now the farmer rides over the fields upon his improved plows, cultivators or harvesters, but in those days he walked behind his little primitive plow with its wooden mold board, using rope traces to guide the horse. There was also a wooden bridle and a rope head-stall. The reap hook and cradle were used in the harvest fields and corn was dropped by hand. Mrs. Johnston in her early days frequently dropping corn for her father in the fields. Mr. Johnston has cradled grain many days for seventy-five cents per day. He is one of the honored pioneers of the county and there is little concerning the primitive development of this section of the state that is not familiar to him. His wife was born only a mile and a quarter north and a half mile east of her present home. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children, but Matilda J. is now deceased. The son, John W., is a resident of Oakwood township. The daughter was the wife of David Young and at her death left a daughter, Mary E. Young, who became the wife of William Van Allen, a son of John Van Allen and of this marriage there is a daughter, Grace Van Allen.



EDWIN MARTIN.

It was on the 5th of March, 1857, that Mr. and Mrs. Johnston removed to the farm upon which they are now residing on section 1, Oakwood township, where he owns two hundred and twenty-five acres of the best improved land of Vermilion county, all tilled and under a high state of cultivation. He is a Republican in his political views and has served as school director and pathmaster. Both he and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal church and are earnest Christian people, respected by all who know them.

EDWIN MARTIN.

When twenty-five years of age Edwin Martin came from the old world to the United States and at once took up his abode in Danville, where he lived continuously until called to the home beyond. For many years he occupied a creditable position in business circles, conducting a grocery store which brought to him success, making him one of the substantial residents of the community.

Mr. Martin was born in Bedfordshire, England, October 29, 1845, and his parents were also natives of that country, where they spent their entire lives, but they died during the early boyhood days of our subject, so that he knew little concerning the family history. He had four sisters and one brother, but all are now deceased. His educational privileges were extremely meager but in the school of experience he learned many valuable and practical lessons, and early realizing that advancement can be secured through close application, faithfulness and laudable ambition he re-

solved to make the most of his opportunities and work his way upward. Early in life he engaged in clerking in a mercantile establishment, and afterward in a large grocer house. In 1870 he carried out his cherished plan of coming to America, for the reports which he had heard concerning this country led him to believe that better business opportunities were here afforded, nor was he disappointed in the hope that brought him to the new world. He came directly to Danville and soon secured a clerkship in the dry-goods store of C. B. & J. R. Holloway, with whom he remained for several years, when, having acquired some capital through his industry and economy, he began business on his own account as a grocer.

On the 30th of May, 1877, in Danville, Illinois, Edwin Martin was united in marriage to Miss Laura Giddings, an estimable lady who proved an able assistant and helpmate to him. She was born in this city, a daughter of William and Caroline (Kitchiner) Giddings, both of whom were natives of Bedfordshire, England, where they were reared and married. Mr. Giddings clerking in a mercantile establishment of his native country until 1837, when he came to America and established his home in this city. He then began dealing in wagons and carriages, and retired from active life about 1865, spending his last ten years in the enjoyment of a well merited rest. He exercised his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, was a charter member of the Danville Lodge of Odd Fellows, in which he was honored with office for many years, and belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church. Both he and his wife passed away in 1875 and were laid to rest in Spring Hill cemetery. In their

family were nine children, of whom five yet survive, namely: J. W., of Danville; Frances, the widow of John Partlow and a resident of this city; C. H., who makes his home in Evanston, Illinois; Albert, of Danville; and Mrs. Martin. Mr. and Mrs. Giddings were people of genuine worth whose life experience developed in them characters of uprightness and honor and by all who knew them they were held in the highest esteem. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Martin was blessed with two children. Nellie is the wife of E. C. Thornton, a professor of music in Danville and the organist of the First Methodist Episcopal church. His father is chaplain in the penitentiary of Joliet, Illinois. Professor and Mrs. Thornton have two sons—Edwin M. and Jesse D. William E., the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin, is now a practicing dentist of Danville, with an office in the Temple building.

After his marriage Mr. Martin continued in the grocery trade for a number of years and subsequently retired to private life, having in the meantime conducted a profitable trade. He always made it his habit to spend less than his income and thus year by year he added to his capital until he became the possessor of a very desirable competence, which enabled him to rest from further labor. He was a Republican in politics, but refused to hold office, although he took an active and helpful interest in the growth and success of his party. An exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity, he was made a Mason in Danville in 1880 and attained to the Knight Templar degree. He was also connected with the Knights of Honor and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He had due regard for the obligations of religious life, served as a member of the official board of the church, as superintend-

ent of the Sunday-school and labored earnestly and effectively for the promotion of the cause of Christianity among his fellow men. Such labor always reacts upon the individual and there was developed in Mr. Martin's character nobility, generosity and benevolence which caused him to be revered and respected by all, awakening the regard of those whom he met and gaining him the friendship of many. He passed away February 24, 1885, but those who knew him cherish for him pleasant recollections and his influence is yet felt as a moving force in the lives of those with whom he was intimately connected.

MAHLON ALDRIDGE.

Mahlon Aldridge, now deceased, was a man of sterling worth and upright principle who enjoyed the respect and confidence of many friends. He came of a family noted for their patriotic spirit, and the same love of country and fidelity to duty prompted his service in the Civil war. His great-grandfather fought under Washington in the war of the Revolution. His grandfather was a soldier in the war of 1812 and was with Harrison in the battle of Tippecanoe. His father took part in the Black Hawk war, being a member of the Home Guard, and our subject joined the Union army. John Aldridge, the father, was a native of Ohio, born in 1811, and was twice married. For his second wife he chose Grace Williams, a daughter of William and Anna (Loveday) Williams. She was born in Cornwall, England, January 17, 1806, and came to America with her father's family, in 1810, settling in Washington, D. C., the following year. Her

mother died in 1822 and the father removed with his family to Wilmington, Indiana, in 1823. The daughter became a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at North Hogan, near Johnston's Mill, and ever lived a consistent Christian life. On the 16th of December, 1825, she gave her hand in marriage to John Powell, and unto them were born three sons and three daughters, of whom one is living, Mrs. S. A. Cornelius, of Sidell, Illinois. They lived happily together until his death, and in 1841 she gave her hand in marriage to John Aldridge. By the second marriage she had but one child, the subject of this sketch.

Mahlon Aldridge, whose name introduces this record, began his education in the schools of Indiana, and at the age of ten years he became a resident of the vicinity of Fairmount. He resided in this portion of the state throughout his remaining days, with the exception of a period of five years spent in West Lebanon, Indiana. In early life he became a factor in the operation of his father's farm, and continued to assist in its cultivation until eighteen years of age, when his patriotic spirit being aroused by the attempt of the south to overthrow the Union, he enlisted in the Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry, as a member of Company B. Later, on the 6th of August, 1862, he became a member of Company E., Seventy-third Illinois Infantry, in which he held the rank of sergeant. He took part in many important battles of the war up to the battle of Franklin, Tennessee, on the 30th of November, 1864, at which time he was wounded in the shoulder by a rifle ball. He was then sent to the hospital at Nashville, Tennessee, where he remained for a short time, after which he was transferred to the hospital in Cairo, Illinois, where he remained for

ten months. On the expiration of his term of enlistment he was honorably discharged, the war having ended.

In 1865 Mr. Aldridge returned to Fairmount, and engaged in clerking with his father, later becoming a partner in the store. In 1866, however their business was destroyed by fire and at that time our subject removed to a farm, where he remained until 1871. The following five years were spent at West Lebanon, Indiana, after which he returned to Illinois, beginning farming in Vance township, Vermilion county, where he had two hundred acres of good land. To the further development and improvement of this property he devoted his energies until his death, and was a progressive and leading agriculturist of his community.

On the 6th of November, 1866, Mr. Aldridge was married in Logansport, Indiana, to Miss Maggie Braught, who was born in Monticello, Indiana, September 12, 1845, a daughter of William and Adeline (Reame) Braught, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. Their marriage, however, took place in Monticello, Indiana, where they began their domestic life, the father following cabinet-making there until 1850, when he was called to his final rest. The mother survived him only about two years. In his political views he was a Republican and fraternally he was a Mason, while in religious faith he was a Presbyterian and long filled the position of elder in his church. In his family were three children. Alva W. Braught, the brother of Mrs. Aldridge, was in the regular army when last heard of. Her sister, Mrs. Caroline Graham, resides in Gosport, Indiana.

Unto our subject and his wife were born

eight children. Charles L., the eldest, born August 8, 1867, is an official in the state penitentiary at Joliet, Illinois. He wedded May Towner, who died November 9, 1899, leaving five children, of whom four are now living, Stella, Edna, Opal and Roy. George L., born March 15, 1860, resides in Fairmount. John William, born August 5, 1870, enlisted in the regular army during the Spanish-American war, becoming a member of Company G, Third Regiment. He was in the sharp and sanguine engagements at Santiago, El Caney and Saboney and was with Colonel Roosevelt and his Rough Riders in the charge on San Juan Hill. He contracted yellow fever, which reduced his weight from one hundred and sixty-five pounds to eighty pounds, and died from the effects of his service on the 24th of August, 1902. Clara Belle, born February 27, 1872, is the wife of L. McAllister, a farmer residing near Indianola, Illinois, and they have five children, Grace, Claude, Virginia, Veril and Aldridge. Emma Blanche, born October 17, 1873, is the wife of W. E. Morrison, of Jamaica, Illinois, and they have two daughters, Mary M. and Jessie. Harry F., born March 2, 1875, married Phebe Hague and resides in Deer Lodge, Montana. At the beginning of the Cuban war he enlisted at Pekin, Illinois, in Company L, Fifth Illinois Infantry, but was afterward transferred to Company H of the same regiment. He remained in the service until the close of the war but his regiment never left the United States. Mahlon Ray, born February 1, 1878, is living in Butte, Montana. Grace A., born February 15, 1880, was married on the 30th of April, 1902, to Charles Dougherty, and they now reside in Fairmount, Illinois.

Mr. Aldridge, whose name introduces

this review, was a stalwart Republican but though he believed firmly in the principles of the party and did all in his power to promote its growth and insure its success, he ever refused to hold office. He passed away January 24, 1888, and was laid to rest in Fairmount cemetery. He had been a valued member of the Odd Fellows Society and of the Grand Army of the Republic and was a man who in all the relations of life was true to upright principles and of sterling worth. In 1890 his widow removed with her family to Sidell and in 1892 took up her residence in Fairmount, where she is now living. She now has in her possession a birch cane which was cut on the Tippecanoe battle ground May 20, 1840, by her father, William Braught. That same day he and a companion killed a deer and divided the horns. A part of one of these was used to adorn the cane. Mrs. Aldridge has been offered fifty dollars for this cane by the war museum of Indianapolis but has refused to part with it. The Aldridge family has long been a prominent and influential one here and the members of the household occupy an enviable position in social circles.

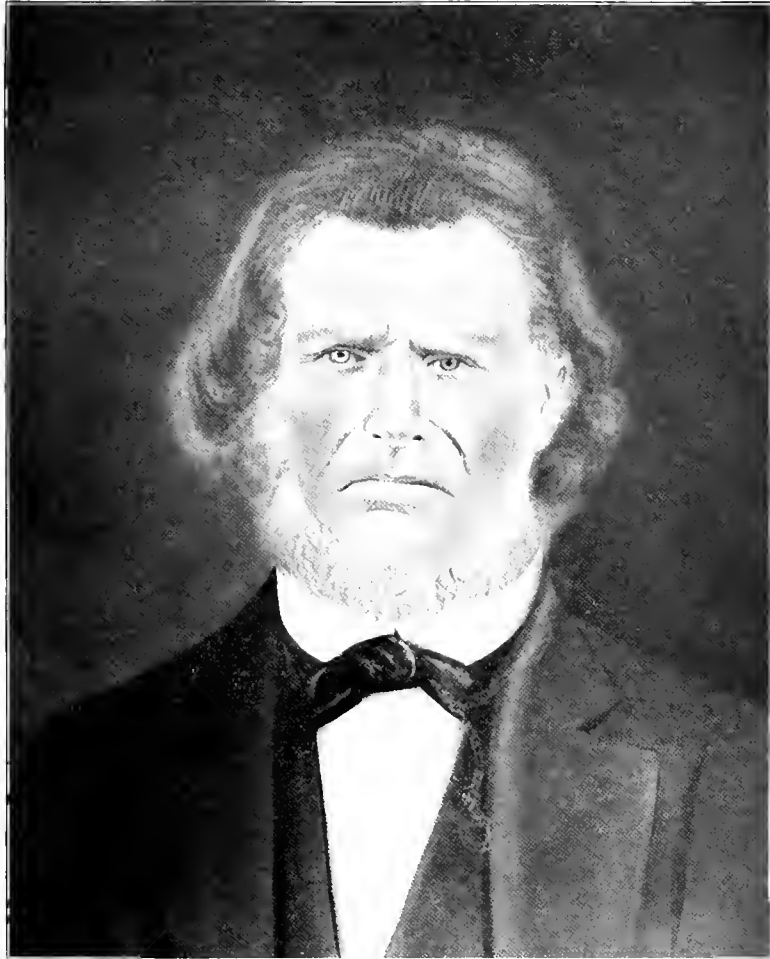


JOHN M. DOUGLASS.

John M. Douglass is a retired farmer and pioneer settler of Vermilion county, living in Catlin. He was born in Ripley county, Indiana, August 23, 1823. His father, Thomas W. Douglass, was born on the Penobscot river in Maine and emigrated to Dearborn county, Indiana, settling near Rising Sun. He married Delilah Payne, a native of New York, and they became the parents of twelve children, ten of whom



J. M. DOUGLASS.



THOMAS W. DOUGLASS.

reached adult age, while seven are yet living, the subject of this review being the fourth in order of birth. The father was a farmer by occupation and on coming to Illinois he drove through the black swamps of Indiana, while the wheels would sink into the mud to the hubs. He arrived here in the spring of 1830, several families making the trip together. Here he entered two hundred and forty acres of land upon the section where the county farm is now located. The tents of the Indians were still pitched in the forests and the redmen roamed over the prairies. The wolves then were more numerous than rabbits at the present day and there were many kinds of wild game, including turkeys, geese, prairie chickens and deer. The Douglass family lived in a double log house for over thirty years, which the father had built. It had a stick and clay chimney and wood was used for fuel, for although there was coal in abundance in this part of the state, its utility was not recognized. Chicago was the main trading point and often trips were made to New Orleans in flatboats with cattle and hogs, business being conducted at various river points along the way. The father frequently hauled pork to Chicago and returned home with salt and other provisions, also with leather to make shoes for the children. The mother used to spin and weave all the cloth for the clothing, making thread from flax. Fires were often lighted with punk gathered in the timber and ignited by means of flint and tow. Camp meetings were often held in the forests where the tallow candles furnished light and the girls of the household frequently went to church barefooted, carrying their shoes until they neared the house of worship and removing them after the service was over. Mr. Douglass of this review hauled wheat to Chicago

when in his seventeenth year and at that time he camped out at night, forded the rivers and carried with him provisions for the trip, doing his own cooking. Such a trip consumed seven days and on reaching the market wheat was sold for fifty cents a bushel. He visited Chicago in 1846 when it was but a hamlet and Danville contained only a few log cabins and one store. The father died in the village of Catlin in October, 1865, and the mother passed away in September, 1856. Three of their sons entered the army and but one of the number is now living, he being a resident of Kansas. Mr. Douglass also has a sister in that state and another in Iowa.

John M. Douglass attended school altogether for only six months and during that time he sat upon a slab bench in a hewed log school building, lighted by greased paper windows. His training at farm labor, however, was not meager and he worked in the fields with a plow having a wooden mold board and cultivated the corn with a single shovel. The single rope line was used in driving the horses as leather harness had not been introduced. The girls of the household would drop the corn, keeping up with the plow. The grain was first cut with a sickle and afterward with a cradle.

Mr. Douglass was but seven years of age when he came with his parents to this county and when he attained his majority he started out in life for himself. He was married November 14, 1844, to Mahala Burroughs, who was born April 3, 1824, a daughter of Jesse and Polly (Wilson) Burroughs. They became the parents of nine children: Judith A., the wife of Joseph Tristler; Winfield S., who married Lizzie Clark; Mary Delilah, who died at the age of two years; Thomas Wilson, who died in

infancy; Clarissa, the wife of James Clipson, of Catlin township; Mahala, the wife of Charles Birley, of Catlin township; Permelia, who died in infancy; Armilda, the wife of Richard O'Connell; and Esther, who died when only a week old. The living children are residents of Catlin township with the exception of W. S. Douglass, who resides in the village.

John M. Douglass of this review purchased two hundred acres of land on section 16, Catlin township, at three and one-half dollars per acre in 1852. His son-in-law now lives on this property, which is one of the best improved farms of the county. It is equipped with a fine residence, substantial outbuildings, a splendid lawn and the richly cultivated fields are also supplemented by a forty acre timber tract. In 1887 Mr. Douglass was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 10th of October, of that year. On the 30th of November, 1892, he was again married, his second union being with Laura A. Stone, who was born at Irish Grove, Sangamon county, Illinois.

In politics Mr. Douglass is a Democrat and is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church of Catlin, with which his family is also connected. He likewise belongs to the Masonic lodge of Catlin. He has resided in the village since the fall of 1901, enjoying a well earned rest from further labor. He saw the first plank laid in that village and has witnessed its entire development, in fact, has seen nearly the entire growth and progress of the county as it has merged from the conditions of frontier life to take its place among the richest and most prosperous districts of this great state. Mr. Douglass is now in his seventy-ninth year, a venerable man, whose worth is widely acknowledged.

ARTHUR JONES.

Arthur Jones belongs to a prominent and highly honored family of Vermilion county and is now living upon a farm on section 20, Elwood township. He was born in this township on the 5th of January, 1879, his parents being Ira G. and Rhoda J. (Weller) Jones. The father is a native of Pennsylvania and in his boyhood days accompanied his parents to Indiana, whence he afterward came to Elwood township, Vermilion county, Illinois. He represented a family long connected with agricultural pursuits and was the youngest of a number of children, but he is now the only survivor. Ira Jones is an enterprising and prosperous man who has conducted extensive and important business interests, and he now owns nearly three thousand acres of the finest farming land of this state. He resides in Ridgefarm at the present time and is accounted one of the extensive land owners and capitalists as well as a citizen of sterling worth. His wife was born in Indiana, and in Newport that state gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Jones whom she then accompanied to Illinois. All of their children were born in this county. Mrs. Jones had three half sisters and three half brothers. Early in life the father of our subject married a Miss Connor, and there were five children by that marriage. By his marriage to the mother of our subject there were the following children. Perl, the husband of Alice Davis, by whom she has three children, is employed in a planing mill and lumber yard in Ridgefarm; Frank, a resident farmer of Edgar county, has two children; and Arthur.

Having acquired his early education in the common schools, Arthur Jones after-

ward pursued a high school course. He was early trained to the work of the home farm, assisting in the labors of field and meadow during his boyhood days. On the 17th of September, 1902, he married Nettie Cooke, a daughter of Joseph F. and Dru-silla (Campbell) Cooke, residents of Love township, Vermilion county. Her father is a native of Indiana and her mother of Missouri. They are now following farming in this locality. Their children are Mrs. Jones; Roy, of Indianapolis, who is now twenty-one years of age; Mrs. May Hughes, who is eighteen years of age and lives in Humrick; Clay, Blanche, Harley, Lura, and Glen, aged respectively fourteen, eleven, nine, seven and four years and all yet under the parental roof. Mrs. Jones was born on the 1st of December, 1879, in Edgar county, Illinois, and after attending the common schools continued her studies in the Bloomingdale Academy. She is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and Mr. Jones belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and to the Modern Woodmen. In politics he is a Republican and is a young man of energy and enterprise now successfully engaged in farming on section 20, Elwood township. He has always lived in this township and is widely known among its citizens.

A. R. SAMUEL.

A. R. Samuel is cashier of the Second National Bank of Danville, and from a humble position in the business world he has risen until he is now known as one of the leading financiers of the city of his adoption. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the 31st of March, 1859, and

is a son of A. R. and Catherine (Boden) Samuels, the former a native of Wales. When a boy of twelve years the father came to America with his parents, locating in Philadelphia where he learned the trade of a glass manufacturer. Subsequently he engaged in the manufacture of glass under the name of the Keystone Glass Works, of which he was sole proprietor. This enterprise became an extensive and important one and contributed to him a very liberal income. He died in 1871 at the age of fifty-six years and his wife, surviving him until 1883, passed away at the age of sixty-six years. In their family were seven children, six sons and three daughters, of whom three are yet living, Mr. Samuel of this review being the youngest. The others are: John B., a resident of California, and H. H., who is living in Philadelphia. The maternal ancestors of our subject were of an old Pennsylvania family that resided near Harrisburg.

A. R. Samuel pursued his education in the public schools of Philadelphia. At the age of thirteen he went into business for himself, thus entering mercantile life at an early age, on account of his father's failure, caused by the wide-spread financial panic of 1873. He was first employed as a clerk in a grocery store in Philadelphia, receiving three dollars per week. A few years afterward he went into a bank, becoming an employe in the Western National Bank, of Philadelphia, where he was employed at twenty dollars a month, giving up a position of thirty dollars in order to accept this because he desired to learn the banking business. He first acted as messenger boy, but steadily as he advanced, promotion coming to him in recognition of his ability, close application and trustworthiness. Upon

leaving the institution he was occupying the position of cashier's clerk. In November, 1881, however he severed his business relations with the east and came to Danville, arriving here on the 30th of the month. On the 1st of December, 1881, the Second National Bank sprang into existence as a result of the organizing efforts of Mr. Samuel, who has since been connected with the institution. He at first occupied the position of bookkeeper and after ninety days was appointed teller, while within a few months he was made assistant cashier. In 1888 he was elected cashier and has since continued in this position. Upon the death of William P. Cannon he was also chosen vice-president, holding the dual office at the present time. He has been a very prominent factor in the growth of the institution. He is thoroughly familiar with the banking business in every department and in every detail, and he considers nothing connected with the institution too unimportant to receive his attention. This has been one of the salient features in his career and has contributed in no small degree to the prosperity of the institution. He has always followed a safe, conservative policy in handling financial questions and interests and his work has been of marked benefit to the Second National Bank. A man of strong executive force and excellent business foresight. Mr. Samuel has extended his efforts in various lines. He was for several years one of the owners and was occupying the position of treasurer of the street railway company from the organization of the company in 1886 until 1900, when the plant was sold to eastern capitalists. This company also controlled the gas and electric light plant in connection with its realty interests.

On the 6th of November, 1889, Mr. Samuel was united in marriage to Miss Gertrude T. D. Daniel, a daughter of A. C. Daniel. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Samuel have been born two children, but both are now deceased. They have also an adopted daughter, Rosetta, who was the daughter of his brother John B. Samuel. They adopted her legally and she has since been a member of the household. Mr. Samuel is a man of broad humanitarian spirit, progressive and enterprising, and at the present time he is serving as a director of the Lake View Hospital. Socially he is identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternally and with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In politics he is a stalwart Republican and has served as township school treasurer, but the honors of office have had little attraction for him as he has preferred to devote his time and energies to his business affairs. There has been nothing sensational in his career. Every step has been thoughtfully and deliberately made and every advance has been at the cost of hard and self-denying labor. He stands to-day a strong man—strong in the consciousness of well spent years, strong to plan and perform, strong in his credit and good name and a worthy example for young men.

THOMAS DUFFIN.

Thomas Duffin, a retired farmer and man of wealth living in Grant township, Vermilion county, was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1831, five generations of the family living in the same house in Lincolnshire, and the old home place is now occupied by his brother John. His parents were

John and Jane (Holmes) Duffin, who spent their entire lives in England. In their family were thirteen children, ten of whom are now living, the subject of this review being the eldest.

At the age of nine years Thomas Duffin left school and began earning his own living. He remained in Lincolnshire until twenty-one years of age and on crossing the Atlantic to America he located in Plymouth, Ohio, where he was employed as a farm hand for a year. He then returned to his native country and while there was united in marriage to Miss Charlotte Arnold. Bringing his bride to the new world he then again took up his abode in Plymouth, Ohio. In 1864 he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land at nine dollars per acre. He now has a valuable farm of one hundred and eighty acres which is under a very high state of cultivation and well improved, with all modern equipments.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Duffin has been blessed with six children who are yet living. They also lost three. John H., the eldest, married Etta Carl. George wedded Lillie Raridan and is living in Grant township. L. J. is the next of the family. F. G., the present treasurer of Grant township, married Marintha Smith, a daughter of Rhodes and Minerva (Cossey) Smith, who are residents of Hoopeston, the father being a retired farmer. The daughter was born in Indiana and by her marriage she has become the mother of one son, Russell Maurice. F. G. Duffin and his wife have an adopted daughter, Vena, who is now ten years of age. For some years F. G. Duffin engaged in teaching, and for one year was principal of the schools of Cheneyville. At the present time he is engaged in studying

law in Bloomington, Illinois. The next member of the family is P. S., who was principal of the Lincoln school of Hoopeston, and is now a student. The youngest member of the family is Charles A. The three sons, F. G., P. S. and C. A. are all graduates of Greer College, of Hoopeston, and the wife of the first named is likewise a graduate of that college.

In 1893 Mr. Duffin of this review was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died in the month of July and was laid to rest in Floral Hill cemetery, of Hoopeston. He belongs to the Church of England, while his children are members of the Christian church. In politics he has always been a Republican, earnest and faithful in support of the party. About five years ago he practically retired from farm life, while his sons operate his land. He placed all of the improvements upon his farm, however, and they are the visible evidences of his life of industry and earnest toil.

CHARLES M. LEWIS.

Charles M. Lewis, an architect of Danville, was born in Macon county, Illinois, November 18, 1873. He is therefore yet a young man and is just reaching the zenith of his powers. His business is annually growing both in volume and importance, and to-day he is a leading representative of his line of industrial activity in the city where he makes his home. His father, Charles S. Lewis, was a native of New Jersey, and in this state was married to Nancy Clements, a native of Kentucky. They located at Blue Mound, Illinois, where the father engaged in the lumber business for some years, but is now living retired. He is a Democrat who has been honored with

many local offices and is a member of the Christian church. He had but two children, the sister of our subject being Sarah, the wife of Elton Nichols, a resident of Blue Mound, by whom she has two children.

Charles M. Lewis attended the public schools of Macon county and the business college of Decatur, while later he became a student in the University of Illinois, and was graduated from the architectural department with the class of 1896. He was afterward associated with his father in the lumber business for a year and a half, and then came to Danville, where he secured a position under the government in the architectural department, building the Soldiers' Home at that place. Afterward he opened an office of his own in the Temple building and has since made his headquarters here and has been connected with the construction of many of the important buildings here. He is also a stockholder of the Danville Artificial Ice & Cold Storage Company and the Western Ice & Cold Storage Company of Indianapolis.

On the 21st of April, 1898, in Urbana, Illinois, Mr. Lewis was married to Miss Marian Wright, but on the 23d of May, 1899, she passed away. Her father, Judge F. M. Wright, was a prominent member of the Court of Claims of the United States. Mr. Lewis is a Republican in his political views, a member of the Elks Society, and of the Sigma Chi fraternity of the State University.

SAMUEL PERRY LE NEVE.

Samuel Perry Le Neve is one of the prominent and honored pioneer settlers of Newell township, his birth having here oc-

curred on December 23, 1828. He is a son of John and Rebecca (Newell) Le Neve, his father a native of Tennessee and his mother of Harrison county, Kentucky. They were among the earliest settlers of Newell township and of Vermilion county. The mother was a daughter of William Newell, in whose honor Newell township was named. The father of our subject began life with the modest capital of one hundred and thirteen dollars and fifty cents. With this he purchased eighty acres of timber and prairie land at one dollar and a quarter per acre. He then had remaining just thirteen dollars and fifty cents with which to begin house-keeping. He made rails to pay for the first cow he possessed, and he made a place for their dishes by driving pins in a log of the cabin and placing a board on them. This old log house was the birthplace of Samuel P. Le Neve and he was there reared. John Le Neve came to Vermilion county with his parents in an old "prairie schooner." The parents settled seven miles west of Vincennes, on Elliston prairie, and there spent their remaining days. John Le Neve was engaged in general farming and was a noted stock man of his locality, raising a fine grade of stock and deriving a good income from the sale of the same. He spent his remaining days on the old homestead in Newell township, and his wife also was called to her final rest while living there.

The brothers and sisters of our subject should also be mentioned in connection with the family history as they have all borne important parts in the development of the communities in which they have resided. Samuel Perry is the oldest of the family. Isabel Martin, the second in order of birth, is deceased. William, who was a well known and honored resident of Indiana,



S. P. LE NEVE.



MRS. S. P. LE NEVE.

died there March 16, 1902, after a life filled with good deeds. He first married Emma Smith, of Champaign county, Illinois, by whom he had two children and after her death married Minnie Mills. Their children were Emma and John S., deceased; Santford W.; Lilly, Thomas; Samuel; Laura and Nellie, twins. John, the fourth member of the Le Neve family, is deceased. Seraphine married John S. Webber, a resident farmer of Paxton, Illinois, and they had eight children: Perry, deceased; Almond Flavius, who married Hattie Harnett; John; Charlie; Lincoln; Julia, the wife of Henry Corbly, of Champaign county; Nettie, the wife of Frank Youle and the mother of one son; and Ross, now Mrs. Stanley Sutton, who also has one son. The sixth member of the Le Neve family is Almond N., whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. Mrs. Mary J. Leonard is deceased and left two children, Perry and Belle. Thomas, who died in infancy, completes the family.

Samuel Perry Le Neve of this review spent the days of his boyhood and youth on the old home farm, assisting his father in the spring, summer and fall and attending the district schools during the winter seasons. His early education was supplemented by attendance in the Danville high school. His first attendance was in a log schoolhouse where they sawed off the logs for benches and put in pins for legs. They had a long desk made of slabs, and the light came through an aperture that was covered with oiled paper. Later he entered the Georgetown high school, where he continued until his senior year. In 1852 he went to California by way of New Orleans, the Gulf of Mexico and the Isthmus of Panama, crossing that neck of land by way of the Chagres river, and on reaching the

other side he found seven thousand passengers awaiting transportation to California. After a delay of nineteen days he secured passage on the John J. Russell to San Francisco. After leaving the isthmus he was out fifty-three days, during which time he nearly died from starvation and was put on an allowance of one-half pint of water per day. At the republic of Mexico he remained for twenty-two days and later he purchased a ticket on the Golden Gate steamship and went through to San Francisco. His first work done in the western country was in the mines of Marysville, California. He received eighty dollars and later one hundred and ten dollars per month for his services, and was finally advanced to one hundred and twenty dollars per month, being employed in the town of Marysville at the time he received the latter compensation. Later he engaged in the teaming business for himself, which occupation he followed for fourteen years. He then went to Nevada City and became identified with the stock and grain business. After this he made his home in Virginia City for two years.

Mr. Le Neve then returned to his native county of Vermilion, by way of New York city, and engaged in general farming on section 23, also carrying on stock-raising to a considerable extent, dealing in shorthorn cattle, as well as good grades of hogs and horses. Here he resided until he retired to his present comfortable home three miles north of Danville. Mr. Le Neve has witnessed the growth and development of this progressive city, which as he remembers it in its primitive state had only three small stores. He has been closely associated with the upbuilding and progress of Vermilion county, and especially of Newell township, having borne his share of the work which was ably carried forward by his fellow pio-

neers. On his farm he has worked with untiring activity, has broken the prairies, plowed the fields, planted the grain and reaped the rich harvests resulting therefrom, and to-day is one of the foremost men of the community, honored and respected by all. He has been able to acquire a comfortable competence through his own exertions mainly, supplemented by the little assistance which his father was able to give him and by the education which fitted him to take his place among the leading business men of the state.

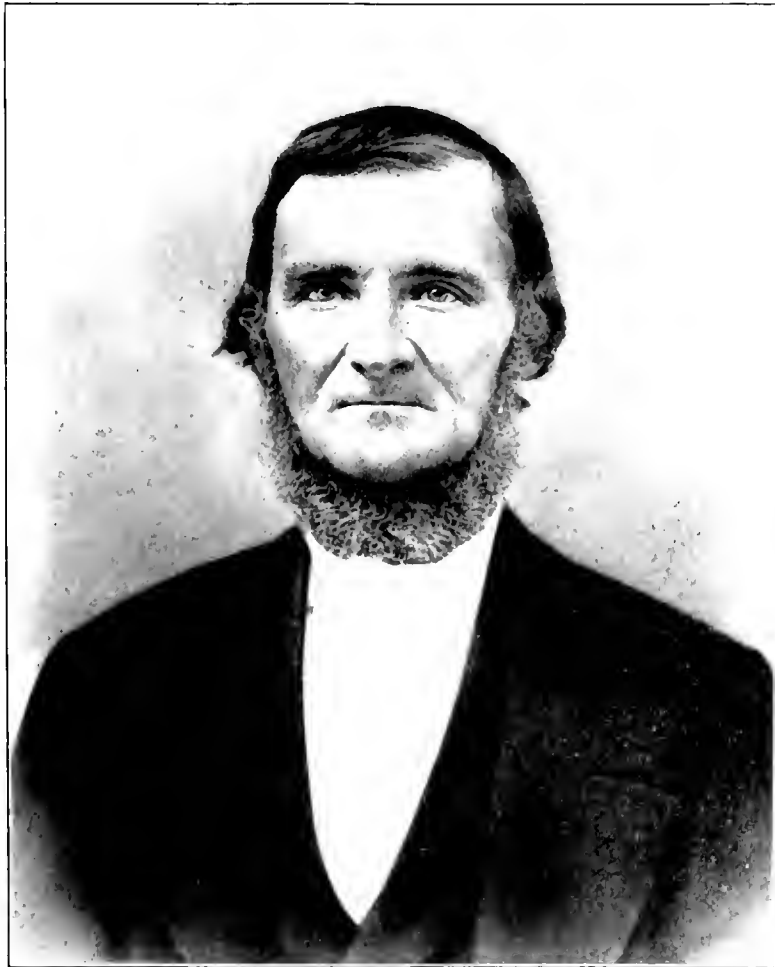
Mr. Le Neve was married March 8, 1869, the lady of his choice being Miss Adeline Wilson. She was born in Virginia, December 13, 1847, and is a daughter of Jesse and Elizabeth (Stump) Wilson, both natives of Virginia. She is the third in order of birth in her father's family.

Mr. Le Neve had many exciting experiences during his travels in the western country, where the desire for gold brought many adventurers of a dangerous character, as well as good citizens of the calibre of Mr. Le Neve. During his absence he was accounted lost for many years, and on returning to his native county his own relatives did not at first recognize him. He settled in Pilot township, on section 23, in 1868, and from there removed to Danville. He owns over four hundred acres of the best land in Vermilion county and should be numbered among the substantial agriculturists who have made the county what it is to-day—one of the richest in the state. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Pilot Grove, in which they have both been active and earnest workers. He has contributed liberally to the support of the churches of the county as well as the schools and to other public

enterprises. In his political affiliations Mr. Le Neve was first a Whig and upon the organization of the Republican party joined its ranks. He takes a deep interest in the issues and questions of the day, both political and otherwise, and has ever a good word to speak in favor of the social, moral and intellectual advancement of his township, state and county.

JOHN W. MILLER.

John W. Miller, a member of the firm of Miller & Dye, proprietors of marble works in Danville, was born near Des Moines, Iowa, July 10, 1865, a son of Ellis F. and Martha (Robinson) Miller, both of whom were natives of Montgomery county, Indiana, and were there married. The father was a farmer by occupation and in 1862 removed to Iowa, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1866, when he became a resident of Vermilion county, Illinois. After farming here for three years he took up his abode in the town of Hoopeston, where he engaged in the marble and granite business until 1890, when he retired and moved to Danville. There he died July 23, 1901. He was a Democrat but not a politician and cared naught for the honors and emoluments of office. He belonged to the Church of Christ, in which his wife also held membership. She died July 23, 1887, and was laid to rest in the cemetery of Hoopeston, after which the father was again married in the year 1880, his second union being with Mrs. Mattie (Knox) Copeland, of Potomac. By the first marriage there were eight children, of whom four are living, namely: John W.; Lyda,



JOHN LE NEVE.



MRS. JOHN LE NEVE.

the wife of George P. Wright, of Danville; Evelyn, the wife of John Waffle, of Cleveland, Ohio; and Lymie, the wife of Lyman L. Logan, of Hoopeston, by whom she has one son, Gail. By the second marriage of Ellis F. Miller there was one child, Paul D., who is residing in Danville with his mother.

John W. Miller obtained his early education in the public schools, after which he began working in his father's marble shop, remaining there for eight years. He then removed to Danville and in 1894 embarked in business as a partner of F. D. Knox, a connection that was maintained for five years, when Mr. Miller formed his present partnership with W. W. Dye, under the firm style of Miller & Dye, proprietors of marble and granite works. They have secured a good business of growing proportions and already their trade has brought to them a gratifying income.

On the 20th of February, 1889, Mr. Miller married Miss Lina Green, who was born in Iroquois county, Illinois, March 23, 1867, a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth E. (Rogers) Green, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Indiana. They were married in Montgomery county, Indiana, where the father devoted his energies to farming until his removal to Illinois, about 1860, when he settled near Hoopeston, living there until about thirty years ago, when he retired from business life and both he and his wife are now living in the town of Hoopeston. In politics he is a Prohibition Republican. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and has long been a member of the Church of Christ, in which he is holding the office of deacon. In his family are four children who are yet living: Titus, a resident of Hoopeston; Willis T. and Henry Clay, who are also living

there; and Mrs. Miller. By her marriage Mrs. Miller has become the mother of four children: Netta, who died in 1890; Ruth; Herman, who died in 1898; and J. Franklin.

In his political affiliations Mr. Miller is independent, voting for the men and measures rather than the party. He has many social relations and is a valued representative of the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Court of Honor, the Tribe of Ben Hur and the Travelers' Protective Association. He also belongs to the Church of Christ and maintains a spirited interest in whatever tends to promote the welfare and improvement of his city and county. From early boyhood he has closely applied himself to the business which he yet follows, and now his trade extends far beyond the limits of Vermilion county. In fact, his patronage comes from almost every county of the state and the prosperity which thereby accrues is the justly merited outcome of his own work.

WILLIAM CRADDOCK.

Among the residents of Sidell who, after long years of business connection with the interests of the city and community are now living retired, is numbered William Craddock, a most responsible and worthy citizen who for forty-three years has been a resident of Vermilion county and is very widely and favorably known here. He is a native of England, his birth having occurred in Northamptonshire, on the 4th of July, 1831. There he was reared upon a farm, enjoying but meagre school privileges, so that he is largely a self-educated as well as a self-made man. He was twenty-six

years of age when he came to the new world. He had heard favorable reports of the opportunities afforded for advancement in this land, and hoping that he might more rapidly secure a competence he took passage on a sailing vessel which weighed anchor in the harbor of Liverpool, and in October reached the harbor of New York. During the voyage they had encountered some severe storms, one lasting three days. Mr. Craddock did not tarry long in the east, but proceeded westward to Ohio, there joining some acquaintances who had previously located in Elyria. In that locality he secured work upon a farm, being employed in that capacity for two years. In 1859 he went to Chicago and then came to Vermilion county, where he was employed for a number of years as a wagon boss for Kirkland Brothers, coal merchants. He remained with them for a number of years and then with the capital which he had acquired as the result of his industry and enterprise, he purchased his first land, becoming the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of broad prairie. This he broke and fenced and soon he erected thereon a good dwelling and barn. After a few years, however, his house was destroyed by fire, but he replaced it with a still better one. He continued his farming operations upon the land which he originally owned, until 1864, and then bought residence property in Sidell. His present home, however, he purchased in 1901. Since removing to the town he has engaged in farming a small tract of land of fifteen acres adjoining the corporate limits of Sidell. Indolence and idleness have ever been utterly foreign to his nature and it seems impossible for him to entirely put aside business cares. In this respect his example is indeed worthy

of emulation and might profitably be followed by many.

Mr. Craddock was married in Vermilion county in 1865, the lady of his choice being Sophia Miller, a native of Coshocton county, Ohio, and a daughter of Jacob Miller, a native of Pennsylvania, who removed from the Keystone state to Ohio, and about 1850 settled in Crawford county, Illinois, whence he came to Vermilion county. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Craddock was blessed with ten children: James, a resident of Sidell township; Sarah, the wife of Neil Culp, of Sidell; Jacob, who is operating the home farm; Anna, the wife of Richard Swank, a farmer of Sidell; Elizabeth, the wife of Frank Tafflinger, a carpenter and joiner, of Sidell; Lucy, the wife of Robert Hedges, of this place; Alice, the wife of Roscoe Owens, a farmer of Sidell township; Mollie and William R., who are at home; and Frank, who is a student in the schools of Sidell.

In early life William Craddock was identified with the Democratic party, and for several years past he has supported the Republican party and keeps well informed on the issues of the day, although he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. He is a true and tried friend of the cause of education, believing in good schools and the employment of competent teachers. He served as one of the school directors for a number of years and was also road supervisor for some time. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Free Methodist church and are deeply interested in everything pertaining to the uplifting of their fellow men and to the support of the cause of Christianity. From pioneer times down to the present, covering the period of forty-

three years which embraces the time of his residence in the county, Mr. Craddock has always been an advocate of every measure for the general good and has manifested a public spirited pride in what has been accomplished in the county as the work of development and improvement has been carried forward and Vermilion county has been transformed from the wet, uncultivable district into one of the richest farming sections of the state, in the midst of which stands one of the leading metropolitan centres of Illinois, gether with flourishing towns of lesser proportion but of marked enterprise and progressive spirit.

JOHN GERRARD.

Wide-awake and enterprising, quick to recognize business opportunities and to improve them, John Gerrard is now numbered among the leading merchants and citizens of Westville and is successfully conducting a general store wherein a liberal patronage is accorded him. He was born in Georgetown township, Vermilion county, December 16, 1855. His parents, Jacob and Sarah H. (Stevens) Gerrard, were both natives of Indiana and about 1850 the father came to this county, settling on a farm on section 7, Georgetown township. He was then nineteen years of age and had made the journey hither with his father, the latter purchasing a farm, upon which he carried on agricultural pursuits until his death. The father of our subject also engaged in farming upon a part of the old homestead in Georgetown township and subsequently he removed to a farm near Armstrong, this county, continuing to cultivate the soil there and harvest

his crops. As the years passed by his work brought to him a comfortable living and he died February 13, 1886, respected and honored by all who knew him. His wife passed away in 1880. They were the parents of eight children, as follows: John; Eliza J., who is the widow of James P. Cook, and is living in Catlin township; William, a retired farmer of Georgetown; Samuel, who carries on agricultural pursuits in Danville township; Alexander, who was born February 11, 1864, and is a prominent farmer of Catlin township; Sarah Hannah, who is also living in that township; Jacob and Elzora, both deceased. All were afforded the school privileges of the district.

After completing his education John Gerrard turned his attention to farm work in Georgetown township and was thus engaged until 1881, when he went to South Dakota and took up a claim. He resided in that state for six years, giving his time and energies to the development of his farm. He then returned to Vermilion county and in connection with his brother embarked in general merchandising, opening a store near Grape Creek. This they conducted for some time, after which they sold out and came to the village of Westville. Here the brothers again established a general mercantile store, which they conducted in partnership until 1896, when our subject purchased his brother's interest in the business and has since been alone. He now has a large and carefully selected stock of goods, having the most extensive store in the village and he does a constantly growing and profitable business.

Mr. Gerrard was married in this county to Miss Mary Alexander, a daughter of F. M. Alexander, also one of the early settlers of this part of the state, where he engaged

in farming. He now resides in Danville, living a retired life. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Gerrard has been blessed with one child, Bertie Frances. Our subject votes with the Republican party. He is identified with the Modern Woodmen lodge, No. 27, of Westville, also with Tribe No. 120 of the Improved Order of Red Men, in which he is now serving as treasurer. His wife belongs to the Christian church and he contributes liberally to its support. He gives his aid and influence to all measures for the general good and is a progressive citizen, recognized as one of the valued men of Westville. He entered upon his business career without the aid of influential family connections or pecuniary assistance and that he has won a creditable position on the plane of affluence is the direct result of his own labor.

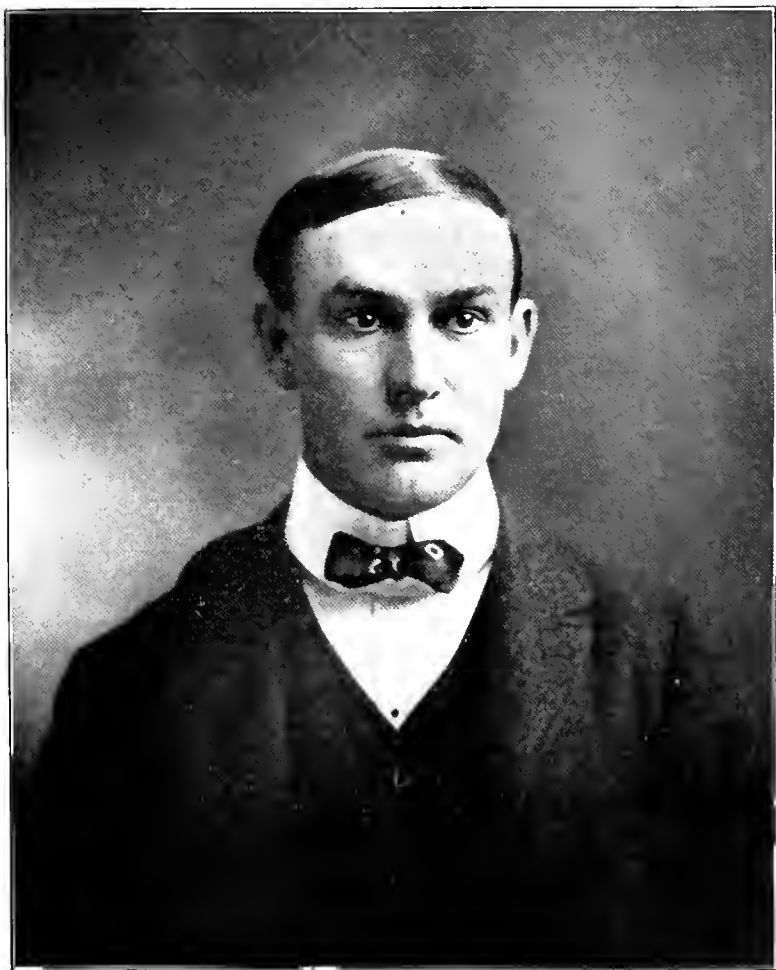
ROBERT A. LEEMON.

Robert A. Leemon needs no special introduction to the readers of this volume for he has always lived in this portion of Illinois and because of the prominence of his father and his own sterling worth he has become widely known. He was born in Iroquois county, November 19, 1872, and is a son of John Leemon, who is represented elsewhere in this work. When the family removed to Vermilion county he continued his education in the schools of this locality and later he became a student in Greer College of Hoopeston, while he was prepared for the responsible duties of a business career as a student in the Gem City Commercial College, at Quincy, Illinois.

On the 28th of August, 1895, Mr. Leemon was united in marriage to Miss Bessie

J. Gilson, who was born in Cook county, this state, on the 7th of April, 1875. Her father is E. W. Gilson, a resident of Chicago, and she has three brothers and one sister: Sarah Gertrude, now the wife of Eugene Rinkenberger, of Chicago; Channing, Elmer and Lyell, all of Chicago. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Leemon has been blessed with two interesting children: Dorcas Irene and Allen Wallace.

In the fall of 1896 Mr. Leemon removed to Chicago, where he lived for four years. During that time he was connected with the National Biscuit Company as wagon salesman, and he also worked for the Brink's City Express Company. He now owns three hundred and sixty-six acres of valuable land in Iroquois and Vermilion counties. For about a year he has lived in Hoopeston, having an attractive home on East Penn street, worth about four thousand dollars. He is extensively engaged in raising fine stock, making a specialty of shorthorn cattle, Duroc Jersey hogs, Shropshire sheep and standard bred horses. He also has an interest in twelve hundred acres of land in Scott county. Although he received from his father a goodly inheritance, he has never felt that it released him from business duties or obligations, and instead of squandering the legacy which he received he has made it his effort to increase this through honorable business methods. He is to-day a representative and enterprising farmer, and his land adjoining Hoopeston on the north brought him an offer of one hundred and twenty-five dollars per acre, which, however, he refused. In December, 1902, he established a dairy business and now has thirty cows in his herd and to-day has the leading milk business of Hoopeston. He possesses excellent business ability and



ROBERT A. LEMON.

executive force, and his keen discrimination, combined with his enterprise, has enabled him to carry on his work to a successful completion. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat, but has never had time nor the desire to become an active factor in political circles. The community in which he lives, however, values him for his public spirited interest in everything pertaining to the general good.

GEORGE PRICE.

In the year 1853 George Price became a resident of Vermilion county and through the long years which have since passed he has manifested a spirit of citizenship that has promoted the general welfare along progressive lines. He was born in Madison county, Ohio, August 19, 1834, and comes of a family that in an early day was established in Virginia. His father, John Price, was born in that state and, removing to Ohio, was married to Elizabeth Rowe, a native of the Buckeye state. They settled in Ross county, Ohio, and afterward removed to Madison county, the father there engaging in farming until his death. He had become the owner of an extensive and valuable tract of land. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and passed away about 1839. His widow afterward became the wife of Thomas Green and, removing to Vermilion county, Illinois, settled in Vance township, where Mr. Green purchased land and where she lived until called to the home beyond in 1862. Our subject was one of a family of ten children: Nancy, the wife of Andrew Shepherd, a resident of Madison county, Ohio; William, who is living in the same county; Elizabeth,

who became the wife of Charles Goings and resided in Catlin, but both are now deceased; Polly, the wife of Moses Shepherd, of Tilton, Illinois; Susan, who became the wife of Wesley Cheshire and resided in Indianola, Iowa, but both are now deceased; John, who resides in Homer, Illinois; Gertrude, who became the wife of Jacob Shoemaker, and lived in Madison county, Ohio, until called to the home beyond; George, the next of the family; and Abraham and Fannie, who are deceased.

In the county of his nativity George Price pursued his education until sixteen years of age, although his school privileges were somewhat meager even during that period. He afterward worked by the month as a farm hand and remained in Madison county until 1853—the year of his arrival in Vermilion county, Illinois. Here he rented land and engaged in farming on his own account. He fully completed his arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage, which took place near Catlin, on the 7th of May, 1855, the lady of his choice being Miss Ruth Wooden, who was born in Catlin township, Vermilion county, July 25, 1830. Her parents, Amos and Elizabeth (Berdick) Wooden, were born, reared and married in New York and after living for a time upon a farm in that state came to the west. During the war of 1812 they stopped at Bus Row Prairie in Indiana and about 1825 came to this county, locating at the Salt Works near Catlin. The town of Catlin is now built upon the land which Mr. Wooden purchased at that time, his farm comprising three hundred acres, the most of which he entered from the government. He did his dealing at Danville, which at that time contained two or three stores and a few houses. He voted with the Whig

party and was a member of the Masonic fraternity. Upon his farm he lived until his death, which occurred about 1837, after which his widow remained on the old homestead until after her children were married, when she resided with them. Her death occurred in 1864. Mrs. Price was one of a family of ten children. Matilda became the wife of Henry Kassler, and they resided in Dutchess county, New York. Both are now deceased and they left one son. Elmore married Rebecca Springer and lived in Catlin, Illinois. They, too, passed away, leaving five children. Jane became the wife of Bonaparte Stansbury and died in Catlin, while he died in the west, leaving six children. The next member of the Wooden family died in infancy. Esther died at the age of eighteen years. Daniel married Sarah Springer and they lived in Champaign county, Illinois, but both are now deceased. They left four children. Moses wedded Caroline Wooleott and made his home in Champaign county, where four children were born unto him and his wife. The parents, however, are now deceased. Cynthia is the widow of Ira Whitcomb and resides in Byron, Olmsted county, Minnesota. She has five children. Ruth is the honored wife of our subject. Elizabeth became the wife of William Richardson and they lived in Madison county, Illinois, but both have departed this life, leaving four children.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Price was blessed with eight children. J. W. married Addie Lacock and resides in Warren county, Iowa, where he follows farming. They have three children: William, Victor and Jessie. Elizabeth, the second of the family, became the wife of Henry Baldwin, of Vermilion county, and died leaving six children, George, Blanche, Grace, Fred, Guy

and Ruth. Charles, a farmer of Fairmount, Illinois, wedded Alice Yerkes, and of their four children, two are living—Ethel and Gladys. Josephine is the wife of Ned Rice of Sidell and their children are Addie, Esther, Roy and May. Addie is the wife of Charles Jackson, who resides on a farm near Sidell. Alberta is the wife of Alonzo Clapp, a farmer of Oakwood, Illinois, and their two children are Lawrence and Merrill. The next two members of the Price family died in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Price located in Vermilion county, where he rented land until 1868. He then purchased ninety acres in Vance township and to his farm he has added until it now comprises two hundred and fifty-two acres. He also owns one hundred and twenty acres in Warren county, Iowa, and a nice residence in Fairmount. He has bought and sold much stock, shipping as extensively as any man in this county, and his large business operations in this direction have brought to him a very creditable and gratifying competence. Politically he is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He is a member of Fairmount Lodge, No. 590, F. & A. M., and he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, in which for many years he has served as a trustee. Such a life record is well worthy of emulation for his career has been characterized by diligence in business, by loyalty in citizenship and by honor in all social relations and to his family and friends he is most loyal and devoted.

JOHN A. DICKINSON.

John A. Dickinson is a dealer in groceries and confectionery in Catlin, where he is also conducting a lunch counter. His busi-

ness ability is recognized and though he has met with reverses he possesses strong determination and enterprise and his success is the direct outcome of his own labors. He was born in New York, Lincolnshire, England, October 6, 1865, a son of William and Eliza (Carbey) Dickinson, also natives of Lincolnshire, the former born in 1822 and the latter in 1836. In the year 1881 they emigrated with their family to America, establishing their home in Vermilion county when our subject was sixteen years of age. Here the father worked by the month for a time and then rented a farm in Catlin township, whereon he remained until his death, which occurred July 18, 1894. In the family were nine children: Betsey Maria, who was born April 17, 1853, and died December 10, 1880; Henry Thomas, who was born December 30, 1856; Stephen Carbey, who was born December 29, 1859, and died May 22, 1891; Mrs. Sarah Jane Kay, who was born September 25, 1861, and died in 1901; Stephen, born September 21, 1863; John A.; William A., born December 25, 1867; Alice Elizabeth, who was born September 25, 1870, and died May 29, 1877; and Moses, who was born May 17, 1873, and died August 12, 1877.

John A. Dickinson, the sixth in order of birth, pursued his education in the schools of his native country and after arriving in Vermilion county he worked on a section of the Wabash Railroad for one dollar and ten cents per day and upon the death of his father he assumed control of the home farm, where he remained for a few years. He then came to Catlin, where in partnership with a younger brother, he established a grocery store, which they conducted under the firm name of Dickinson Brothers for three years. Our subject then purchased

his brother's interest and continued the business alone. On the 27th of May, 1901, however, his store was destroyed by fire and thus he lost most of his hard earnings. He had recently cleared his store of all indebtedness and now he had to borrow money to again gain a start. On the 26th of July, of the same year, he was once more ready to engage in trade and now he is conducting a well appointed establishment, containing a large line of groceries and confectionery. He also conducts a lunch counter and his business is steadily growing so that he is meeting with well deserved success.

Mr. Dickinson was nominated and elected justice of the peace on the Republican ticket, receiving a flattering majority. After serving for one year he was prevailed upon by his friends to become the candidate of the Republican party for supervisor of Catlin township in 1900 and being elected to this office he is now serving in that capacity. His official record is indeed creditable for his course has been marked by a deep interest in the general good. Fraternally he is connected with Catlin Lodge, No. 285, F. & A. M. He has filled all of the offices in the Odd Fellows Lodge of Catlin and has been elected to represent it in the grand lodge. He has likewise filled various offices in the Order of Red Men, was elected representative to the grand council and now holds the office of deputy great sachem of Vermilion county, having been appointed by the grand sachem of Illinois. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and his wife holds membership with the Royal Neighbors of Catlin.

Mr. Dickinson was united in marriage to Miss Cora Bennett, who was born in this county January 21, 1875, and is a daughter of Henry J. and Melissa A.

(Stark) Bennett. Her mother's parents were John and Mary A. (Cassady) Stark, pioneers of Vermilion county. Unto our subject and his wife has been born one son, John Thomas, who is now six years of age. His mother is also a member of the household, having lived with Mr. Dickinson since her husband's death. Our subject is a citizen of value to the community, co-operating in every measure for the improvement of the town along material, social, intellectual and moral lines. He is an energetic, enterprising man and one worthy of success.

JOHN M. CARSON.

John M. Carson was one of the leading business men of Danville, for many years being at the head of the firm of Carson & Company, owners of a plumbing establishment of this city. The business which he conducted is still carried on by his widow and her sons, who have followed the straightforward and creditably policy inaugurated by the husband and father.

Mr. Carson was a native of Scotland, born May 10, 1842. His parents, John and Helen Carson, were likewise natives of the land of hills and heather, and in 1852 they to America with their family, settling in Cincinnati, Ohio, where the father died the same year. The mother spent her last days in Louisville, Kentucky.

John M. Carson was a lad of only ten summers when his father and mother crossed the briny deep to the new world. Owing to his father's early death his school privileges were very limited and he early started out in life on his own account. He began to learn the plumber's trade in Cincinnati and mastered the business both in

principle and detail. His capability and fidelity won him recognition and one promotion after another eventually made him foreman of a large plumbing establishment there. He acted in that capacity for several years, in fact, was working at his trade in Cincinnati when the Civil war broke out.

In the first year of that sanguinary conflict he donned the blue uniform of the United States army and became a volunteer of Company K, Seventy-fourth Ohio Infantry, with which he served throughout the war, participating in many important engagements, including the battles of Fort Henry, Nealey's Bend, Stone River, Hoover's Gap, Tullahoma, Dug Gap, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Tunnel Hill, Resaca, Dallas Gap, Pine Mountain, Pumpkin Vine Creek, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Savannah, Bentonville and Raleigh. In the battle of Stone River Mr. Carson was captured and sent to Libby prison where he was incarcerated for three months, suffering much because of the cruelties inflicted and from lack of nourishing food. He had several narrow escapes while in battle, at one time his hat being shot away while at another time the heel of his boot was shot off. He was discharged June 15, 1865, and gladly returned to his home, for although he had ever been found faithful to his duty, the hardships of war make military experience anything but pleasant.

Locating in Cincinnati, Mr. Carson worked for a short time at his trade there and then went to Louisville, Kentucky, where he opened a plumbing shop, conducting business at that point for several years. While there he built the waterworks at Owensboro, Kentucky, and also at Jeffersonville, Indiana. After his marriage, which was celebrated in Louisville, Ken-



JOHN M. CARSON.

tucky, he continued business in that city until 1882, when he arrived in Danville and established his plumbing store. He also built the waterworks at Champaign, Illinois, and in Danville and for several years he was employed to operate the plant here. Throughout all the years he conducted his plumbing work and at the time of his death was proprietor of an extensive and profitable establishment at No. 32 Hazel street, conducted under the firm name of Carson & Company, plumbers and steam fitters.

Mr. Carson was united in marriage to Miss Anna M. Young, a native of Kentucky, and unto them were born six children: William H., who is engaged in the plumbing business at No. 12 East North street, Danville; G. G., who is in business at Texarkana, Arkansas; John W., who is manager of the business established by his father at the corner of North and Hazel streets, Danville, and resides with his mother; Robert H., who is also a member of the firm, his home being in this city; Arthur, deceased; and Harry, who is yet with his mother.

Mr. Carson was a member of the school board of Danville for a number of years but was never a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business affairs in which he met with signal success. He voted with the Republican party and at one time he was a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Knights of Pythias Lodge in Louisville but he never joined either organization after coming to Danville. He was, however, a member of the Grand Army Post here and served as its commander for sometime. Both he and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church of this city and he always took a deep and active interest in the church work, doing everything in

his power to promote its growth and extend its influence. He served as a deacon for sometime and for several years he was also superintendent of the Sunday-schools. Mrs. Carson is quite prominent here, her circle of friends being very extensive. She owns one of the finest residences in the northwest part of the city, located at No. 903 Logan avenue. Mr. Carson was a very successful business man. He possessed those qualities of character which mainly contribute to the success of private life and to the public stability and he therefore enjoyed the respect and confidence of those with whom his business affairs were conducted, the same being in strict conformity with the ethics of commercial life and among his friends he displayed qualities of manhood that endeared him to all with whom he came in contact.



JACOB YAPP.

Jacob Yapp has been a resident of Vermilion county for forty-eight years. He was born in Allegany county, New York, June 12, 1822, and is a son of Samuel and Mary (Ayres) Yapp, she being a member of the family of Ayres of sarsaparilla fame. He was a native of New Jersey, born near Hoboken, and his father, the grandfather of Jacob Yapp, was born in Great Britain in 1716, while the paternal grandmother was a native of New Jersey. Samuel and Mary (Ayres) Yapp became the parents of ten children: Horatio J. died in Nebraska, in 1885, leaving a widow and eight children. The widow afterward died in Nebraska also. Gideon W. died in Iowa in 1864 and left a widow and four children. The widow afterward died in Sangamon

county, Illinois. Susan H. was the widow of James Jackson, of Vermilion county, and died in 1901, leaving two daughters, Mary, the wife of Gilbert F. Canady, of Homer, and Sarah A. Jackson, also of Homer. Jacob of this review is the next younger. Phineas died in infancy. Abigail, who became the wife of John Mills, of Fairmount, Illinois, died in 1804. Her husband was a minister and was connected with Partlows and others, in Danville. Jane died at the age of twenty in western New York. David E. now lives in Allegany county, New York, where he is engaged in farming. He has one son, Herbert. Samuel died in Ogden, Illinois, July 12, 1902, at the age of seventy-one. He left a widow, but no children. Mrs. Mary Davis is a widow living in Iowa. All the children enjoyed common-school educations, and Mary and Abigail were teachers. The father and mother died within twenty-one days of each other, the father preceding.

At the age of seventeen the subject of this review entered the employ of Rufus Kinney, of Cuba, New York, as an apprentice at harness-making and carriage-trimming, in which capacity he served for three years. He was then engaged in business for himself for a short time. He afterward sold out and accepted a position as foreman in a large harness and trimming establishment, where he had charge of some fifteen or twenty hands. This was in the employ of William P. Stevens, at Cuba, New York, where he continued for seven years. He then engaged in business for himself for about three years, when he sold out and came to Georgetown, Illinois. He was married to Miss Ambrosia C. Sheldon, a daughter of Jeremiah and Anna (Munter) Sheldon, both of whom were natives

of New York. Mr. Yapp lost his first wife by death. By this marriage there was one child, Helen A., the wife of Pleasant West, of Georgetown, Illinois. He was at one time in the mercantile business and also owns a farm near Georgetown. They have two children. Derelle is the wife of C. Porter Johnson, now residing in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Mr. Johnson being a prominent lawyer of that place. Roy O. West, also a prominent lawyer, resides in Chicago. He is now president of the board of review, of Cook county, which position he has filled for nearly four years. He was married June 11, 1898, to Miss Louise Augustus, of Paris, Illinois, who died leaving a son, Roy Owen West.

Mr. Yapp was again married, his second union being with Adelia E. Palmer, the marriage ceremony taking place on February 13, 1851. She was a daughter of Joseph Palmer, of Cuba, New York, a native of that place. Mrs. Yapp was born at Warsaw, Wyoming county, New York, June 23, 1829.

Upon arriving in Georgetown Mr. Yapp opened a saddlery and harness business on the northwest corner of the square, where he continued about two years, then removed to the building on the south side of the square owned by Henderson & Holloway, where he greatly enlarged his business, carrying a good stock and adding all necessary equipments for the conduct of his extensive establishment. He continued in the above named building for several years, when he built a large two-story frame building one block north of the square, which he expected to use as a shop and residence, but on account of the hotel of the town burning about this time he opened a hotel instead. While conducting the hotel he had a con-

tract for carrying mail from Danville to Paris, for twelve years. In 1862 Mr. Yapp was elected justice of the peace, which position he held for thirty-six years. He could have retained the office longer, but would not accept it. He discharged his duties faithfully during his incumbency, showing favor to none, and his decisions were ever on the side of right and justice. In 1868 Mr. Yapp, with his son-in-law, Mr. West, engaged in the hardware and tinning business, afterward adding lumber. In this business they continued until 1888, when they closed out the business and engaged in farming for ten years, on the expiration of which period they sold their stock and rented their lands. They have an office in Georgetown, where they write insurance and entertain their friends who are legion. Mr. Yapp owns something over one hundred acres of land, considerable of this lying in Georgetown. He has just sold fifty acres to Grace C. Pritchard, which is platted and known as Jacob Yapp's addition to Georgetown. Mr. Yapp's residence in Georgetown is commodious and modern, with convenient outbuildings and all the accessories of an attractive American home of the twentieth century, whose appointments are in perfect taste. This home is situated on the northeast corner of North Second and Main streets, and there the cordial hospitality of the household is extended to many friends. For almost a half century Mr. Yapp has been a resident of this county and has watched with interest the development and progress which has since taken place. His share in this work has been of no small value, for in building up the business interests of the place he has taken an important part. When he came to this county he received assistance to the amount of

three hundred dollars from his former employer in Cuba, New York, and Mr. Yapp bought hides and shipped to this gentleman for a number of years. With the capital so acquired he started out upon his business career and through industry and fair dealing he has achieved the proud position in the financial and social world which he to-day occupies. He has been a Mason for fifty-three years, having become connected with the fraternity in Cuba, New York. He is a member of the blue lodge of Georgetown, and Scottish Rite Consistory of Chicago, and has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for over fifty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Yapp have been members of the Methodist Episcopal church for many years. In politics he is a Republican, and in past years has taken an active interest in the work of the party, but he has never been an office seeker, preferring the quiet life of a private American citizen, to the honors and emoluments of office. He has been a consistent and conservative man of business and has ever been regarded as one of the substantial and representative men of his county where he is widely and favorably known.

O. P. CHAMBERLIN.

O. P. Chamberlin, who is now extensively and successfully engaged in the grain brokers' business in Hoopston, was born in Seneca county, Ohio, on the 17th of December, 1851, a son of James M. and Catherine A. (Jones) Chamberlin. The father was a farmer by occupation and died in Ohio, August 13, 1888, while his wife passed away in 1884. In their family were

four sons: O. P. and Charles W., twins, the latter dying at the age of twenty-three; W. H. and James M. By a former marriage of James M. Chamberlin one child was born, John W., who was for many years one of the most prominent Masons of Ohio. His death occurred at Tiffin, Ohio, in August, 1901.

Under the parental roof on the home farm the subject of this review was reared while in the common schools he pursued his education. He left home at the age of eighteen years, and for a year followed farming. He was also employed in an elevator and general store at Adrian, Ohio, for about eighteen months, and then began learning telegraphy in Oberlin, where he continued for three months. In 1874 he came to Bloomington, Illinois, arriving in the month of August, and for two years was employed as an operator on the line of the Wabash Railroad. On the 1st of September, 1876, he arrived in Hoopeston and took charge of the station of the Wabash Railroad, now the Lake Erie & Western Railroad, filling that position acceptably until 1885. In the latter year he accepted the position of bookkeeper in the firm of Moore & Bushnell, grain operators, with whom he remained for two years, at the end of which time they went out of business. Mr. Chamberlin then removed to Danville, where he was engaged in the grain brokerage business for a number of months. At the end of that time, however, he resumed railroading, acting as assistant in his old position for a few months. He was then transferred to Tipton, Indiana, where he had charge of the station for three months, and in September, 1890, he was offered the position of assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Hoopeston. Accepting the offer he capably served in that

capacity until April, 1898, when failing health compelled him to resign. While filling that position he also engaged in the insurance business in connection with E. C. Griffith, and he also conducted a grain brokerage business. Mr. Chamberlin is a man of wonderful business ability. He was the originator of the telephone system of Hoopeston, in which enterprise he was associated with U. E. Cory, and the business relation between them is still continued. They have control of the entire telephone system of Hoopeston and surrounding towns. They began operations on the 1st of May, 1895, with twenty-seven subscribers. They now have over three hundred subscribers, while the business is rapidly increasing. When they began operations they had a capital of about one thousand dollars invested, but this has been increased to fifteen thousand, as they have built new lines and placed new 'phones throughout the city and surrounding district. They also have a branch exchange at East Lynn. Mr. Chamberlin also continues in the grain and brokerage business, representing eastern firms. He buys throughout this portion of the country, handling millions of bushels of grain annually. In this line of business activity he is also meeting with splendid success, his operations having reached very extensive proportions, which make his efforts profitable. While connected with banking interests in connection with Mr. Griffith he owned a grain elevator at Hoopeston and one at Cheneyville. Whatever he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion and his enterprise, keen discernment and perseverance are marked elements in his successful career.

On the 12th of April, 1877, in Bloomville, Ohio, Mr. Chamberlin was united in

marriage to Miss Nettie Cory, whose parents are now residents of Hoopston. This union has been blessed with one child: Charles Cory, who was born April 9, 1878, and is now employed in the general offices of the American Car Company of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlin have a very pleasant home at No. 306 East Penn street, which was erected in 1889, and in addition to this property and the various business interests mentioned, he owns a half section of land in Stevens county, Kansas. In his political views he is an earnest Republican, for two terms has served as alderman of the city and he has also been a member of the school board. Fraternally he is both a blue lodge and chapter Mason, and he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He belongs to the Presbyterian church in which he is now serving as an elder. He is likewise superintendent of the Sunday-school. Since coming to Hoopston he has served as treasurer of the church here and has taken a very active and influential part in its promotion and upbuilding. While Mr. Chamberlin has largely devoted his time and attention to the demands of extensive and important business interests, he has at the same time found opportunity to faithfully perform his duties of citizenship and to co-operate in many movements for the general good along social, intellectual and moral lines.

MRS. MARY BEYER.

Mrs. Mary Beyer is a highly respected and prominent resident of Fairmount, Vermilion county, Illinois. She was born in this county, March 19, 1869, and is a daugh-

ter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Hughel) Gunder, the former born in Lancaster county, Ohio, May 24, 1825, and the latter a native of Madison county, Indiana, born August 24, 1832. They were married at Anderson, Indiana, in 1840. Mr. Gunder followed farming throughout his active life, and in 1868 the family removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, locating in Vance township. He purchased land and followed farming until 1892, when he retired from active life and located in Fairmount, Illinois, where he remained until his death, which occurred August 24, 1899. He was buried in Davis cemetery. The wife and mother died October 1 of the same year. He was a prominent and influential man of his community, being county supervisor for several terms and having filled all the township offices. He was a member of the Baptist church, in which he was a deacon, and was a member of Fairmount Lodge, No. 590, A. F. & A. M., of which he was a charter member. In politics he was a Democrat. Mrs. Beyer was one of a family of ten children. Alice, the wife of J. J. Howard, resides in Vance township. Susie became the wife of Charles Baldwin but both are now deceased. J. N. is a druggist of Indianapolis, Indiana. James is freight agent of the Wabash Railroad at Decatur, Illinois. Samuel resides in Chicago, where he is engaged in manufacturing Dr. Graves' toothpowder. Jennie died unmarried. Daniel died in infancy. Our subject is the eighth child. Julia is the wife of Frank Goodwin, a real estate dealer of Decatur, Illinois. Arthur H. resides on the homestead farm in Vance township. The Gunder family is of German and English extraction.

On the 10th of December, 1890, in Vance township, occurred the marriage of

Peter Beyer and Miss Mary Gunder. Mr. Beyer was born in Danville, Illinois, August 8, 1805. He was the son of Peter and Julia (Ford) Beyer, the former a native of Germany. This couple located in Danville, Illinois, where the father engaged in the shoe business, so continuing until his death, which occurred in September, 1898. His widow still survives him and is living in Danville. Mr. Beyer, Sr., was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally he was connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and in politics was a Republican. Unto Peter and Julia (Ford) Byer were born twelve children, of whom the following grew to years of maturity: Lucy is the wife of John Hill, a jeweler of Danville. Ellen is the wife of Douglas Stahl, and resides in Lincoln, Nebraska. David resides in Danville, Illinois. Peter was the husband of Mrs. Beyer of this review. Edward, George, Fred, Katie and Hester, all reside in Danville.

For the first two years after the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Beyer, he engaged in the nursery business, owning a nursery near Danville. They then located in Springfield, Illinois, where Mr. Beyer engaged in the market and provision business until his death, which occurred November 17, 1896. His remains were interred in Danville, Illinois. Unto Mr. Beyer and wife were born three daughters: Vera, born November 23, 1801; Bessie, born March 2, 1804; and Sarah, born July 8, 1806. Mr. Beyer was an energetic and a good business man. He was a man of sterling characteristics, being honorable and upright, and charitable to a high degree. He won many friends who sincerely mourned his loss. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge and in politics was a Republican, but refused to

hold office. Mrs. Beyer owns a farm of forty-eight acres in Vance township and also residence property in Fairmount. She has a comfortable and attractive home and is highly regarded in the community where she resides, as a lady of estimable worth.

JONATHAN C. STEARNS.

The Buckeye state is noted for its high class of citizens who, whether statesmen, inventors or those following mercantile and agricultural pursuits, have always been a credit to the communities in which they have lived. Illinois, like other western states, has been benefited by the emigration of some of these men and among their number is Jonathan C. Stearns, who was born in Clinton county, Ohio, August 5, 1835. He is a son of Seneca and Hannah (Humphreys) Stearns. The father was born near Bennington, Vermont, December 17, 1810, and the mother was a native of New Jersey, born March 7, 1811. They were married in Clinton county, Ohio, and there he engaged in farming. In 1836 he removed with his family to Illinois, settling in Oakwood township, one mile northeast of Fithian, in Vermilion county. Here he entered land and carried on farming until the death of his wife, when he lived with his children until his death, which occurred August 1, 1898. His wife had passed away July 7, 1881. He was a member of the Baptist church, of which he was a trustee, and in politics was first a Whig but became a Republican, on the organization of that party. He and his wife were the parents of six children, five sons and one daughter. The subject of this review is the eldest child, James N., resides at Fithian, Illinois. Will-



J. C. STEARNS.



MRS. J. C. STEARNS.

iam H. resides at Yankton, South Dakota. John H. resides in Sioux City, Iowa. Alfred L. resides in Muncie, Illinois. Sarah E. is the wife of William H. Littell and resides in Fithian, Illinois.

The history of the Stearns family is interesting, forming part, as it does, of the annals of early days in the settlement of this country. Seneca Stearns was a son of Melville Stearns, a native of Massachusetts. He was a son of David Stearns, who was also born in that state. The ancestors who established the Stearns family in America came from England in 1632 and settled in Massachusetts, three brothers coming to the United States at that time. The grandfather of our subject, in company with his father, started from Olean, New York, on the Alleghany river near the Pennsylvania line, on a raft, in 1815. They proceeded down the Ohio river and settled in Clinton county, Ohio, where they lived and died. Seneca Stearns was one of a family of two brothers and one sister, all of whom lived in Clinton county, Ohio. Later they came to Illinois. Seneca Stearns and his brother Harrison came to Illinois in 1836. His sister, Sarah E. Izard, came in 1845. Her death occurred in Muncie, Illinois. Hannah (Humphreys) Stearns, the mother of our subject, was taken by her parents from New Jersey to Ohio in 1815. Her ancestors originally came from England and settled in New Jersey. She had only one sister, Phebe, who went to Ohio in 1815 and died in Parke county, Indiana, in 1841.

Jonathan C. Stearns of this review attended school in the winter of 1841-2 in an old log schoolhouse on the state road, one mile south and one-quarter of a mile east of Muncie, Illinois. He then attended school in a log house one-quarter of a mile northeast of Muncie in 1843. His oppor-

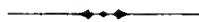
tunities in the educational line were limited, as he could only attend during the winter months. In the summer his services were required on the home farm. He continued his schooling until he was eighteen years of age, or until 1853. He then worked for seven years at the carpenter's trade and also engaged in farming on rented land, where he lived for three years after his marriage.

This important event in his life occurred on the 4th of December, 1861, in Catlin township, the lady of his choice being Mary S. Snyder, who was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, November 6, 1841. She was a daughter of Jacob Snyder, a native of Butler county, Ohio, who removed from that state to Indiana. His father was also named Jacob and was a native of Northumberland county, Pennsylvania. In 1868 he removed to Butler county, Ohio, and there made his home until his death. His ancestors were originally from Germany and on coming to the United States settled in Pennsylvania. The mother of Mrs. Stearns in her maidenhood was Emily Allen, a native of Kentucky, born May 20, 1818. She first married Jacob Snyder, and after his death married William McBroom and in 1854 moved to Catlin township, Vermilion county, where she is still living. She is a daughter of William Allen, also a native of Kentucky, the Allen family having been established in that state at a very early day, emigrating thence from Virginia. Jacob Snyder followed carpentering in connection with his farming interests, and died near Crawfordsville, Indiana, about 1845. In politics he was a Democrat. He and his wife became the parents of four daughters and two of the number are still living, namely: Mrs. Stearns; and Amanda, the wife of L. J. Place, of Newport, Indiana.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Stearns has

been blessed with five children, four of whom are now living. The first born was James, who was born on the 14th of February, 1863, and died at the age of twenty-two months. He was a remarkably bright child and knew all of his letters at the age of twenty months. Emily S. married William G. Yount. They have one child and reside in Catlin township. Ellis married Irene McDonald, who is now deceased. He has two sons and resides in Oakwood township with his parents. Hattie is the widow of Scott Pate and resides in Oakwood township. She has two sons and lost one daughter. Isla F. married Winifred C. Dalbey and he resides on one of his father-in-law's farms in Oakwood township. He had one child, now deceased, and a little daughter, Elsie E., born February 11, 1903.

Three years after his marriage Mr. Stearns purchased the farm which is now his home. This comprises two hundred and sixty-one acres on section 22, in Oakwood township, Vermilion county. Besides his farming interests Mr. Stearns also has gold mining stock in Oregon. His farm is well cultivated and equipped with all the accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century. He raises a good grade of stock and is accounted one of the leading agriculturists of the township. A firm adherent to the Republican party, he has yet refused to accept office. Mr. Stearns and his wife are genial, kindly people who have hosts of friends.



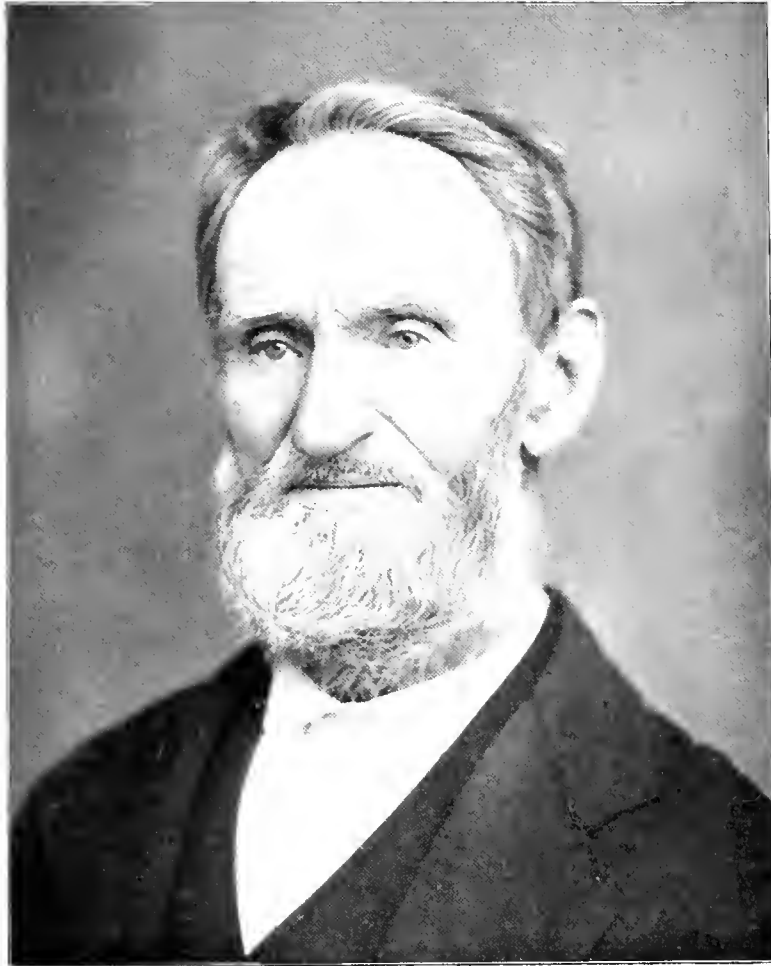
LEVI JOHNS.

Since the year 1866 Levi Johns has been a resident of Danville. He has been one of the hardest workers, leading a busy, useful

life and through his earnest labor, guided by sound business judgment, he has accumulated a comfortable competence. He was born in Pennsylvania, October 12, 1814, and is a son of Samuel and Nancy (Johnson) Johns, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. At an early day they went to Ohio, where the father engaged in farming. Subsequently he took up his abode in Zanesville, where he lived until his death, his wife also passing away near that city.

Levi Johns obtained but limited school advantages in his native county and after putting aside his text-books worked at odd jobs until his marriage. In Zanesville he wedded Miss Rebecca J. Boyd, who was born near that city, October 20, 1819, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Boyd, both of whom are natives of Ohio and there spent their entire lives. Unto Mr. and Mrs. John have been born five children: Alice M., who died in childhood; George Elbert, who died in Indian Territory in 1881; Alice Elizabeth, who died at the age of two years; Caroline L., who has remained at home with her parents, and largely relieves her mother in affairs of the household; and Alice Anna, the wife of Henry Johnson, also deceased.

After his marriage Mr. Johns took up his abode in Coshocton, where he remained until 1853 when hoping to more rapidly acquire success amid the mines of California he made his way to the Pacific coast and was there engaged in mining until 1866. Upon his return eastward he settled in Danville where he has since made his home. For a number of years he was engaged in the coal business and then for several years operated a stone quarry near the city. His business brought to him prosperity and year by year he added to his capital until at length



SENECA STEARNS.

with a comfortable competence he retired to private life. In politics he is an earnest Republican, but has never sought office. Mr. Johns, his wife and daughter are all members of the Kimber Methodist church of Danville. They have a pleasant home at No. 432 Bryan avenue, where they have resided since locating in the city more than a third of a century ago. Mr. Johns always commanded the confidence of his patrons because he was ever fair and honorable in his business dealings, and his incorruptible integrity has been a salient feature in his career.

HENSON VINSON.

Henson Vinson is a representative of one of the old families of Vermilion county, whose history is inseparably interwoven with the records of this portion of the state. He was the seventh child in the family of Henson and Abigail (McDowell) Vinson and was born April 16, 1837, in Parke county, Indiana. During his infancy he was brought to this county by his parents and in order to acquire an education he had to go about two or three miles to a log school house, which was seated with slab benches and lighted by greased paper windows. Heat came from an immense fireplace, which occupied one entire end of the room and the school was conducted on the subscription plan. Mr. Vinson has always lived upon the farm on which his father settled on coming to the county and the place is therefore endeared to him by the associations of his boyhood as well as those of later life. He has seen all of the improvements made in the county, witnessing great changes in methods of farming, as the primitive farm

machinery has been replaced by the substantial improved implements of the present day. He did his share in the work of field and meadow, tramping after the plow for many an hour at the time of early spring planting, and later assisting in gathering the crops which were cut with a sickle, while later a cradle was used in the harvest field. Corn was dropped by hand and covered with a hoe and jumper. Matches had not then been introduced and flint, tow and punk often proved the factors in lighting a fire, while the houses were illuminated at night by tallow candles made by the mother or by greased lamps. The mother also had her loom and from the wool taken from the sheep raised upon the farm she wove and spun the clothing that was utilized in making the garments for the different members of the family. The individual considered himself fortunate if he was able to have one pair of shoes a year. Oxen were not only used in breaking prairie and in cultivating fields, but also hauled the wagons in which the family would go to church or market, for there were no carriages at that time. As horses came into more general use the girls would often sit behind the man upon the pillion. The country was full of wild game and there were also many prairie and timber wolves. The old family home which was erected by the father in 1842 is still standing and, being weather boarded, is to-day used as a barn. It was built of walnut timber taken from the farm and the gable ends still remain as they were in the beginning. There is enough timber in the frame work of this structure to build two houses such as are in use at the present day. For sixty years has this building looked out upon the surrounding landscape—a mute witness of the development and progress of the coun-

ty. The father of our subject took an active part in the early upbuilding and development of this portion of the state and his brother, Levin, was also a pioneer settler, who became an extensive landowner, purchasing many farms from squatters. Henson Vinson, Sr., died in 1848, at the age of fifty years and his wife passed away in February, 1897, at the very advanced age of one hundred and two years.

Mr. Vinson of this review has never been away from the old homestead for three months at a time. He can remember the first cook stove brought into the neighborhood. It was a step stove, owned by his brother Levin. Our subject made a trip to Chicago with ox teams taking with him a load of apples and meat and returning with salt and a cook stove. In order to see that wonderful piece of household furniture neighbors came for miles, for previous to this time all cooking was done over the fire place in iron kettles or skillets, while corn-pone was baked on a smooth board with a flat iron behind it. When neighbors killed their hogs the meat was divided and thus all got to share in the supply of pork.

On the 31st of October, 1867, Mr. Vinson wedded Marian Hall, who was born in Putnam county, Indiana. She died May 17, 1883, at the age of thirty-nine years, ten months and two days, leaving three children: Nora, now the wife of Joseph Brothers of Oakwood township, by whom she had two children, Pearl and Clyde; Mary, the wife of John Ollivy, of South Dakota, by whom she has four children; and Ida, who is living in Danville. In 1893 Mr. Vinson was united in marriage to Harriet O'Neil, of Vermilion county. He now owns about one hundred acres of rich farming

land on section 1, Oakwood township. He served as school director for sixteen years and in politics is a staunch Republican.

JOHN W. NEWLON.

From the time when as a soldier boy of the Civil war John Newlon placed himself on the side of his country's protectors down through various official positions to the present time, he has manifested unswerving loyalty to the United States. Both local advancement and national progress are causes dear to his heart and in various offices he has manifested unswerving fidelity to the trust reposed in him. John W. Newlon is a native of Oakwood township, Vermilion county, born June 13, 1840. His father, Thomas B. Newlon, was born in Harrison county, Virginia, and wedded Mrs. Angeline Griffith Makemson, a native of Wayne county, Indiana, and a daughter of Stephen Griffith, who became a resident of Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1826. At that time Mrs. Newlon was nine years of age and to-day she is more than ninety, but she still resides in Kansas and is enjoying good health. Thomas Newlon, the father of our subject, accompanied his father, John Newlon, to Vermilion county in 1837, removing thither from Champaign county, Ohio. They settled in Catlin township and after the marriage of the parents of our subject they took up their abode in Oakwood township, where Mr. Newlon followed general farming for a number of years and was also actively identified with the development of his portion of the state. In 1866 he removed with his family to Kansas but in



JOHN W. NEWLON.

1872 returned to Vermilion county and spent his remaining days in Danville, passing away in February, 1877.

John W. Newlon was the eldest of the seven children of the family and was reared upon the home farm, attending the common schools in the winter months and afterward supplementing his early education through reading, study at home and through experience and observation. Thus he became well informed and for several years he taught school, but during much of his life he has carried on farming and has been largely engaged in buying and shipping stock, carrying on extensive operations in that way.

In the month of June, 1861, Mr. Newlon attained his majority and in July he enlisted for service in Company I, Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry, with which he was connected until 1864. He participated in the battles of Pea Ridge, Stone River, Corinth, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge and went with Sherman on the Atlanta campaign. At Kenesaw Mountain he was slightly wounded and he was twice taken prisoner, but he managed to elude the vigilance of his captors and both times succeeded in making his escape. At the close of his term he was mustered out at Springfield with the rank of sergeant. He then returned to his native township and was engaged in general farming and in teaching school until the close of the war.

On the 19th of September, 1865, Mr. Newlon was married to Ives E. Taylor, a daughter of Thomas A. and Ives (Allen) Taylor, who came to Vermilion county in 1853 and located in Catlin township, where Mr. Taylor died September 19, 1876. His wife survived him several years, departing this life in 1893 in her seventy-eighth year. Mrs. Newlon continued her education until she had reached the senior year in the high

school of Springfield, Illinois. She was born in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, February 2, 1845, and after her marriage she went with her husband to Winterset, Iowa, but a year later they returned to Vermilion county. Their children are Temperance Jane; Nora, the wife of H. B. Catlett, by whom she has four children—Roland J., Elizabeth Ashton, Stanley B. and Eugene Leigh; Mildred, who is at home; Lena, also at home; and Lowell T., who is assistant teller in the First National Bank of Danville and married Miss Vera Seed, by whom he has one son, John.

Mr. Newlon of this review has been quite prominent in his community, having been called to various public offices. For three terms he served as supervisor of Catlin township and was also collector and assessor there. In 1888 he came to Danville and was appointed deputy sheriff under J. C. Gundy, filling that office for two years. In 1890 he was elected sheriff and for four years acted in that capacity, during which time there occurred the great strike of the American Railway Union and at the same time five thousand miners in Vermilion county went out on a strike. The exigencies of the position were such as have seldom been imposed upon a county official, but he met the difficulties which confronted him and the seven companies of militia who were called into service were all under his direction. He proved himself most capable in handling the troops and in mastering the situation at this critical time and the people manifested their confidence in him and their approval of his course by electing him county treasurer without opposition when his term as sheriff had expired. He served for four years as treasurer and in 1898 he became chief deputy sheriff, serving for three and one-half years under James Sloan.

He was then appointed commissary in the Danville branch of the National Home for disabled soldiers and has since acted in this capacity.

Mr. Newlon has always been an active member of the Republican party and has served several years as a delegate to the county and state conventions. He was assistant sergeant-at-arms at the St. Louis convention when William McKinley was nominated for the presidency and for several terms he has served as a central committeeman. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belongs to Vermilion Chapter, No. 89, R. A. M., and to Athelstan Commandery, No. 45, K. T. Both he and his wife are zealous members and active workers in the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He owns a splendid farm in Catlin township in addition to town property, and in Danville and Vermilion county Mr. Newlon ranks among those whose worth to the community is widely recognized. His public career will bear the light of the strongest investigation and scrutiny for his fidelity to duty has ever been one of the strongest elements in his career.

O. M. DANIEL.

O. M. Daniel, who is now living a retired life in Danville, was born in Roxbury, New York, June 19, 1843, a son of Aaron Burr and Cornelia Ann (Moffett) Daniel, both of whom were natives of the Empire state. The Daniels family are descendants of the Sturgis family, to whom Jay Gould also traced his ancestry. They came originally from Scotland and settled in New York. The parents of O. M. Daniel were married

in New York, after which they located in the town of Deposit, the father there engaging in farming. After the death of his first wife he married Phebe Ogden, also a native of New York. About 1870 he removed to Danville, Illinois, where he engaged in farming and contracting. He assisted in the construction of the Paris & Danville Railroad, now a branch of the Big Four system, and then retired from business life. In politics he was a Democrat and was a member of the Presbyterian church. He died about 1891 and is survived by his second wife, who is still living near Danville. By the first marriage there were seven children, of whom four are living: O. M., of this review; Ella, who is married and resides in Chicago; Sarah, the widow of James Thompson, her home being near Danville; and Mrs. Cornelia Smith, of Kansas. By the second marriage there were four children: Charles, who resides in Indiana; William, of Danville; Irving, of Catlin, Illinois; and Leslie, who resides with his mother.

In the public schools of Deposit, New York, O. M. Daniel pursued his education and in the year of 1861 came to Danville, where he began earning his living by driving a team for the firm of Doulain & Daniel, coal dealers, with whom he remained for two years. He then spent six months as night operator and ticket agent in what was called the Great Western depot. He next went to Champaign, Illinois, and for six months was employed as a brakeman on the road, after which he was advanced to the position of conductor and sent to the southern district of Illinois, running between Centralia and Cairo. For a year and a half he remained with the road and then returned to New York.

The object of his visit was his marriage, which occurred on the 3d of June, 1871, the lady of his choice being Miss Jane Thompson, who was born in Delhi, New York, May 8, 1841, a daughter of Robert Thompson, whose birth occurred in Scotland. After coming to America he was married in Delhi, New York, to Helen Shaw, a native of that place. In order to provide for his family he first learned the stone mason's trade and afterward carried on farming. His last years were spent in Deposit, New York, where his death occurred about 1894, while his wife passed away in 1898. He belonged to the Baptist church and gave his political support to the Democracy. In his family were thirteen children, of whom five are yet living: Jane, now the wife of Mr. Daniel; Helen, the wife of John Faulkner, a resident of Deposit, New York; Robert, who is living in Susquehanna, Pennsylvania, and Everett and Etta, who are also residents of that place. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel has been blessed with five children, but Orin, the first born, died in Danville. Alvin married Anna Smith, by whom he has a daughter, Edna, and their home is near Danville. Fred, a resident of Chicago, Illinois, married Jennie Faulkner, and has two children. Perry is physical instructor of the Young Men's Christian Association, of Salt Lake City, Utah. Effie L. resides with her parents and is a member of the class of 1903 in the high school.

Mr. Daniel has fifty acres of land two miles south of Danville and also owns a good home and other real estate in the city. To some extent he buys and sells coal, but is now practically living a retired life. In politics he has always been a Democrat, but has ever refused to hold office. Some years ago he became the candidate for county

sheriff and succeeded in reducing the usual Republican majority of thirty-three hundred to nine hundred, a fact which indicates his personal popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in Danville. Having long resided in this county he is widely known and enjoys the respect and good will of those with whom he has been associated.

JOHN TEXAS DAVIS.

John Texas Davis is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Vermilion county. Through more than fifty years he has been a witness of the progress and upbuilding of this portion of the state because he has spent his entire life here. He was born in Vance township, September 17, 1850, his parents being James and America (Bogges) Davis, who are represented on another page of this work. At the usual age the subject of this review began his education as a student in the Walnut Grove schoolhouse and there he continued his studies until he reached the age of twenty years, attending, however, mostly in the winter seasons, while during the months of the summer he worked in the fields from the time of early plowing and planting until the crops were gathered in the autumn. He assisted in the cultivation of the home farm until he was twenty-three years of age and then removed to the farm upon which he is now living, it having since been his home. It gives evidence of the care and labor which he has bestowed upon it in its well tilled fields, excellent improvements and neat and thrifty appearance.

On the 13th of February, 1873, in Vance township, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Davis and Miss Jennie Gilbert, a native of Ohio. By this marriage there has been born one son, James Roy, who resides upon one of his father's farms. He married Myrtie Rogers and they have two children, Daisy D. and Texas Eugene. On the 15th of August, 1888, in Danville, Mr. Davis wedded Katie Thomas, who was born in Nyesville, Indiana, on the 31st of July, 1864. Her father, Andrew J. Thomas, was a native of Kentucky, and when he had reached years of maturity he wedded Sarah J. Dice, whose birth occurred in Indiana. They were married in Rockville of the latter state. The mother of Mrs. Davis died in August, 1875, but the father is still living, his home being in Conkeytown. He is a farmer by occupation, having followed that pursuit throughout his entire life. His political support is given to the Republican party. In his family were nine children, of whom four are yet living.

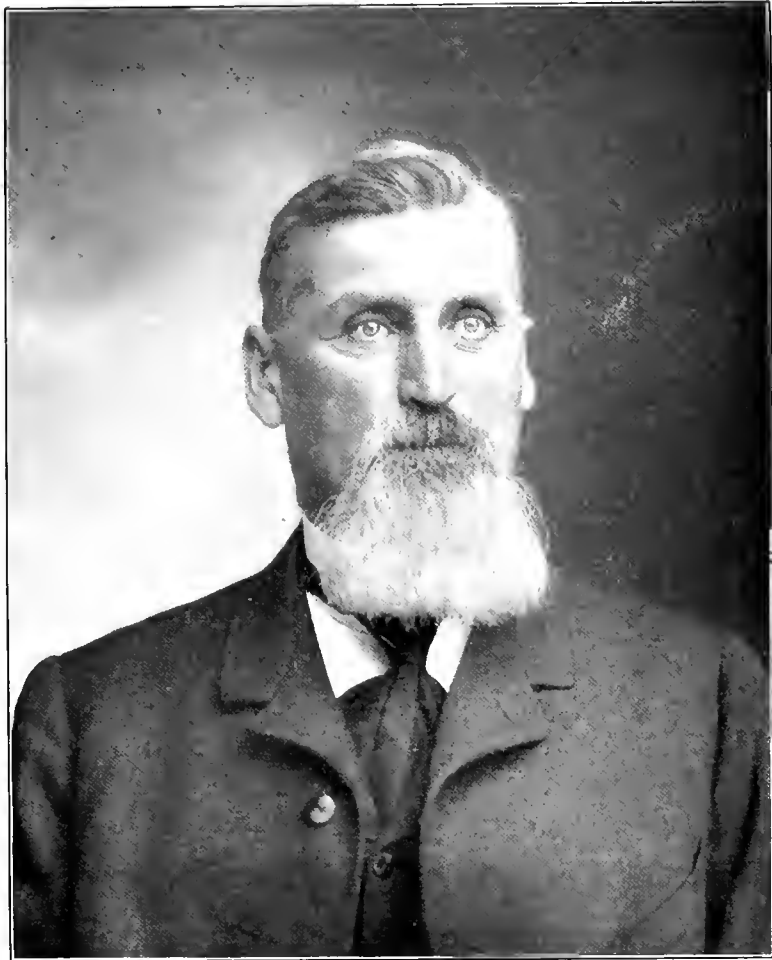
Mr. Davis is the owner of two hundred acres of very rich and valuable land on section 7, Vance township. It was formerly the property of his paternal grandfather and has since been in possession of the family. He is a partner in the ownership of the famous Shire stallion, Newton Ladd, and is extensively engaged in breeding horses, in which branch of business he has been very successful. He also buys and sells horses and Poland China hogs, and as a stock dealer is very widely known, being one of the leading representatives of this business in Vermilion county. As a general farmer he is also prospering and his enterprise and capable management are important elements in his success.

Although his life is a busy one he yet finds

time to support the principles in which he believes, and is an ardent Republican. He has always refused to hold office, however. Socially he is connected with Homer Lodge, No. 199, F. & A. M., having been made a Mason there when twenty-four years of age. He also belongs to the chapter at Homer and is a Knight Templar of Athelstane Commandery, No. 45, K. T. of Danville. He has attained to the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite, and is a member of the consistory and Mohammed Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Peoria. He holds membership relations with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor, and is popular in these organizations because of his good fellowship, genial spirits and cordial manner.

JOHN D. CAMPBELL.

John D. Campbell is now practically living retired but still owns and operates his valuable farm property on section 23, Newell township, where he has long lived and where he has two hundred and five acres of rich land, well improved with substantial buildings. His birth place was on section 26, Newell township, south of his present home and his natal day was June 7, 1843. His parents were Joseph and Eliza (Makemson) Campbell, the former a native of Seneca county, New York, the latter of Harrison county, Kentucky. His grandfather, Samuel Campbell, came to Vermilion county about 1828, settling on the farm on which the birth of our subject occurred. He made the journey overland in a covered wagon from New York to Ohio and then some of his sons came ahead to Vermilion county, being later followed by the parents,



J. D. CAMPBELL.

who lived first in a little log cabin surrounded by Indian neighbors. There they underwent all the hardships and trials incident to the establishment of a home upon the frontier. Later the little log cabin was replaced by a more substantial and modern residence and was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Campbell until called to their final rest at an advanced age. In their family were eight children, of whom Joseph Campbell was the youngest son. After his father's death he purchased the interest of the other heirs in the old homestead and there carried on agricultural pursuits until his own death, which occurred March 7, 1858, when he was forty-one years of age. He was the father of three sons and two daughters.

John D. Campbell, the eldest son and the second in order of birth, pursued his education in the district schools, the little temple of learning being a log schoolhouse, seated with slab benches and heated by an immense fire-place, from which the smoke made its egress through a mud stick chimney. The school was conducted on the subscription plan. His father served as a member of the school board at the time when the log school building was replaced by a frame structure and also acted in that position before the building of the new schoolhouse. Mr. Campbell of this review attended school for about three months in the winter and throughout the remainder of the year assisted in the work of the home farm. Later he engaged in teaching school, having about forty or fifty scholars. After a time, however, he devoted his entire energies to farm work and for more than thirty-five years has been identified successfully with agricultural interests. At the age of twenty-five years he married Julia Howard, the wed-

ding ceremony being performed October 13, 1860, by the Rev. J. S. Johnson. Four children were born unto them, of whom two are yet living. Ida is the wife of O. M. Berry, of Newell township, whom she wedded December 18, 1895. Joseph Howard is a practicing physician of Bismarck. He attended the high school of Danville and for one term was a student in Greer College of Hoopston. He afterward entered Kankakee Hospital, where he was employed for about four or five years and there he met Beatrice May Krohn, an experienced nurse, to whom he was married August 22, 1900. Determining to make the practice of medicine his life work he entered the college of Physicians and Surgeons of Chicago and was graduated on the 20th of May, 1902. Immediately afterward he opened his office in Bismarck and is now successfully engaged in practice. After the death of his first wife Mr. Campbell, of this review, was married to Miss Mary K. Barger, the wedding ceremony being performed by Rev. H. Woods on the 22d of May, 1888. Her parents were William Charles and Ann (Barns) Barger, the latter a native of Kentucky. Her father was born in Newell township, where his father had located in an early day, coming to the west from Ohio. Mrs. Campbell was the eldest of five children, three sons and two daughters, all of whom are living, her birth occurring in Newell township, October 26, 1861. She pursued her education in Stateline, Indiana, and by her marriage she has become the mother of three children: Jessie M., Bessie D. and McCowan.

Mr. Campbell has been quite successful in his business affairs. He located on his present farm about 1868 and has since devoted his energies to general farming and stock-raising, although at the present time

he is largely living retired. He has made a specialty of handling shorthorn cattle and their ready sale upon the market has brought to him a good return. He now rents the greater part of his farm, the income from his property supplying him with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. He saw Danville before there was a railroad in the town and in those early days all grain was hauled to Covington. He also remembers well when the stage coaches ran from Terre Haute to Danville and to Chicago, going north along the state road. All travel in that period was by river, canal and stage. In the work of progress and improvement Mr. Campbell has always taken a deep and active interest, doing everything in his power to promote the general good. For about nine years altogether he has served as commissioner of highways and for thirty years he has acted as school director, taking a helpful part in erecting schools and securing competent teachers. He is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Stateline and for several years he has been one of its trustees. His wife is a member of the Christian church. Mr. Campbell belongs to the Masonic fraternity at Stateline and to the Odd Fellows Society and for a number of years he has been active in fraternal circles, but now largely leaves this work to younger men. Both he and his wife are well known in Vermilion county and enjoy the warm regard of those with whom they have come in contact. They are now favorably situated in a comfortable home which has been gained through their combined and well directed efforts. Mr. Campbell has cleared much timber land in this county and has assisted materially in making the county what it is to-day, one of the richest counties in this great state.

T. H. RUNYON, M. D.

Dr. T. H. Runyon of Tilton was born in Mason county, Kentucky, April 25, 1831, his parents being Daniel and Ruth (Robinson) Runyon. The paternal grandparents were Daniel and Rachel Runyon, the former born August 28, 1750, died December 26, 1817, while the latter, whose birth occurred May 13, 1752, survived her husband until December 27, 1833. The father of our subject was born in Kentucky, May 23, 1788, and died May 6, 1876. He married Ruth Robinson, who was born in Kentucky, March 22, 1788, and died February 3, 1857. In their family were nine children and two sisters of the Doctor are now living—Mrs. Sarah Worthington and Mrs. Mary Witt, both of whom are residents of Kentucky. The Doctor has recently visited them and the former is now eighty-five years of age and the latter seventy-four years of age. The members of his father's family who have passed away are: J. R., who died in 1900, at the age of eighty-eight; W. G., who died in 1843; R. L., who was born in 1812 and died in 1876; E. A., who was born December 5, 1821, and departed this life December 27, 1899; Asa, who died in infancy; and E. J., who was born October 17, 1826, and passed away March 9, 1852.

Dr. Runyon spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native state, coming to Vermilion county in 1869. He had acquired his literary education in Kentucky and pursued his medical course in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, where he was graduated in the class of 1855. He began practice in Mason county, Kentucky, and in 1860 he went to Louisiana, practicing in Concordia Parish until the fall

of 1861. He then enlisted as a private of Company F, First Louisiana Cavalry, under Colonel John S. Scott and Lieutenant Colonel J. O. Nixon of New Orleans. With the command Dr. Runyon was sent to Bowling Green and was promoted to the rank of sergeant. He participated in the battles of Fort Donelson, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Springhill, Kentucky; Big Hill, Kentucky; Stone River, Perryville and others of minor importance, and was mustered out at Holly Springs, Mississippi, in May, 1865. He acted as officer's guard and most of the time was assistant surgeon. He also aided in making the exchanges of prisoners on numerous occasions. His experience as assistant surgeon proved of value to him in his later practice. At the close of the war he returned to Mason county, Kentucky, where he established an office and continued in practice until 1869, when he arrived in Catlin, Vermilion county, Illinois. Here he opened an office and continued in the prosecution of his profession until 1876, when he left for Florida. Later he returned to McLean county, Illinois, and subsequently settled in Perrysville, Indiana, but in 1880 he again went to Catlin, where he remained continuously until 1902, when he removed to Tilton, where he is now located. He is examiner for a number of the old line insurance companies.

Dr. Runyon was married February 26, 1867, in Minerva, Kentucky, to Miss Cora Lee Triplett, a daughter of Dr. and Martha (Anderson) Triplett, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Kentucky. Mrs. Runyon was their second child and was born in Kentucky June 21, 1845. She died August 27, 1880, leaving three children, while

three had also passed away in infancy. Those still living are: William H., of Indian Territory; Kate L., the wife of A. L. Olmsted of Tilton, by whom she has three children—Orvil, Ward and Ruth; and Clay, of Oklahoma, who married Miss Albright and has one daughter, Ruth. On the 5th of April, 1883, Dr. Runyon was again married, his second union being with Tillie A. Onley, a daughter of William and Mary (Adams) Onley. She was born in London, England, October 20, 1847, and her parents, also natives of that country, came to Vermilion county at an early day. Mrs. Runyon was educated in this state and has made three trips across the Atlantic.

The Doctor is a member of the Masonic fraternity, of which he has been examining physician and he also belongs to the Court of Honor and is a charter member of Catlin Lodge, I. O. O. F. He has served as school director for a number of years and he votes for men and measures rather than for party. Both he and his wife are members of the Christian church of Danville. The Doctor has seen many changes in this county, has witnessed the development of Danville from a small village. He has ridden for miles across the country in the early days of his professional career here and is now one of the oldest physicians in this part of the state, being still actively engaged in practice, although now in his seventy-first year. He has in his possession a coverlet which his mother wove. He has seen the flax used in his mother's home, the garments for the men being made of jeans and garments for the girls and women of linsey. He has seen the dipped candles and remembers when the candle mold came into use. With matters of growth and improvement

in Vermilion county he has been identified, ever taking a deep interest in what has tended to promote the general welfare.

MARCUS C. DAVIS.

Marcus Cerebious Davis, who carries on general farming in Pilot township, was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, November 10, 1833, his parents being Owen and Margaret (Neff) Davis. They were married in the Buckeye state, of which the father was a native, while the mother's birth occurred in Virginia. Both now have departed this life. In their family were three children: Absalom; Mary, the wife of Thomas Snider; and Marcus Cerebious, all yet living in Pilot township.

Mr. Davis, whose name introduces this record, spent the first eighteen years of his life in the county of his nativity and pursued his education in an old log schoolhouse with its accessories and old time appointments. It was about 1848 that he came to the west, settling in Pilot township. On attaining his majority he left home and was married in Pickaway county, Ohio, on the 2d of May, 1853, to Miss Mary Neff, whose birth occurred in Hardy county, Virginia, August 10, 1832. Mrs. Davis has but one living brother, Peter Neff, who still resides in Ohio. They are the only surviving members of her father's family.

Immediately after his marriage Mr. Davis returned to this part of Illinois, settling in Pilot township, and has since lived upon his present farm on section 23. He began his domestic life here with a cash capital of about two hundred dollars. From his father he rented land and also operated other leased land for several years, but as

time passed he added more and more to his savings until he was enabled to purchase his present farm, comprising one hundred acres on sections 14, 16, and 23, Pilot township, and ten acres in Blount township. Here he devotes his energies to the cultivation of the fields and to the raising of crops best adapted to the soil and climate, and also keeps a good grade of stock upon the farm, but while he is yet living on the old home place the work of the farm is largely performed by his son, so that he is enjoying a well merited rest.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Davis were born six children, but the first born died in infancy, and George, whose birth occurred June 3, 1855, passed away on the 12th of June of the same year. Hettie, born November 18, 1856, is the wife of John Craig, of Oakwood township, and they have eight children, Minnie, Mabel, Maude, May, Edith, Nellie, Willie and Emily. Mary, born February 7, 1860, is the widow of Charlie Cork, and lives with her father. Absalom John, who was born June 28, 1865, married Nettie Cork, by whom he had three children, Robert L., Glenn V. and Cord McLean, but the mother died February 13, 1890, and on the 7th of September, 1898, Mr. Absalom J. Davis was again married, his second union being with Flora Wiltermood. Josie, born October 26, 1870, is the wife of Charles Vinson, of Pilot township, by whom she has two children, Ross and Clarence.

Mr. Davis is a member of the Church of Christ, at Charity, and for several years has served as its steward. He gives his political support to the Republican party and is serving as a school trustee. He has also been road commissioner and school director, belongs to Newtown Lodge, No. 714, F. & A. M., and is a worthy exemplar



MRS. M. C. DAVIS.



M. C. DAVIS.

of the craft, his life being in harmony with its teachings of mutual helpfulness and brotherly kindness. During the long years of his residence in Vermilion county he has ever lived as to command the respect and good will of those with whom he has been associated. He has seen the county develop from a wild frontier district into one of the richest portions of this great state, and in the work of development and progress he has borne his part and taken deep interest in what has been accomplished here.

JAMES DAVIS.

The citizen who comes to Vermilion county to-day enjoys all the privileges and advantages known to the older east, who is surrounded by the evidences of progress and development known to the world in the last half century cannot realize what was the condition which the pioneer of fifty years ago faced. The Davis family is one of the oldest of the county and James Davis well deserves honorable mention among the early settlers who, taking up their abode here upon the frontier, reclaimed this wild district for the uses of the white man and sought the raw land for purposes of civilization, that it might be made rich and productive farms.

James Davis was born in the state of Ohio, January 21, 1828, and in various lines the family ancestry can be traced back to Wales, Ireland and Scotland. Henry Davis, his father, was born on the 20th of September, 1781, and served his country as a valiant soldier in the war of 1812. His uncle Van Meter was one of the heroes of the Revolution and owned a powder horn which was brought from England and which was car-

ried in the battle which resulted in the defeat of Braddock. It is now a highly prized family heirloom in the possession of George Davis. After arriving at years of maturity Henry Davis married Miss Rachel Pollock, who was born June 3, 1785, and they became the parents of ten children: Azariah married Jane Conner but both are now deceased; Samuel died in infancy; William married Elizabeth Hays, of Ohio, and after her death he wedded Mrs. Mary Jane (Cottlett) Lee; Jane became the wife of Moses Hays and they resided near Homer, Illinois, but both are now deceased; Abraham married Electa Stearns and for a time they resided in this county, but afterward removed to Iowa and died in Wapello county, north of Ottumwa; Joseph was married in Iowa, in May, 1849, and his widow now resides in that state; Van Meter wedded Mary Ann Copeland and after her death married Katie Callahan, who died in 1893, since which time he has married Elvira Thompson and they make their home in Danville; Martha became the wife of John T. Hardin, a resident of Hardin county, Iowa, where she died in August, 1892; John died in Texas at the age of twenty-four years; and the other member of the family is James Davis of this review. The father of this family died in 1855 and the mother's death occurred November 1, 1848.

Educated in the district school and reared upon his father's farm, James Davis early became familiar with the occupation which he has made his life work. In early manhood he was married to Miss America J. Boggess, who comes of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and who was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, on the 3d of May, 1833. Her father, John Boggess, was a native of Greenbrier county, Virginia, and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Jane McCorkel,

was also born in the Old Dominion. Unto them were born eleven children: William, who died at the age of twenty-one years; Diana, who became the wife of Joseph Griffith and resided in Vermilion county, but both are now deceased; Becky, the wife of William Ray, a resident of Delevan, Morrison county, Kansas; Harvey, deceased, who married Emma White and resided in Kansas; Charles, who married Hulda Patterson and resides in Homer, Illinois; America J., the wife of our subject; Perry, who wedded Mary Lightner and after her death married Lizzie Austin, who also passed away, since which time he married Antoinetta Elliott, their home being now in Catlin township, this county; John, who married Bella Piper and is a physician of Catlin, Illinois; and three who died in early childhood.

The marriage of James and America Davis was blessed with two children: John Texas, who was born September 17, 1850; and Rachel A., born November 19, 1852. She is the wife of E. R. Danforth, a produce commission merchant of Danville, Illinois, and they have two living children, Jennie and James.

Throughout the years of an active business career James Davis has carried on farming. Coming to Vermilion county when this district was upon the western frontier he secured a tract of wild land and with characteristic energy began its development, transforming it into a productive tract. As the years passed he added to his possessions until he had about four hundred acres. He still resides upon a farm in Vance township, one of the esteemed and worthy pioneers who deserves much credit for the active and helpful part which he has taken in the development and upbuilding of his adopted county.

GENERAL ROBERT H. CARNAHAN.

General Robert H. Carnahan was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, September 21, 1823, and therefore his life record covers more than eighty years. In this long period he has displayed a patriotic spirit which, whether it be an inheritance from his Revolutionary ancestors or an inherent quality, has made him a citizen of worth. He traces his lineage from Robert Carnahan, who was a valiant soldier of the Continental Army and was detached from his command by General Washington to guard the frontier. As an Indian scout he gained considerable reputation and did effective and valient service in defending the borders against the advances of the hostile red men. He had two relatives who were also in the war and one of them went down the river with Aaron Burr on the filibustering expedition which has become a matter of history, settling in Louisiana. The Carnahan family is of Scotch-Irish descent and the father of our subject was a cousin of Professor Carnahan, president of Princeton College, who was the preacher that delivered the funeral sermon over the remains of Aaron Burr. He often visited at the home of William Carnahan. In the early days when William Penn led his colony into the state which was named in his honor, the Carnahans crossed the Delaware river into that district and through many generations representatives of the name were prominent in public affairs of Pennsylvania. William Carnahan was born in Cumberland county, as was his wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Houston. Their marriage occurred in that country and the father there carried on agricultural pursuits in order to provide for his family until his removal west-



R. H. Carnahan

ward when he took up his abode in Fountain county, Indiana, where he remained until called to his final rest. The mother of our subject died in 1824 and the father married Margaret Cooper, of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. In his political views he was a Republican and was an earnest Christian man who long held membership in the Presbyterian church and for many years served as one of its elders. He died in the spring of 1870 and his second wife passed away in 1882. By the first marriage there were two children, the brother of our subject being Andrew Carnahan, who served as a member of the state legislature in Indiana, and died in Covington, in 1852. By the second marriage there were three daughters and two sons, and three of the number are yet living: Mary, who is the widow of Dr. Cole, and resides at Rob Roy, Indiana; Sarah, the widow of John McGiffort, and a resident in Duluth, Minnesota; and John, who is living in Maysville, Tennessee.

To a limited extent General Carnahan attended the schools of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, but his education has been largely acquired in the school of experience, and therein he has learned many lessons of practical value. He remained upon the home farm until twenty-five years of age, after which he became a clerk in a warehouse in Attica, Indiana, and later he purchased the business continuing as a commission merchant at that place until 1861.

In the meantime General Carnahan was married on the 1st of January, 1849, to Miss Eliza Davis, who was born in Newark, Licking county, Ohio, May 27, 1822, a daughter of Judge Zachariah and Elizabeth (Roberts) Davis, the former a native of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Martinsburg, Virginia. They were mar-

ried in Newark, Ohio, and in early life the Judge followed the wheelwright's trade, while later he devoted his energies to pork-packing, which business he carried on extensively. A Republican in politics, a member of the Masonic fraternity and also a member of the Presbyterian church—the character of the man is thus indicated, for his endorsement of the beneficent principles of the craft and the Christian teachings of the church was manifest in a life of uprightness and honor. He died in 1865, and his wife passed away in 1848. In their family were eight children, six sons and two daughters, but only three of the number are now living: Mrs. Carnahan; Wylie, of Mahomet, Illinois; and William, of Mount Pleasant, Iowa. The home of General and Mrs. Carnahan was blessed with two children, the daughter being Clara, the wife of Thomas S. Parks, who is a clerk in the treasury office in Washington, D. C., and by whom she has two children, Robert and Margaretta. The son, William McDowell, is engaged in the coal business in Chicago.

General Carnahan continued in the commission business until after the inauguration of the Civil war, but previous to the outbreak of hostilities he had watched with interest the progress of events in the south, had noticed the hostile attitude of certain commonwealths below the Mason and Dixon line and resolved that if a blow was struck to overthrow the Union he would strike one in its defense. Accordingly, in July, 1861, at Fairbury, Livingston county, Illinois, he offered his services to the government in defense of the country which his ancestors had aided in establishing and became a member of Company K, Third Illinois Cavalry, under command of Colonel, now General Eugene A. Carr. He was elected captain of his company and was mustered in at

Camp Butler, at Springfield, Illinois, by General Pitcher, after which the regiment went to St. Louis to join General Fremont. Later the Third Illinois proceeded to St. Charles, Missouri, and afterward to Springfield, followed by a trip to Rolla and on to Lebanon, from which place they returned to Springfield with General Hunter, who succeeded General Fremont, and later General Curtis. In that locality Captain Carnahan with his command was engaged in scouting for a time and was in the rear of Springfield when Zargonis charged upon the city. Later the troops proceeded to Pea Ridge and from there with Curtis to Helena, Arkansas, and afterward were with General Sherman in the attack on Vicksburg and in the Yazoo river campaign. After the battle of Chickasaw Bayou, in which the Union troops were repulsed, Captain Carnahan went to Arkansas with General McClelland and captured Arkansas Post with five thousand prisoners. Next they proceeded to Young's Point where they went into camp and at that place General Grant took command of the western army, following which he started for the rear of Vicksburg. At the battle of Pea Ridge our subject had received the appointment as captain in charge of the battalion and this battalion was ordered with Grant in the spring of 1863. At Vicksburg it was attached to Osterhouse's Division under command of General McClelland and Captain Carnahan was appointed provost marshal of the division, and also at siege of Vicksburg. Following the surrender of Vicksburg he was with his command in the battles of Raymond, Champion Hills and Big Black River, in the rear of Vicksburg, and subsequently the division was ordered to join Sherman, proceeding to Jackson, Mississippi. After the surrender of that place Captain Carnahan returned

to Vicksburg and by General Grant was ordered to report with his battalion of cavalry to General Banks of New Orleans, and following this order he next proceeded with Banks up the Red river. When the campaign in that part of the country was ended he went with General Franklin into the Tash Bayou country west of Louisiana, following which he was attached to General McClelland's staff, on the expedition up the Red river. After General Fremont's expedition he remained in command of the post at Germantown for a short time, later he received orders to scout in western Kentucky, and then reported to General Paine in Paducah, that state. About this time his three years' term of service expired and reporting at Springfield, Illinois, he was given command of a regiment of Illinois Veteran Cavalry and filled up the quota. This regiment was then stationed at Memphis, Tennessee, and afterward marched with Hatch to confront General Hood who at that time crossed the Tennessee river at Florence. The Union troops fell back in front of Hood, fighting day and night, a battle occurring each day until they reached Nashville. Then occurred the siege and battles of Nashville. The Union troops followed General Hood on his retreat to the Tennessee river. Returning they went into camp at Gravelly Springs, near Paducah, Kentucky, where they remained for three weeks, when Colonel Carnahan was ordered to take his regiment to St. Louis and there report. In the latter city the regiment was equipped and then sent to join General Sibley, at St. Paul, Minnesota, at which place Colonel Carnahan was given command of the independent Indian expedition across the plains. He scouted all over the country in the Dakotas and Montana clear to the British line and returned to Fort Snelling upon the 10th

of October, 1865, when he was mustered out. He then took his regiment to Springfield, Illinois, where the men were paid off. In recognition of his meritorious service he was brevetted brigadier general, an honor recommended by Governor Richard Oglesby, and at Washington he was specially recommended for promotion by those high in authority. His commission was signed by President Johnson. When on the Red river expedition he had been detached from his regular command and was on General McClelland's staff, acting as chief of pickets of Thirteenth Army Corps on that occasion, his regiment at that time being at Memphis, Tennessee. General Carnahan never sustained a wound which he considered serious enough to cause him to retire from active service, although many times he suffered much from the Rebel bullets and had many narrow escapes.

After being mustered out of the United States Army General Carnahan came to Danville and it is a noticeable fact in his career that while for many years he has held office he was never elected to a position of public trust, the honors coming to him by appointment from those who recognized his capability. He was chosen as assessor of internal revenue for this district when it comprised eight counties, and for two years he acted in that capacity. On his retirement from the office he was elected superintendent of the Moss back, or Diamond coal mine, and for twelve years was connected with that business after which he was chosen quartermaster and commissary of the Soldiers Home at Quincy, Illinois, occupying that position from the opening of the institution until a period of six years had passed. He then returned to Danville and has since lived a retired life making his home at the corner of Madison and Franklin streets where with

his estimable wife he resides. In his political views the General is a stalwart Republican and while he believes firmly in the principles of the party he has never been an office seeker. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, having been made a Mason in 1865, and he has attained the Knight Templar degree in the commandery of Danville. Both he and his wife attend the service of the Presbyterian church. General Carnahan rendered his country effective and signal service in the greatest war of modern times and high on the roll of fame should his name be inscribed. While in recent years his life has been more quietly passed, he has been no less loyal to duty and to the right, and throughout the city in which he makes his home he is honored and respected for what he has accomplished. He receives the veneration and regard which should ever be accorded those who have attained advanced years and which should ever be given to a man whose love of country is greater than personal considerations and whose faithfulness to duty stands as the strongest element in his career.

MRS. MARY JANE LANCASTER.

Mrs. Mary J. Lancaster, who has many friends in Vermilion county and well deserves mention in this history, was born July 8, 1858, in Carroll township, Vermilion county, Illinois, her parents being Merrick and Priscilla Patten, both of whom are now deceased. Her father was a farmer and came from Indiana to Illinois. In his family were the following named: Mahlon, who is a resident farmer of Georgetown and has one child, Mrs. Lancaster; Davis R., who was a farmer and well driller of Ridge Farm, is married, and has four children:

Lilla; Allee, whose husband is a driller at Carmel, Indiana, and has one child; and L. E., who is engaged in the real estate business in Houston, Texas. He is married and has two children.

Under the parental roof Mary Jane Patten spent her girlhood days and was interested in the duties of the household, so that she was well prepared to take care of a home of her own at the time of her marriage. She pursued her education in the public schools and on the 25th of February, 1878, she gave her hand in marriage to Elwood Lancaster, of this county, a son of Robert and Martha Lancaster. His father is still living in Carmel, Indiana, at the age of eighty-six years and is a well preserved man able yet to visit among his relatives. Elwood Lancaster had seven brothers and five sisters. He was a farmer by occupation and at the time of their marriage he and his young wife removed to a beautiful farm which lies about two miles east and a mile north of Ridgefarm. Here Mrs. Lancaster has always remained. He was a good neighbor, a Christian man, faithful friend and a devoted father and husband. As a citizen he was public-spirited and progressive and took much interest in whatever pertained to the general good and to the material upbuilding of his community, the cause of education finding in him a warm friend, and he desired that his children should have good educational privileges. In 1891 he became ill of a fever, and on the 28th of November, of that year, was called to his final rest. He left behind him an honorable name and an example which is in many respects well worthy of emulation.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster were born five children. Myrtle is now the wife

of Wade Hampton, who is proprietor of a restaurant in Danville, Illinois. Addie, Albert, Ira, and Elsie, the last named now thirteen years of age, are still at home with their mother. The children have been provided with good educational advantages. On completing the common-school course they have entered high schools and Albert and Addie were graduated in the Vermilion Academy, with the class of 1901. Mrs. Lancaster is a member of the Society of Friends, or Quakers, and is an earnest Christian woman, devoted to her family and to all that is ennobling and beneficial to the human race.

GEORGE C. MAHONEY.

George C. Mahoney, who is now engaged in real estate operations in Hoopeston, largely handling his own property, was born in Madison county, Ohio, on the 5th of January, 1864, his parents being John and Elizabeth Mahoney, who are also residents of Hoopeston. The father was a farmer by occupation and took up his abode in Hoopeston in 1868, now living retired. He owns property on South Market street and is the possessor of a comfortable competence which supplies him with all the necessities and many of the luxuries of life. His children were: Laura, Kate, Mame, Sallie, Effie, Lemuel, John, Ed., Charlie and George.

George C. Mahoney was but three years of age when brought by his family to Illinois, his parents settling in Ford county, where he was reared to manhood and pursued his education in the district schools. At the age of twenty-two years he left home and was united in marriage in 1886 to Miss



John C. Kinnitt

Alice A. Phebus, who was born near Covington, Indiana, in 1861. Her father, William Phebus, is now living a retired life in Rankin, and is a well-to-do man, owning two hundred and forty acres of valuable land together with several good properties in the town of Rankin. The living members of his family are, Emma, Katie, Grace, Frank, William, Orville, Delmer and Ira. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mahoney were reared amid the scenes of farm life and educated in the district schools. Their marriage has been blessed with one child, Cora, who is now nine years of age, and they also lost one child in infancy. At the time of his marriage Mr. Mahoney began farming on his own account and successfully carried on agricultural pursuits for many years. He at first had few possessions, in fact at the time of his marriage he owned but little save a horse. He rented land for about ten years and then purchased a farm and as time passed he has gradually extended his possessions until he is now rated among the substantial citizens of his community. He carried on his farm work until 1897. The year following he was engaged in the livery business in Rankin. He then traded his barn for one hundred and sixty acres of land south of East Lynn, and then he sold a number of lots. He also bought eighty acres of land in Vermilion county. His farm possessions in Ford county comprised one hundred and twenty acres which he traded for his livery business in Rankin, and he also owned eighty acres of land south of the town. He now has one hundred and ten acres near Arcadia, Indiana. On selling the farm of one hundred and sixty acres in 1898 he removed to Hoopeston and here began dealing in real estate, which business he carried on for three years. He then pur-

chased a grocery store which he conducted for seven months, during which time his business amounted to eight thousand dollars. He then sold out and re-entered the real estate business, dealing in both farm lands and town property. During his first connection with this line of activity he was associated with his father. He has purchased and sold land on his own investment and has always been successful.

In his political views Mr. Mahoney is a stalwart Republican, taking an active interest in promoting the growth and insuring the success of his party, yet he has never been a candidate for office nor desired political honors. He is prominent in several civic societies, belonging to the Modern Woodmen of America, in which he has held office, and to the Knights of Pythias fraternity in which he is now serving as senior guard. Mr. Mahoney is widely known as a man of marked enterprise and though he has met some obstacles and difficulties in his path, he has steadily overcome these by persistent effort and to-day is numbered among the successful men of his community.

JOHN L. HAMILTON.

John L. Hamilton has long occupied a prominent position in the foremost ranks of the financiers of Illinois. His life has been one of untiring activity and has been crowned with a high degree of success, yet he is not less esteemed as a citizen than as a man, and his kindly impulses and charming cordiality of manner have rendered him exceedingly popular among all classes.

John L. Hamilton was born on the 8th of May, 1862, on a farm in Macoupin

county, Illinois. His father John L. Hamilton, Sr., died in Watska, Illinois, in May, 1900, and the mother still lives there. He was a very prominent and influential citizen and at the time of his death was serving as a member of the state legislature, having been elected on the Republican ticket four different times. He left the impress of his individuality upon the legislation enacted during his service and he was a man widely recognized as a leader of public thought and action and a mold of public opinion. He was commended, too, because of his loyalty to the general good and his untiring efforts in behalf of the best interests of the state. His property holdings were extensive. He owned twenty-four hundred acres of land in Iroquois county, Illinois, and seventeen thousand acres of land in Texas. In his family were four sons: John L., William A., Edward C. and George H. The last three are all residents of Iroquois county and are extensively engaged in the cattle business in Texas.

When a small child of two years John L. Hamilton was taken to Iroquois county, the family settling near Wellington. He obtained his education in the schools of Watska. The family removed to that place in 1875, and when his father was elected county treasurer our subject occupied the position of deputy treasurer and later he became deputy county clerk. He also assisted in organizing the Citizens' Bank of Watska, and was one of the stockholders, but disposing of his interests he came to Hoopston on the 1st of April, 1880. Here he accepted the position of cashier in the banking house of Burwell, Hamilton & Morgan. Changes have since occurred in the ownership of the institution and the firm is now Hamilton & Cunningham. They conduct a private banking in-

stitution of large proportions with Mr. Cunningham as the president and Mr. Hamilton as cashier. This institution has a capital of fifty thousand dollars and its owners are men of well known business reliability. They receive a liberal patronage and do a general banking business, following a safe, conservative policy which has won uniform confidence. Mr. Hamilton is likewise vice-president of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank, of Danville, and one of its stockholders. He is to-day one of the most distinguished members of the State Bankers' Association of Illinois, and of the American Bankers' Association. He has been honored by his fellow members of those organizations with various important offices. Perhaps no better idea of his prominence among the representatives of his own line of business can be obtained than by quoting from one of the Vermilion county journals of 1901, which said:

"At the annual meeting of the American Bankers' Association held in Milwaukee, October 15, 16 and 17, Mr. Hamilton was elected one of the ten members of the executive council. He was also made chairman of the fidelity bond committee, which is considered one of the leading if not the most important committee of the association. The conferring of these high honors upon Mr. Hamilton, without solicitation upon his part, comes as the strongest possible official endorsement of the valuable work he has been doing for the association for many years. The honors in this instance have fallen upon shoulders well worthy of receiving them. No man in the association takes a deeper interest in looking after all that tends to improve the present system of banking than Mr. Hamilton. His careful and conscientious study of the financial problem with which all banking

institutions must necessarily come in contact, has supplied a fund of information that has earned for him the well merited distinction of being one of the ablest and most conspicuous authorities on financial questions in the association. In recognition of his ability to pursue a thorough and exhaustive study of all questions involving the interests of banks Mr. Hamilton was sent to England in June, 1901, by the American Bankers' Association to study the financial conditions in that country. When it is taken into consideration that this association now has six thousand and three hundred members, and is the largest financial association in the world, the reader can form some idea of the responsibility assumed by Mr. Hamilton in accepting this work. The task occupied about two months, and the able and exhaustive report he rendered the association on his return elicited from its members the most favorable comments, and the Hoopeston banker was the recipient of many congratulations for the successful manner in which he carried out the mission assigned him. Mr. Hamilton has not only held the highest positions within the gift of the State Bankers' Association, of which he was chosen president in 1898, but has served on some of the most important committees in the American Bankers' Association." He likewise served as chairman of the executive council of the State Bankers' Association for four years, and is a life member of that committee. He also has served for the past ten years on the legislative committee.

In addition to his other business interests Mr. Hamilton owns considerable land, having about two hundred acres in Iroquois county, two thousand acres of prairie land in Texas and thirty thousand acres in Georgia, covered with yellow pine. He also has

extensive interests in Echols, Worth and Irwin counties, of Georgia, and in Hoopeston he owns a pleasant home at the corner of Penn and Fifth streets. He is a director and the secretary and treasurer of the Hoopeston Horse Nail Company.

On the 8th of February, 1892, in Homer, Illinois, Mr. Hamilton was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Hall, a native of Iroquois county, and they have three sons, John Lawrence, Donald H. and Robert H. In his political views Mr. Hamilton is a stalwart Republican. He has been honored with the highest office within the gift of his fellow townsmen, that of mayor. He has also been alderman of Hoopeston. While he was chief executive five miles of pavement were laid here, the city hall was built and he established and appointed the library board. His administration was very practical and business-like and he exercised his official prerogatives in support of progress, reform and improvement. He has frequently been a delegate to state conventions and his influence in the councils of his party is of no restricted order. He is a member of the blue lodge, chapter, commandery and consistory and the Mystic Shrine, departments of Masonry, is also identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and has passed through all of its chairs.

CHARLES FREMONT BUSBY.

Charles Fremont Busby, an enterprising farmer living on section 32, Elwood township, was born near Catlin, in this county, October 24, 1857. His paternal grandparents were John and Phebe (Bogges) Busby, who in the year 1822 removed from West Virginia to Indiana, thence coming

to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1853. The grandfather of our subject was born in West Virginia, in 1800, and died in Madison county, Iowa, in 1880. His wife, whose birth occurred in West Virginia, in 1800, also passed away in Madison county, Iowa. The parents of our subject were, William H. and Virginia (Poyn Dexter) Busby, natives of Madison county, Indiana. The father was one of a family of six sons and six daughters. Those who lived to mature years were I. N., who is a retired farmer of Fairmount and is eighty years of age; Thomas E., now deceased; William H., the father of our subject; Dudley F., who is seventy-two years of age and is a retired farmer of Creston, Iowa; S. M., sixty-four years of age, an agriculturist of Ridgefarm; Mrs. Malinda Boggess, deceased; Mrs. Sarah A. McNeer, also deceased; and Mrs. Frances Morey, of Winterset, Iowa. After arriving at years of maturity William H. Busby, the father of our subject, was united in marriage to Virginia Poyn Dexter. She was born in Madison county, Indiana, a daughter of Joseph and Sydney Poyn Dexter, of that county, in whose family were twelve children. Mrs. Busby died on the 23d of January, 1857, at the early age of twenty-four years, five months and twenty-three days, our subject being then an infant only three months old. His only brother, Leonidas Poyn Dexter Busby, is a farmer living near Catlin. He married Laura A. Church, a daughter of William A. and Hester Church, of Catlin township, and their family now numbers seven children, two sons and five daughters. When the country became involved in civil war the father of our subject responded to the country's call for aid, enlisting in 1861 as a member of Company E, Seventy-third Illinois Volun-

teer Infantry. For two years he fought for the preservation of the union and died in the service, passing away at Nashville, Tennessee, August 7, 1863, at the age of thirty-four years, two months and twenty-two days.

Charles F. Busby of this review pursued his education in the common graded and normal schools and for two years prior to his marriage he was successfully engaged in teaching. He has always followed farming and is to-day numbered among the progressive agriculturists of his community. On the 17th of September, 1860, he was joined in wedlock to Miss Rosa E. Gannon a daughter of James and Samantha Gannon. Her father was born in Kings county, Ireland, and emigrating to the new world settled in Ohio, where he remained for a short time, after which he came to Georgetown, Illinois. In this county he married Samantha Wyre, a daughter of David and Sarah Wyre, of Georgetown township. Her brother, David Wyre, was a brave soldier of the Civil war, serving as a defender of the Union. Mr. Gannon, the father of Mrs. Busby, died in 1900, but her mother is still living, making her home on the old homestead farm in Georgetown township. In their family were seven brothers and two sisters, and with the exception of one brother, all are still living, while one sister and two brothers are yet at home with the mother. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Busby has been blessed with four children: Earl, born December 3, 1893, is a bright boy, now in school. Garnet, born July 17, 1895, is also attending school. Roy, born October 25, 1897, and Gladys, born July 27, 1899, are the younger members of the family.

Mr. Busby resides on an excellent farm

of eighty acres one mile east of the town of Ridgefarm. His land is under a high state of cultivation and is well improved with modern improvements and fine buildings. Everything about the place denotes the care and supervision of the owner, who is accounted one of the progressive agriculturists of this portion of the state. His political support is given to the Republican party, and fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, while his religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church in which he holds membership. He is regarded as a good neighbor, a kind and considerate husband and father and a loyal citizen.

JAMES C. WOODBURY.

Among the young men of business ability whose skill and enterprise are rapidly winning for them a place in the front ranks among the representatives of commercial interests in Danville, is numbered James C. Woodbury. He was born in this city, January 31, 1870, a son of James H. and Sarah Jane (Chandler) Woodbury. The father was born in Ripley county, Indiana, and they were married in Danville in 1855. He then followed his trade of wagon-making and some years later he engaged in the insurance business, which he carried on until 1876. He then retired and removed to his fruit and stock farm in Danville township, remaining there until his death, which occurred January 28, 1885. In politics a Republican, he served as internal revenue collector for his district and also city treasurer of Danville. He belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, to

the Kimber Methodist Episcopal church and was a man of marked probity of character and genuine worth. His first wife passed away February 7, 1870, and on the 15th of June, 1871, he wedded Alwilda E. McClellan, who died in January, 1894. Our subject was one of five children born of the first marriage, of whom three are yet living: Jane, the wife of James S. Bicknell, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church residing in Champaign, Illinois; and May, who resides with her brother James, the youngest member of the family. By the second marriage there were three children, of whom one is yet living, Fannie E., a resident of Danville.

James C. Woodbury became a student of the public schools of Danville at the usual age and was graduated in the high school with the class of 1887. He then spent two and one-half years as a student in the Polytechnic Institute at Terre Haute, Indiana, after which he returned to Danville. He was married on the 18th of March, 1891, in Lovington, Moultrie county, Illinois, to Mertie L. Foster, who was born in Lovington, August 2, 1871. Her parents, John, A. and Adelia (Bicknell) Foster, were both natives of Illinois and were married in Lovington, where the father engaged in general merchandising, while later he carried on farming. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and died in 1874, while his wife passed away in 1877. Mrs. Woodbury was their only child and by her marriage she has become the mother of one son, Bicknell J., who was born May 10, 1896, in Danville, and is here attending school.

After his marriage Mr. Woodbury began reading law in the office of E. R. E. Kimbrough, who directed his study for three years and on the 12th of June, 1895,

he was admitted to the bar and opened a law office, entering upon the practice of his profession which he continued until the 1st of February, 1902, when he entered the employ of the Emery Dry-Goods Company of Danville, in which he was a stockholder and officer as well, being the secretary of this company. He assisted in its organization and the business has grown until theirs is one of the best dry-goods houses of eastern Illinois. In January, 1903, Mr. Woodbury disposed of his interest in the business and resumed the practice of law with his office at 517 Temple Building. He owns a residence in Danville valued at seven thousand dollars and his wife is the owner of a section of farm land in Moultrie county.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury hold membership in the First Presbyterian church and he belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity and to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. His right of franchise is exercised in support of the Republican party, but he has refused to enter political circles as an office seeker. He has, however, been active in promoting everything intended for the general good, and is a representative of the best type of citizenship in Danville—trustworthy in business, faithful in friendship and loyal to the interests of the home and of the public welfare.

HERALD CATLETT.

Through the long years of an active business career Herald Catlett was extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising. He became widely known as a representative of this branch of business and was also a valued citizen, because of his loyalty to every measure tending to advance the general

good. When he had reached an advanced age he was called to the home beyond, leaving, however, to his family a comfortable competence and the priceless heritage of an untarnished name. In early pioneer days he came to Vermilion county and from that time until his death was classed among the citizens of worth here.

A native of Virginia, Mr. Catlett was born in Charlottesville, June 5, 1826, a son of Lawrence Talaferro and Sally (Harman) Catlett. The father came from English and Italian ancestry. The family, a wealthy one, was founded in Virginia at an early day and the grandfather of our subject at one time owned all of the land on which Thomas Jefferson established his home, calling the place Monticello. The maternal ancestry of our subject came from Germany and the grandfather was a surgeon in the army under General Washington in the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Catlett was born in Stanton, Virginia, in which state she was reared and married and it was in that place that the parents of our subject began their domestic life, remaining there until 1828. The father was educated for the legal profession, but in going security for others necessity compelled the adoption of the saddler's trade. In 1828 he removed to Tusculum, Alabama, and shortly afterward went to Winchester, Tennessee, but two years later returned to Charlottesville, Virginia. There he remained until 1835, when he became a resident of Bloomingburg, Ohio, and on the 1st of October, 1846, he started for Vermilion county, Illinois, arriving on the 18th of the same month. Here he was engaged in farming until his death, which occurred July 2, 1861. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity, was a Baptist in religious faith and a staunch Democrat in his political affil-



iations. Most charitable and benevolent, his generous gifts were many and the poor and needy never appealed to him in vain. In fact, much of his wealth was bestowed in charity upon his fellow men, yet he was still in comfortable circumstances at the time of his demise. His wife survived him ten years, passing away January 10, 1871. They were the parents of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, but only two are now living: Virginia, the wife of Dr. Charles Lamon, of Fairmount; and Hiram H., who is represented elsewhere in this volume.

Herald Catlett pursued his education in the schools of Charlottesville, Virginia, until nine years of age when he accompanied his parents to Bloomingburg, Ohio, where he remained until he attained his majority. At that time he became a resident of Vermilion county, Illinois, and turned his attention to farming. On the 6th of October, 1858, in Bethel, Ohio, he wedded Miss Elizabeth H. Boulware, who was born in Williamsburg, Clermont county, Ohio, April 17, 1840, a daughter of Hiram and Sarah (Shottwell) Boulware, both natives of Clermont county, where their marriage was celebrated. The Boulware family was founded in the Buckeye state at a very early day and was of French extraction. Some of the name lived at Pittsburg at the time when the old fort stood there and later representatives of the family became pioneers of Ohio and of Kaskaskia, Illinois, settling in this state when it was almost an unbroken prairie. Mrs. Catlett's grandmother, Mary Shottwell, certainly deserved her name, because she was considered an expert with the rifle and in the early days of Ohio she killed over one hundred squirrels in a single day to protect their corn. She found no difficulty in bringing down a hawk

on the wing, and Simon Kenton, the great pioneer, trapper, hunter and explorer of Kentucky, when dining with her family, complimented her on her superior marksmanship. Mrs. Boulware was born in Clermont county, Ohio, and is still living at the advanced age of eighty-three years. Her father lived to the age of eighty-four and her mother reached the age of ninety-four. Mr. Boulware gave his attention to farming and lived in Clermont county, Ohio, until his death, which occurred in 1845. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, was a Whig in his political views and filled the office of justice of the peace. In his family were three children, the eldest being Mrs. Catlett. Charlotte is the widow of Charles Triplette and resides in Unionville, Missouri. She has two sons and two daughters. Hiram, the brother, entered the service of his country in the Civil war at the age of sixteen years and two years later was killed in the battle of Shiloh.

Throughout the period of his entire manhood Herald Catlett resided in Vermilion county, Illinois, and in his business affairs he prospered because his life was a very industrious and energetic one. He not only engaged in the tilling of the soil, but also bought and sold cattle on an extensive scale in partnership with his brother, Hiram. They perhaps handled more cattle than any other man in the county. In later years he devoted his attention to both stock-raising and farming and he accumulated over five hundred acres of land in Vermilion county and also assisted his sons in becoming owners of farms. He possessed excellent executive ability and keen business force and whatever he undertook he carried forward to a successful completion. He possessed strong resolution and unflagging diligence and thus he gained his place

among the men of affluence in his adopted county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Catlett were born eight children. Orin resides with his mother and manages the home farm. H. Boulware married Nora Newlan and is the vice president of the First National Bank of Weleetka, in the Indian Territory. He also owns three hundred and forty acres of land near Jacksonville, Illinois. In politics he is a Democrat and he belongs to the Baptist church. In his family are four children: Roland, Elizabeth, Stanley and Eugene. Blanch, the third member of the family, died in infancy. Robert, who resides upon the farm of four hundred and twenty acres near Jacksonville, wedded Rose Nicholson and they have two children, Gilbert D. and Thelma B. In politics he, too, is a Democrat, and also belongs to the Baptist church. John died at the age of five years. Portia L., Wilfred H. and Harman reside with their mother.

Mr. Catlett strongly endorsed the principles of the Democracy but would never consent to become a candidate for public office. He was an exemplary member of Fairmount Lodge, No. 500, F. & A. M., and from the age of fourteen years was a consistent and devoted member of the Baptist church, in which he long served as deacon. He died in that faith May 1, 1902, and was laid to rest in the Davis cemetery in Vance township. Through an active career he accomplished much both in the acquirement of a fortune and the development of an upright character and while he left his family in comfortable circumstances he also gave to them a legacy which is far better than gold—an untarnished name. In the pioneer development of the county he took an active and interested part and his

labors contributed in no small degree to the splendid result accomplished by the early settlers.



LEONARD J. HAHN.

Leonard J. Hahn, who since 1876 has made his home in Danville and is engaged in the grocery business at No. 412 Green street, was born in Germany, September 3, 1841. His father was manager of a factory there, and both he and his wife spent their entire lives in that country. Our subject and a brother who is now living in Wisconsin came to America in 1871, settling first in Hoboken, New Jersey, where Mr. Hahn of this review remained for a short time. He afterward visited many of the leading cities of the United States in search of a location and finally took up his abode in Wisconsin, where he attended school for four years in order to learn the English language. He next went to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where he remained for a short time and on the expiration of that period he removed to Pilot, Illinois, where he was engaged in teaching school for three years. In 1876 he came to Danville, where he continued educational work for four years and then accepted a clerkship in a grocery store where he was employed for a similar period. When that time had elapsed he embarked in the grocery business on his own account at 412 Green street and here he carries a fine line of staple and fancy groceries, country produce, cigars, tobacco, and in fact everything found in a first class establishment. In his business career he has been very successful and now has a large trade bringing to him a gratifying income.

Mr. Hahn was united in marriage to

Miss Albertina Snyder, of Champaign county, Illinois, but in February, 1890, was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife who passed away leaving two children, Henry, who is now attending school in Peru, Illinois, and Constance, who resides with her grandfather. Another daughter, Shebella, is now deceased.

In his political views Mr. Hahn is independent, supporting men and measures rather than party, and never seeking office. He belongs to the German Catholic church of Danville and is regarded as a prominent merchant here, a splendid representative of our German-American citizenship, loyal to the best interests of his adopted land and with a strong love for the country.

MILTON ELLIOTT.

Milton Elliott, now deceased, was at one time a very prominent and influential farmer of Vermilion county. He was born in Clinton county, Ohio, February 24, 1827, and was a son of James and Elizabeth (Smith) Elliott. They lived on a farm in Ohio until 1829, when they came to Vermilion county, Illinois, where the father purchased land. He was a member of the Baptist church and in politics was a Republican. He was three times married, his second union being with Elizabeth Smith, and his third wife being Mrs. (Sewell) Dalby. By the first marriage there was one child, now deceased. By the second marriage, two children are still living out of a family of six. Francis, who resides in Potomac, Illinois, married Jane Doney, and after her death was married to Elizabeth McFarland, now also deceased. Mary, the

second child of the second union, is the widow of Elland Speary and is also a resident of Potomac, Illinois. There were no children by the third marriage.

Milton Elliott of this review attended the district schools of Vance township until he was able to work on the farm, when he put aside his text books and assisted in the work of plowing the fields and reaping the harvests. Later he purchased the farm which is now the home of his widow. On the 10th of March, 1853, near Fairmount, Illinois, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Smoot, who was born in Coshocton, Ohio, January 22, 1831. She is a daughter of Barton and Hannah (Doney) Smoot, both of whom were natives of Ohio, where they were married and resided until 1841, when they removed to Indiana, settling near Logansport. They remained in the latter place for four years, when they removed to Vance township. The mother died April 30, 1895, and the father passed away in 1884. He was a member of the Baptist church and was an advocate of the Democratic party. Mrs. Elliott is a member of a family of thirteen children, of whom four brothers and two sisters are yet living: Elizabeth, the wife of our subject; James, who married Mary Davis and resides in Greenville, Missouri; John, who married Sarah Lewis and resides in Homer, Illinois; Lysander, a farmer of Fithian, Illinois, who married Lydia Randall; Daniel, a resident of Fairmount, who married Nettie Doren; Phoebe, the wife of Robison Cook, a resident of Tallula, Illinois; and Molly, the wife of Garry Temple, of Fairmount, Illinois.

The marriage of Mr. Elliott and his wife was blessed with six children. Bart married Mary Baldwin and lives in Fairmount,

Illinois. They have three children, Everett, Oscar and Goldie. James married Lizzie Egy. They reside in Danville, Illinois, and have five children, Grace, Burleigh, George, Holmes and Ferrol. Ellis married Fanny Lowell and they reside in Fairmount. Milton married Ulta Bale. They reside in Vance township and have two children, Earl and Myrtle. John is at home with his mother and manages the farm for her. Rosa is also at home with her mother.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Elliott located upon the farm which she now occupies. Mr. Elliott was very industrious and energetic and through his capable management became the owner of four hundred and ninety-six acres. This has now been partly divided among the children and the remainder is controlled by his widow. He was a member of the Baptist church and in politics was a Republican. In his life he exemplified the principles of truth and right and he was a man highly respected in his community. He left many friends besides his family to mourn his loss. His death occurred on the 21st of November, 1878, and he was laid to rest in Davis cemetery. Mrs. Elliott is a lady of estimable character who is now successfully managing her landed interests and she is a valued resident of Vance township.



JOHN W. GOODWINE, SR.

John W. Goodwine, Sr., is an octogenarian of Vermilion county, living in Potomac. He is now enjoying a well-earned rest which has crowned a life of labor and industry. For over fifty years he was connected with

the farming interests of the county and the prosperity which attended his efforts has supplied him with the means of living in retirement from further labor, his competency being sufficient to supply him with all the necessaries and comforts of life. Mr. Goodwine is a native of Vermilion county, Indiana, born December 9, 1822. His father, James Goodwine, was born in Pennsylvania and was a son of John Goodwine. The family is of English lineage and was established in the Keystone state at an early epoch in its development. It was in that state that James Goodwine was reared to manhood and subsequently he removed to Buffalo, where he was married to Elizabeth Snyder, of German lineage. For some years thereafter they resided in Kentucky and then removed to Indiana, settling in Bartholomew county. There in the midst of the green forest the father of our subject developed a farm. The sound of the woodman's ax was soon heard as he chopped away the trees in order to transform his farm into productive fields for the raising of crops best adapted to soil and climate. Subsequently he removed to Warren county where he again opened up a farm upon which he reared his family and spent his remaining days, passing away there about 1848, when seventy years of age. His wife had died in 1824, when John W. was a little child of two years. The father afterward married again.

Upon the old homestead in Warren county, Indiana, John W. Goodwine was reared and early in life he became familiar with the arduous task of clearing and developing a new farm. He took his place in the forest where he assisted in cutting down the trees, clearing away the brush and preparing the fields for cultivation. When



MRS JOHN W GOODWINE



JOHN W GOODWINE SR

this was done he bore his part in the work of plowing and planting and later in harvesting the rich grain. His school privileges were limited and he is almost entirely a self-educated as well as a self-made man who deserves great credit for what he has accomplished. As a companion and helpmeet for life's journey he chose Miss Jane Charlton, who was born and reared in Indiana, their wedding being celebrated in Warren county, that state in 1845. They became the parents of five children and the mother died in Vermilion county, Illinois, about 1867. Of her four sons Marion, John and James are yet living, while Fremont died at the age of four years. The daughter, Mary Jane, is also deceased. Mr. Goodwine was again married in this county, his second union being with Mrs. Armiuda Dare, a widow, who was born in this county. They, too, have four children: Martha, the wife of D. E. Juvinal, of California; Helen, the wife of De Marcus Juvinal, of Vermilion county; Dora, who was married but is now deceased; and Grant W.

The year 1848 witnessed the arrival of John W. Goodwine in Vermilion county. He settled in Blount township, where he purchased six hundred acres of good farm land, which he began to improve and in addition to the cultivation of the fields he engaged in stock-raising and feeding. He soon became recognized as one of the most progressive and extensive farmers of this section of the state. From time to time he added to his landed possessions until he owned six thousand acres comprised in different farms. From his youth he made a specialty of feeding cattle for the market, and his extensive corn products were thus utilized. Each year he would sell from three to five hundred head of cattle and a

large number of hogs were also raised upon his farm and sent to the city markets. He became one of the most extensive stock dealers in the county, and his well directed efforts brought to him splendid success. In 1898, however, he put aside the more arduous cares of business life and removed to Potomac where he is now living retired save that he gives his attention to the supervision of his farms and invested interests. He still owns three thousand acres of the rich and valuable land of this section of the state. All has been deeded to his children and will pass into their possession at his death.

Politically Mr. Goodwine was an old line Whig and he probably cast his first presidential vote for Zachary Taylor. He continued to affiliate with the party until 1856 when he joined the ranks of the new Republican party and has never failed to vote for each of its presidential candidates since that time. The honors of public office have never been sought by him for his time has been fully occupied by his large business interests. During fifty-four years he has resided in the county and is to-day one of its most respected and honored agriculturists. He has seen Danville grow up from a small village and has watched the onward march of progress in the state. All that has tended to improve the county and promote its welfare has received his endorsement. He is well-known in Danville and throughout the community as a man of tried integrity and worth and his life history should serve to encourage young men who have to begin in business as he did, without capital or the aid of financial friends. His own career proves conclusively that strong determination and unremitting diligence can secure splendid success.

ROBERT CRAWFORD SMALLEY.

The life record of such a man as Robert Crawford Smalley should serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to his fellow men because it proves that success may be won through earnest and persistent effort and without the aid of wealthy or influential friends at the outset of one's career. Mr. Smalley is now living retired, having during the years of his business activity won a handsome competence which classes him among the substantial citizens of Hoopeston. A native of Benton county, Indiana, he was born on the 31st of August, 1847, and when only about eighteen months old removed to Warren county, Indiana, with his parents. His father, William Smalley, a native of Kentucky, born January 11, 1813, of German lineage, was engaged in cabinet work in his younger days and afterward turned his attention to farming. He married Sarah Sargeant, who was born in Warren county, Indiana, June 20, 1817, the wedding being celebrated on the 29th of August, 1833. The lady was born, reared and educated in Warren county, obtaining a common-school education. She died April 26, 1851, at the age of thirty-four years, when our subject was but three years of age. The father afterward married Eliza Stewart, this wedding being celebrated on the 20th of November, 1851. She, too, is now deceased and Mr. Smalley passed away on the 3d of February, 1868, at the age of fifty-five years. By his first marriage he had nine children, but only three are now living: David, who was born June 13, 1839, and is living in Sheldon, Illinois; Robert C.; and Anna E., the wife of Charles Hickman. She was born August 26, 1850, and is living in Hoopeston. By the father's

second marriage the children were: Mary A., now the wife of Robert Millikin, a resident farmer of Warren township, Warren county, Indiana; Charlotte M. the wife of Alfred Millikin, of the same county; Eliza J., the wife of Newton Atkinson, of Mount Gilboa, Indiana; Martha E., the wife of Peter Ault, of Warren county; and Edwin G., who is living in the same county.

Reared and educated in Warren county, Indiana, Robert C. Smalley afterward engaged in farming there and for two years operated the old home place near Attica, Indiana, after his father's death. He then rented a farm belonging to his father-in-law, P. J. Hickman, Sr., and in 1872 he took up his abode in Vermilion county, Illinois, upon a farm northeast of Hoopeston, having inherited forty two acres at that place. This he at once improved and cultivated, making it his home for a year. In August, 1872, however, he removed to Ashgrove township, Troquois county, Illinois, where he lived for fourteen years, lacking two days. At that time he came to Hoopeston and has since been a valued resident of this place. He now owns four hundred and five acres of valuable land all in one body, the place being known as the James Coleman farm. It is now rented and returns to Mr. Smalley a very good income. In August, 1886, he took up his abode in Hoopeston. In March of the following year he embarked in the hardware business which he carried on for five years, being for two years associated with Albert Daggett, while for three years he was connected with his son Wesley. At the end of that time Mr. Smalley purchased a stock of drugs in Milford, placing the business under the care of his son. Personally he has given the most of his attention to his farming interests. In 1890 he

built a brick storeroom now occupied by Elliott Brothers. Mr. Smalley traded his stock of drugs in Milford for a farm in Crescent township, Iroquois county, comprising one hundred and sixty acres, and retained the ownership of this until June, 1901, when he sold it. In the fall of the same year he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Ross township, Vermilion county, and the same year became the owner of fifty-two acres of land near Cicero, Indiana. He has in Hoopeston a pleasant home on Honeywell avenue which he erected in 1892.

Mr. Smalley was married in Warren county, Indiana, on the 11th of January, 1871, to Miss Sarah Hickman, whose birth occurred March 4, 1851, a daughter of Peter and Mary (Gullett) Hickman, both natives of Delaware, the former born in Kent and the latter in Sussex county. Her father was a farmer and stockman and died in Indiana, November 12, 1892, while his wife passed away on the 13th of February, 1897. Mr. and Mrs. Smalley now have four children. Mary Edith, born February 5, 1873, was married in 1893 to Dr. J. O. Miessen, of Cicero, Indiana, and they have two children, Dale and Robert. Wesley, born September 8, 1874, married Laura Forrester, by whom he has one child, Helen, and they live in Little Rock, Arkansas. Annice, born December 4, 1876, is the wife of John Bennes, an architect of Baker City, Oregon. They have one son, John V. Robert, born April 29, 1896, is the youngest member of the Smalley family and is with his parents. Edward, the first born, whose birth occurred November 13, 1871, died at the age of ten months and a half.

Mr. Smalley is a member of Star Lodge, No. 709, F. & A. M., and Hoopeston Chap-

ter, No. 181, R. A. M. He and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. He is a past master and at the present time is serving as senior warden of his lodge, and has been a delegate to the grand lodge which met in McVicker's theater, of Chicago, in 1897. In politics he has been an earnest Republican since he cast his first presidential vote for General Grant in 1868, at Independence, Indiana. While living upon his farm he served for several years as school trustee and after coming to Hoopeston he was elected a member of the school board on which he served for about eleven years, the cause of education finding in him a warm friend. For two years he represented the third ward on the board of city aldermen. Mr. Smalley is to-day numbered among the men of affluence of his county. Starting out in life for himself at an early age, he realized that energy, determination and ambition are important elements in success and upon these as a foundation he has reared the superstructure of his prosperity. Such a character is well worthy of emulation and respect, and Mr. Smalley is justly numbered among the leading and representative men of his adopted county.

GEORGE R. TILTON.

George R. Tilton is one of the leading member of the Democratic party in Vermilion county and since the 1st of January, 1898, has been the editor and manager of the Danville Daily Democrat, which is published in the interest of the national organization. He was born October 8, 1860, in Ripley county, Indiana, the only child of William W. and Martha J. Tilton. He pursued his

literary education in the public schools and lived upon the home farm at Elrod, Indiana, until twenty-two years of age. Determining to engage in the practice of law he then entered the law department of the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Illinois, in 1883. In June, 1884, he located in Danville, where he engaged in the practice of his chosen profession until the 1st of January, 1897, when he turned his attention to journalism and has since been the editor and manager of the Danville Daily Democrat. In 1884 he was nominated for the position of states attorney on the Democratic ticket and in 1888 he was elected to represent his district in the Illinois house of representatives, where he served for one term, proving an active working member of that body. From 1892 until 1902 he was chairman of the Democratic county central committee and is a most active and efficient political worker. He recognizes possibilities and opportunities readily and by securing concerted action has contributed in no small degree to the growth and success of his party in this portion of the state. On the 6th of June, 1894, Mr. Tilton was united in marriage to Miss Catherine M. Thompson, of Urbana, Illinois. They are well known in Danville, and with matters of public concern Mr. Tilton has been actively connected, aiding not a little to form public opinion through the columns of his paper.

STEPHEN A. D. HARRY.

To an early epoch in the history of America may the ancestry of the Harry family be traced, representatives of the name having established a home in the new world during its pioneer development. Ja-

cob Harry, the father of our subject, was a native of Preble county, Ohio, and after arriving at years of maturity he wedded Susanna Tobey, who was born near Hagerstown, Maryland. Her grandfather in the paternal line came from Germany, crossing the Atlantic to America at a very early day. One of the great-grandfathers of our subject was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and was killed at the battle of King's Mountain. Jacob Harry was a brick mason by trade, following that pursuit in early life. He subsequently carried on farming, became moderately well-to-do, and at the time of his death owned two hundred and forty acres of valuable land. He also reared a large family, to whom he gave educational advantages of a high order, most of his children attending college. Taking up his abode in Illinois at a primitive period in its development, he resided in Coles county when the prairie was unreclaimed and unimproved and when there were many wolves, and when the deer were also quite numerous, while the smaller game was to be had in abundance. His life was one of industry and earnest toil and his sterling worth commended him to the confidence and respect of all who knew him. His death occurred in March, 1899, and his wife, surviving him for a few years, passed away in April, 1902, in Coles county. In the family of this worthy couple were eleven children: Francis, who died in infancy; Jefferson, a resident of Coles county; Madison, who is a twin brother of Jefferson and is a Baptist preacher of the state of New York; Mrs. Amanda Hedges, who is living in Coles county; Hiram, a resident farmer of Lamar, Missouri; Nathaniel, who was engaged in merchandising in Springfield, Missouri, where he died in



S. A. D. Harry

1894; Frank, a distinguished lawyer of Watska, Illinois, who is now serving as a judge of Iroquois county; Ellen, who died in infancy; Clinton, a resident farmer of Coles county; Stephen A. D.; and Nelson, a farmer of Coles county, who died in 1896.

Prof. Stephen A. D. Harry has attained to a distinguished position in educational circles, being recognized as one of the foremost members of the profession in eastern Illinois. He was born near Mattoon, in Coles county, on the 24th of May, 1860, and his early life was spent upon his father's farm, during which time he acquired his preliminary education in the common schools. He then began teaching and thus acquired the funds necessary to enable him to continue his own education. He became a student in the Central Indiana Normal School, in which he was graduated, completing the teacher's course. He afterward taught again near Arcola and then for a time was a student in the Eastern Illinois College of Danville, in which he was graduated with the class of 1884.

Entering the profession of teaching as a life work, Mr. Harry was employed in the Indiana Normal School at Covington, Indiana, for a year, after which he was offered and accepted the position of superintendent of the public schools of Covington, filling that position in a most acceptable manner for four years. In 1891 he came to Danville and for a short period was assistant principal in the high school, while from 1892 until 1897 he was principal of the high school. In the latter year he came to Hoopston and has since been superintendent of the schools of this city. He holds a state certificate from Indiana, having in 1890 successfully passed an examination there upon twenty-two subjects, the exam-

ination covering three days. While residing in Indiana he served for two years as president of the County Teachers' Association and for one year during his residence in Danville was president of the Vermillion County Association. He has done considerable institute work during the summer months and his entire attention is devoted to school work, in which he has steadily progressed, and his own zeal and earnestness have been potent factors in securing advancement in the different institutions of learning with which he has been connected.

On the 5th of August, 1884, in Coles county, Illinois, Professor Harry was united in marriage to Miss Madge Wyeth, a native of that county, born December 9, 1860. Her father, Thomas E. Wyeth, is still living in Coles county, and is numbered among the wealthy farmers there. His wife died in 1874 when Mrs. Harry was but thirteen years of age, and he afterward wedded Julia Price, with whom he is now living. The home of Professor Harry and his wife was blessed with one daughter, Zola Bernice, who was born January 30, 1886. On the 10th of July, 1901, the family were in a wreck on the Chicago & Alton Railroad near Marshall, Missouri, and Mrs. Harry was so severely injured that she died the following day in Kansas City. The Professor and his daughter also sustained injuries of a permanent nature. The wife and mother was brought back to Illinois and tenderly laid to rest in the cemetery at Arcola. She was a most estimable lady and enjoyed the high regard of many warm friends. The family received a total of twenty-nine thousand dollars from the railroad company because of their injuries, the daughter being awarded fourteen thousand, four hundred dollars of the amount.

From his boyhood days Professor Harry has been identified with the Methodist Episcopal church and is now superintendent of the Sunday-school. He was also superintendent of the First Methodist Episcopal Sunday-school in Danville for four years, and has been actively and earnestly identified with religious work through a long period, his influence being of marked benefit in that direction. He has been a prominent factor in musical circles in every city where he has resided, being leader of the church choirs at Covington, Indiana; Danville and Hoopeston in addition to his duties as superintendent of the Sunday-schools. He is also instructor in vocal music in the schools of Hoopeston. For four years while living in Danville, he was first tenor in the Arion Male Quartet, being associated with Charles P. Nelson, second tenor; L. H. Griffith, first bass; and Will Pundt, second bass. This quartet sang in various places throughout Indiana and Illinois.

Socially Professor Harry is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he belongs to the blue lodge, chapter and commandery of Masoury, serving at the present time as chaplain in the blue lodge. In his political affiliations he was long a Democrat, but for the past eight years he has given his support to the Prohibition party. As the years have passed he has made judicious investments in real estate and to-day owns a good farm in Coles county, one in Iroquois county and two in Fulton county, Indiana, his possessions thus aggregating six hundred and forty acres. He also has stock in the Central Trust Company, of Chicago, and has joined a syndicate owning twenty-seven thousand acres of land in Cuba, the com-

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



J. L. SMITH.

Prominent among the old settlers of Vermilion county is J. L. Smith, who was born in Georgetown July 27, 1837, and has therefore witnessed and taken part in much of the development and improvement of the community which is the outward indication of its prosperity. His parents were Joseph and Sarah (Brown) Smith, both natives of Washington county, Tennessee, their marriage taking place in Jonesboro, that state. The father followed teaming and farming in that locality, and throughout his active business career was an agriculturist of prominence and influence. Later the family settled in Georgetown township, where the subject of this review was born. In the family were thirteen children, nine of whom were born in Tennessee. Those deceased are Martha Jane, who died at the age of twenty; George W., who died at the age of forty-five; Jessie, who died at the age of forty-three; Enoch, who was killed in the battle of

Lookout Mountain, at the age of thirty; William D., who died at the age of seventy-eight; and John, who died at the age of seventy-six years. The two latter were buried on the same day. The living members of the family are: Abram, a resident of Danville, now living retired at the age of eighty-six; Eliza, who is eighty-eight years of age and is the widow of William Gautz, residing in Georgetown township; Amanda, the widow of Andy Reynolds, also of Georgetown township, who is eighty-two years of age; Katherine, the wife of Adam Kyger, a resident farmer of Douglas county, Missouri; Elizabeth, the widow of a Mr. Haines, who was a farmer living near Paris, Edgar county, where the widow now resides; M. C., a farmer of Brocton, Edgar county, now aged seventy-eight years; and J. L. All the children received common-school educations. Mr. Smith, Sr., was in politics first a Whig and afterward a Democrat, and died believing in the principles of that party. He and his wife were earnest and consistent members of the Baptist church.

The subject of this review pursued his education in the common schools near the home farm. Here he grew to manhood, assisting his father in the work of field and meadow until he was twenty-one years of age, when his father allowed him for his time and he began saving money on his own account. He continued to operate his father's farm and for twenty years also ran a thresher in connection with his farm work. At the age of twenty-two, in August, 1861, he was married to Mary Ann Cook, a daughter of James and Sarah (Myers) Cook, both of whom were natives of Ohio. There were seven children born of this union: Albert, who died at the age of one and one-

half years; Jessie, who passed away at the age of sixteen years; Melvin, who lives in Elwood township and follows farming there, his wife being Annie Carrigan, a daughter of Henry Carrigan, of Vermilion county; Dora, who married Thomas Hughes, the latter now renting and operating the farm of J. L. Smith; O. T., who married Cora, daughter of Andy Tipton, and who lives in Georgetown township, following farming there; W. C., who married Grace Alderson, and follows farming in northern Indiana; Bertie E., who married John Bennett and lives two miles west of Georgetown. These children all received a good common-school education and were thus well fitted to enter upon life's practical duties.

About the time of his marriage Mr. Smith began working in the winter for a pork packing establishment. In this place he had the distinction of doing the largest day's work on record. He cut up one thousand five hundred and fifty hogs and threw one-half that number on the block. This of itself beat all former records, but in addition, after 11 P. M. of that day he cut up five hundred frozen one-half hogs. This is a slight indication of the energy and activity of Mr. Smith, and it is owing to such efforts that he is to-day the possessor of his valuable farm, comprising two hundred and fifty-eight acres on section 18, in Georgetown township. Upon the farm he has made all improvements and is now renting the land and living retired, enjoying a well-merited rest from business cares.

Mr. Smith was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife February 10, 1877, and was again married, his second union being with Lucy Ann (Ogden) Lewis, the widow of Jacob Lewis. She too passed

away on the 20th of June, 1860. Mr. Smith has had a great deal of sickness in his family, but by careful management and by reason of his beautiful character which enables him to patiently bear affliction, he has out-riden the storms of adversity and has come off victor in the struggle. He has been a faithful and devoted member of the Church of Christ for forty-two years, has been its elder for two years and also one of its trustees. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also of the Daughters of Rebekah, of Georgetown. In his political views he is a Democrat, practically, but always votes for the men and measures that he thinks are right. He has filled the office of school director, and though he does not care for office, yet he ever takes a deep interest in the political issues and questions of the day. A man of sterling qualities and upright life, Mr. Smith is an honored pioneer son of Vermilion county.

WATTS FINLEY.

Watts Finley, of Hoopston, was born near Lawrenceburg, in Ripley county, Indiana, on the 4th of November, 1833. His father, David Finley, was a native of Kentucky and wedded Nancy Miller, who was born in Pennsylvania. They lived for some years along the bottoms of the Miami river, and in 1834 came to Vermilion county, locating near the present site of Catlin. They were among the pioneer settlers and bore all of the hardships and trials incident to pioneer life and assisted in laying the foundation for the present prosperity and up-building of this section of the state. The father died in 1853 at the age of seventy-

three years, and his wife passed away when sixty-six years of age. They died within three days of each other, departing this life in the month of August. In their family were seventeen children, including two pairs of twins. Our subject is the youngest of the family and is the only one now living.

Mr. Finley of this review was only about six months old when brought by his parents to Vermilion county, Illinois. The family home was on a tract of land south of Danville and he remained with his father and mother until their death. His education was acquired in a log schoolhouse and in a frame building which was used both for church and school purposes. For about eight or ten years he continued his studies through the three winter months and with returning spring he again took up his work in the fields to assist in the cultivation and development of the home farm. In the spring of 1855, in company with his brother, Miller T. Finley, and his sister Nancy, afterward the wife of Captain Fraser, he removed to a farm upon which he lived with his brother for four years. He was then married to Miss Margaret P. Davis, the wedding taking place on the 17th of April, 1859. She was born April 16, 1834, in Ohio, a daughter of Amaziah Davis, who came to Vermilion county during the period of its early development. His wife is still living in Rossville at the advanced age of ninety-one years. At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Finley took up their abode upon a farm in Grant township, which he had purchased in 1855, comprising two hundred and forty acres of wild land. Not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made, but with characteristic energy Mr. Finley began the improvement of his prop-



Paul J. Key



Walter Finley

erty which he soon transformed into a fine farm. His wife proved a capable and faithful assistant and helpmate to him and they traveled life's journey happily together for a number of years, but at length the wife suffered from mental disease and during the last five years of her existence she was in a hospital at Kankakee, where she died in 1895. Three children were born unto them, of whom two are yet living, Mary and Charles. The former is the wife of A. M. Honeywell, a resident of Hoopeston, and their children are Gilbert, Helen, Margaret, and Marie. Charles R., the son of our subject, married Addie Reece and is engaged in the operation of his father's old homestead. His children are, Marion, Margaret and Watts.

In 1896 Mr. Finley was again married, in Danville, the lady of his choice being Leah Hamilton, who for a number of years prior to his first wife's death had acted as his housekeeper. She is a native of Vermilion county and her mother now resides in Livingston county, although she spends part of the time with Mr. and Mrs. Finley.

Throughout the greater part of his business career the subject of this review has carried on agricultural pursuits and in connection with general farming has engaged in stock-raising with excellent success. He is to-day the owner of seven hundred and forty acres of valuable land on sections 24 and 25, Grant township, the farm being occupied by his son at this writing. In 1892 he left the farm and removed to Fairbury, Livingston county, where he remained for four years. In his business affairs he has been very successful and all that he possesses is the reward of his own enterprise and labor. He certainly deserves great credit for what he has accomplished and his life should serve as a source of in-

spiration and encouragement to others. In politics he has always been a Republican, interested in the success of the party, but has never been an office seeker. Both of his wives were members of the Methodist church and he has been a liberal contributor to church work and to other interests which he believes will prove of value to the community. Mr. Finley is one of the oldest residents of this section of Illinois. Continuously connected with its development and improvement, he has watched its progress from pioneer times and has taken an active and helpful interest in much that has pertained to the general good and to the substantial upbuilding of Vermilion county.



C. J. BOGART.

C. J. Bogart, who is now efficiently serving on the police force of Hoopeston, was born in Covington, Indiana, on the 25th of March, 1872, a son of Nelson and Eliza Bogart. His mother died when he was only eight years of age, and his father passed away at Marion, Indiana, in 1897. After the death of his mother he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, and made his home with an uncle in Danville township until sixteen years of age, his education being acquired in the district schools of that locality. Later he worked as a farm hand near Danville until 1885, when he came to Hoopeston and held a position in a meat market for a time and later drove an ice wagon for two years. In 1896 he was appointed to a position on the night police force under Mayor McFerrer, and has since been connected with that department of the city government, his duties being performed in a most capable and

satisfactory manner. In 1902 he was appointed by Mayor McFerren as marshal of Hoopston, and is now serving in that capacity.

On the 25th of March, 1900, at Hoopston, Mr. Bogart married Miss Ollie Timmons, a daughter of John Timmons, a machinist employed in the Sprague factory of Hoopston. Her brothers and sisters are Eva, Wilbur, Pearl, Nellie, Parker and Harold. Mr. Bogart has two brothers and one sister living, namely: Will, now a resident of Los Angeles, California; Morton, of Oxford, Nebraska; and Myrtle, wife of Rowan Yerkes, of Covington, Indiana. Unto our subject and his wife has been born a son, Ralph, whose birth occurred June 13, 1901.

Fraternally Mr. Bogart is connected with the Yeomen of America, and politically he is identified with the Republican party. He is a wide-awake, energetic young man, whose success in life is due entirely to his own efforts for since the age of nine years he has practically been dependent upon his own resources for a livelihood.

A. A. TAYLOR.

To Indiana Vermilion county is indebted for many of her valued residents. A. A. Taylor is a native son of the Hoosier state, born December 9, 1830. His father was Thomas A. Taylor, a native of Shelby county, Kentucky, born in 1805, and his mother was Iva (Allen) Taylor, a native of Bourbon county, Kentucky, born in 1806. They were married near Lafayette, Indiana, September 21, 1830, and after their marriage they located on a farm there, where Mr. Taylor also worked at the tanner's trade.

They removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, in April, 1853, and located in Catlin township. Here he purchased a farm and lived on it until his death, which occurred September 20, 1876. The mother, long surviving him, passed away December 3, 1893. Mr. Taylor was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and in his political views was a Republican. Unto himself and wife were born eight children, five of whom are now living: Serepta, born September 5, 1837, was married March 20, 1854, to James M. Dougherty, now deceased, whose sketch is given on another page of this volume. A. A. is the subject of this review. Elizabeth, born February 2, 1845, was married September 19, 1865, to John W. Newlin, of Danville, Illinois. Thomas A., born April 25, 1847, was married March 11, 1869, to Mary C. Aree, and they live in Catlin. Cynthia, born May 13, 1857, was married to Robert Smith, December 25, 1873, and they now reside in Bolivar, Missouri.

In the schools of Tippecanoe county, the subject of this review received his boyhood training until he was thirteen years of age, when he removed with his parents to Catlin township, Vermilion county, Illinois. There he continued his studies and assisted on the farm. At Catlin, July 3, 1861, he responded to his country's call for aid, enlisting in Company I, Thirty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Lewis, Colonel A. G. Smith and Lieutenant Colonel William P. Chandler. He was mustered in at St. Louis, Missouri, and was from there ordered with his command to Jefferson City, Missouri. He then joined General Fremont's forces in pursuit of Price and went to Raleigh, Missouri, where the regiment went into winter quar-

ters. After the battle of Pea Ridge, they returned to Cape Girardeau, Missouri. From there they took a boat and went south, joining Grant's forces. Later they came back to Corinth and Louisville, Kentucky, and were there under the command of General Buell. Mr. Taylor participated in the battle at Peach Tree Creek, then went south to Nashville and was in the campaign at Murfreesboro. He was in the battle of Stone River, then under General Rosecrans. He took part in the battles of Chattanooga, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge and was in all the skirmishes and battles of his command. He was with Sherman in his Atlanta campaign, and was wounded in the face with a rifle ball at Rock Face Ridge, in Georgia, near Dalton. He had received a wound in the arm at Chickamauga, but continued in the fighting line. He was taken to the hospital on account of his wound in the face and before he was released by the surgeons his time had expired. He was mustered out with his regiment at Springfield, Illinois, September 27, 1864. He then returned to Catlin township and engaged in farming.

On the 22d of February, 1866, Mr. Taylor was united in marriage to Miss Anna Neville, who was born in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, January 15, 1845, a daughter of George N. and Mary Susan (Throckmorton) Neville. Her father was a native of Moorefield, Hardy county, Virginia, born February 2, 1820, and her mother was a native of Romney, Hampshire county, Virginia, born December 16, 1823. The father came to Tippecanoe county, Indiana, in 1835, and the mother came in 1839. They were married in Romney, that county, September 24, 1840. They removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1854. He fol-

lowed farming and also engaged in carpentering. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics was a Republican. His death occurred January 8, 1891, at 12:15 A. M., while his wife died August 24, 1880, at 3:00 P. M. They were the parents of the following children, ten in number: Delia E., born May 26, 1841, died April 7, 1843. George W., born November 16, 1842, and a member of Company D, Twenty-fifth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was wounded in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, June 23, 1864, and died July 11th, of the same year. Ann Catherine, born January 15, 1845, is now Mrs. Taylor. Norborn N., born September 17, 1847, married Elizabeth Price September 14, 1870. He is in the bakery business and resides at Fairmount, Illinois. Mary Elizabeth, born December 13, 1849, was married August 9, 1870, to Henry Collins. Frank, born September 8, 1853, married Maggie Cannon, January 2, 1877, and they reside in Fairmount. Sallie Virginia, also of Fairmount, was born September 8, 1855. Ada, born January 26, 1858, was married June 24, 1879, to Rev. L. W. Calfee, and they reside in San Jose, California. Nellie, born June 30, 1861, was married January 27, 1881, to G. W. Owen. Their home is in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Lucy T., born September 22, 1863, died June 9, 1864.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have been born three children, but two have passed away. George A., born February 9, 1860, in Catlin, Illinois, married Orpha D. Silvers. They reside near Catlin, and have two sons, Frank and George A. After his marriage Mr. Taylor purchased the farm on which his son George A. now resides, in Catlin township. He remained upon that

farm until 1881, when he went to Eureka Springs, Arkansas, spending eighteen months there. He then returned to Illinois and located in Fairmount, where he has since lived, retired from active life. His former years of industry had brought to him a good competency, and he has been very successful. He owns one hundred and seventy acres of land besides city property in Fairmount. In that place he has a spacious, modern home, and is surrounded with all the comforts of life. Both he and his wife now belong to the Christian Science church and he has ever been interested in its welfare and in the uplifting of his fellow men. He is a Republican in his political views, but has refused to accept office, preferring to devote his energies to his business interests. In all of these he has prospered and he is regarded as a substantial citizen of Fairmount. Mr. Taylor has a complete genealogical history of the Taylor family.

THOMAS BENNETT.

From pioneer times down to the present Thomas Bennett has been a resident of Vermillion county and here through his business affairs carefully and honorably directed he has won excellent success. His palatial home, which was erected at a cost of about fifteen thousand dollars, stands as a monument to his life of enterprise. This is one of the most attractive residences of the county, beautifully furnished with all that wealth can secure and refined taste suggest. It contains fourteen rooms with hard wood finishing throughout and all modern conveniences. It is lighted with gas and

Mr. Bennett has his own water works upon the place with two and a half horse power gasoline engine.

A native of England, Thomas Bennett, was born June 24, 1830, in Bedfordshire, his parents being Thomas and Rebecca (Stewart) Bennett, both of whom were natives of England and came to America in 1851, settling in Ross township, Vermillion county. Here the father purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land and became a well known farmer, cultivating and improving his property, which in the course of years became quite valuable. It was a raw tract when it came into his possession, but he had splendid equipments and continued his farming operations throughout his active business career. He died when about seventy-four years of age, and like his wife was laid to rest in the Mann burying ground.

Thomas Bennett was the seventh in order of birth in a family of nine children, of whom three are now living. His brothers, Samuel and Simeon, are both residents of Danville. He obtained his early education in England, attending the common schools of his native country and after coming to America he assisted his father in farming. He had learned the butcher's trade in England and he also followed that pursuit for fifteen years at Covington, Indiana. He also began the packing business in a small way and gradually developed a large enterprise of profitable proportions. Mr. Bennett likewise engaged in butchering at Danville and he was in the employ of Henry Smith, a pioneer butcher of Danville, working for twelve dollars per month. He also drove a team for William Lamb, another pioneer settler of the county, who was killed during the Civil war. For this work he



Thomas Brimitt

received only twelve dollars per month and had to board himself.

In October, 1858, Mr. Bennett was united in marriage to Miss Catherine E. Mann, a sister of Abraham Mann, and a daughter of Abraham Mann, Sr. She died in 1872 and the six children born of that marriage are also deceased. For his second wife Mr. Bennett chose Miss Frances Beal, a native of Kentucky and a resident of Vermilion county. They occupy the beautiful home before described and extend to their many friends its gracious and warm-hearted hospitality.

Mr. Bennett now owns about one thousand acres of well improved and highly cultivated land. As his financial resources have increased he has made judicious investments in real estate and was at one time the owner of sixteen hundred acres, but of recent years has sold six hundred acres. He makes a specialty of the feeding of cattle and the raising of high grade hogs. He annually ships from three to five hundred head of Duroc Jersey hogs and from seventy-five to one hundred head of cattle each year. His business interests have been well managed and he is to-day widely known as a successful and leading stock-dealer of this portion of the state. Great changes have occurred in the county since his arrival here for the primitive conditions had not given way before the advance of civilization when the Bennett family was established in eastern Illinois. Prairie chickens, geese and ducks furnished ample opportunity for the hunter to indulge his love of that sport and Mr. Bennett also engaged in hunting wolves on many occasions.

He cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont and long gave his support to the Republican party, but now votes in-

dependently. For many years he served as school treasurer and has always been interested in the cause of education and the practical development of the schools here. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Thomas Bennett is numbered among the influential citizens and pioneer settlers whose life record forms an integral part in the history of Vermilion county. His achievements in business are all of a notable character, because without capital he started out in life for himself and he stands to-day among the prosperous men of the county, his beautiful home being a monument to his well spent life.

FRANCIS M. CAMPBELL.

Among the representatives of agricultural interests in Vermilion county who were also numbered among the boys in blue of the Civil war, is Francis Marion Campbell, who now resides on section 17, Elwood township, where he has two hundred and ninety acres of valuable land. He was born October 8, 1846, in Vermilion county, Indiana, near Clinton, on the edge of Heath Prairie. His parents were Jonas and Anna (Tenbrook) Campbell. His father was a native of southern Ohio, and his mother of Pennsylvania, and in childhood they removed with their respective parents to Indiana, settling near Terre Haute, in 1806. Some years afterward Jonas Campbell went up the river to Parke county, where he formed the acquaintance of Miss Tenbrook, and they were united in marriage, beginning their domestic life in Indiana. They there remained until 1854, when they came to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling in Elwood township. Upon the farm which the

father there secured, they reared their family, numbering eight children, namely: Olive, who died at the age of twenty-three years; Mrs. Barbara Long, a widow, residing in Danville; William, who was killed in the battle of Mission Ridge, while serving as a sergeant in the Union army, during the Civil war, at the age of twenty-five years; Mrs. Rachel Van Dyne, a resident of Sidell, Illinois; Nancy, who died at the age of eighteen years; Francis M.; Mrs. Isabel Nicholson, of Upland, California; and Mrs. Lizzie Bell, of Oakwood, Illinois. The father of this family was called to his final rest in 1875 and the mother passed away in 1870.

Francis M. Campbell pursued his education in the common schools and was reared under the parental roof in Vermilion county, Illinois, having been brought to this locality when a young lad. He was married on the 11th of January, 1871, to Mary J. Reynolds, a daughter of Moses and Eunice (Pearson) Reynolds. In early life they were residents of Parke county, Indiana, were there married, and in the year 1854 came to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling in Elwood township. Their children were Mrs. Campbell and Elvira A., who died February 24, 1878, at the age of nineteen years.

Our subject and his wife began their domestic life on a farm in Elwood township, and in the year 1871 he purchased his present home farm on section 17, which is now under high cultivation, and returns to him a golden tribute for the care and labor he bestows upon it. Through his entire life his time and energies have been devoted to agricultural pursuits with the exception of the period of his service in the Civil war. At the time when the country became in-

volved in hostilities over the slavery question he offered his services to the government, enlisting in the One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry. In his farming methods he is enterprising and progressive and upon his place are some of the latest improved farming implements and other equipments for facilitating his work. In his business methods he is alike honorable and trustworthy and his success is due none the less to his business integrity than to his indefatigable labor.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Campbell has been blessed with three children, but only one is now living: Cloyd, born November 20, 1873, died at the age of five years. Clayton, born October 15, 1880, passed away October 15, 1883, on his third birthday. Paul J., born November 8, 1884, is still with his parents. He possesses considerable literary ability and is a wide-awake, enterprising and intelligent young man. Mr. Campbell is identified with the Society of Friends and with the Republican party, to which he gives a loyal support, although he has never been an aspirant for office. He is regarded as one of the best citizens of his community because in all life's relations he is true and honorable, and to-day he is also classed among the substantial agriculturists of Elwood township.



R. T. BARTON.

The prosperity of any community, town or city depends upon its commercial activity, its industrial interests and its trade relations, and therefore the real upbuilders of a town are those who stand at the head of its leading enterprises. Mr. Barton is well

known in Jamaica in connection with the grain and lumber trades, and although a young man has met with success that many a one of twice his years might well envy. He is a native of Urbana, Illinois, born June 7, 1872. His father, C. W. Barton, was born in Walker, Indiana, and after arriving at years of maturity was married in that state to Emazetta Dillon, a native of Marion, Indiana. The father was a stationary engineer and after residing for a time in Marion, Indiana, he removed to Urbana, where he worked at his trade. In the year 1882 he came to Fairmount, where both he and his wife are now residing. He became employed as an engineer in the Fairmount coal mines. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat and fraternally he is connected with Fairmount Lodge, No. 590, F. & A. M., and with the Brotherhood of Mine Hoisting Engineers. In the family were six children: Ida, the wife of William Holmes, a resident of San Francisco, California; W. C., who is conducting a barber shop in Champaign; Royal T.; Zerba, the wife of C. N. Perkins, of Fairmount, Illinois; Elmer, who is weighmaster of the coal mines of Fairmount; and Sadie, who resides with her parents.

R. T. Barton pursued his education in the schools of Urbana, Illinois, and of Fairmount, putting aside his text-books in January, 1893, in order to become a factor in the business world. He accepted the position of bookkeeper at the coal mines, where he remained for six months. He was then transferred to the office of the superintendent of the mines in Danville, acting in the capacity of assistant there for a year and a half. He was next returned to Fairmount, having charge of the company's business at this place for two years. He retained his

position as manager, and was engaged in business on his own account. He then resigned, and in January, 1897, he purchased a half interest in an elevator at Jamaica, Illinois, becoming a member of the firm of Porterfield & Barton, his partner being M. F. Porterfield, the banker at that place. They still conduct the business which is successfully carried on, and are doing a large trade in grain, making extensive purchases and sales. Mr. Barton is also engaged in the lumber business with W. I. Baird, under the firm name of Barton & Company, at Jamaica, and in this enterprise is meeting with creditable success, the patronage of the firm having constantly grown until the sales are now large and profitable. He has made judicious investments in real estate and is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land in Harris county, Texas, near Houston, which is devoted to the cultivation of rice.

On the 19th of August, 1897, in Fairmount, Mr. Barton was united in marriage to Miss Mamie Browning, who was born in Danville, Illinois, on the 9th of December, 1874. Her father, George Browning, was born April 30, 1826, in Sheffield, England, and in 1836 the parents came to America, establishing their home in Cherry Valley, New York. Later they removed to Springfield, Ohio. Mr. Browning became identified with the butchering business and engaged in that trade in Springfield until 1848, when he came to Fairmount, Illinois. Here he also engaged in the butchering business and purchased land. He was a son of Benjamin Boothby Browning, also a native of England. After arriving at years of maturity George Browning was joined in wedlock to Mary Riley, a daughter of John and Rachel (Dalby) Riley, who were also na-

tives of the "merrie isle." Mrs. Browning's birth occurred February 23, 1839, in Linton, Greene county, Indiana. Mr. Browning gave his political support to the Prohibition party and was a member of the Baptist church. His death occurred in July, 1897. Unto him and his wife were born the following children: Harriet, the wife of J. S. Baird, of Homer, Illinois; Fannie, the wife of J. R. Wragg, a resident of Springfield, Ohio; Hanson, who married Alice Cluxton, and is living in Urbana, Illinois; Albert, who married Lucy Wilson, and makes his home in Gibson City, Illinois; Walter, who died at the age of twenty-eight years; Mamie, the wife of our subject; Ruth, who died in October, 1897, at the age of nineteen years; Naomi, who is a twin sister of Ruth and resides in Fairmount; John O., who is a plumber and gas fitter of Seattle, Washington; and Ethel, who resides with her mother. By a former marriage there was one child, Jessie, wife of J. F. Baird, of Vance township.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Barton has been blessed with one child, Mildred, born June 12, 1898. The family have a very pleasant home in Jamaica, and the parents are members of the Baptist church of Fairmount. In politics Mr. Barton is a Republican, and has served as town clerk. Fraternally he is connected with Jamaica Camp, No. 9222, M. W. A., of Jamaica. A young man, he possesses the enterprising spirit of the west which has been a dominant factor in producing the wonderful development of this section of the country. To him there has come the attainment of a leading position in connection with the commercial enterprises of his county, and his efforts have been so discerningly directed along well defined lines of labor that he seems to have

realized the full measure of his possibilities for accomplishment. His success is the direct result of his own foresight, business ability and perseverance, and he is justly accounted one of the leading young business men of Jamaica.

PAUL E. FITHIAN, M. D.

Dr. Paul E. Fithian has become recognized as a capable physician of his native county. His thorough preparation and earnest study have made him proficient as a practitioner of medicine and gained for him a liberal patronage. He was born on the old Fithian homestead, July 4, 1866, a son of Elisha C. B. Fithian, whose sketch is given on another page of this volume. He began his education in the district schools and later became a student in the high school at Danville. Subsequently he obtained a county certificate and began teaching in Oakwood township, following that profession for two years. Having then determined to make the medical profession his life work, he began studying and for several years continued to read privately. He then entered the Keokuk Medical College, at Keokuk, Iowa, in 1888, and was graduated with the class of 1890. Not content yet to enter the ranks of medical practitioners he matriculated in Rush Medical College of Chicago, in which he was graduated with the class of 1891.

After his graduation Dr. Fithian went to Springfield, Illinois, where he began practicing as house physician in the Wabash Hospital, acting in that capacity for two years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Decatur, Illinois, where he

was in charge of the Wabash Dispensary for three years and there he gained a good practice. He next returned to Springfield, Illinois, where he had charge of the Wabash Hospital until his removal to Fithian. He has built up a good practice in this place and has demonstrated his ability to cope with many of the intricate problems which continually face the physician.

In March, 1898, occurred the marriage of Dr. Fithian and Mrs. Cora Jewell. The Doctor was made a Mason in Macon Lodge, No. 8, A. F. & A. M., and he also belongs to Macon Chapter, No. 21, R. A. M. In his political views he is an earnest Democrat, but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him. In connection with his practice he superintends his father's landed interests, comprising eleven hundred acres. The Doctor is well known in his native county as a man of many excellent traits of character and a genial disposition and is popular with a large circle of friends.

GEORGE T. JONES.

George T. Jones is a representative agriculturist of Vermilion county and the owner of one of the best farms in Oakwood township. He was born June 1st, 1859, and is a son of William R. and Peninnah (Coon) Jones, the former a native of Greene county, Ohio, and the latter also a native of the Buckeye state, where they were married. In the sketch of Charles E. Jones, which appears on another page of this work, the genealogy of the Jones family is traced back to Elisha Jones, the great-grandfather, whose son, Elisha Jones, was the father of William R. Jones, who in turn was the fath-

er of the subject of this review. William R. Jones was born June 11, 1828, and was married October 4, 1848. Seven children were born to him and his wife: James K., born September 20, 1849, married Carrie Harrison. They have one child and reside in Norwood, Kansas. Mary Angelina, now deceased, became the wife of Samuel Adolphus Copeland, a resident of Oakwood township. She was born August 9, 1851, and his birth occurred May 16, 1850. Charles E. is the third in order of birth. Lydia Ann, born March 20, 1856, died July 15, 1857. George T. is the fifth child. Marguerita Louisa was born July 5, 1862. Millie, the seventh child and youngest of the family, was born August 10, 1865, and died January 30, 1866. William R. Jones was a blacksmith by trade and also followed mining in Dubuque, Iowa, besides owning and operating farms in Ohio, Iowa and Illinois, his last farm being in Vermilion county, Illinois, where he resided continuously for thirty-four years before his death, which occurred March 9, 1901. He lost his first wife by death and was married the second time, the lady of his choice being Henrietta Smith, a native of Illinois, and now a resident of Fithian, Illinois. Mr. Jones was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and fraternally was connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics he was a Republican. He was a very active and energetic man and did much toward the upbuilding and development of the communities where he resided.

George T. Jones attended school in Fairmount, Illinois, and also in Oakwood township, he having come to Vermilion county when he was six years of age, with his parents. He left school at the age of nineteen and then worked on his father's

farm until his marriage, which important event in his life occurred on the 6th of December, 1882, near Armstrong, Vermilion county, Illinois, when he led to the altar Miss Martha A. Seals. She was born in Vermilion county, December 9, 1861, and is a daughter of Rev. Charles Brady Seals, a native of Tennessee. Rev. C. B. Seals was of German descent and was a son of Dawson Seals, a native of Pennsylvania. Rev. Seals was a minister of the Baptist church and was married to Jemima Parsley, a native of Indiana. The wedding was solemnized in Indianapolis, Indiana. Rev. Seals was ordained at Mount Pleasant church, near Muncie, Illinois. He continued as pastor of that church for over twenty years, also preaching the gospel at the Baptist church, at Momence, Illinois, and several other churches in Illinois. He gave up his pastorate at Walker's Point, Illinois, and went to Chrisman, this state, there remaining for four years, and then his health failing, he removed back to his farm. He has been minister of the church at East Lynn and at Luddenville, Illinois, and since then has been preaching in the south, through Tennessee. He is a very accomplished theological scholar, a man of brilliant intellect and strong moral and spiritual character. His mental attributes are of the highest quality, and his influence for good has been widely felt throughout the communities where he has labored as a minister, and many have been brought to choose the "straight and narrow path" by reason of his eloquence and good example. He and his wife are both people of noble character and have many friends. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and in politics is a strong Democrat, believing firmly in the principles of the party. Rev. Seals and

wife became the parents of eight children, six girls and two boys. Of these, five grew to years of maturity and are still living, as follows: Molly, the wife of Frank P. Dalbey, has six children and resides on a farm near Fithian, Illinois. Martha is now Mrs. Jones. Emma, the wife of Brazier Brown, resides in Monon, Indiana, and has four children. John B. married Lucy Lynch and resides in Leverette, Illinois. Retta, the wife of Frank Umphenour, resides in St. Louis, Missouri, and has one child.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Jones have been born six children, three of whom are still living: Nellie A., born July 3, 1885, and Ernest R., born August 13, 1887, members of the Methodist Episcopal church; and George Raymond, born September 30, 1898.

After his marriage Mr. Jones located on a farm near Armstrong, Illinois. There the young couple remained for one year, when they removed to the farm of Mr. Jones' father, situated opposite to the farm on which they now reside. They remained on the father's farm for one year and then removed to the farm of C. E. Jones, a brother of the subject of this review. Here they also lived one year, when Mr. Jones purchased a farm one and three-fourths miles west of Oakwood, February 10, 1887. This was a farm of eighty-four acres. Mr. Jones remained on this farm for fourteen years. He then sold it and purchased the old homestead farm of one hundred and sixteen acres situated on section 20, in Oakwood township. He acquired this farm by purchasing the interest of the other heirs. His father had burnt the brick and lime to build the house and cut the timber on this place, in 1874. The residence is one of the finest in the county, and its appointments are in the very best taste, having an artistic appear-

ance and also being very comfortable. Mr. Jones raises a high grade of stock for the market upon his farm, and this returns to him a good income for his care. He is accounted a progressive farmer and one who is thoroughly up-to-date, having all modern equipments and accessories with which to conduct the work and compel the fields to yield crops of the best quality and large amount. In January, 1903, Mr. Jones purchased the Fithian telephone exchange, which covers the surrounding country within a radius of several miles from Fithian. This is a personal affair and he gives his direct supervision to it. Mr. Jones and his wife are members of the Baptist church and he has always voted the Republican ticket, being a strong adherent to the principles of that party. Mr. Jones has added to his income through diligence and perseverance and he well deserves the respect and confidence of his friends and associates, which is cheerfully accorded him.



FRAZIER N. CLOYD, M. D.

Frazier N. Cloyd, a leading physician of Westville, was born in Georgetown township, Vermilion county, May 19, 1868, and is a son of Dr. J. P. and Hannah (Golden) Cloyd, the father a native of Tennessee, and the mother of Illinois. Dr. Cloyd, the elder, has followed the practice of medicine for thirty-five years, and is a well known physician of his part of the county, commanding a liberal patronage by reason of his efficiency in his chosen calling. Fraternally he is a thirty-third degree Mason, who in his life exemplifies the precepts of the craft. His wife departed this life in February, 1895.

When the subject of this review was but eleven months old he was brought by his parents to the village of Georgetown, where the family has since resided and where Frazier N. Cloyd grew to manhood. In his youth he received a good education, attending the high school and being a graduate of the same. He then taught school at Maple Grove schoolhouse for one year, at Westville two years, Georgetown grammar school for one year, after which he was principal of the Catlin schools for one year. In the fall of 1891 he entered Rush Medical College, of Chicago, there to pursue a course of study preparatory for the practice of medicine. He attended the sessions of 1891-2, and then became a student in the medical department of the University of Louisville, Kentucky, during 1892-3, in which he was graduated March 13, 1893. He then returned to Georgetown and upon arriving home found an appointment awaiting him as a member of the medical staff of the Eastern Illinois Hospital for the Insane, at Kankakee, Illinois, which position he accepted and capably filled until September 15, of that year, when on account of the severe illness of both his parents and the need of his presence at home he resigned his position and returned home to care for them. The following February—1894—he opened up an office in Georgetown and continued in the practice of medicine there until February 16, 1897, when he moved to Westville, where he already had quite a practice built up in recognition of his worth and ability in his chosen profession. He purchased a lot on North State street, fronting east, where he erected a commodious house and office. He has since continued to practice with increasing success. He has inherited a natural gift for his line of work,

and to this he has added all the advantages that may be acquired through careful study and research as well as practical experience, and he is widely known in his community as a skilled physician whose sympathetic nature and cheery manner in the sick-room have brought comfort and health to many a household.

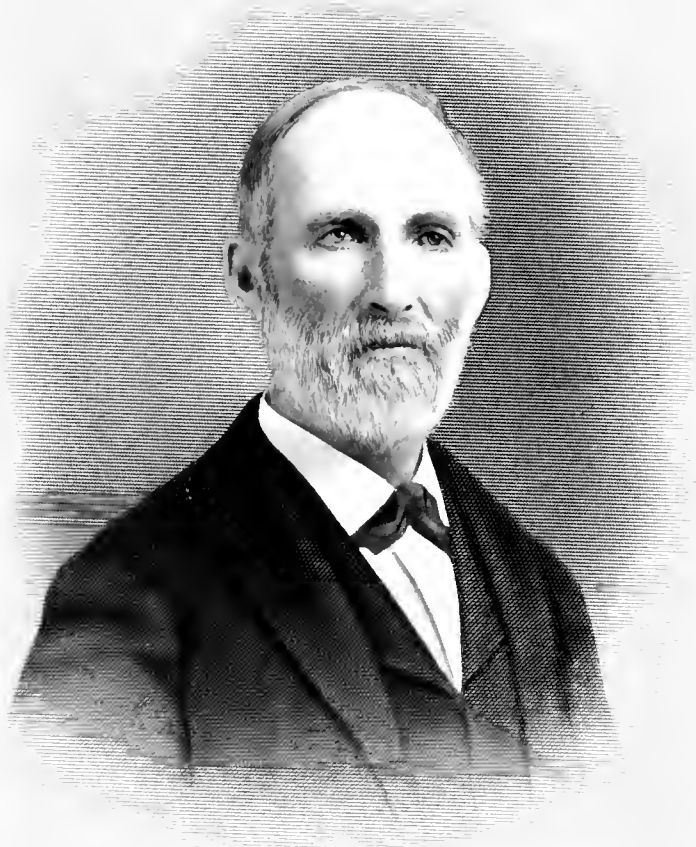
On March 15, 1896, Dr. Cloyd was united in marriage to Miss Jessie M. Summers, of Earl Park, Indiana. They have one child, Mildred, born July 17, 1897. Dr. Cloyd is a member of Ionian Lodge, No. 502, K. P., of Georgetown; Danville Lodge, No. 132, B. P. O. E.; Weltonomah Tribe, No. 120, I. O. R. M., of Westville, Illinois; and Westville Camp, No. 2006, M. W. A. The Doctor is medical examiner for several old line insurance companies as well as for some fraternal organizations, and is local surgeon for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist church of Georgetown, to which his wife also belongs. They are valued members of the community and the cordial hospitality of their attractive home is extended to their many friends.

GEORGE W. INGLE.

George W. Ingle is one of the large land owners of Vermilion county. There is much that is of deep interest in the life record of this gentleman, showing that a character of worth and marked industry and enterprise can overcome all disadvantages such as are occasioned by a lack of wealth or of adequate education. Again and again does the history of American citizenship

prove that upon the foundation of energy and unfaltering industry may be builded prosperity. This is exemplified in the life record of our subject and to-day he is one of the honored and respected as well as prosperous men of Hoopston. He was born in North Carolina and when only four years of age was taken to the wild forest region of Ohio by his parents, both of whom died there, the mother passing away when our subject was only four and one-half years of age. He then went to live with his uncle, Sam Ingle, in Darke county, and with him he remained until nine years of age. At that early period in his career—a time when most boys are sheltered by the loving influence of the home and are enjoying educational privileges which prepare them for later duties in life—he began earning his own livelihood, working at farm labor until he reached the age of fourteen. He then went to Detroit, Michigan, where he spent a few months, and then returned to Marion county, Ohio, where he remained until 1855, when he came to Grant township, Vermilion county, Illinois, in company with Thomas Hoopes, who purchased about fourteen hundred acres of land. For twenty-three years Mr. Ingle remained with Mr. Hoopes, each year earning more and more largely the confidence of that gentleman because of his fidelity to his interests, his energy and capability in business and his honesty in all life's relations. When the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad was in process of construction Mr. Ingle aided in carrying the chain and driving the sticks in the survey for the original plat of Hoopston, the town being named in honor of his friend and benefactor, Mr. Hoopes, most of it being laid out on land belonging to that gentleman.





G. F. Ingle

In March, 1872, in Danville, Mr. Ingle was united in marriage to Miss Rachel A. Scott, who was born and reared in Harrison county, Ohio, and whose parents are deceased. The home in which Mr. Hoopes lived was built for two families and after the marriage of our subject he took his young bride to that house, which they occupied for a year together. At the end of that time Mr. Hoopes removed with his family to the town and Mr. Ingle rented the farm, comprising six hundred acres. There he was extensively engaged in handling stock which he obtained, fattened and sold to local buyers. He leased the farm for about six years and then began to purchase land, later moving to his own property, where he remained continuously until he took up his abode in Hoopeston, in 1895. Two years later he returned to his farm, which was again his home for three years, and in the spring of 1900 he returned to Hoopeston, where he has since remained. He owns one thousand acres of land in three farms and has one hundred and forty acres within the corporation limits of Hoopeston. He also owns three hundred and thirty acres in the school district, while one of his farms is three miles southwest of Hoopeston and the other is four miles south of Rossville. Mr. Ingle was remembered by Mr. Hoopes in his will, a merited recognition of his fidelity to his former employer and his earnest labors for his welfare and prosperity. In business matters trained in the hard school of experience, Mr. Ingle has shown marked discernment and capability and in the control of his own affairs he has met with splendid success.

The home of our subject and his wife has been blessed with one son, Scott, who is living with his parents and was born February 24, 1878. He has been a student in

Oberlin College of Ohio, Knox College of Galesburg, Illinois, and in Bryant & Stratton Business College of Chicago. Mrs. Ingle is a daughter of Merchant and Mary (Stringer) Scott and was born in Easton, Jefferson county, Ohio. Her father was a farmer and school teacher and died in the year 1859, while his wife passed away in 1890. At the time of her father's death Mrs. Ingle, then about seventeen years of age, went to live with her uncle and was reared among relatives. She acquired a common-school education and completed her studies in the United Presbyterian school at New Athens, Ohio, taking advanced work in geometry and algebra there. In 1870 she came west to visit her sister, Mrs. Cunningham, who was reared by Mr. Hoopes, and it was a sister of Mr. Hoopes with whom Mrs. Ingle made her home in Ohio. For one term the wife of our subject engaged in teaching school in Prairie Green township and for two terms in Grant township. She is a lady of superior culture, intelligence and refinement and is held in the highest regard by a large circle of friends here. As before stated, by her marriage she became the mother of one son. He too was educated in Oberlin College, where he studied music, making that his one study. He is an expert performer on the cornet and from the age of thirteen has been a member of the band in Hoopeston. He possesses marked musical ability.

In his political affiliations Mr. Ingle is a Republican, although his father was a Jackson Democrat. He is ever fearless in defense of what he believes to be right, whether in political circles or elsewhere. He served as path master of roads in his township and for ten years was a member of the school board of Hoopeston, at the end of which time he resigned on account

of ill health. During his incumbency the west side school building was erected and the old building was improved and enlarged. Mrs. Ingle is at present the president of the board of education here, having been elected in 1902, being the first lady ever chosen as a member of the Hoopston school board. Since his arrival in Vermilion county Mr. Ingle has resided continuously in Hoopston, or within a mile of the city. He has always taken the deepest interest in the progress and upbuilding of this portion of the state and as his time and means have permitted he has assisted largely in the development, improvement and advancement of this portion of the state. Strong of purpose, resourceful and with keen discrimination he has made the most of his opportunities and by reason of his large success, his unblemished character, his just and liberal life and the universal esteem which he here enjoys, Mr. Ingle might without invidious distinction be called one of the foremost citizens of his adopted county.

THOMAS WATSON.

Long actively connected with agricultural interests in Vermilion county, owning and operating five hundred sixty acres of valuable land, Thomas Watson thereby acquired a handsome competence which now enables him to live retired from further business cares and at his pleasant home at No. 417 Gilbert street, in Danville, he is now enjoying a well merited rest. He was born in Vermilion county, near the city of Danville, February 18, 1846, and is a son of John R. Watson, whose birth occurred in Nelson county, Kentucky, May 4, 1811.

The grandfather, William Watson, was also a native of Nelson county, and on leaving the Bluegrass state removed to Indiana and took up his abode in Harrison county. In 1826 he removed to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county among its earliest residents. Here he purchased land, and developed a farm, being one of the pioneer agriculturists of this portion of the state. He was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, however, for his death occurred in 1820. His son, John R. Watson, was but a boy when the family came to Illinois. He served in the Black Hawk war and became identified with pioneer development and improvement here, being reared amid the wild scenes of the frontier. He shared with the family in all the hardships and trials incident to establishing a home in the wild western district. When he started out in life on his own account he had no capital save strong determination and a pair of willing hands. Steadily, however, he removed all difficulties and obstacles, gradually working his way upward until his landed possessions were extensive, comprising about one thousand acres. Much of his land was highly cultivated and splendidly improved, and he became one of the most successful farmers of Vermilion county. His home was situated about five miles northeast of Danville, and there he remained until 1873, when he left the farm and purchased residence property in the city, spending his remaining days in retirement from agricultural pursuits. He enjoyed a hale and hearty old age and passed away in Danville in 1898 at the age of eighty-seven. His wife was called to her final rest in May, 1886, and after her death the father of our subject was married again. Thomas Watson is the youngest living son of a family of six sons and

one daughter that reached mature years. Four of the number are yet surviving. One brother, John Watson, is now a resident of Williamsport, Indiana, and George Watson makes his home at No. 1111 Gilbert street, Danville, a retired farmer. There is one sister, Minerva, who is the widow of Ira M. Henry, of Vermilion county, her husband having died July 22, 1895.

Thomas Watson was reared to manhood on the old family homestead and early became familiar with the active work of the farm, assisting in the plowing, planting and harvesting from early spring until the crops were garnered in the autumn. The country schools afforded him his educational privileges and he remained with his father until after he attained his majority, being an active factor in the cultivation of the old home place. At length he desired to engage in business for himself and he made preparations for having a home of his own by his marriage, which occurred in this county September 21, 1865, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah E. Adams, a native of Vermilion county, and a daughter of Samuel Adams, who was one of the first settlers in this portion of the state, having come here in 1825, from Harrison county, Kentucky, where he was reared. He aided in erecting the first house in Danville, a log structure, which was built after the primitive manner of the times. Before coming to Illinois he had married Nancy Martin, a native of Kentucky. In Vermilion county he secured a tract of land which he at once began to cultivate and improve and gradually he extended the boundaries of his farm until it became a large one. The rich prairie land of Illinois also returned to him a good income for his labor. Seldom if ever are crops a perfect failure in this

state, and year by year, by the sale of his products he was enabled to add to his capital. He died May 17, 1881, and the mother of Mrs. Watson passed away during the early girlhood of her daughter, after which Mr. Adams was again married. Our subject and his wife began their domestic life upon a farm near Danville, the place comprising one hundred sixty acres, the greater part of which was not yet ready for cultivation, but he began to clear it and after plowing the fields he planted his grain and in course of time gathered rich harvests. For seven years he resided upon his first place and then sold that property, removing to the city. He purchased a harness store, carrying on business for two years, after which he sold the enterprise and bought a farm east of Bismarck, in Newell township, comprising three hundred and twenty acres. On this he took up his abode and at once began its further improvement. Later he purchased more land in Ross township, becoming the owner of five hundred sixty acres in one body. He built a large and attractive residence, also barns and necessary outbuildings, and carried on the work of improvement in accordance with the advanced ideas of his time and state. He planted an orchard, set out a grove of maple and ornamental trees, tilled his fields, fenced his property and added the latest improved machinery for facilitating his farm work. He also bought another place of one hundred and sixty acres in Ross township and carried on farming there until 1888. In that year he removed to California, where he spent several months, but not liking the country he returned to his farm in Vermilion county, Illinois, making it his place of residence until 1893, when he purchased a lot in Danville and erected a neat

and substantial home here. He has since purchased land and built other houses, including the block at the corner of Van Buren and Jackson streets. This is a valuable two-story brick business block. Since locating in Danville he has practically lived retired, for his activity in agricultural pursuits has brought to him a sufficient capital to enable him to put aside the more arduous cares of business life.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Watson have been born five children, all of whom reached mature years: Dora E. is the wife of George S. Johnson, of Terre Haute, Indiana, and they have one son, Clarence Scott; Samuel R., who resides on the old homestead, is married and has four children, Pearl, Ruth, Haddon and Leon; Bertha A. is the wife of W. H. Ogden, of Hoopston, Illinois, and has two children, Grace and Alice; Ernest M., who owns and operates a part of the old home place, is married, and had one son, Lowell W., who, at the age of seventeen months, died September 11, 1902; William W., the youngest, is married and is now living in Hoopston.

For a number of years Mr. Watson served on the school board, and the cause of education ever found in him a warm friend. He and his wife hold membership in the First Christian church of Danville, and in politics he is a Democrat and does all in his power to advance the success of the party, but has never sought or desired office for himself. With the exception of the short period of time which he spent in California he has always resided in Vermilion county, and is justly proud of what has been accomplished here in the line of material progress, intellectual advancement and moral culture. He has seen much of the land cleared, the prairies broken, the fences built

and the roads constructed. He has witnessed the development of fine farms and the growth of thriving towns and cities, manifesting a deep and active interest in everything pertaining to the general good. Throughout all the years he has maintained an upright character and he and his estimable wife have a very large circle of friends in this county.

J. J. HOWARD.

J. J. Howard, a farmer and supervisor of Vance township, was born in Spottsylvania county, Virginia, December 17, 1846, and is descended from good old Revolutionary stock, his great grandfather having been one of the heroes who fought for the independence of the nation. James W. Howard, the father of our subject, was also a native of the Old Dominion, and in Fredericksburg, Virginia, he wedded Sarah Adams, a native of New Jersey. They located in Spottsylvania county, where they lived for twenty years, and the father of our subject engaged in farming there. He purchased land which he cultivated for some time, but subsequently he disposed of his business interests in the east and in 1858 brought his family to Vermilion county, Illinois, locating in Vance township. Here he bought eighty acres of land south of Fairmount, and made his home thereon for twelve years. Subsequently he purchased another farm which he later sold, and in 1870 he removed to Davis county, Iowa, where he became the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land which he owned and cultivated for twelve years. He was then called to his final rest in 1882. The mother of our subject had died in Septem-



DANIEL GUNDER.



JAMES W. HOWARD.

ber, 1858. The father had afterward married Mrs. Hettie (Redman) Davis, who died in Davis county, Iowa, in 1885. Mr. Howard was a Democrat in his political views and was an exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity. He also belonged to the Baptist church in which he served as a trustee for a number of years. In the family of this worthy couple were four children: J. J.; Belle, the wife of Allen Baer, a resident of Cass county, Iowa; Thomas A., a prominent citizen of Fairmount, who is now serving as mayor; and Ellis, who died at the age of twenty-three years.

J. J. Howard began his education in the public schools of Spottsylvania county, Virginia, and afterward continued his studies at Pleasant Valley, having come with his parents to Vermilion county when only twelve years of age. Later he was a student in Fairmount and then in the Battle Ground school of Indiana. He considered his school training completed at the age of twenty-one years, after which he assisted his father in the cultivation of his farm until his marriage, which was celebrated the 4th of January, 1872, in Vance township, the lady of his choice being Alice A. Gunder. She was born in Madison county, Indiana, near Anderson, January 21, 1852, and comes of a family of German lineage. Her father, Daniel Gunder, was a native of Lancaster, Ohio, and wedded Elizabeth Hugel, who was born in Madison county, Indiana, where their marriage occurred. There they located upon a farm, making it their home until 1868, when they came to Illinois, settling in Vance township, Vermilion county. In 1893 the father retired from active business life and removed to Fairmount, where he spent his remaining days, his death occurring there in August, 1898. His wife passed away in

October, of the same year. Mr. Gunder was a Democrat in his political affiliations and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, frequently called him to public office. He served for three terms as supervisor and held all of the township offices, including that of road commissioner, in which capacity he served for many years. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, a deacon in the Baptist church and a man of exemplary life, honored and respected for his genuine worth and fidelity to principle. In the Gunder family were the following children: Jasper, who married Gertrude Maderius, a resident of Indianapolis; Alice, the wife of our subject; Susie, who became the wife of Charles Baldwin and resided near Catlin, but both are now deceased; J. H., who married Nora Ewing, and is engaged in the grain business in Decatur, Illinois; S. H., who married Nettie Weaver, and is living in Chicago; Jennie, who died in 1885, at the age of twenty-three years; Mary, who married Peter Beyers, whose death occurred in 1896, the widow being now a resident of Fairmount; and Julia, the wife of Frank Godwin, a resident of Decatur.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard has been blessed with three children: Belle, the wife of Charles Crow, who is engaged in the grain business at Fairmount; Stella, at home; and Robert, who died in infancy. After his marriage Mr. Howard located upon a farm in Vance township, purchasing eighty acres which he continued to operate for twelve years. He then sold that property and bought the farm on which he is now living, having two hundred and seventy acres on section 5, Vance township. Upon his place he has made many excellent improvements and now has one of the best country seats of Vermilion county. His

handsome home is nicely furnished and everything about the farm is neat in appearance and indicates the labor and direction of the progressive owner. Mr. Howard votes with the Democracy, and in 1902 he was elected supervisor of his township, in which position he is now creditably serving. Fraternally he is connected with the Court of Honor, the Knights of the Globe, and the Knights of Pythias, and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Baptist church, in which he is serving as a deacon. Energy and perseverance have been the means of bringing to him success and he is now numbered among the substantial and leading farmers of Vance township.

W. N. REVEAL.

W. N. Reveal is a leading representative of the business interests of Hoopston, Illinois, being quite extensively engaged in real estate dealings. He was born in Warren, Indiana, January 14, 1854, a son of George P. and Rebecca (Terrell) Reveal, both of whom were natives of Ohio. Throughout his active business life the father was engaged in farming but is now retired in Glenwood, Iowa, enjoying a well earned rest and the fruits of his former toil. He was in the service of his country for three years during the Civil war but fortunately was never wounded. From private he was promoted to post forage master and later to wagonmaster, holding the latter rank while with General Sherman on the march to the sea, having charge of teaming. His parents came to this country from Spain, where the family name was spelled Re Veal. They settled in Ohio, where our

subject's grandfather followed farming as a means of livelihood. Our subject has two sisters living: Fedora, wife of James E. Van Pelt of Glenwood, Iowa; and Hattie, wife of George Tracy, of the same state.

After completing his education in the public schools near his boyhood home W. N. Reveal taught school for fourteen years or until he had attained the age of thirty-one, five years of that time being principal of the schools of Mackinaw, Tazewell county, Illinois. From that place he came to Hoopston in December, 1892, and has since been engaged in the real estate business here. Besides his own home on East Main street he owns eight other houses which he rents and from these derives a good income, while his wife has a good farm of one hundred acres in Tazewell county. On the 8th of December, 1901, his office in the McFerren block was destroyed by fire, together with all furniture, fixtures, etc., but he now has a nice suite of rooms in the new McFerren building. He confines his attention to the sale and transfer of city and town property and is meeting with good success in his business ventures, being a man of known integrity and strictly reliable.

In 1880 Mr. Reveal married Miss Emma Viemont, who died on the 2d of August, 1886, leaving one child, Vernon, now a resident of Hoopston, who was born in Tazewell county, Illinois, and married Pearl Lewis. Our subject was again married at Lilly, Illinois, in 1892, his second union being with Miss Mary Lindsey, who was born near that place and engaged in teaching school for about eight years prior to her marriage. By this marriage there is also one son, Ivan L. L.

Mr. Reveal holds membership in the Christian church, and is also connected with

the blue lodge chapter and council of the Masonic fraternity and the Camp of Modern Woodmen of America. His political support is given the men and measures of the Republican party and he takes quite an active interest in public affairs. During his residence in Hoopeston, he served two years as tax collector, and is now serving his sixth year as justice of the peace. He is thoroughly impartial in meting out justice, his opinions being unbiased by either fear or favor, and his fidelity to the trust reposed in him is above question. He is regarded as one of the leading and most highly respected citizens of Hoopeston.

AUGUST FAULSTICK.

August Faulstiek, one of the leading grocery merchants on East Main street in Danville, has been a resident of this city since 1872 and his continuous activity in mercantile life has been the means of gaining for him the creditable position which he now occupies in trade circles. He was born in Germany, April 21, 1853, and is a son of Peter Faulstiek, who spent his entire life in Germany and throughout his business career carried on agricultural pursuits. In the family were four children who came to America and settled in Danville, namely: August; Anton, who is engaged in the shoe business on North street; Frank, who is a member of the firm of Bott & Faulstiek; and Grace, the deceased wife of Joseph Fares, of Danville.

In his native country August Faulstiek acquired the greater part of his education, but attended school to a limited extent after coming to America. It was in an early day

that he crossed the broad Atlantic to the new world and as soon as he landed he started across the country to Vermilion county, where he began work as a laborer for the Wabash Railroad Company. After being in that service for a short time he entered the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company as foreman of the lumberyard and was afterward transferred to the freight department as foreman of the repair work there. For nineteen years he continued in that position and his fidelity and close application won him the entire confidence and regard of those whom he served. Throughout the nineteen years he lost only one week. At length with money he had acquired through his own industry and economy he embarked in business on his own account and established a grocery store at No. 621 East Main street. There he has a large and well selected stock of staple and fancy groceries and country produce and enjoys a good trade. He has the faculty of retaining the patronage of those whose custom he once secures, this being due to his honorable business methods and earnest desire to please his customers.

In Danville Mr. Faulstiek was united in marriage to Miss Mary Fohler, a native of Germany, and they became the parents of ten children: Joseph, now deceased; Toney; Annie, who assists her father in the store; Mary, August, Jr., Clara, Helen, Celia, Gertrude and Victoria.

In his political views Mr. Faulstiek is independent, voting for the men whom he thinks best adapted and qualified for office regardless of party affiliations. He belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters, to the German Aid Society, to the Mechanics' Labor Society, and he and his wife are communicants of the German Catholic church of

Danville. Such in brief is his life history and those who read between the lines will gain recognition of the work of a self-made man, for when he arrived in Danville he not only possessed no capital, but had incurred an indebtedness of forty five dollars. This, however, was soon paid up, because he worked intently, his life having been one of earnest labor. As soon as possible he engaged in business for himself and to-day he is enjoying a large and well merited trade while in addition to his business he owns property here, his store and real estate being the visible evidence of his life of industry and thrift.



S. A. WATSON.

S. A. Watson has gained a foremost position as a representative of the photographer's art, his ability being recognized throughout the state on account of the exhibits which he has made. He is located in Danville, where he conducts an art studio.

Mr. Watson was born in LaSalle county, Illinois, October 6, 1853. His father, Ira Watson, was a native of New York and with his parents took up his abode in LaSalle county. At the time of the discovery of gold in California he went to the Pacific slope in 1849 to seek for the precious metal in the mines of the far west. Subsequently he resided in Ottawa, Illinois, for several years and in 1863 became a resident of Danville, where he entered into business as a coal merchant. For some time he conducted his efforts along that line and eventually sold to A. C. Daniels. He then entered into the live stock business, buying and shipping horses, mules and cattle. His death occurred in Cairo, Illinois, in 1872, and his widow, Mrs. Nancy A. Watson, a

native of Parke county, Indiana, is still living and makes her home with her son, S. A. Watson.

In the schools of Ottawa, Illinois, S. A. Watson began his education in 1859, and for three years was a student in the old Red Seminary of Danville. He completed his common-school course in Cairo, Illinois, in 1871 and the following year was graduated in Bryant & Stratton Business College. Removing from Cairo, he took up his abode in LaSalle county with his mother and two younger brothers in the spring of 1873 and was there employed as a stationary engineer and also at carpenter work for two years. On the expiration of that period he began the study of his present profession, first working at portraiture, crayons, water colors and India ink portraits. This was the initial step toward his connection with photography. He entered into the latter business in 1875, following it continuously until 1878, at which time he embarked in an entirely new line, that of sketching for county history work and directory publishing. He followed the new pursuit, however, for only two years, and then turned his attention to farming, buying a tract of land in LaSalle county. To its further development and improvement he devoted his energies for three years and then selling out he again entered the business of photography, which has since been his life work. He has remained in it almost continuously, having operated in Chicago, St. Louis, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Baltimore and many other large cities. He worked in these various places with a view of perfecting himself in his chosen calling and in July, 1880, he settled in Danville, where he has enjoyed an excellent patronage, building up for himself a reputation that classes him with the leading artists of



S. A. WATSON.

the country. He is a student of his profession, always keeping informed concerning the advancement which is continually being made in the photographic art. He is not only a follower, but is also a leader, for he has improved upon methods already instituted and has done creditable work that has attracted to him the attention of the entire profession in the country. He did all of the photographic work from which the portraits of this volume have been made and the high character of the work has given universal satisfaction.

On the 28th of January, 1878, in Danville, Illinois, Mr. Watson was united in marriage to Miss Mattie D. Rupert and they have two daughters and a son, Edna Alice, Flossy May and Walter J. Mr. Watson is a charter member of the Tribe of Ben Her of Danville and for fifteen years has been a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity. He was one of the organizers and is the present secretary of the Vermilion County Mutual Aid Society and he was at one time a member of the Jeffersonian Club of Washington, D. C. In politics he is a Democrat and bi-metalist. His attention, however, is chiefly given to his profession and he is the official photographer of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company of the Frisco system. He is likewise a contributor to many of the leading photographic journals of the country and is connected with the leading photographic societies of the United States. He has frequently been an exhibitor to the national conventions and has secured diplomas for excellence of work on six different exhibits. He has artistic taste and talent and while perfecting himself in the mechanical side of photography he has advanced far beyond this to a recognition of the possi-

bilities of light and shadow which form the basic element of all beauty and excellence in his art.

STEPHEN BROTHERS.

Stephen Brothers, whose home is located on section 1, Oakwood township, was born in Carroll county, Ohio, September 25, 1829. His father, Levi Brothers, was born in the east, and after arriving at years of maturity married Lydia Clark, a lady of Scotch descent. They became the parents of eleven children, of whom our subject is the sixth in order of birth. Of the five now living Stephen is the eldest. The others are: Lydia Carson, of Ohio; Austin, Richard and Fanny, all of whom are living in Carroll county, where our subject was born and reared. Having spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native state Stephen Brothers came to Vermilion county, Illinois, in a covered wagon in the '50s, arriving here in the spring of the year, having traveled through the black swamps of Indiana. His wagon was drawn by a team of horses, and it required about four weeks to make the trip. He was accompanied by his brother Joseph, who is now deceased, and he settled upon a tract of land which his father had entered, his first home being a log cabin. At once he began the cultivation of the land, making it a rich and productive tract. There were no fences for miles and the homes of the early settlers were widely scattered, much of the land being still in its primitive condition. There were many prairie wolves and deer were to be seen in large numbers. By trade Mr. Brothers is a blacksmith and in his early residence in this county he followed that pursuit to some extent.

In May, 1858, occurred the marriage of our subject and Miss Mary Hall, who was born in Putnam county, Indiana, April 21, 1840, a daughter of Marvin C. and Saphronia (Spear) Hall, who were natives of Vermont and became early settlers of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Brothers were married in Edgar county, Illinois, and after living there for a year removed to the old homestead in Vermilion county, two miles west of their present farm. After several years were there passed they took up their abode at the edge of the timber where Mr. Brothers conducted a blacksmith shop for a number of years. Later he spent four years in Nebraska, but it was during the grasshopper rage, and, thinking it not a good place to earn a living he returned to Vermilion county and took up his abode on section 1, Oakwood township, where he has since lived. His business career was interrupted by his military service when in 1862 he responded to his country's call for aid, enlisting in Company I, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, entering the service as a second lieutenant under the command of Captian Levin Vinson, Adjutant William Mann, Lieutenant Colonel Stanley and Colonel Harnon. He participated in the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, and in April, 1863, he resigned. Throughout the greater part of his life he has carried on both blacksmithing and farming and his labors have been attended with a well merited degree of success. He now owns one hundred and forty-six acres of valuable land and from his farm derives a good income.

Mrs. Brothers was one of a family of nine children, four of whom are now living: William Hall, a retired farmer of Nebraska; Mrs. Harriet Demmick, of Terre Haute,

Indiana; Joan, wife of John Edgington, of Edgar county, Illinois; and Mrs. Brothers. The last named by her marriage has become the mother of two children. Levi, who married Emeline Smith, was born in Edgar county, Illinois, and resides upon the home farm in Vermilion county. Edwin married Martha Oliby, and they have three children: Gertie, Dean and Mabel. Mr. Brothers votes with the Republican party, and he belongs to Morrison Post, G. A. R., of Glenburn, while both he and his wife hold membership in the Pleasant Grove Methodist Episcopal church.

BENJAMIN F. STITES.

The name of Benjamin F. Stites is enrolled among those who have been active in business affairs in Vermilion county and who, through energy and industry, have contributed to public progress and improvement. Called to his final rest in 1886, his memory is still enshrined in the hearts of those who knew him. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, July 20, 1833, a son of Benjamin and Susan (Stewart) Stites, who in the spring of 1837 came to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling in Blount township, at Rickard Corners. The next year they removed to a place two miles south of Myersville, there living until 1857, when they went to Paxton, Ford county, on the 6th of December, 1860. In the winter of 1853-4 Benjamin F. Stites had left home, going to Paxton, where for one year he engaged in farming, and in the second year, 1855, he established a store on the prairie, selling goods there for eighteen months. In the fall of 1856 he disposed of his stock and re-

moved to Benton county, Arkansas, where he followed carpentering, milling and also farming, investing in six hundred acres of land. Immediately after the presidential election of 1860 he was forced to flee with his family to the north, escaping from the toils of the fire-eaters by strategy. He was forced, however, to abandon his property and lost all that he had invested while in the south. In 1861 he embarked in the furniture business in Paxton on a very small scale. After his return from Arkansas he went to Chicago and purchased the necessary equipments for again keeping house and found that he had about fifty dollars remaining. This he invested in a small line of furniture. At that time there was no furniture store nearer than Kankakee, and he began business in Paxton, his trade steadily increasing and making it necessary for him to add more and more to his stock. Being a cabinet-maker he also manufactured coffins for the neighborhood and he brought the first ready-made casket into Ford county. In the fall of 1871 he removed from Paxton to Hoopeston, where he followed carpentering for two years and then established a furniture and undertaking store, which he carried on continuously up to the time of his death.

On June 15, 1859, Mr. Stites was united in marriage to Miss Martha A. Dunn, who was born in Clifton Springs, New York, a daughter of George and Angeline (Foster) Dunn. Her father was born in Ireland and when but a child came to America. Here he married Miss Foster, a native of Rochester, New York. He was a cooper by trade and followed that pursuit at Clifton Springs and Scottsville, New York. In the winter of 1856-7 he came to the west looking for a location. While residing in Rock

Island, Illinois, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, becoming a member of the Fifty-first Illinois Infantry. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Corinth and was ill at the time. He was then sent to Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis, where he died in September, 1862. His wife died in Chicago, while visiting a daughter there and attending the World's Fair. Mrs. Stites had four brothers who were also in the Civil war, and one of these, who was a member of Company F, Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, was also killed in battle. Mrs. Stites was eleven years of age when she removed from Clifton Springs to Scottsville, New York. She pursued her education in the LeRoy Seminary and the Collegiate Institute, a Baptist school, of Rochester, New York. She engaged in teaching in Monroe county, that state, for several terms and in 1857 came to the west, taking up her abode in St. Louis, Missouri, where she remained throughout the winter with relatives. She then went to Arkansas in March, 1858, and while there became acquainted with and married Mr. Stites. She was one of a family of twelve children, of whom ten are still living, namely: Charles, of Winona, Minnesota; Margaret, who is living in Detroit, Michigan; Henry, of Tuscola, Michigan; Frank, of Eldorado, Kansas; Minerva, of El Paso, Texas; Minnie, of St. Louis; Maria, whose home is in Santa Cruz, California; Delos, who is a resident of Escondido, California; Mary, of Chicago; and Mrs. Stites.

Fourteen children were born to our subject and his wife, and of these ten are yet living: Frances E., the wife of John Simpson, of Rake, Iowa; Charles, who is living in Hoopeston; Benjamin, who wedded May Missen, of Omaha, Nebraska; William,

who is a machinist now living in Nicaragua, Central America; Carrie Louise, the wife of William McKeever, of Ambia, Indiana; Samuel, who married Maudie Menagh, of Hoopeston; Susan, the wife of John Wagner, of Hoopeston; Kate, who has served as city librarian of Hoopeston for four years; Martha A., the wife of Frank Wallace, a machinist of Hoopeston; and Clara Maria, who is teaching school. Mrs. Stites also has eleven grandchildren.

In his political affiliations Mr. Stites was a Democrat and Greenbacker. For thirty years he held membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was one of its exemplary representatives. He also belonged to the Universalist church and was a man of upright life, loyal to every trust reposed in him. He continued his furniture business in Hoopeston until his death, which occurred October 21, 1886. At that time Mrs. Stites assumed the management of the business, which she conducted for thirteen years. She paid off the seven hundred dollars indebtedness upon the store and successfully carried on the enterprise, enlarging her stock to meet the growing demands of the trade until 1901, when she sold out to the firm of Parker & Scott. She took a course in embalming and conducted an undertaking business, carrying a stock worth about twenty five hundred dollars. She also purchased a hearse and her undertaking establishment received a liberal and well merited patronage. Mrs. Stites engaged in teaching a select school in Hoopeston before a public school was organized here. She is a member of the Order of Rebekahs, the Order of the Eastern Star, and of the Womens' Relief Corps. She now owns several tenement houses which she rents, and her own beautiful home on North

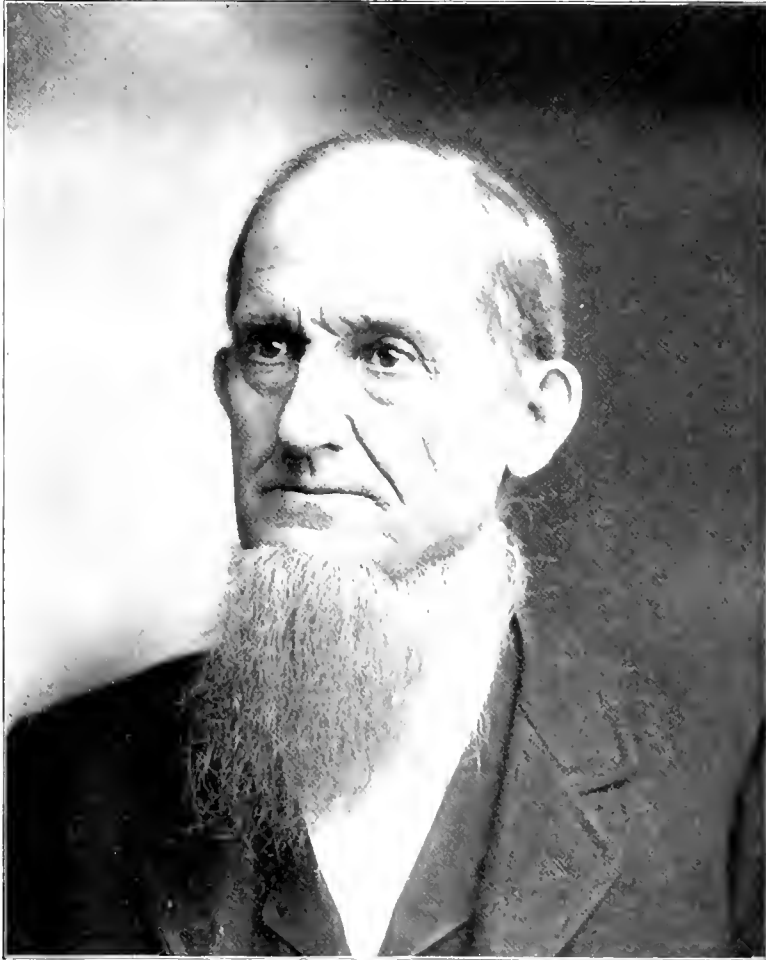
Market street, which was built in 1902. A lady of culture and refinement she also possesses marked executive force and business ability and deserves great credit for what he has accomplished, since her husband's demise. In social circles she occupies an enviable position and has a wide acquaintance in Hoopeston and throughout Vermillion county.

JAMES G. PAYTON.

James G. Payton, who is filling the office of justice of the peace in Danville and is a conscientious and careful officer, was born in Clinton county, Ohio, September 30, 1832, his parents being Valentine and Mary (Morgan) Payton. Both the Payton and Morgan families came originally from Virginia, having lived in the locality known as Apple Pie Ridge. In the maternal line the family was related to General John Morgan, the noted Rebel leader. Mrs. Martha Morgan, the grandmother of Mrs. Payton, the mother of our subject, is the only one of the family that Judge Payton has known, and she died in Wilmington, Ohio, at an advanced age. The father of our subject, on coming to Illinois, settled first near Muncie, in 1836. He was a shoemaker by trade and in connection with that pursuit he gave considerable time to farming, making a specialty of the raising of corn. When the farm work was over for the season he and his sons would spend their time in the manufacture of boots and shoes in the little shop which they conducted. For several years during the early development of the state, when there was little market for farm products, they sold their corn at eight and ten cents per bushel. When a boy Mr. Payton



MRS. JAMES G. PAYTON.



JAMES G. PAYTON.

had been bound out as an apprentice to learn the shoemaker's trade and whatever success he achieved in life was due entirely to his own efforts. In his political views he was a Whig. His wife died in 1850 and he passed away in 1873. In their family were ten children, of whom those living are: John M., Zephaniah C., James G. and Asa H. Those who have passed away are: Martha, who was the wife of Allen Cass; Deborah, the wife of Isaac V. Shepherd; Robert; William M.; Joseph M.; and Isaac M.

In taking up the personal history of James G. Payton we record the life work of one who is actively and favorably known in Danville and the surrounding districts. He gained his education in the schools near his boyhood home, for he had come to Illinois with his parents when about seven years of age. Later he continued his studies in the schools of Danville and through the period of his youth he worked in his father's shoeshop and also in the cornfields, turning the furrows in many a field in the early spring-time. When twenty-five years of age he started out in life for himself, leaving the parental roof at that time. For three years he worked in teaching school and then began farming on his own account.

Mr. Payton completed his arrangements for a home of his own by his marriage about this time. On the 27th of November, 1855, he wedded Catherine Deakin, a daughter of William and Nancy Deakin, of Muncie, Illinois. Her father was a farmer who had come to this state from Ohio. Her brothers and sisters are: William, who died in Nashville, Tennessee; Elizabeth and Emeline, also deceased. The latter was the wife of Zephaniah C. Payton and died in the Indian Territory, in 1901.

Unto the marriage of our subject and his wife, have been born four children: Theodore T. is the only one who survives. Those who have departed this life are Emma, who was the wife of P. L. Zarbo; John; and Alwilda. Theodore T. married Kitty Hall, and they have four children: James Raymond, Royce Archer, Robert B. and Ruth S.

After his marriage Mr. Payton carried on farming until the 3d of September, 1862, when, influenced by a patriotic spirit he offered his services to the Union and enlisted as a member of Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Regiment of Illinois Infantry, serving as a private for three years or until after the close of the war in 1865. He participated in numerous engagements, among the most important being at Perryville, Murfreesboro, Lookout Mountain, Atlanta and Jonesboro. At Bentonville, North Carolina, he was wounded by a thorn which was thrust into his leg and for six weeks he lay in the hospital. He returned to Illinois, and coming to Fairmount he was appointed deputy sheriff under his brother, Joseph M. Payton, serving in that office for two years. He next went to Springfield, Missouri, where he engaged in working in a lumber yard for eight years and subsequently spent a short time in Kansas. On the expiration of that period he returned to Danville, where he conducted a farm for two years. His next place of residence was at Hamilton, Ohio, but within a short period he removed from there to Fort Wayne, Indiana, and then again came to Danville, where he entered the employ of the firm of Payton, Palmer & Company, wholesale grocers. In 1893, however, he was called from business life to political office, being elected constable, and in 1897 was elected justice of the peace, his present

term continuing until May, 1905. He is the president of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Remion and is commander of Kenesaw Post, G. A. R., being thus honored by his fellow comrades of the Civil war. The fulfillment of his duty to his country in times of peril and to his community in times of peace and prosperity has been the chief and high aim permeating the life of James G. Payton, and to this class of honored citizens is due the substantial development and growth of this great country, making it to-day foremost among nations.

DANIEL BREWER.

The prosperity of Vermilion county has been assured and continuous from the time of its early settlement by the brave and sturdy pioneers who have here made their homes, down to the present, when its well tilled fields and fine grades of stock may be seen on every side. From the early development of this county Daniel Brewer has taken an important part, as did also his father, Richard Brewer, who came here from Ohio, locating in Vermilion county when all was wild and unimproved, awaiting the work of the white man to develop its rich and pro luctive soil. Daniel Brewer was born on the 5th of December, 1832, four miles northeast of Danville, in Vermilion county. He is a son of Richard and Christina (Roderick) Brewer, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, but were reared and married in Ohio, having been taken by their parents to the Buckeye state when they were children. Richard Brewer was a son of John Brewer, who came from Holland to Pennsylvania and later to Ohio. The Roderick family came

from Germany and settled in Pennsylvania and later, as has been stated, in Ohio. Richard Brewer was a man six feet tall and weighed two hundred and five pounds. His brothers were all large men, weighing over two hundred pounds. During his active business career he engaged in farming and also worked at the shoemaker's trade. After his marriage he removed to Lafayette, Indiana, and later to Danville, Illinois, locating on a farm where he and his good wife spent their remaining days. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, taking an active interest in its welfare and holding several offices therein. He served as class leader for many years and was a good, consistent Christian man. In politics he was an old line Whig. Although a man of influence in his community he refused office. He died February 21, 1849, at the age of fifty-eight years and six months, and his wife passed away in 1871, at the age of seventy-nine years. They were the parents of nine children, six boys and three girls, all of whom grew to years of maturity. Millie became the wife of Simeon Lamb and they resided near Danville, but both are now deceased. Mashee, now deceased, resided in Marion county, Illinois. Charles was a resident of Douglas county, but is now deceased. Benjamin, also deceased, resided on the old homestead farm. John resided in Onarga, Illinois, but has now passed away. Sarah became the wife of Thomas Elder and resided near Danville, Illinois, but both are now deceased. Rev. David resided at Woodland, Illinois, and has also passed away. Mary is the wife of Henry Martin and resides in Saline county, Kansas. Daniel is the youngest of the family. He spent his boyhood days on the farm attending school near Danville in what was known as

the Lamb district school, a hewed log school-house, with slab seats and table, and an old fashioned fireplace. He had but limited opportunities of acquiring an education, yet he managed to become well informed and taught school at an early age. He then worked on the home farm, assisting his mother. She died in 1871.

On May 4, 1851, Mr. Brewer was united in marriage to Miss Mariah Cunningham, who was born in Clinton county, Indiana, October 22, 1832, and is a daughter of Nicholas and Matilda (Lackey) Cunningham, both of whom were born in Ohio and were there married. Later they removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, where they remained until his death, which occurred in 1848. Mrs. Cunningham then became the wife of Samuel Roderick, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Ohio when he was about nine years of age. He had been previously married and had six children by his first wife. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics was an old line Whig. His death occurred in 1872. Mrs. Brewer was the oldest of a family of eight children by the first marriage of her mother. Five of these children still survive. The others living are: James, a resident of Danville; Eliza, a resident of Nebraska and the widow of Rev. Joshua Wooley; Ann, a resident of Vermilion county and the widow of Martin Watson; and Nicholas, who resides in Danville. By the second marriage of Mrs. Brewer's mother there were born two children, but only one, George, of Vermilion county, survives.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Brewer was blessed with eight children, but only three are now living. Jennie is the wife of James Villiards and resides twenty-five miles

east of Lafayette, Indiana. Martha, the widow of George Villiards, has five children and resides with her father. Cyrus Rinaldo resides twenty-five miles east of Lafayette, Indiana, and has one child.

Mr. Brewer sold the farm he had previously owned and purchased the farm upon which he now lives, consisting of one hundred acres on section 30, in Jamaica township. He also bought an additional ninety-seven acres which he gave to his son Cyrus R. He has always been an active and energetic man, and has carried on general farming with good success. He raises high grades of stock and selling them in the market receives a good annual income therefrom. His short-horn and Jersey cattle are well known in the county and bring a high price. His horses are very fine in breed and he raises quite a number of these. He is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church and taught in the Sunday-school for twenty years. For twenty years also he has acted as school director, although he did not desire the office. A Republican in his political views he has positively refused to accept office, although he strongly endorses the principles of the party and gives it his support. He is a genial, kindly old gentleman, whom it is a privilege as well as a pleasure to meet and converse with. During his residence in this county he has witnessed a great transformation. He at one time cradled wheat upon the land where Danville now stands and the settlers lived in round poled cabins whose logs were daubed with mud. His sister Mary was born in a house of this description in Danville township. There were no railroads and the land on the site of the present city of Danville was worth fifteen dollars per acre. The town was at that time about the

size of Fairmount, Illinois. Their trading was done partly at Covington, Indiana, but mainly at Chicago, Illinois. His father bought leather in Chicago and hauled it in wagons. Calico was a precious article, worth twenty five cents per yard. The women wore dresses to church made of this fabric and were delighted to get them. They also had hand looms with which they spun flax and wove flannels and fancy dress goods. Wheat was worth fifty cents per bushel and corn was worth from ten to twenty cents per bushel. When the canal was built at Covington the price of corn went up to twenty-five cents per bushel. Mr. Brewer has bought and sold good cows for ten dollars each. The courthouse of Danville was built over seventy years ago, about the time Mr. Brewer was born. Mr. Brewer has been an interested spectator in the great changes which have taken place in the county during the past half century. He has seen the towns and villages spring up and develop into thriving and progressive cities, and in all the improvement he has borne his full share. To such men as Mr. Brewer Vermilion county is to-day indebted for her present prosperity.



JOTHAM LYON.

The agricultural interests of Vermilion county are well represented by Jotham Lyon, who follows farming in Georgetown township, his home being on section 25. He is also well known as a raiser of fine shorthorn cattle, and in this regard he has done much for the community, for he who introduces fine stock into a locality is instrumental in bringing up the prices for

stock and thus all are indirectly aided by his efforts.

Mr. Lyon is numbered among the native sons of this township, for here he was born September 25, 1832. He comes of an old New England family. His father Jotham Lyon, was born either in Massachusetts or Connecticut and in early life went to Ohio, where he was reared. In that state he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Harrington, whose birth occurred in Hamilton county, Ohio. They left that state, emigrating westward and east in their lot with the early settlers of Vermilion county, Illinois. From the government Mr. Lyon entered a tract of land in Georgetown township near where the subject of this review is now living and was the first settler in that locality. From that time forward he took an active and helpful part in the work of general progress and improvement and at the same time carefully conducted his private business interests. He was made highway commissioner soon after his arrival and assisted in laying out the various roads in the township. In other ways, too, he carried forward the work of improvement in pioneer days, helping lay the foundation for the present prosperity of this section of Illinois. He carried on farming upon the home place until his death, which occurred in 1841, when he was yet in the prime of life. His widow, however, long survived him, passing away in 1888. Of their family of seven children only our subject is now living. Of the first marriage Masse, who is the widow of Stephen Loomer, resides with her children in Minnesota.

Like the other members of the family Jotham Lyon was educated in the common schools, such as were found upon the prairies of Illinois in pioneer times. His train-



JOTHAM LYON.



MRS. JOTHAM LYON.

ing at farm labor was not meager for as soon as old enough to handle the plow he began work in the fields and assisted in the operation of the home place until his marriage. That important event in his life occurred in 1858, when Miss Sarah Worth, a native of Wisconsin, became his wife. She was the third white child born in the vicinity of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her father, William Worth, had settled in that state at a very early day, taking a claim near Milwaukee, where he developed a good farm. He is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Lyon became the parents of six children: Mary, the wife of John Boggess, a prominent farmer of Georgetown township; William, who is living with his father and assists in carrying on the home farm; Datus, who is also residing in Georgetown township; Emma, who was a twin of Datus, and died at the age of two years; Noah, an agriculturist of the same township; Elmer, who married Ada Ward and resides upon the old homestead.

After his marriage Mr. Lyon removed to Wisconsin, where he remained for one year and then returned to Vermilion county, settling on his present farm on section 25, Georgetown township, where he now owns one hundred and fifty-two acres of valuable land, splendidly adapted to the cultivation of grain. All of the improvements upon his place stand as monuments to his thrift and industry. He and his sons cut the timber, hauled it to the sawmill, where it was converted into lumber and then erected the barn. Mr. Lyon here also owns another farm of seventy acres in the same township, and in connection with his two sons he is successfully carrying on general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising, making a specialty of the raising of short-horn cattle. He has also gained a wide

reputation as a horticulturist and very fine fruit is found upon his place. Whatever he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion and in the various branches of his business he has met with success, being progressive in his methods and indefatigable in his work. Mr. Lyon has been called upon to serve in several local official positions and in his political views he has always been a Republican. He represents one of the old and prominent families of the county and has many relics of pioneer days, among which is a deed given to his father when he secured government land in this township, the paper bearing the date of July 27, 1824, and signed by President James Monroe. In his later years Mr. Lyon has been largely relieved of the more arduous work of the farm by his two sons and he well deserves rest from labor. For seventy years he has lived in Vermilion county with the exception of a brief interval spent in Wisconsin and therefore the history of pioneer development and of later-day progress is a story well known to the subject of this review.

MILTON M. McNEILL.

Prominent among the successful business men of Danville is numbered the subject of this sketch, who is a dealer in hard wood lumber. He is a native of Indiana, born in Perrysville, December 24, 1845, and is a son of George H. and Rebecca K. (Beers) McNeill, who were natives of Maryland and Ohio, respectively. In early life the father followed surveying for many years, and later opened a drug store in Perrysville, Indiana, which he carried on until his death, which occurred September 9, 1892. He was a well read man and very

popular, his advice being often sought. Since his death the business which he established has been carried on by his son, W. K. McNeill, it being now sixty years since the store was opened.

During his boyhood Milton M. McNeill attended the graded schools of his native place and subsequently was a student at Asbury University, Greencastle, Indiana, for two years. With the intention of becoming a druggist, he made a special study of pharmacy and chemistry, and after leaving school entered upon his business career along that line in his father's store at Perysville, but on his removal to Danville, Illinois, in 1880, he embarked in the lumber business, making a specialty of house furnishing and cabinet lumber, such as walnut, ash, etc., handling hard woods exclusively. He enjoys a good trade and is accounted one of the leading business men of his adopted city, with whose interests he has now been identified twenty-three years.

Mr. McNeill married Miss Ruhamah R. Bell, a daughter of William M. Bell, of Perysville, Indiana, who was one of the leading merchants of the Wabash valley. By this union the following children have been born: George W., who is now a member of the Danville Wholesale Grocery Company; Mary L., the wife of James R. Martin, of Attica, Indiana; Rebecca B., the wife of Frank Hannum, of Danville; Ruhamah R., wife of Frank D. Bushnell, of Sidell, Illinois; and Helen M. and Nadyne Vera, at home. The family residence is one of the most attractive homes on North Walnut street, being tastefully furnished and surrounded by a beautiful lawn, but Mr. and Mrs. McNeill now spend a great portion of their time in Texas on account of the latter's health.

Mr. McNeill is a prominent Odd Fellow and has passed through all the chairs in that lodge. Of excellent business ability and broad resources he has attained to an enviable position among the substantial men of Danville and is recognized as a leader in commercial circles. He has won success by his well directed, energetic efforts, and the prosperity that has come to him is certainly well deserved.

THOMAS OAKWOOD.

Thomas Oakwood is a prominent farmer and a native son of Vermilion county, having been born April 25, 1858, on the farm he now occupies. He is a son of Henry J. Oakwood, for whom the township of Oakwood was named. His mother was Priscilla (Sailor) Oakwood, a native of Logan county. They were married in Vermilion county, Illinois. Henry J. Oakwood was born in Brown county, Ohio, March 7, 1819, and came overland to this county in 1833 and was a very prominent man in the township which was named for him. His father, too, had settled in Vermilion county at an early date, and thus the Oakwood family has become associated with the history of the county. Henry J. Oakwood was supervisor of the county for several years and during his time the courthouse at Danville was built. His name is engraved on the corner-stone of that building and when he first came to the township five hundred Indians were encamped here. He died January 5, 1901. His widow is living on the old home place with her son Charles in Oakwood township. Mr. Oakwood was a member of the Independent Order of Odd

Fellows. To Henry J. Oakwood and his wife were born eight children, of whom the following are living: William, a farmer of Oakwood township; Thomas; Harvey and Charles, who follow farming in Oakwood township.

Thomas Oakwood received his education in the district schools and was early trained to farm work by his father. During the seasons of vacation he helped to till the fields and they in turn brought forth abundant harvests. He has seen the prairies all around converted into productive farms which are now the possessions of a happy and contented people. When his father settled in Oakwood township it gave little promise of the brilliant future which was before it, but he, with other public-spirited men, united in their efforts to develop and improve the township and that their efforts were highly successful is indicated by the prosperity which is seen on every hand. At the age of nineteen Thomas Oakwood left school. After this he continued to work on the home farm which was the place of his birth. He now owns one hundred and thirty acres of land on section 19, Oakwood township. Here he raises a high grade of stock in connection with his other farming interests. He has acquired a comfortable competence through his energy and thrift and to-day is one of the substantial business men of his community.

Mr. Oakwood was united in marriage on the 9th of September, 1882, to Miss Marietta Longstreet, who was born in Vermilion county, May 11, 1861. She is a daughter of Benjamin Longstreet, whose first wife was Jane (Lee) Longstreet, a native of Champaign county, Illinois. They were married in Champaign county, where she afterward died. Benjamin Longstreet was a

native of Warren county, Ohio, and was a son of George F. Longstreet, a native of Ohio, and of English origin. After the death of his wife Mr. Benjamin Longstreet removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, and here entered one-half a section of land. About this time he was married to Elizabeth (Board) Foland, of Fountain county, Indiana. By a previous marriage she had one child, Mrs. Rena Fulton, who now resides in Danville. After residing in another portion of Vermilion county for nine years Mr. Longstreet removed to Oakwood township, where he resided for ten years. About the year 1847 he removed to the village of Oakwood and there lived retired until his death, which occurred April 5, 1889. His second wife died June 30, 1883. He had held all of the township offices, including that of justice of the peace, in which capacity he served for a number of years. In his political views he was a Republican. By his first union one child was born, but is now deceased. By the second marriage were born nine children, seven of whom are now living: Anna is the wife of William Oakwood, a brother of Thomas, and resides north of Oakwood, Illinois. They have six children. Marietta is the wife of our subject. Belle is the wife of Richard Seymour. She has two children and resides near Oakwood. Newton, the fourth member of the family, married Maggie Sampson. He has two children and resides near Oakwood. Dora is the wife of Frank Clark. They have two children and reside in West Lebanon, Indiana. Katie is the wife of Otis P. Hayworth, has three children and resides in Fairmount, Illinois. S. B. resides in Oakwood, Illinois, and is a professor in the public schools of Indiana.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Oakwood have been

born six children: Oscar L., born March 27, 1883; Edgar V., born July 16, 1887; Henry V., born October 4, 1889; Nina Belle, born March 20, 1892; Ruby Edith, born February 18, 1897; and Hubert, born August 12, 1894, and who died March 14, 1895. Mr. Oakwood is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church in which he is trustee and steward. He takes a deep interest in church work. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in politics is a staunch Republican, but has never sought office. He is a man of sterling character who enjoys the confidence and respect of his friends and acquaintances by reason of his genuine worth.



GEORGE WHEELER JONES.

George Wheeler Jones was born at Bath, Steuben county, New York, February 4, 1839, the oldest son of Dr. John Sproson Jones and Charlotte Wheeler, his wife. The family removed to Covington, Indiana, in 1846. His early life was spent in laying the foundation of a good education, as he was a most ambitious student. He was a devoted son and the tie between him and his mother was unusually close. He attended Wabash College and later made a choice of the medical profession, studying for a while under his father. Later he studied in Chicago under Dr. William H. Byford, graduating from what was then the medical department of Lind University, now the Chicago Medical College of the Northwestern University.

He commenced the practice of medicine in Terre Haute, Indiana, but soon enlisted as a volunteer surgeon for three months, later re-enlisting for three years, serving as

assistant surgeon of the Sixty-third Indiana Volunteers. In 1865 he was married to Miss Emelyn K. Enos of Indianapolis and located at Danville, Illinois. Here he commenced again the practice of medicine also, being associated with his brother, James Sanger Jones, in a drug store at the northeast corner of Main and Hazel streets, under the name of Jones Borthers. The brother, James, a gay-hearted, fun-loving young fellow, endeared to every one who fell under the influence of his merry ways and kind heart, died suddenly October 26, 1872, and after three years the drug store was sold, leaving Dr. Jones to devote his entire time to the practice of his beloved profession. For twenty-nine years his busy life continued in Danville and his labor was unremitting in the cause of healing. One of his friends bore testimony to his faithfulness when he said:

"His parents gave him pure blood, and nature gave him a Grant-like frame, four square and solid as a tower, an iron constitution, a large, clear, active brain, a warm, loving, hopeful heart. He was my family physician and very intimate friend for over twenty years. I knew him from the heart out. Often has he carried my sick children on his bosom about the rooms, saying, 'I can do more for a child when it knows me and is not afraid.' He has done the same with your children. How tenderly he watched and nursed our sick. How he toiled to know what was best for them. For almost twenty years I passed his office late at night from my own work. Yet, however late, his lamp was burning; his patients were in his heart; no day of toil was so hard as to keep him from studying; for their healing he must know the best and latest wisdom of the medical world. It seems that he never slept, that he was al-



Geo. Wheeler Jones *WJ*



ALICE F. H. H. S.

ways at work with his patients, his medicines and books." In the autumn of 1894 prostration from overwork compelled him to take the first vacation he had ever known. In company with a friend he went to the Bermudas in December, intending to return in the spring and resume the practice of medicine in Danville. The trip was a delightful one and for three weeks he enjoyed the change with every appearance of returning health, but on Sunday, January 6, 1895, he died suddenly at the Princess Hotel, Hamilton, Bermuda, of collapse of the heart. His body was brought to Danville two weeks later and buried in Spring Hill cemetery, followed by a long line of weeping mourners, for he had many loving friends.

In his profession he was held in high esteem, receiving many honors at the hands of his professional brethren. He was a prolific writer, contributing many articles to the current medical magazines, and to the various medical societies. He was a member and regular attendant of the American Medical Association, the Tri-State Medical Society and was at one time president of the Illinois State Medical Society. He was also honored by an invitation to contribute a paper to the Ninth International Medical Congress, which convened in Washington, D. C., in 1887. Politically he was a staunch Republican. He led a life of purity and strict integrity, with brain and hands busy with incessant cares, loyal to friends, grateful for friendship, true to the principles of his religion. He was a man of literary taste and knowledge, taking time in his busy life, to investigate the best the world brought him. He was a man of great courage, unyielding convictions, and tireless energy, in his beloved profession of medi-

cine. To the cry of the afflicted his ear was ever open, his skillful eye and hand ever ready to relieve; and the poor and needy found in him a helper. No labor was too arduous, no detail too trivial, no sacrifice too great for him when life and death hung in the balance, and his reward was sufficient in the consciousness of duty done.

MRS. CHARLOTTE JONES.

Mrs. Charlotte Jones was born March 29, in the year 1814, in the town of Bath, Steuben county, in the state of New York. In the year 1805, her grandfather, Jeremiah Wheeler, left New Hampshire with his wife, his four sons, his daughters and his neighbors, and journeyed westward in the old patriarchal fashion, the women and children riding, the men driving flocks and herds, looking for a good well-watered country, which they found on the banks of the beautiful Cohocton river. There he entered land ceded a few years before by the Seneca Indians and settled his children about him. The story of that journey, the dread of passing through "the Narrows," the safe accomplishment, the choice of location and the final settlement has been told and retold to the children for a hundred years; and to some of them it is as vivid today as on its first recital.

In this group of pioneers, George Wheeler, the oldest son, was a strong figure. He had married Gratia Stearns back in Vermont, and with her and their two children had accompanied his father, and in that new country the sturdy, industrious, God-fearing man and his wife set up their altar, and went to work to make a home and rear a family. How well they succeeded is

established by the testimony of this dear daughter, Charlotte, who, all through the long years of her life, kept bright to her children the happy childhood and maidenhood spent under that roof, in the companionship of a large family and in the neighborhood of uncles, aunts and cousins, dwelling in the community of interests and the interdependence that stamp the pioneer life. Here the little maid learned the thrift, the industry, the carefulness, the love of order, the self-reliance, that molded her character. In the little school-house across the road from home was laid, by the painstaking, conscientious teacher of those early days, the foundation of the education that broadened and widened with her life; from the Old English Reader her mind was stored with never-forgotten, high, noble thoughts and there she learned the clean, pure English that always distinguished her conversation from the careless talk of the day. With this training came the eager thirst for knowledge that never left her and that inspired her to the constant reading of the best books and the keen interest in the world's movements in exploration and advancement. In this little school, she was the best speller, the most ambitious scholar and the leader in the games and excitements of childhood. With brothers and cousins she hunted for goosequills for pens, gathered eggs, picked berries, helped with the "sugaring off" and played in the never failing clear waters of the little creek that ran at the foot of the slope behind the house. The father's house was always the home and haven of the ministers riding their wide, lonely circuits; and, in ministering to their wants and listening to the conversation, taking part in the hymns and devotions, the child's soul was early led in ways of peace and thanksgiv-

ing. Here she learned to "look well to the ways of the household," helping in all kinds of womanly work—cooking, spinning, weaving, dyeing, picking geese, making butter and cheese—taking wholesome pride in work well done, in being the best worker, doing the day's "stent" in the shortest time, producing the best results, loving the work for the work's sake. And the singing schools, the sleigh rides, the active, gay young company, the enduring friendships, the father's tender love, the quiet mother's example—what a rich furnishing they made for her after life, her children know.

When she was twenty-three years old she married John Sproson Jones, a young physician and began with him the life of self-denial and hardship that falls to the lot of a country doctor struggling for a foothold. After a number of changes, with varying fortunes, in 1846, she moved with him and her three little boys to Covington, Indiana, then a new country, differing in climate, people and ways of living from New York and her beloved home. She began the new life in homesickness and weariness of spirit, under circumstances that called out all the strength of her character, tried her soul and purified her nature. Her sweetness of heart, her courage, her lofty endeavor won her faithful friends. Success came, and a new home was established where she trained her children in the ways she knew and loved. She was the mother of eight children, and raised five to be men and women. She sent her two sons to the Civil war and received them again unhurt. The sons settled in Danville, Illinois, and in 1871 the family left Covington and followed them. Before they had lived in Danville a year the father, Dr. J. S. Jones, died and in less than a year later the younger unmarried son, James S. Jones, died sud-

denly. With bowed spirit, but brave courage, she took her place as head of the family, and during the thirty-one years that she held that place, moving in and out before the people, not once did she fail in her duty to her family, her friends and the community—always the same sweet patience, always the same high courage, always the “saving grace of humor” carrying her over the many hard places. Her nobility of character won all hearts, her loyalty and interest kept them. Everybody loved her and when, after she was eighty years old, she received the unexpected tidings of the death of her oldest child and only son in a foreign land, she was borne up by the deep, loving sympathy of the entire community, and while she “wept like a child, she had the faith of a saint.” She showed the strength of her nature by her continued interest in the welfare of others, the work of the world and the every day concerns of life. In her later life she was cherished and guarded and petted, and her sweet presence was a blessing and a comfort to all who had a sight of her. Her wisdom, her purity, her nobleness, were so evident that strangers knew and wondered, and every nature grew finer and sweeter by even a passing intercourse. Her strength of mind and heart remained steadfast and when, on the 11th of November, 1902, after a three weeks’ illness from bronchial pneumonia, she slipped away from the precious body, ending a long life of nearly eighty-nine years, her “eye was not dim nor her natural force abated.” In every house there was sorrow and mourning for the loss of the life that in passing left a benediction of love. She gave to her children the priceless heritage of an honored name, made so by a long life filled with kind and noble deeds.

“A sweeter woman ne’er drew breath.” As daughter, child, wife, mother, companion, friend, neighbor, there is no flaw. Her loving heart, that made a pet of every living thing; her bright intellect, that appreciated the best in every department of the world’s work; her quick and kindly sympathy, that made friends of the lowly and those of high estate alike; her courage, that faced every obstacle and danger; her faith, that saw the good in all things; her love of this beautiful world, that made every morning a delight and the works of the Almighty a constant marvel; her enjoyment of the fine and good things of life; her keen wit, her serene self-poise, her brightness of speech, her contented spirit made her the charming companion, the sweet friend, while her inspirational insight and generous hand made her the dear comforter in any grief or trouble. Hers was “the humility that sets a seal upon her lips and forgets what she has done, the patience that endureth all things, the guilelessness that thinketh no evil, sincerity that rejoiceth not in iniquity, the kindness that makes hands and feet active, the chastity of temper that purifies every impulse and the spirit of forgiveness that makes the soul Godlike.”

WILLIAM STRATMAN, JR.

William Stratman, Jr., who for ten years has engaged in business in Danville as a horseshoer at No. 16 South Hazel street, was born near Madison, Indiana, on the 7th of May, 1874, and is a son of William and Katy (Ricken) Stratman, both of whom were natives of Germany and about 1871 came to America, settling in Danville, Illinois, where they remained for a short

time prior to their removal to Indiana. In the latter state, however, their residence was but brief and they returned to Danville, where the father established a blacksmith shop. Here he still works at his trade at No. 422 South Bowman avenue. In the family are five children: Annie, the wife of August Lindebaum, a blacksmith in the coal mines of Danville; Josephine, the wife of Andrew Hagen, who is employed as a boiler maker by the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company, at Danville, Illinois; William; Joseph, who married Tilda Burrows and is also a blacksmith of Danville; and John, who follows blacksmithing in the coal mines. The children were educated in the public schools of Indiana and of this city.

Upon leaving school William Stratman, Jr., began to learn the blacksmith's trade, which he followed in the employ of others for five years and then started in business on his own account. He purchased property at 805 Main street and there worked at his trade for nine years, when he sold his shop to the city of Danville for a fire engine house and purchased his present property at No. 16, South Hazel street. He now owns a fine brick shop and has discontinued general blacksmithing work, devoting his attention to horseshoeing. He employs two men during the winter season and five men in the summer. He is the leading horseshoer of Danville, doing a very large business in this line. He has become an expert workman and his practical understanding of the business enables him to capably direct the labors of his men.

In 1896 Mr. Stratman was united in marriage to Miss Nettie Culbert, a native of St. Louis, and a daughter of James and Nettie (Johnson) Culbert, both of whom

are residents of Rossville, Vermilion county, the father being the owner of a greenhouse in that city and successfully conducting a florist's business. Two children were born unto our subject and his wife but the first child died in infancy. The other, Gretia, is at home.

Mr. Stratman gives his political support to the Republican party, but has never been an aspirant for office. Socially he is identified with the Modern Woodmen, of Danville, with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Catholic Order of Foresters, while both he and his wife are communicants of the St. Patrick's Catholic church of this city. They have a pleasant home at No. 831 East Main street and Mr. Stratman is regarded as a successful business man in the community. The greater part of his life has been here passed and his acquaintance is a wide one. Yet a young man, he has achieved a prosperity which many an older person might well envy, and arguing from the past one may well prophesy for him a still more prosperous future.

FRANCIS M. FAIRCHILD.

Among the progressive agriculturists and representative citizens of Blount township is classed Mr. Fairchild, whose lauded possessions aggregate five hundred and fifty acres on sections 3, 4, 10, and 33, Blount township. He was born here, April 20, 1848, within one hundred rods of where he now lives. His father, Daniel Fairchild, was commonly known as Preacher Fairchild and was one of the earliest settlers of the county. He married Lucy Hemingway, who like her husband was a native of New



MRS. DANIEL FAIRCHILD.



FRANCIS M. FAIRCHILD

York. Our subject was the eighth son in their family. His education was acquired in the district schools and in this county he was reared to manhood. He assisted in the work of the home farm and during the winter months he pursued his education in the district schools, being thus engaged until he reached his majority, when he started out in life on his own account.

On the 3d of March, 1870, in his twenty-second year, he married Ina B. Fitzgerald, a daughter of Benjamin and Eliza Fitzgerald. She was born in 1852, only a mile and a half from her husband's birth place and she died December 5, 1894, at the age of forty-two years and twenty-five days, her death occurring in Colorado, where she had gone for the benefit of her health. By this union there had been fourteen children, six of whom are living; Daisy, now the wife of G. E. Albert, of Danville, by whom she has one daughter, Ina H.; Galen G., who married Carrie Starr, a daughter of J. R. Starr, and they have one son; A. R., who was formerly a student in the University of Illinois at Bloomington and was then appointed to the University at Champaign, Illinois; Maude E., who in her eighteenth year is attending school; R. B. and Daniel Hazel, who are at home. The deceased of the family are: Arthur, who died January 7, 1875, at the age of eleven months and twenty-one days; Clara and Clarence, twins, the former dying August 23, 1892, and the latter August 18, of the same year; Loto R., who died at the age of one year, six months and nineteen days; Charles W., who was born December 4, 1870, and died January 28, 1896, at Falcoln, Colorado; Lola M., who became the wife of John Snyder and died at the age of nineteen years; Oliver Lincoln, who was born June 28, 1877, and died January 28, 1897; and one that died

in infancy. On the 1st of December, 1897, Mr. Fairchild was again married, his second union being with Miss Annie White, a daughter of William and Elizabeth White. Three children, two sons and one daughter, were born of this marriage but all died in infancy.

In less than a month after the death of his first wife Mr. Fairchild lost his home, which was destroyed by fire, but he has since rebuilt a good residence upon his farm. He can well remember the period of his boyhood days when everything was new and undeveloped in this section of the state. He has engaged in feeding cattle, making a specialty of shorthorns and he always keeps good grades. His land is rich and well improved. It was largely cultivated originally by our subject and his brother, Harrison, who were among the first to tile their land. Mr. Fairchild has done considerable tiling and the fields are now well drained. When he began farming his trading was done at Danville and on one occasion he made a trip to Joliet, Illinois, with apples. He has plowed with a single shovel plow and cut grain with a cradle. He remembers clearly the way his mother used to spin and weave, all the clothing of the family being home-made. Not an improvement had been placed upon his land when he took possession, but with characteristic energy he began its development and owing to his excellent management and enterprise he in course of time transformed his land into a very productive and valuable tract. In this work he was assisted by his wife, who proved to him a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey. She was an excellent manager and was revered and loved by all who knew her, not only in her immediate household but also by her many friends. She was also an active church

worker and when she passed away she left a husband and nine children to mourn her loss, but three of the children soon afterward followed her.

Mr. Fairchild held the office of town clerk for two terms and was collector of taxes for a number of years and supervisor for two years. For a quarter of a century or more he has been a member of the school board, is still in that position, and has assisted largely in building schools and churches. For thirty-four years he has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served as a class-leader, steward for a number of years and as a Sunday-school teacher. He has frequently been a delegate from this place to conventions. In his political affairs he is an earnest Republican. Although he has had many hardships and difficulties to overcome he has progressed in his work and to-day he stands among the prominent and influential agriculturists of his community, occupying a very enviable position because of his splendid success as well as by reason of his upright life.



BENJAMIN F. LEACH.

Benjamin F. Leach is engaged in merchandising in Humrick, and is also serving as postmaster there. He was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, September 23, 1846, and is of Irish lineage, his paternal grandfather having been a native of the Emerald isle and the founder of the family in the new world. William M. Leach, the father of our subject, was born in Frederick county, Virginia, in 1796, and was the youngest of a large family who devoted their energies

to agricultural pursuits. In 1832 he removed to Pickaway county, Ohio, where he resided for twenty years, coming to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1852. He was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, however, for he died the following year on a farm about three miles north of Indianola. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Monroe, was born in Culpeper county, Virginia, in 1800, and also belonged to a large family of farming people. She came of an aristocratic family of the south and a number of her ancestors were valiant soldiers in the Revolutionary war. The Monroe family was of Scotch lineage and thus the subject of this review comes of Scotch-Irish ancestry. When seventeen years of age Mary Monroe gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Leach, the wedding ceremony being performed in Virginia, and subsequently they lived for twenty years upon a farm in Ohio. They became the parents of the following children: Edgar B., now deceased; William M., a resident of Kansas; John and George, who have also passed away; Henry C., of Arkansas; Benjamin F.; Mrs. Sarah Parker, also deceased; and Mrs. Mary Carney, of Arkansas. Four of the sons were soldiers of the Civil war, valiantly aiding in the preservation of the Union.

Benjamin F. Leach spent the first six years of his life in the county of his nativity, and then accompanied his parents to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he was educated in the common schools and reared in the usual manner of farmer lads of the period. On the 30th of March, 1875, he was united in marriage to Miss Alma J. Baldwin, who was born in this county, in 1856, a daughter of Darius and Mary Baldwin, in whose family were six children:

James and William A., both deceased; B. F., who is living in Pueblo, Colorado; L. P., a resident of Vermilion county; and Mrs. Mary Rutherford, of Wichita, Kansas, besides the wife of our subject. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Leach was blessed with the following children: Albert W., now twenty-six years of age, is employed at the Eastern Illinois Hospital for the Insane at Kankakee, Illinois. Richard B., a young man of twenty-four years, is in the government employ at Washington, D. C. Mary E., Nellie C., and Daisy G. are yet under the parental roof. The wife and mother died in 1891, her loss being deeply mourned not only by her immediate family but also by many friends throughout the community. Richard, the son of our subject, was a soldier in the Spanish-American war, serving with the Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

Mr. Leach continued his connection with agricultural pursuits in the county until 1885, when he took up his abode in Humrick. He first worked on a farm and then was employed by a grain company until 1901, when he established his general store in this town. He has since conducted the enterprise with good success and is to-day enjoying a constantly growing trade. He is also the postmaster of the town, having served in that capacity for three terms during the administrations of President Harrison and McKinley. In politics he is a stalwart Republican, earnest and unfaltering in his support of the party. He served as collector of Elwood township for three terms and was road commissioner for one term, and was the first supervisor of Love township. He has also been justice of the peace for two terms and that he is strictly fair and impartial in his rulings is shown by the fact that he has never had a case ap-

pealed from his court. Mr. Leach never had a lawsuit of his own in his life, but has always lived peaceably with his fellow men. His religious faith is indicated by his membership with the Baptist church and fraternally he is connected with the Tribe of Ben Hur. He has a pleasant, comfortable home in Humrick and is a public-spirited, progressive citizen who enjoys the confidence of his neighbors and the esteem of many warm friends.

J. F. BAIRD.

The name of Baird has through long years been closely associated with agricultural interests in Vermilion county and he of whom we write is a representative farmer and successful business man, possessing excellent executive ability, keen discrimination and marked enterprise. He was born in Brown county, Ohio, on the 7th of September, 1852, and is a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Baldwin) Baird, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Kentucky. They were married in the Buckeye state and are represented elsewhere in this work. The father had learned the blacksmith's trade in early life and followed that pursuit in Ohio until 1865, when with his family he came to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county. Here abandoning his trade he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits and is now living upon a farm in Catlin township. He has been three times married and with him resides his third wife. Independent in politics he has never sought or desired the honors and emoluments of office for himself, but has ever been earnest in support of political measures which he

deemed would advance local welfare or national progress.

In the schools of his native county J. Frank Baird of this review obtained his education, pursuing his studies there through the winter months until he was ten years of age, while in the summer seasons he assisted his father in the work upon the farm. After putting aside his text books he gave his entire attention to farm work, first in the employ of others and then in operation of rented land. With the family he came to Vermilion county and on Christmas day of 1877, in Fairmount, was celebrated the marriage of J. Frank Baird and Miss Jessie Fremont Browning, who was born in Danville on the 4th of May, 1857, and is a daughter of George Browning, whose birth occurred in Derbyshire, England. After arriving at years of maturity and in the meantime becoming a resident of America, he was married in Georgetown, Vermilion county, Illinois, to Miss Emily D. Booker, a native of Virginia, and a daughter of James and Ann (Throckmorton) Booker, the former a native of the Old Dominion. A brother of Mrs. Baird's great-grandfather served as a soldier of the Revolutionary war. At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Browning became residents of Danville, where the former engaged in merchandising for two years. They then removed to Fairmount, which was their home until January, 1859. Mrs. Browning then went to Ohio for her health, but in that month died and was buried at Plattsburg near Springfield, Ohio. In 1860 Mr. Browning was again married, his second union being with Miss Mary Reiley, of New Albany, Indiana, a native of Posey county, that state, born February 23, 1838. Her parents, Benjamin and Mary (Dalby)

Reiley, were both natives of England, were married in that country and afterward came to the new world, locating first in Illinois. Subsequently they removed to Ohio and some years later returned to Vermilion county, where Mr. Reiley died July 9, 1897. His widow still survives him and is living in Vance township. By his first marriage Mr. George Browning had three children: Evangeline, Eva and Jessie F., the last named the wife of our subject. By the second marriage there were ten children: Harriett Angeline, the wife of Smiley Baird, a resident of Homer, Illinois, and they have five children: Fannie B., the wife of Joshua Wragg, of Springfield, Ohio; George Harrison, who wedded Alice Cluxton, who with their one child reside in Urbana, Illinois; Albert B., of Gibson City, Illinois, who wedded Lucy Wilson, by whom he has one child; Walter, born in 1872 and died June 9, 1899; Mary B., the wife of J. R. T. Barton, of Jamaica, Illinois, by whom she has one child; Nevina, who is at home; Ruth, who died in 1897, a twin sister of Nevina; J. Oscar, a resident of the state of Washington; and Ethel B., still with her parents.

After his marriage J. F. Baird of this review rented a tract of land which he continued to cultivate for six years. He then purchased the farm upon which he now resides, becoming the owner of one hundred and eighty-five acres, a valuable tract on sections 6 and 7, Vance township. Here he has a splendid residence, good barns, and all the equipments and accessories of a model farm of the twentieth century. He has placed his land under a high state of cultivation and everything about his place is neat and thrifty in appearance, indicating the careful supervision of the owner. The

improvements upon his farm stand as monuments to his enterprise and are substantial evidences of his life of well directed labor.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Baird has been blessed with three children: Earl Ray, who was born October 28, 1878, and assists his father on the farm; Emily Ethel, who was born August 31, 1882, and died August 20, 1884, and Pearl B., who was born November 14, 1885, and is now an accomplished music teacher. The family attend the services of the Baptist church, of which Mr. Baird is a member and fraternally he is connected with the Court of Honor and the Knights of the Globe, while in his political views he is a Republican, unflinching in support of the principles of the party. The greater part of his life has been passed in Vermilion county, where he has gained a wide acquaintance among the best classes of citizens. In his business interests he has prospered and although he started out in life for himself empty handed he has steadily worked his way upward, brooking no obstacles that could be overcome by honest and earnest purpose. Thus he has gained the place of affluence, being to-day classed among the substantial agriculturists of his community.

JOHN L. CHESLEY.

John L. Chesley is one of the owners of the Chesley Brothers Boiler Works of Danville, a business which has become of considerable importance in industrial circles of the city. The men who stand at its head owe their success to their own labors and capable control of their trade, and undoubt-

edly the future holds in store for them further prosperity. John L. Chesley was born in this city May 25, 1860, his parents being Robert V. and Helen Chesley. He attended the public schools, but after his father's death, which occurred in 1872, he began learning the trade of boiler-making in the employ of William F. Button, serving an apprenticeship which covered three or four years. He afterward entered the employ of William Stephens, with whom he remained for a year and then went to Paris, Illinois, and afterward to Decatur. In the latter city he entered the shops of the Wabash Railroad Company, remaining for a year and then returned to Danville, where he embarked in business for himself on West Main street. He had been established in trade there for three years when his brother Charles E. abandoned railroading and entered into partnership with him. Later they purchased the Stephens plant at the junction and established their present business, which is conducted under the firm name of the Chesley Brothers Boiler Works. They manufacture all kinds of boilers, in fact, do everything in the line of iron work, including the construction of wagons and cars for mines, tanks and stacks. The plant is composed of three buildings covering an area of one hundred by one hundred and fifty feet, and it is supplied with all modern equipments, including the latest improved machinery for facilitating the work and making their products durable.

On the 26th of March, 1885, in Danville, Mr. Chesley wedded Miss Eliza Hamnett, who was born in Trenton, New Jersey, August 21, 1864, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Vaughan) Hamnett, the former a native of Lincolnshire, England, and the latter of County Fermanagh, Ireland.

They were married, however, in Trenton, New Jersey. Two sisters of the father survive him and live in England, while the mother's relatives are residents of the Emerald isle. Mr. Hamnett followed the trade of spinning in England and worked in the woolen mills for a time after his arrival in America. Later, however, he turned his attention to farming, which he followed for a few years prior to his marriage and subsequently he became a stationary engineer. In the year 1866 he came with his family to the west, locating in Danville, where he was employed as an engineer by the Danville Foundry & Machine Company until his death, which occurred on the 16th of August, 1869. The mother died the same day, five hours after her husband passed away. He was a Republican in his political views and while he believed firmly in the principles of the party he always refused to hold office. He held membership with the Independent Order of Foresters and he belonged to the Episcopal church. At the time of the Civil war he served for fifteen months as a defender of the Union. He enlisted for three years' service in a New Jersey regiment but the war closed before that time expired. In his early manhood he had been a soldier in the English army and as such had traveled over the greater part of Europe, taking part in several English wars. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Hamnett were five children, of whom two are living: Mrs. Chesley, and Jennie E., the wife of W. J. Withner, a resident of Vermillion Heights.

Mr. Chesley of this review is an earnest Republican and while he is able to support his position by intelligent argument because of his thorough understanding of the questions and issues of the day, he, too, has

always declined to become a candidate for office. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp of Danville, but his attention is chiefly given to his business interests, which make heavy demands upon his time. The Chesley Brothers have gained a creditable standing in business circles in their city and deserve much credit for what they have accomplished, because at an early day they started out in life for themselves, working their way upward through fidelity to duty, earnest purpose and indefatigable energy.

G. M. McCRAY.

G. M. McCray is one of the practical and progressive young farmers of Pilot township, his birth having occurred in 1876, upon the farm which is yet his home. Here he was reared to manhood and in the district schools he pursued his education. His parents are still living in Fithian and the father is a stock dealer and shipper, which business he has followed for many years. In the family are three living children: William, a resident of Oakwood township; G. M.; and Verla, who is still with her parents.

After acquiring his preliminary education in the schools near his boyhood home G. M. McCray entered a business college in Dixon, Illinois, wherein he was graduated and was thus well fitted for the practical duties of a business career. Upon the removal of his parents to Fithian in the year 1896 he assumed the management of the old farm which he is now operating. It belongs to his mother and comprises four hundred acres of rich and arable land which, under his control, is highly cultivated, while

everything about the place is neat and thrifty, indicating his careful supervision. He is a wide-awake young business man and is meeting with creditable success in his work.

In the year 1896 Mr. McCray was united in marriage to Miss Julia Ludwig, a daughter of J. V. Ludwig and unto them have been born two children, of whom one is now living, Marian, an interesting little daughter. In his fraternal relations Mr. McCray is a Mason, belonging to the lodge at Hope, of which he is now serving as secretary. In his political views he is a Republican and keeps well informed on the question and issues of the day but has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to devote his energies to his business interests.



GEORGE WILSON TILTON.

George Wilson Tilton, whose connection with mercantile interests in Vermilion county covers a period longer than that of any other merchant within its borders, is carrying on business in Catlin. He was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, January 8, 1836, and comes of a family of English ancestry that was established in America during the colonial epoch of our nation's history. Most of those, if not all, in the United States bearing the name of Tilton are descended from the three brothers who left their English home to become colonial settlers of this country. Enoch Tilton, the father of our subject, was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, July 22, 1811, and was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Wilson, whose birth occurred on the 12th of January, 1811, and who was of

Irish lineage. A blacksmith by trade the father carried on business along that line in early life, but during the last forty years of his life devoted his time and energies to the work of the ministry as a preacher of the Baptist church in Ripley county, Indiana. He located in that county in 1844, when everything was new, the land unbroken, the forest uncut, and the timber full of various kinds of wild game as well as of wolves and other wild animals. The family endured many of the hardships incident to frontier life. The father served as minister of four congregations in that county and died in 1885, while his wife, who survived him for some years, passed away in Potomac, Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1887, leaving a family of nine sons, of whom the subject of this review was the second in order of birth.

George Wilson Tilton acquired his education in the early schools of Ripley county, Indiana, and in Moorshill College of that state. He afterward engaged in teaching, a profession which he followed for thirteen years, nine of which were spent in Ripley county, one in Missouri and four years in Catlin. He arrived in Vermilion county in 1862 when twenty-six years of age, taking charge of the Catlin school, of which he was a capable and successful teacher until 1866. He then entered the employ of Richard Jones in the capacity of bookkeeper and salesman and afterward entered into partnership with Jacob Sandusky under the firm name of Sandusky & Tilton, a relation that was maintained with mutual pleasure and profit for seven years. On the expiration of that period Mr. Sandusky sold his interest to L. C. Kiger, and the business was then continued under the firm style of Tilton & Kiger, for five years. Our sub-

ject then purchased his partner's interest and has since remained alone in the business. He has carried on his mercantile enterprises at his present location since the 1st of January, 1868, covering a period of more than thirty-four consecutive years. Here he deals in general merchandise, and the fact that many of his patrons have continued with him throughout this entire period is unmistakable proof of his honorable business methods and reliable dealing. He also owns considerable real estate and does not a little business in handling property. He has town property in Catlin and also in Danville and owns a half interest in the business of the firm of Tilton & Son, general merchants of Fairmount. His farm land is all leased to good tenants and the rental therefrom supplies a gratifying income.

Mr. Tilton was united in marriage in Ripley county, Indiana, to Miss Elizabeth Allbright, a native of Ohio, born in 1837. They have three children: Charles Virgil, of Fairmount, is the junior member of the firm of Tilton & Son, general merchants there. He married Nettie Reese of that place, and they have four children: Claude, Nina, Walter, and Julia. Elsie Venus is the wife of A. R. McGregor, a clerk in her father's store. Bertie Victor is the wife of George Catlett, a farmer of Fairmount and they have two children, Shirley and Kent.

In 1863 Mr. Tilton became a member of the Vermilion County Agricultural and Mechanical Association, in which he took a very active part for several years, serving as secretary, as vice president, and for three years as its president. He has been active and influential in public affairs, and for one term served on the county board of supervisors, representing Catlin township. He

has filled all of the township offices and for two terms served under President Cleveland as postmaster. This fact indicates his affiliation with the Democratic party, of which he has long been an earnest advocate. He served on the building committee of the Methodist Episcopal church at the time of the erection of its house of worship in Catlin and well may he be classed among the substantial residents of Catlin and of Vermilion county for he has been closely identified with its growth along material, social, intellectual and moral lines. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he belongs to Catlin Lodge, No. 285, F. & A. M., of which he was the honored master for nine years. He also belongs to the chapter at Danville and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has filled all of the chairs, and both he and his wife are connected with the Rebekah degree. Mr. Tilton possesses considerable literary ability and for thirty years has been a correspondent for the Danville News. His contributions are furnished to the paper under the nom de plume of "Hannah Mariah," and he treats of many subjects, often in a humorous way. He is the author of a number of comic productions and is considered a fluent and able writer as well as a successful business man and a loyal citizen.

ALONZO A. LOUTZENHISER.

Through almost a half century Alonzo A. Loutzenhiser has resided in Danville and although now nearly eighty years of age, he is yet concerned with business interests to some extent, following his trade of shoe-

making. He was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, February 29, 1824, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Trindle) Loutzenhiser, both of whom were natives of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. The father was a miller by trade and removed to Mercer county, Pennsylvania, where he followed that pursuit until he reached old age, after which he and his wife lived among their children until called to their final rest. The father died in Missouri. In their family were nine children: David, Mary and Catherine, all deceased; Jacob, who is a blacksmith by trade but is now living retired in Mercer county, Missouri; Alonzo A.; Catherine and Daniel, both deceased; John, who was assistant quartermaster in the Civil war and was killed in the service; and Helen, who has passed away.

Alonzo A. Loutzenhiser acquired a good education in the schools of Mercer county, Pennsylvania. At the age of nine years he began to learn the tailor's trade, which he followed in his native county until he came west in 1853. Since that time he has resided continuously in Danville and here he followed his trade until 1860, when he was elected to the position of constable, filling that office until after the Civil war began. In July, 1861, he entered another department of his country's service—the military. He joined Company F, of the Fourth Illinois Cavalry under Captain Search and Colonel Dickey. He was made a first lieutenant after having served for a time as second lieutenant. He participated in many important engagements, including the battles of Forts Henry and Donelson, Pittsburg Landing, Vicksburg and Holly Springs. While at Corinth, Mississippi, our subject resigned and was there discharged after thirteen months' service.

For a short time after his return from

the war Mr. Loutzenhiser remained in Danville and then went to Champaign, Illinois, where he remained for a brief period. He next went to Lansing, Iowa, where he began working in the forests, cutting cord wood for steamboats. He was thus engaged until 1868, when he again came to Danville and in 1870 he was elected constable. He also served as bailiff under J. Probst one year, and under Colonel Search, John W. Myers and Ed Gregory for four years each. On his retirement from office he began shoemaking in Danville, which he followed for three years, when he was appointed to a position on the police force and acted in that capacity for four years. In October, 1886, he built his present shoe shop and has since engaged in shoemaking.

Mr. Loutzenhiser has been three times married. He first wedded Miss Mary Lohr, of Kentucky, who died in 1849, of cholera. He afterward wedded Miss Sophia Day, of Ohio, who died in Homer, Illinois, in 1853. For his third wife he chose Miss Eliza W. Weir, of Massachusetts. She is of Scotch descent and now resides with our subject in Danville. By the first marriage there were two children: Sarah, now the wife of C. C. Bates, a resident of Decorah, Iowa; and Nettie, now the wife of a Mr. Clements, of San Francisco, California. There was one child by the second marriage: Retta, who was the wife of Benjamin Kirtly, and died in 1901. The children born of the third marriage are: Charles, a paper hanger now living in Chicago; and Lott A., a conductor on the Illinois Central Railroad, living in New Orleans.

Mr. Loutzenhiser voted with the Democratic party until 1900, but is now a staunch Republican. Besides holding the offices mentioned above, he served as police magistrate in New Westville, Ohio, for four years.

and was also township clerk for four years, while for a similar period he served as a member of the school board of Danville. He owns a nice residence at No. 306 Chandler street and his shoe shop is on the same lot. He is also the owner of other property in this city, having made judicious investments in real estate. He is largely living retired from active business, but indolence is utterly foreign to his nature and he keeps his shop in order "to have something to do." He is now nearly eighty years of age, a hale and hearty old man, having never been confined to his bed by sickness throughout his entire life. Nature is kind to those who oppose not her laws and Mr. Loutzenhiser has always lived in harmony with the principles of health and of right living. While in Ohio he served as superintendent of a Methodist Sunday-school and addressed many meetings.

ISAAC A. LOVE.

Undaunted by obstacles that would have discouraged many a man of less resolute spirit, from a humble position Isaac A. Love has arisen to prominence. When opportunities have presented themselves he has quickly utilized them, when there has seemed to be no opportunity he has made one. He realized fully that there is no royal road to wealth or learning, but with stout heart he started upon the upward path and though the road has oftentimes been a rugged one, he has now reached the plane of affluence and is accorded recognition as one of the most capable members of the Danville bar, where he has practiced for eight years.

Mr. Love was born in the north of Ireland, May 16, 1855 and is of Scotch-Irish

parentage. His father, Washington Love, was a farmer and fisherman who came to America when our subject was but five years of age, locating in Brooklyn, New York, where he remained for three years. He then removed to Columbiana county, Ohio, where he engaged in farming. He and his wife are still living in that state, the former at the age of eighty years, the latter at the age of seventy-six. In their family were nine children, Isaac being the fifth in order of birth.

Isaac A. Love first attended school in Brooklyn and later resumed his studies in Columbiana county, Ohio, but when only ten years of age he began working in the coal mines. His father having suffered financial reverses in Brooklyn, the sons all secured employment in the mines after the removal to Ohio and though our subject was but a youth of ten years he began bailing water with a bucket that was higher than his head. Later he became a mule driver and finally engaged in mining the coal. Although thus prevented from attending school he was anxious to improve his education and as he found opportunity he studied and recited to a lady at night. A laudable ambition to attain something better has ever been one of his strong characteristics and setting his mark high he has eagerly embraced every opportunity for raising himself to its level. When he was thirteen years of age he chanced to see one of Dr. Chase's recipe books in which was a cut of Ann Arbor University, showing the law department. At that moment he determined to become a lawyer and never for a moment did he waver in his purpose.

When he was seventeen years of age and a resident of Washingtonville, Ohio, J. C. Ryan of that place invited Mr. Love

to study law with him. In order to accept this offer he attended the public school in the mornings, worked in the mines in the afternoon, doing a full day's work, and after supper he studied until nine o'clock. At the end of a year Mr. Ryan concluded that Mr. Love was taxing his strength too severely and persuaded his father to let Isaac live with him, which consent was granted and Mr. Love then lived with his preceptor for two years. When he was twenty years of age he was admitted to the bar. During the two years just passed he had also attended the public schools and had completed the high school course. After his admission to the bar, realizing that he was deficient in literary knowledge, he engaged in teaching school for two years and the money thus earned was used to defray his expenses as a student in Mount Union College, near Alliance, Ohio. He was afterward elected principal of the Lafayette school, of South Bend, Indiana, although but twenty-two years of age. He remained there for a year and then opened a law office in La Porte, Indiana, where he practiced for six years with success, being a part of that time a member of the law firm of Love & Thomas. Shortly after his admission to the bar he and his brother had formed a partnership, but soon agreed that they were too young to begin business together. While in La Porte Mr. Love was twice the candidate of the Republican party for the position of states attorney, but the Democracy had an overwhelming majority in that district. During his second candidacy he made speeches for the congressional candidate, who had no oratorical ability, delivering altogether fifty-seven addresses, many times speaking twice a day.

About that time many people were re-

moving to Kansas and Mr. Love decided to seek a home in the west, locating in Anthony, Harper county, Kansas, where he became the senior member of the firm of Love & Snelling. There he remained for ten years and during the first six years he never lost a jury trial. In 1890 he was nominated by the Republicans for district judge, but the Populistic wave swept over the state and not a Republican candidate was elected in Kansas. In 1894 he came to Danville and shortly afterward entered into partnership with W. R. Jewell, Jr., a relationship that has since been continued. In 1891 he was admitted to practice before the United States supreme court. He is well versed in the principles of jurisprudence and reading is continually broadening his knowledge. His preparation of cases is thorough and exhaustive, and he has an ambition which nothing short of success will satisfy if it can be won through open, honorable methods. He has, however, great respect for the dignity of his calling, and will never win a case if it must be done by debasing himself, lowering the standard of public morality or degrading the dignity of the profession.

Mr. Love was married in 1891 to Miss Hattie Boggs, a daughter of B. F. Boggs, of Urbana, a lady of superior culture and innate refinement, who has won the degree of Master of Arts from the University of Illinois. In their family there are six children, a son and five daughters. Fraternally Mr. Love is connected with the Masonic order, belonging to the blue lodge and chapter. In politics he has always been a stalwart Republican and in 1888 was a delegate to the national convention which nominated Benjamin Harrison for the presidency. For a long time he has been an interested

worker and zealous member in the Methodist Episcopal church. For a number of years he has been the superintendent of the Sunday-school of the First Methodist Episcopal church, of Danville, and in 1900 was sent by the Illinois conference to the general conference of the church in Chicago. Love township, this county, was named in his honor. It will thus be seen that his development has not been along one line, producing abnormal growth, but has been that of natural advancement, that the physical, intellectual and moral have been given due attention and that his strong manhood is the outcome of a sound mind in a sound body and action added by high moral purpose.

JOSEPH BAILEY.

The ancestral history of Joseph Bailey is one which traces back to a very early epoch in the annals of this country. Among the first families to establish homes in Essex county, Massachusetts, were the Baileys, and for many years representatives of the name have there resided, being connected with agricultural pursuits. Lieutenant Thomas Bailey, the great-great-grandfather of our subject, received a commission from King George the Second, of England, in 1732, and this commission, now framed, hangs on a wall in the home of our subject. Many other cherished heirlooms handed down through generations are also possessed by Mr. Bailey, a number of these being more than two hundred years old. Jeremiah Bailey, the great-grandfather of our subject, was a native of Massachusetts, and his son, Benjamin Bailey, was born in Essex county, that state and became the grandfather of our subject. Captain John

Bailey, the father of our subject, was born in Essex county and throughout his entire life carried on farming there. The old family homestead upon which he lived came into possession of his son Joseph but has since been sold. The father was a captain in the militia and expected to go to the war in 1812 but was never called out to active service. He died upon the old homestead after which his widow came to Georgetown, Illinois, with our subject and there spent her last days. She bore the maiden name of Abigail Cross and was also a native of Essex county. In the family were nine children: Daniel, John, Mehitabel, William, Joseph, Abigail, Charles Wesley, Lois Ann and Emily. The three now living are Joseph, of this review; Abigail, who resides in Salem, New Hampshire; and Emily, the widow of John B. Alexander, who was a prominent resident of Danville. She now resides in Salem, Oregon. The children all enjoyed educational privileges in the schools of Massachusetts.

Joseph Bailey, whose name introduces this sketch, was born in Essex county, August 16, 1820, and throughout the period of his youth remained upon the home farm assisting in the labor of field and meadow. When he left the east about 1845 he made his way direct to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling in Georgetown, where his brother was serving as postmaster, and here began his business career as a clerk in a small store, receiving six dollars per month in compensation for his services. He followed clerking for three years or until his marriage, which occurred May 4, 1852, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah Ann Braehall, who was born in Georgetown, December 4, 1833, a daughter of Martin and Elizabeth (Smith) Braehall. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania, became one of the



JOSEPH BAILEY.



MRS. JOSEPH BAILEY.

first settlers of Vermilion county and at the time of the Black Hawk war joined the troops that were engaged in suppressing the Indian uprising. By trade he was a tailor and followed that pursuit in Georgetown from the time of his arrival in the west until his life's labors were ended in death. He died at Danville.

After his marriage Mr. Bailey entered into partnership with a brother and embarked in general merchandising in Georgetown under the firm name of W. B. and J. Bailey. He continued in that enterprise for several years and then went to Indianola, this county, entering into partnership with Mr. Sconce, under the firm name of Bailey & Sconce, dealers in merchandise. For three years the business was there carried on, after which Mr. Bailey purchased a farm near Georgetown, where he carried on agricultural pursuits and stock-raising for five years, but there he suffered heavy losses by fire which destroyed his home and other buildings around the place. He then returned to Georgetown, wishing to give his children the benefit of the educational privileges afforded by the schools there, and for several years remained a resident of that place. During that period he owned an interest with John Hall in the lumber business at Tuscola, Illinois, and Kansas City, Missouri, where Mr. Hall removed. He was also a partner with Mr. Brachall, the merchant tailor of Danville, for years. At the same time he engaged in dealing in land, owning realty in Kansas, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Indiana and Illinois. Mr. Bailey has displayed marked foresight in making his investments and upon many of his farms he has realized handsomely. In 1870 he became one of a company that was organized to build the Paris & Danville railroad, Hiram Sanford, of Paris, Illinois,

becoming the president, while Mr. Bailey was one of the directors. But the company failed and through this disaster Mr. Bailey met with great loss. The road is now owned by the Big Four Company. Until 1888 our subject lived retired in Georgetown and then removed to Kansas City, Missouri, but remained for only four months in that place, returning to Vermilion county on account of his wife's health. He then settled in Danville, where he has since lived retired.

On the 10th of May, 1888, Mr. Bailey was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife who on that date departed this life leaving four children. Edward Everett, the eldest, is now serving as United States consul at Ensenada, Mexico. Sarah Elizabeth, born June 2, 1855, is the wife of Jesse C. Moore, who for several years was connected with Rand, McNally & Company of Chicago, and is now Indian agent of Parker, Arizona, but continues to make his home in Danville and with them Mr. Bailey is living. Martin B., a prominent citizen, born January 22, 1857, married Lucie Payne and is a leading attorney and the present mayor of Danville, as well as state senator from his district. Josephine, born August 31, 1875, now resides in Boston. Mrs. Bailey, the wife of our subject, was a woman of more than ordinary ability, and at the age of four years could read with accuracy. She graduated in the Georgetown Seminary and attended a Quaker institution at Bloomingdale, Indiana, and there completed her education. She was an earnest Christian woman, attending the Methodist church after marriage, although reared a Quaker. Mr. Bailey served as township supervisor of Georgetown township for three years, but has never been an active politician in the sense of office seeking. His

political support has been given to the Republican party since its organization and he has long been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He was one of the leading singers in the church of Georgetown at an early day. Throughout Vermilion county he has a wide acquaintance and he is numbered among the early settlers, for through fifty-eight years he has resided here. In his business affairs, owing to his keen sagacity and his enterprise he has prospered. Some reverses have come to him, but with determined energy he has largely overcome the obstacles and difficulties in his path and to-day he is the possessor of a handsome competence.

ALONZO B. BENJAMIN.

Alonzo B. Benjamin has been connected with the music trade of Danville since 1876 and is now the president of the Benjamin Temple of Music, the largest store of its kind in the state outside of Chicago. He has been the builder and promoter of this enterprise and is classed among the leading representatives of commercial interests in eastern Illinois, earnest labor, persistency of purpose and sound judgment being the sure foundation upon which he has builded his success.

Mr. Benjamin was born in Peoria county, Illinois, July 3, 1849, a son of John and Levira (Hitchcock) Benjamin, both born in New York. John Benjamin was a farmer and followed that occupation throughout his entire life. In 1832 he came to Illinois, casting in his lot with the pioneers of the state. He settled in Peoria county, where he began the development of a new

farm, which he transformed into a valuable property, being very successful in his chosen work. He kept buying and improving land until he owned a fine property of sixteen hundred acres. He was also an inventor of considerable merit, inventing the first cultivator plowing a row of corn. It was then called the Shanghai plow. He also invented a corn planter which dropped a double row. This was a decided improvement over the machinery of that time, but unfortunately he never patented it. He was a very enterprising and progressive man and he did much for the improvement of his section of the state. He built the first brick house in his locality and for many years it was considered a land-mark by travelers. He and his wife were members of the Baptist church and were prominent pioneer people, Mr. Benjamin leaving the impress of his individuality upon many lines of public progress and improvement. He died in 1863, at about the age of sixty-two years, and his widow, surviving him until 1883, passed away at the age of seventy-four years. Unto them were born seven children: R. J., an old resident and retired merchant, who is now an attorney and justice of the peace of Princeville; Truman and Edwin, who died in infancy; J. H., a retired farmer of Winfield, Kansas; M. W., who is engaged in the music business in Boone, Iowa; Harriet L., the widow of J. S. Barnum, and a resident of Chicago; and Alonzo Bushnell Benjamin.

In the schools of the city and county of Peoria Mr. Benjamin of this review pursued his early education and afterward prepared for commercial life in a business college, continuing his studies until twenty-one years of age. On putting aside his text-books he became a music dealer of

Princeville, whence he removed to Danville in 1876. He then opened his present establishment as a branch house for Lyon & Healy, of Chicago, whom he thus represented for seventeen years, under the name of the Benjamin Temple of Music. He began business on West Main street, in the old Hubb block, and in 1882 removed to the Palmer block, where he remained until 1901, when he secured the fine building at Nos. 30 and 32 North Vermilion street. It is a three-story structure, twenty-seven by one hundred and fifty feet, and each floor is occupied by the Benjamin Temple of Music, being well equipped and splendidly stocked with musical instruments of all descriptions. Mr. Benjamin makes a specialty of the Everett piano but carries altogether fourteen different makes and five different makes of organs, together with piano players—the angulus and appollo—and musical merchandise of every description. The store is now the largest of the kind in the state outside of Chicago. Mr. Benjamin, in partnership with C. E. Swift, became the owner of the store in 1893, and this relation was maintained until October, 1902, when Mr. Swift sold his interest to F. J. Lovell, the son-in-law of Mr. Benjamin, and formerly of the Lyon & Healy house of Chicago, with which he had been identified for twenty years. The other partner in the enterprise is F. A. Benjamin, a nephew. On the 2d of November, 1902, the business was incorporated under the name of the Benjamin Temple of Music and capitalized for twenty thousand dollars. The officers are A. B. Benjamin, president; F. A. Benjamin, vice president; and F. J. Lovell, secretary and treasurer.

On the 10th of June, 1872, Alonzo B. Benjamin was married to Miss Angie Cook,

a daughter of T. G. Cook, a prominent farmer and early settler of Knox county, Illinois, now living retired in Galesburg. He wedded Miss Susan E. Wilder, who belonged to one of the leading families of that locality. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin have been born four children: Susan L., the wife of F. J. Lovell, and the mother of one son, Ralph B. Lovell; Roy A., who wedded Miss Bessie, daughter of W. M. Jeremy, a grocer of Danville; Ruby Adona, a student in the Danville schools; and Horace Victor.

In Peoria county, when twenty-one years of age, Mr. Benjamin joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has filled all the chairs in the local organization and encampment. He has been patriarch militant, and adjutant and is now holding the rank of captain. He is also connected with the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Court of Honor, the National Union and Red Men. For two years he has served as alderman of Danville and anything calculated to benefit the city elicits his attention and co-operation. In business circles he ranks high and is notable for his promptness in meeting obligations and for his reliability in all trade transactions.

G. W. BAIRD.

G. W. Baird is a substantial farmer and stock-raiser of Vance township, owning therein three hundred and fifty-nine acres of land, besides valuable property in Fairmount, Vermilion county, Illinois. He was born in Brown county, Ohio, October 18,

1851, and is a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Baldwin) Baird, the former a native of Ohio and the latter born in Kentucky. They were married in Kentucky and located in Ohio, where Joseph Baird followed blacksmithing, in Brown county. They came to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1889 and located on a farm in Vance township. In 1897 they removed to Catlin township. The mother died in 1857 and two years later Mr. Baird married again, his second union being with Miss Wyckoff. She died in 1860 and in 1863 Mr. Baird was united in marriage to Mary Neal, who is now living with her husband in Catlin township. He is a Democrat in his political views. G. W. Baird of this review has two brothers and one half brother living. Frank resides on a farm in Vance township. John S. resides on a farm in Homer township, Champaign county, Illinois. Mr. Baird's half-brother, Samuel, resides with his father in Catlin township.

Mr. Baird of this review attended the district schools of Brown county, Ohio, but his educational privileges were quite limited. However, by reading, experience and observation he has since broadened his knowledge and is now a well informed man. He came to Vance township, Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1860, afterward purchased land for himself and has since been engaged in farming and stock-raising, in which occupation he has been very successful. This is because he never neglects a duty and is energetic and progressive. Besides his large farm of three hundred and twenty acres he owns city property and a splendid home in Fairmount. In that city, on the 1st of January, 1871, he was united in marriage to Miss Lydia E. Davis, who was born in Vermilion county, Illinois,

May 23, 1852. She is a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Hays) Davis. William Davis was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, January 25, 1811. His father was born in Pennsylvania, September 20, 1781, and died in 1855, while his wife was born June 3, 1785, and died in November, 1848. They were among the early settlers of Vermilion county, Illinois, having come from Ohio in 1834. The father of William Davis took part in the war of 1812 and his grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. William Davis came from Guernsey county, Ohio, to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1834 and located on a farm. He was twice married, his first union being with Elizabeth Hays, the mother of Mrs. Baird. This marriage took place on the 17th of September, 1834. She was a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania, was born in 1811 and departed this life in 1861. For his second wife Mr. Davis chose Mary Catlett, the marriage ceremony being performed in 1863. She was a native of Virginia, born August 23, 1821. She died in 1890 and Mr. Davis passed away on his eighty-fourth birthday, January 23, 1895. He was a member of the Baptist church and in politics was a Democrat. He was the father of seven children: Rachel is the widow of D. Roundbush, and resides in Portland, Oregon; Edith, now deceased, became the wife of B. Browning, and resided in Los Angeles, California; David C. resides in Fancher, Shelby county, Illinois; Henry resides in Fairmount, Illinois; Jemima is the wife of S. Cox, and resides in Bement, Illinois; William F. is deceased; and Lydia is the wife of our subject.

Mr. and Mrs. Baird have three living children: Harry D., born August 3, 1873; Jennie G., born September 2, 1884; and

Opal S., born May 28, 1888, all with their parents. They have two children deceased, one who died in infancy and Nellie M. Mr. Baird is a member of the Baptist church, and fraternally is connected with the Knights of the Globe and the Court of Honor. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat. He and his wife are valued citizens of Fairmount, where they are honored and respected by all who know them.

CAPTAIN G. W. HOLLOWAY.

Captain G. W. Holloway is an honored veteran of the Civil war, whose title was won by meritorious conduct on the field of battle in defense of the Union. He has been a resident of Vermilion county since November 7, 1835. His birth occurred in Berkeley county, West Virginia, February 22, 1823, his parents being Jesse and Susan (Roach) Holloway. The father was born in Stafford county, Virginia, and in Baltimore wedded Miss Roach. He then established his home in Berkeley county, West Virginia, where he engaged in farming until 1835, when he removed with his family to Vermilion county, Illinois. He entered land in the McKindree neighborhood, securing one hundred and sixty acres on section 21, Georgetown township, where he carried on agricultural pursuits throughout his remaining days. This quarter was the last government land in this vicinity. Mr. Holloway was a Whig in politics and in religious faith his wife was a Methodist. His death occurred July 2, 1854. Of their six children one died in infancy and Isabella died in 1845. The others are G. W.; John, who died October 23, 1844; and Eliza, who

resides with her brother, Jesse, who is married and lives in Oklahoma.

Captain Holloway was a lad of twelve years when he accompanied his parents to this county and here he was reared upon the home farm. In the spring of 1853 he entered into partnership in a general mercantile business with Elam Henderson and after about one year his brother, Jesse, also became a member of the firm, which was known as Henderson & Holloway. This partnership was maintained for twenty years, when they sold out and soon afterward Mr. Henderson died. From 1874 until 1889 Captain Holloway carried on general merchandising alone and since that time has lived retired. He was known as one of the reliable, enterprising merchants of his locality and in the conduct of his business affairs he met with honorable and gratifying success.

On the 17th of January, 1855, the Captain married Miss Sophia M., a daughter of Jesse and Sophia (McCullough) Lyons, both of whom were natives of Massachusetts. Her father was married three times, and died in the Bay state, after which the mother of Mrs. Holloway came to Clinton, Indiana, and soon removed to Urbana, Illinois. Mrs. Holloway is the youngest of twenty children, and by her marriage she became the mother of six children. The fourth child died in 1864 at the age of seventeen months. Jesse L. died August 21, 1901. He had been a railroad conductor for several years and was stricken with apoplexy while on duty. Belle, the eldest, is the wife of David Webb, a real-estate dealer at Danville. George was for fifteen years a railway mail clerk and was then promoted to the position of postoffice inspector, in which capacity he has served for several

years, with headquarters in Chicago. Rose is the wife of John R. Thompson, a prominent business man in Chicago. Abby is now at home.

At the time of the Civil war Captain Holloway was aroused by patriotic impulses to enter the government service, enlisting August 6, 1862, in the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry under Colonel Harmon. He was mustered into service on the 3d of September and became captain of Company D. On the 13th of September the company proceeded by rail to Cincinnati, thence to Louisville by boat and from that point started after Bragg, meeting the enemy in battle at Perryville. Later the regiment went to Nashville, where it remained through the winter, doing post duty. Later it was sent to Chattanooga and with his command Captain Holloway participated in the battles of Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek and Jonesboro. The following winter was spent at Chattanooga, and in the spring of 1864 he started on the Sherman campaign. He marched into Atlanta on the 4th of September, there remaining until November. With Sherman's command he then started for Savannah, the troops arriving on the 11th of December, 1864. In the following January they went to Goldsboro, North Carolina, Averasboro and Bentonville, where there was a battle in which the Union forces lost twelve hundred men. They then proceeded to Raleigh, North Carolina, and on the way learned of Lee's surrender. They were then encamped at Raleigh until Johnston's surrender, after which they marched to Richmond and on to Washington, participating in the grand review at that city on the 25th of May, 1865. With his regiment Captain Holloway was

mustered out and sent to Chicago to be paid off, having received no pay since the 15th of the previous November.

On the 3d of July, 1865, Captain Holloway returned home. During his absence his brother Jesse and Mr. Henderson had conducted the mercantile business and after his return the firm purchased the flourmill in Georgetown, which our subject conducted for six years. He is a Republican, having supported the party from its organization and in 1844 he voted for Henry Clay. He takes much interest in securing good government and is a friend of all public measures tending to promote the general good. Several times he has served as township collector. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His wife, who also belonged and was active in all lines of church work, died July 7, 1901. The Captain belongs to Keyger Post, No. 204, G. A. R., of Georgetown. The regiment to which he belonged held a re-union on the 3d of September, 1902, the anniversary of its muster into service. In his business affairs Captain Holloway has been quite successful, and to-day he owns a pleasant home and valuable farming land which he rents.

LE ROY JONES, M. D.

In March, 1895, Dr. LeRoy Jones, located in Hoopeston, where he has since engaged in the practice of his profession with excellent success, having already gained a reputation which many an older physician might well envy. He was born in Milford, Iroquois county, Illinois, in 1863, a son of Henry and Sarah E. (Jones) Jones. His parents removed to Pettis county, Missouri,

when the subject of this review was but four years of age, and the father has since carried on farming there. Both he and his wife are still living in Missouri and they reared a family of seven children, six of whom are yet living.

Dr. Jones of this review spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the old family homestead in Pettis county, and pursued his literary education in the public schools and in Westminster College at Fulton, Missouri, where he pursued a collegiate course. Determining to make the practice of medicine his life work he began preparation for this calling as a student in the medical college at St. Louis, Missouri, in which he was graduated with the class of 1888. He entered upon practice in Greenbridge, Missouri, where he remained for two years and then removed to Indiana, settling at Pine Village, where he practiced for four years. On the expiration of that period he came to Hoopeston in March, 1895, and has remained here continuously since.

In July, 1902, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Dr. Jones was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Van Ness Phelps, a native of Michigan, and they have a pleasant home in Hoopeston, while the hospitality of many of the best residents here is extended to them. They hold membership in the First Presbyterian church, taking an active interest in this work and the Doctor is serving as chorister and as a teacher and assistant superintendent in the Sunday-school. In politics he is a Democrat and is now serving as a member of the board of health of Hoopeston. In the line of his profession he is connected with the Tri-County Medical Society and the Illinois State Medical Society and his reading in the line of his

chosen work has been broad and comprehensive, making him well informed. His office located in the McFerren's Block was destroyed by fire when that building was swept away and now he has new and modern furnishings of the latest approved patterns in his office. He has won the public confidence through the display of his skill and ability in handling many important cases, and now has a liberal and well merited patronage.

MRS. FRANCES RUSLING.

Mrs. Frances Rusling, who resides at No. 405 Cherry street, in Danville, is a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Benton and Frances Smith, both of whom are natives of Ohio, although they resided during the greater part of their lives in Spencer county, Indiana, where both passey away. Their daughter, Frances Smith, gave her hand in marriage to John Oliver, an agriculturist, who carried on farming near Danville and died in this county. Later she gave her hand in marriage to Henry Payne, who was widely and favorably known in this city. He was born in Vermont and came to Danville about 1875, having in the meantime, however, resided in Lafayette, Indiana. There he was first married, his wife being Miss Gillen, who died in Danville. After removing to this city Mr. Payne was employed as a brakeman on the Wabash Railroad and subsequently he followed gardening until his marriage to Mrs. Rusling. He then lived retired until his death, which occurred on the 6th of March, 1901. In July, 1902, Mrs. Rusling married her present husband, George R. Rusling, who is a na-

tive of England, and was a sailor on the Atlantic ocean for several years. In 1860 he took up his abode in America and when the Civil war broke out he enlisted for service in Company E, Twentieth Indiana Infantry, in 1861. He participated in the following engagements: Hatteras Island, battle of the Wilderness, Yorktown, Virginia; Petersburg, Virginia, and all through the eastern campaign. He was wounded in the Wilderness, losing two fingers, and after the war he turned his attention to farming, which he followed in the south for a few years. He then came to Danville, where he has since lived retired. He owns, however, a large farm in Alabama and was very successful in his agricultural pursuits, acquiring a richly merited competence through his successful control of his farming interests. Mrs. Rusling is a member of the First Church of Christ of Danville. She owns a nice little home at No. 405 Cherry street and is well known in this city, where she has resided for many years, her many womanly qualities and kindness of heart gaining for her the friendship of a large number of those with whom she has come in contact.

LEWIS M. THOMPSON.

From the days of his infancy down to the present Lewis M. Thompson has been a resident of Vermilion county. This covers the period of a boyhood spent amid frontier conditions, the period of mature manhood devoted to agricultural pursuits when the county had become possessed of modern improvements and the comforts of civilization, and the period of the later-day progress in which he is now living retired

from further labor—a man of seventy-four years, respected and honored because of a life of industry, integrity and uprightness.

Mr. Thompson was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, in 1829, a son of John and Esther (Payne) Thompson. The father was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, in 1797, and was of Irish descent. In his early life he engaged in teaching school and was a well informed man, but during the greater part of his business career he made farming his principal occupation, although to some extent he dealt in real estate. About 1823, in Dearborn county, Indiana, he married Esther Payne, and in 1830 they came to this county, settling near Danville, where Mr. Thompson became the owner of three hundred acres of land, a part of which he secured from the government. This was all unbroken, not a furrow having been turned upon the tract, and his labors brought the place under a high state of cultivation, transforming it into a valuable farm. The first house on the place was a log cabin, which was occupied by the family until 1844, when a two story frame structure was erected. It stood until 1902, when a handsome residence was built by a son of our subject. This land has been in possession of the family continuously since 1830. John Thompson was a man of more than ordinary capability and he took an active part in the early settlement and development of the county. He also acquired considerable property, his labors being rewarded with success. In politics he was a Whig and at one time served as county commissioner. He was also one of the charter members of the Danville Lodge of Masons and filled many offices therein. Both he and his wife attended the Methodist church. He died in 1861, at the age of



L. M. THOMPSON.

sixty-five years, and her death occurred in Danville, in 1869, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. Both were laid to rest in the Danville cemetery. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom four died in infancy, while eight reached years of maturity, namely: Melissa, Martha, Lewis, S. D., Philander, Mary, Harriet and John, and of these four are now living.

In the district schools of Vermilion county Lewis M. Thompson was educated and amid the scenes of pioneer life he was reared. He assisted his father in the work of the home farm up to the time of his marriage, which occurred August 17, 1848, Miss Judith Ann Burroughs becoming his wife. She was a native of Ripley county, Indiana, and by her marriage became the mother of eight children. Viola, the eldest, is the wife of W. H. Chamberlain, who is a professor in the schools of Chicago; Mary A. is the wife of Hon. Charles A. Allen, J. G. Thompson, who was graduated in the law department of the State University of Michigan, in the class of 1881, became identified in practice with W. R. Lawrence. He was appointed and served for one term as prosecuting attorney and on the expiration of that service was elected county judge, when only twenty-seven years of age. Later he was appointed assistant United States attorney general by President McKinley and has since remained in that position, which his legal learning and marked ability well qualify him to fill. Esther is the wife of A. P. Green, a leading business man of Attica. Lena is the wife of A. E. Ray, a prominent shoe dealer of Attica. Harriet is the wife of J. W. Morrow, a prominent druggist of Danville. The other two children have passed away, and the mother is also deceased. In 1891 Mr. Thompson was again married, his second

union being with Mrs. Belle Bales, a daughter of John Newlin, a pioneer of this county, who resided near Georgetown. He was a saddler and followed his trade for many years. He also served as postmaster and justice of the peace through a long period and was an influential citizen of his locality. A native of North Carolina, born in 1813, he came to Danville in 1830 and was therefore one of the early settlers. For his first wife he married Asenath Henderson and his second wife was Verona Newlin, who became the mother of Mrs. Thompson. He was also married a third time. The parents of Mrs. Thompson were earnest Christian people and the father belonged to the Society of Friends or Quakers and the mother to the Methodist church. His death occurred in Danville, in 1879, when he was seventy-five years of age. The daughter, Belle, was first married to C. P. Bales, and they had two children: LeRoy, who is head nurse in the Insane Hospital at Kankakee, Illinois; and Elwood, an operator on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad.

Mr. Thompson made his first purchase of land in 1848, becoming owner of a tract of one hundred and sixty acres near Rossville. This was all raw and unimproved, but he placed it under a high state of cultivation, erected excellent buildings and reared his children upon the farm which he there developed. At one time he owned seven hundred acres, constituting a very valuable property, but during the financial panic of 1873, because of his endorsement of paper for others, he suffered a loss of ten thousand dollars. He now has about one hundred acres in Vermilion county and a half section in Fulton county, Indiana, and he likewise owns property in Rossville, where he is now living retired. Mr. Thompson is a charter member of Rossville Lodge.

I. O. O. F., which was organized in 1858. In his political views he is a Republican and in religious faith his wife is a Methodist. He has served as assessor, collector and in other township offices, and has ever been observant of his duties of citizenship, fully meeting every obligation which thus devolves upon him and putting forth effective effort for the welfare and progress of the county which has been his home through more than three score years and ten. He is to-day one of the oldest settlers of this locality and his mind carries the impress of the early annals of this section of the state as well as the history of its later-day progress and improvement.

D. C. BRANDON.

D. C. Brandon is a prosperous farmer and one well and favorably known in Vermillion county. In the years of an active business career his course has ever been honorable and upright and his energy and indefatigable industry have brought to him creditable and gratifying success. He was born in Jefferson, Indiana, February 16, 1854, and is a son of Robert Brandon, a native of Pennsylvania. The grandfather, John Brandon, was born in Virginia and came of a family of Scotch-Irish descent. By his marriage he had two sons and four daughters, and three of the daughters are now living, namely: Henrietta, the wife of Nicholas Manville, of Indianapolis; Elizabeth, the wife of Cahill Monroe, of Oakwood township; and Susan, the wife of Edward Bair of Madison, Indiana. After arriving at years of maturity Robert Brandon wedded Mary Gordon, a relative of the fa-

mous General Gordon, and a native of the Hoosier state. Her father was James Gordon, a representative of a family prominently and honorably identified with important affairs throughout the history of America. Mr. and Mrs. Brandon were married in Indiana and there the father of our subject engaged in farming. He purchased and operated a tract of land in Jefferson county and is now living a retired life in Madison, Indiana, having in the years of his former toil acquired a competence which enables him to rest from further labor. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat, and has held a number of county and township offices. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and his life has ever been in consistent harmony with its principles. In 1899 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. One of their sons, George Brandon, enlisted in the Thirty-sixth Indiana Infantry during the Civil war and served for three years and three months. He then entered the regular army, serving for three years, and later he was killed in a railroad accident. John Brandon, another brother of our subject, went to the Civil war as a substitute for his father and served until the close of hostilities. In the family were nine children: John, who wedded Mary Taylor, by whom he has two children, resides in Madison, Indiana. George died at the age of twenty-eight years. Eb, who wedded Emma Smith and has one child, is living in Sidell township. Lee died at the age of twenty-six years. Nancy is the wife of William Driggs, of Madison, Indiana, and has six children. D. C. is the next younger. Maria is the wife of Arch Fagg, of Madison, Indiana, and has one son and five daughters. Louvania is the wife of William Kestler of Madison,

Indiana, and they have two children. Ida the wife of James McCance, of Madison, Indiana, has one child.

D. C. Brandon pursued his education in the schools of Jefferson county, Indiana, working upon the home farm through the summer months while in the winter season he was a student. He left school, however, at the age of seventeen years and after that gave his entire attention to the task of cultivating his father's land. In 1872 he came to Illinois, locating in Westville, Vermilion county, where he first worked by the month as a farm hand. He then rented the Turner Momen farm in Vance township and about this time he was married and established a home of his own. It was on the 20th of September, 1876, in Danville, that Mr. Brandon wedded Mary Jane Forein, who was born in Vermilion county, July 20, 1854, a daughter of Dennis Forein, whose birth occurred in county Cork, Ireland. His father also bore the name of Dennis Forein, and was a native of the Emerald Isle. The father of Mrs. Brandon was united in marriage to Margaret Clifton, a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Thomas Clifton, who was likewise born in the Buckeye state and whose family numbered seven children. Mr. Forein was a farmer by occupation and in the year 1862 came to Vermilion county, where for three years he rented land. He then purchased a farm in Catlin township, making it his home until his death, which occurred August 2, 1895. He was a communicant of the Catholic church, and was buried in the Catholic cemetery at Danville. His widow is now living on the old homestead in Catlin township. In the family were five children: Mrs. Brandon; Elizabeth, the wife of William Mann of Blue Mound, Catlin

township, by whom she has five children; Katie, the wife of Edward Boyle, of Catlin township, by whom she has nine children; Dennis, who married Miss M. Soevers, by whom she has three sons, and also lives in Catlin township; and Hannah, the wife of Elijah Sowers, of the same township, by whom she has one child.

After his marriage Mr. Brandon located on the Turner Momen farm, where he lived for a year and then removed to the Pratt farm of forty acres, on which he lived for two years. His next home was on the William Davis farm, where he resided for ten years. In 1887 he purchased the Douglas farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on section 17 in Vance township, and three years later he bought forty acres on section 19. This property he has improved and to-day it is a very valuable farm. In 1901 he built a splendid residence, in Queen Anne style, at a cost of thirty-five hundred dollars, and he now has one of the best equipped farms in Vermilion county.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Brandon has been blessed with nine children, all of whom are still under the parental roof, namely: Robert E., who was born June 1, 1877; Albert, born September 21, 1881; Edward, born October 25, 1882; Stella, born January 6, 1886; Herman, born January 17, 1888; Ralph, born February 1, 1890; Mary, born February 5, 1893; David, born June 30, 1897; and Mildred, who was born April 8, 1901.

In his political views Mr. Brandon is a Democrat and keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He has served as road commissioner and school director, and fraternally he is connected with the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America. He also belongs to the

Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is now serving as steward. Having long resided in this county Mr. Brandon has become widely known and the qualities of an upright manhood have gained for him the unqualified confidence of those with whom he has been associated. His life has been one of unremitting diligence and his business capability and executive force have brought to him creditable and gratifying success. His farm with its splendid improvements is the visible evidence of his life of enterprise and his attractive home stands as a monument to his earnest toil.

SAMUEL A. HUMPHREY, M. D.

Dr. Samuel A. Humphrey, deceased, was one of the prominent physicians and druggists of Danville who became a resident of this city in 1844, when it was but a small town giving little promise of its future development and progress. The Doctor was a native of Nelson county, Kentucky, born May 3, 1823, his parents being Samuel and Margaret Humphrey, who always lived in Nelson county, where the father carried on farming. Both he and his wife passed away there.

Dr. Humphrey spent the years of his minority in the Blue Grass state and acquired his education in its public schools. When twenty-one years of age, however, he left his old home and came to Illinois, having an uncle living in Vermilion county. This caused him to make his way to Danville and at once he purchased a farm on what is known as Blue Grass prairie. There he devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits for a year, after which he took up his abode in Danville, for he had determined to

abandon the plow in order to enter professional life, believing that the practice of medicine would prove a congenial occupation and at the same time yield him a good living. He took up the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. Courtney, who directed his reading for some time. He afterward entered the Medical School at Cincinnati, Ohio, and was there graduated on the 26th of February, 1848, receiving a certificate to practice, which is now in the possession of his widow.

Dr. Humphrey then returned to Danville and not only began the work of alleviating human suffering, but also established a drug store on Main street and continued in the compounding of medicines and the sale of drugs in connection with the practice of his chosen profession. He also established a dry goods store in the city, devoting his time and energies to the successful conduct of his three fold business throughout his remaining days. The practice of medicine, however, was his chief pursuit and he always kept thoroughly informed concerning the advanced thought made by the profession and utilized his increased knowledge for the benefit of his fellow men. He became the trusted and loved physician in many a household and his work was attended with excellent results.

The Doctor was married in Vermilion county to Miss Mary Milton, also a native of Nelson county, Kentucky, born July 29, 1824, a daughter of William and Ellen Milton. Her father died in Kentucky and her mother afterwards became the wife of James Partlow, who removed to Vermilion county at a very early day, settling on a farm at Blue Grass, where he and his wife lived throughout the remainder of their lives. Mr. Partlow devoting his energies to the production of grain with excellent success.

The marriage of Dr. Humphrey and his wife was blessed with one daughter, Margaret Ellen, who became the wife of John Banta, a resident of Danville, but Mrs. Banta died July 12, 1895.

In his political views Dr. Humphrey was an earnest Republican and neither fear nor favor could swerve him from a cause which he believed to be right. He died August 12, 1864, in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he had long been a consistent and zealous member. His life was ever upright, his strong characteristics being those which commended him to the confidence and respect of his fellowmen. In the practice of his profession he had opportunity to do much good and he did it whenever the opportunity came, for he was a man of broad humanitarian principles. Mrs. Humphrey, who still survives her husband, resides with her step-sister, Mrs. Partlow at No. 713 North Hazel street. She, too, has long been a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and her many excellent traits of heart and mind have gained for her the warm friendship of those with whom she has been brought in contact.

WILLIAM C. HAWKINS.

William C. Hawkins is a well known farmer of Vermilion county, residing on section 20, in Jamaica township. He was born in Edgar county, Illinois, March 21, 1865, and is a son of Edmond L. and Malinda (James) Hawkins, both natives of Edgar county, where they were reared and married. Edmond L. Hawkins was the son of William, a native of Kentucky, and Charlotte (Drake) Hawkins, a native of Ohio. William Hawkins, the father of

Edmond L., was a son of Crosby Hawkins, who came to America from Ireland. After the death of his first wife William Hawkins married Nancy Philips, a native of Indiana. He was the father of six children, four of whom are yet living: Henry, of Nebraska; Sarah, the wife of John McCrowe, of Danville, Illinois; Edmond L., the father of our subject; and Abraham, of Metcalf, Edgar county, Illinois. Edmond L. Hawkins followed carpentering and worked at his trade near Bloomfield, Illinois. He built many residences of that place, which still stand as monuments to his handiwork and skill. He removed to Danville in 1866 and engaged in contracting and carpentering. On the expiration of two years he removed to a farm north of Pithian, Illinois. There he lived for four years and then removed to Fairmount, Illinois. The mother died in June, 1901, and the father is now making his home with his son William C. He is a member of the Christian church and is a stanch Democrat. His life has been actively and usefully spent and he has done much toward the material improvement and development of the communities in which he has lived, besides taking a deep interest in the moral and intellectual growth thereof. He and his wife were the parents of six children, four girls and two boys. Minnie is the wife of Edward Boggess and resides in Des Moines, Iowa. They have five children. The subject of this review is the second in order of birth. Edmond S., born December 25, 1866, was a clerk and resided in Fairmount, Illinois. He was married to Aral Jakeway, of Sidney, Illinois, and died on the 21st of April, 1898. He commenced clerking for C. V. Tilton, of Fairmount, and remained with him for eight years. He then worked for J. M. McCabe, for one year and next went to Cham-

paign, Illinois, entering the employ of Joseph Kuhn & Son. Here he remained for four years, when on account of failing health he was obliged to resign his position. He went to Colorado in April, 1897, and returned to Sidney, Illinois, in October. There his death occurred. He became a member of the Christian church in February, 1894. He was a member of Champaign Lodge, Modern Woodmen of America. The funeral services were held in the Methodist Episcopal church, Friday, April 22, 1898, the services being conducted by the Rev. S. S. Jones. His remains were interred in Greenview cemetery at Fairmount. Etta M. married Edward Pope. They have three children and reside near Guthrie, Oklahoma. Lilly married H. A. Stearns, has two children and resides in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Gertrude, born July 6, 1873, was married at Fairmount, Illinois, to William Baughman. The ceremony took place June 2, 1895, and was performed by Rev. S. S. Jones, of Danville. They resided at 216 East Madison street, in Danville, Illinois, at the time of her death, which occurred at 5:30 Monday evening, March 8, 1897. Mrs. Baughman was a most efficient worker in the Christian church, was president of the Endeavor Society, was Sunday-school teacher and leader of the choir. Her funeral services were held from the Baptist church, Rev. S. S. Jones officiating. Her remains were interred in Greenview cemetery. When she died the community lost an exemplary Christian woman, whose death was deeply mourned by many friends as well as her immediate family.

In the common schools of Fairmount, Illinois, William C. Hawkins received his education, continuing therein until he was

seventeen years of age. He then began farming, renting forty acres of land and thus getting a start in life. He was married September 7, 1886, in Vance township, to Miss Mabel Witherspoon, who was born in Vance township, May 19, 1866. She was the daughter of William P. Witherspoon, whose family history is given elsewhere on the pages of this work. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins have been born two children, Nina Pearl, born January 10, 1892, and Emma W., born March 23, 1894.

After his marriage Mr. Hawkins located in Edgar county, where he remained for six months. He then removed to Fairmount, remaining there for two months, after which time he removed to the farm he now occupies. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of very valuable farming land, the fields of which are well cultivated, it being one of the best farms in Jamaica township. He raises a high grade of stock, which he sells on the market at a good price. He is a very industrious man and has been active in public affairs. He served as assessor of the township for two years and is now acting as supervisor. His religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, where he is acting as trustee. Fraternaly he is connected with the Court of Honor and in politics is a Democrat. A public-spirited man he is well known and highly respected throughout this part of Vermilion county.

ROBERT TERRELL.

Robert Terrell is a pioneer settler of Vermilion county, of 1858, and is a witness of the changes which have occurred here.

He has seen the development which has made this portion of the state a rich agricultural district and the center of extensive and important industrial and commercial concerns. Through many years he actively carried on farm work, but is now living retired and the competence which enables him to enjoy this rest was acquired entirely from his own efforts.

Mr. Terrell was born in county Kings, Ireland, on the 7th of May, 1844, a son of John and Elizabeth (Shouldice) Terrell, who were likewise natives of the Emerald Isle. The father died about three months before the birth of our subject and the mother, long surviving him, passed away in 1894, in Grant township, Vermilion county. Our subject now has one living brother, James, who resides near Rochester, Indiana. Originally there were five boys in the family.

Robert Terrell spent the first fourteen years of his life in the country of his nativity, and then bade adieu to friends in his native land. He sailed for the new world, landing at New York in 1858. From there he made his way to Connecticut, where he was engaged in farm work for six months. In the fall of 1858 he arrived in Vermilion county, finding here broad stretches of prairie over which the plow had never made its way. Wolves were killed in great numbers during the winter and there were many deer, so that the tables of the early settlers were largely supplied with venison. Mr. Terrell settled in Ross township, a mile east of the town of Rossville, where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, for which he paid twenty dollars per acre. His purchase, however, was not made until 1882, and prior to that time he had operated rented land. As early as 1867

he bought land in Grant township, for which he paid ten dollars per acre, afterward selling it at an advance of six dollars per acre. He lived upon that place for two years and the money with which he paid for his property he earned by herding cattle at fifty dollars per month. In those days there were few fences over the prairie, and the women of the household oftentimes had to leave their indoor labor in order to drive the stock from the fields. Dogs were also efficient in this way and in a measure did away with the necessity of fences. When Mr. Terrell purchased his Ross township property he found it partially improved, but since that time he has laid many rods of tiling and has developed a model farm by the erection of good buildings and by the planting of fruit trees, the digging of a well and the cultivation of the fields. His property is to-day one of the best improved farms of like size in Vermilion county. On the 18th of April, 1899, however, he left the farm and came to Hoopeston, where he erected his present home at a cost of sixteen hundred dollars, one of his sons now living upon the home place.

On the 3d of July, 1866, in Williamsport, Warren county, Indiana, Mr. Terrell was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Ross, who was born in Brown county, Ohio, in 1849, a daughter of Josiah and Emily (Ferguson) Ross. Her father died in 1885, but her mother is still living in Hoopeston at the advanced age of eighty-five years, her birth having occurred in 1817. Mr. Ross carried on merchandising until about 1862, when he took up his abode upon a farm in Miami county, Ohio, and subsequently removed to Williamsport, Indiana, where he lived until his death. In his family were five children who are still living:

Shedrick, of Williansport, Indiana; Ellis, of Marion, that state; Mrs. Malinda Harris, whose home is south of Rossville; and Mrs. Anna Gocking, of Hoopeston. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Terrell has been blessed with seven children, of whom five are yet living: James; Maude, the wife of Peter Redmond, of Attica, Indiana; Josiah, who wedded Mary Miller and is living on the old home place; Robert, who married Addie Cory and resides in Hoopeston; and Dessie, the wife of Lemuel Streets, of Hoopeston, who was a soldier in the Spanish-American war, serving in Battery A, of Danville, in Porto Rico. Since his return he has wedded the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Terrell. The members of the family who have passed away are: John, who died at the age of two years, and Herbert, who died at the age of five years.

Mr. Terrell has ever been a loyal citizen of his adopted land and at the time of the Civil war he manifested his patriotic spirit by enlisting in 1863 as a member of Company E, Third Indiana Cavalry, with which he served until the close of the war. He was under the command of Captain Thompson, Colonel Chapman and General Custer, and was in the Cavalry Corps of the Eastern Department along the Potomac. He was taken prisoner at Cedar Creek, Virginia, October 15, 1864, and was in Libby prison at Richmond, until March, 1865. He participated in the battles of Winchester, Antietam, the Wilderness, Lookout Mountain, Rappahannock Courthouse, Yellow Tavern, Cedar Creek and a number of skirmishes. He was wounded in the engagement at Cedar Creek, where his horse was shot from under him and broke his arm by falling upon him, thus injuring his

spinal cord, but he was carried to prison without surgical aid being rendered him, and the injuries which he thus received left him a cripple. After being liberated from the southern prison he was granted a furlough and returned home, but rejoined the army in 1865, although he was never again in active field duty. At Indianapolis he was mustered out and honorably discharged. The injuries which he sustained have incapacitated him for farm labor during the last twenty years, and as his sons grew up they relieved him from the active work of the fields, although he has since successfully superintended the cultivation of his farm. Many a time has his wife gone out in the winter to feed the stock and do other hard work because of Mr. Terrell's disability, even following the plow in the spring before her sons were old enough to do the work. This worthy couple have seen all of the hardships and trials of pioneer life but are now living in comfortable and honorable retirement in enjoyment of the rest which they have indeed well earned. In politics Mr. Terrell has always been a Republican, and he belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic. He and his wife attend services in the Christian church but are not members of the denomination. Their many friends throughout Vermilion county would consider this work incomplete without mention of these highly esteemed people, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers the record of their lives.

JOHN PARTLOW.

John Partlow was well known to the early settlers of Danville for his family was founded here at an early day, and he was

one of the native sons of the county, his birth having occurred at Blue Grass. His parents were James and Ellen (Milton) Partlow, who are mentioned in connection with the sketch of Samuel A. Humphrey, given above. To the work of farm life John Partlow of this review was reared and his labors in early youth well prepared him to carry on business on his own account when he reached manhood. After attaining his majority he chose as a companion and helpmate for life's journey Miss Frances Giddings, a native of England and a daughter of William and Caroline Giddings, who came to America in 1842. They settled in Danville and the father was among the first business men of the city. He was a wagon and carriage manufacturer and also engaged in the manufacture of farming implements, conducting his industry with success for many years. The products of his factory found a ready sale among the citizens of this portion of the state and he resided in Danville until his death. Members of the Giddings family still live in Danville and the family has long been regarded as one of prominence in Vermilion county worthy of all respect. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Partlow were born two children: Elmer, who is now employed in the Wright Mill of Danville; and Charles, who died May 28, 1902.

In early life John Partlow was engaged in clerking in the dry-goods and drug store owned by Dr. Humphrey. He acceptably served in that capacity and later he purchased a farm at the north edge of Danville, taking up his abode on that property. There he successfully carried on agricultural pursuits for many years and placed his land under a very high state of cultivation, so that the rich fields returned to him golden harvests. He died December

8, 1896, and the community mourned the loss of a valued citizen, for he was always trustworthy and faithful in the performance of the various duties and obligations of life.

After her husband's death Mrs. Partlow removed to Danville and purchased her present property, whereon she is now living with Mrs. Humphrey at No. 713 North Hazel street. She still owns the farm of twenty-six acres bordering on Vorhees street at the north edge of Danville and it is now very valuable land.

PARK T. MARTIN.

Park T. Martin, now deceased, was well known in Danville where for many years he was associated with journalistic interests and also capably served as justice of the peace for a considerable period. A native of Licking county, Ohio, he was born March 1, 1838, his parents being Mark D. and Julia (Ward) Martin, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The father was a farmer and stock-raiser and followed that pursuit throughout the greater part of his life, and came to Illinois and farmed there for years and also conducted a hotel in Shelbyville. On leaving the Buckeye state he took up his abode in Terre Haute, Indiana, where he lived retired until his death, which occurred May 13, 1901, and his wife is living in that city.

Park T. Martin, whose name begins this record, was indebted to the common-school system of his native county for the educational privileges which prepared him for life's practical and responsible duties. He resided at various times in towns in Ohio and Illinois, and eventually he took up his residence in Shelbyville, Illinois.

where he remained for some time, teaching school and editing papers for several years. While living there he was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Huber, a native of Fairfield, Ohio, and a daughter of Henry Huber, who was a farmer of that state, whence he removed to Illinois, taking up his abode in Shelbyville. There he enjoyed a well merited rest until called to the home beyond. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Martin were born five children: Clarence, who died in childhood; Robert W., who is an enterprising and progressive citizen of Danville, now serving as assistant cashier of the Second National Bank; Walter, who is city engineer of Danville; Fred S., who is employed by the Bradstreet Company of Chicago; and Herbert L., who was employed in the office of the Union Pacific Railroad Company at Omaha, Nebraska, but now by the electric light company.

In 1873 Mr. Martin removed from Shelbyville to Danville, where he continued his residence until his death. He at once took charge of *The Commercial*, of which he was the editor for several years, and under his administration this became a popular and well patronized journal. He afterward established a newspaper of his own, called the *Saturday Opinion*, which he conducted for a few years. Later he served as bookkeeper in several business houses of the city and was then made justice of the peace, serving in that position until his health failed, after which he lived retired until his death, which occurred June 30, 1900. In political affairs he was prominent and for several years he represented his ward as a member of the board of aldermen of Danville. He always voted with the Republican party and manifested the interest of a loyal citizen in questions pertaining to the general good. He held membership in

the First Presbyterian church, to which his wife belongs, and in all life's relations he was known as a man of sterling honor and integrity, possessing commendable traits of character, which drew to him the regard and good will of his fellow men. Mrs. Martin, who is an estimable lady and has many friends in Danville, owns and occupies a beautiful home at No. 516 West Harrison street.

MARTIN H. WATSON.

When death claimed Martin H. Watson on the 13th of September, 1888, the community lost a valued citizen, the family a devoted husband and father, and his friends a companion whose loyalty was never questioned. He was born in Vermilion county in 1840 and always lived within its borders. He had three brothers and a sister: John, George, Thomas and Mrs. Minerva Henry.

In his early life Mr. Watson resided east of Danville and after his marriage came to the farm in Pilot township, upon which his widow yet resides. He was married in the city of Danville in 1859 to Miss Martha A. Cunningham, whose birth occurred in Fountain county, Indiana, in 1842, her parents removing to Illinois when she was but four years of age. Both her father and mother are now deceased. She had two brothers and two sisters: Mrs. Eliza Worley, a resident of Nebraska; Mrs. Mari Brewer, whose home is near Fairmount; and James and Nicholas Cunningham, both of whom are residents of Danville.

When Mr. Watson was married he owned one hundred and sixty acres of land but as time passed and his financial resources increased as the result of his diligence and enterprise he added to his prop-

erty until he was the possessor of four hundred and twenty acres of valuable land. His life was one of earnest labor. The place was all wild when he took up his abode thereon and his first purchase was made four dollars and seventy-five cents per acre. With characteristic energy he began the development of his farm and in course of time transformed the raw tract into a highly cultivated farm. He thoroughly understood farming in every department, and his work, directed by good judgment, brought to him a comfortable competence. In his religious faith Mr. Watson was a Baptist and in politics he was a Democrat. He served as a road commissioner of his district and also as a school director and took a deep and active interest in everything pertaining to public progress and advancement. He was trustworthy and reliable in his business affairs and all who knew him entertained for him high regard because his life was in harmony with missionary principles.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Watson were born eleven children, of whom ten are now living: Mrs. Nannie Yeoman, Clement S., Mrs. Rosa Frederick, Owen G., Mrs. Cora McCoy, Frank, Mrs. Inez Jenkins, Mrs. Estella Brush, Willey and Martin who is living with his widowed mother upon the home farm and operates the land. When death claimed Mr. Watson he was laid to rest in Spring Hill cemetery at Danville, but though fourteen years have since come and gone his memory is still cherished by those who knew him. But three of the children of the family were married at the time of the father's death and Mrs. Watson carefully and tenderly reared the others, providing them with good educational privileges and caring for them until they went

to homes of their own. She has displayed good business ability in the management of the home property, adding some to her original estate, and she now owns one hundred and fifty acres of rich land, which is very productive and returns to her a good income. Possessing many excellent traits of heart and mind she, like her husband, has a large circle of warm friends.

GEORGE W. DARR.

George W. Darr was born in Parke county, Indiana, August 6, 1853, and is a son of John H. and Rebecca (Collings) Darr, the former a native of North Carolina and the latter of Kentucky. John H. Darr was a son of David Darr, who also was born in North Carolina and removed to Indiana, where he spent the remaining years of his life. In his political views he was a Democrat. John H. Darr removed with his parents from North Carolina to Parke county, Indiana, and was there married to Rebecca Collings, who had come to Indiana from Kentucky with her parents when she was but three years of age. They made the journey on horseback and she rode behind her mother the entire distance. John H. Darr followed farming throughout the active years of his life and spent his remaining days in Parke county, Indiana, where his death occurred May 19, 1859. He was a member of the German Lutheran church and politically gave his support to the Democratic party, but always refused to hold office. His wife is still living with the subject of this review, at the age of seventy years. Besides her son George W. she has one daughter, Sarah, the wife of

John R. Mater, a resident of Danville, Illinois. They have one child, Grace.

George W. Darr spent his boyhood days upon the home farm in Parke county, Indiana. In the winter months he attended district school No. 4, and in the summer seasons he worked upon the farm. His mother removed with her children to Vermilion county when he was thirteen years of age, going to the farm of his uncle, about one mile northeast of their present home, which they purchased in 1869. Here he also attended the Dougherty school, assisting his mother on the farm at the same time. He remained with his mother, assisting her on the farm until twenty-one years of age, when he purchased his mother's and sister's interest in the forty acres of land, December 10, 1874.

On the 5th of February, 1878, in what is now Jamaica township, Mr. Darr was united in marriage to Miss Susannah Hopper, a daughter of Louis and Margaret (Kinsey) Hopper. She was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, January 20, 1857. Her father was a native of Virginia, born February 13, 1826, and her mother was born in Ohio, September 19, 1820. They were married in Ohio, June 27, 1847. He was a farmer by occupation and removed to Vermilion county. He is now living at Fairmount, Illinois, at the age of seventy-six. In politics he is a Democrat. His wife died in 1876, and in March, 1879, he was married to Elizabeth (Stanberry) Ohlsted, a native of Illinois. She is now living with her husband at Fairmount, Illinois. By his first marriage there were born seven children, four girls and three boys, all of whom with the exception of one, are still living. John, born January 8, 1849, married Jennie Carrington and resides in

Jamaica township. They have three children. Sarah E., born September 15, 1851, is the wife of Joseph English, of Peru, Miami county, Indiana, who follows farming as an occupation. They have one child. Susannah is the wife of the subject of this sketch and was born January 20, 1857. Martha, born April 14, 1859, is the wife of Charles Pemberton, of Indianapolis, Indiana, and has five children. Frank, who was born October 5, 1861, married Cora Hall. They have four children and reside near Dana, Indiana. Mary M., born January 12, 1864, is the wife of James Smith and resides in Cass county, Indiana, near Peru, on a farm. They have six children. William, born October 4, 1853, died at the age of two years.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Darr has been blessed with eight children. Henry W., born November 25, 1878, is a teacher in penmanship at Storm Lake, Iowa. The others are: Edgar L., born February 10, 1880; Walter L., born June 28, 1885; Della M., born February 19, 1888; Nellie B., born May 9, 1889; Howard C., born June 6, 1893; George B., born May 16, 1896; and Seth W., born January 28, 1898.

After his marriage Mr. Darr located upon the farm which is yet his home. This is situated on section 20, Jamaica township. In 1882 he purchased an additional forty acres, and in March, 1901, he purchased forty acres more. In 1879 he erected a substantial residence upon the farm, which he has placed under an excellent state of cultivation. In addition to his own farm he also rents one hundred and twenty acres. Therefore his farming interests are quite extensive and he is engaged in stock-raising. Stock, consisting of cattle, horses and hogs of a good grade, are raised in his pastures



MRS. N. R. FAIRCHILD.



N. R. FAIRCHILD.

and he sells these in the markets, deriving a good income thereby. In politics he is a Democrat where national issues of importance are at stake, but at local elections he votes for the men whom he thinks best calculated to fill the offices. A substantial and representative farmer of Vermilion county, where he has been a resident for over a quarter of a century, in its progress and upbuilding he is deeply interested and is every ready to support any movement or measure which will be of benefit to the community. He is highly regarded by his friends and acquaintances, who know him to be a man of integrity and honesty.

NATHANIEL R. FAIRCHILD.

The Fairchild family is a prominent one in Vermilion county and the life record of the subject of this review is one that reflects credit upon an honored name. He was born August 15, 1843, about three-fourths of a mile southwest of his present home, his parents being the Rev. Daniel and Lucy (Hemingway) Fairchild, both of whom were natives of New York. His father was known for miles around because of his zealous work in behalf of Christianity, and his noble life has been a potent element for good throughout the community. He started out in the world empty-handed and in order to earn a livelihood he made rails for thirty-seven and one-half cents per hundred. In this way he obtained his license to preach and he has delivered more funeral sermons and married more couples than any man of his day. He came to this county in 1829, when it was a wild unbroken district, and here aided in cutting away the trees and preparing the land for

cultivation. He endured all of the hardships incident to pioneer life at a time when the Indians were numerous. The rivers and the woods were also the haunts of many kinds of wild game and there were large numbers of prairie wolves in the county. Mr. Fairchild in the exercise of his business affairs acquired a large competence and before he passed away he divided his property among his children.

Nathaniel R. Fairchild was the twin brother of Daniel C. Fairchild, who died fighting for his country. He and a companion were mortally wounded just as they had cut down a tree for breast works at Mission Ridge, Daniel Fairchild being picked off by a sharpshooter, dying on the 6th of July, 1864. The subject of this review pursued his early education in a log schoolhouse with its primitive furnishings such as were common at that day, greased paper windows, slab seats, and an immense fireplace being among the accessories of this building. Later he was for a few years a student in the Danville high school and then turned his attention to farming and stock-raising, which he has since followed. As the years have passed he has seen the work of transformation carried on. He can well remember the open prairie upon which cattle were herded, over which one could drive for miles, his progress unimpeded by house or fence. The land was unbroken, having never been placed under the plow. Mr. Fairchild cleared and broke most of the land upon his own place and has made it a splendidly improved property. The wet condition of the fields has been done away with through tiling and all modern equipments have been added, including the latest improved machinery for facilitating farm work. His property is now one of the best improved farms on Eight

Mile Prairie. Mr. Fairchild also remembers well the first cookstove his father brought into the neighborhood, many people coming for miles to see it and looking upon it with much curiosity. The old dip candles were used in those days, for not even candle molds had been introduced. Long before his marriage Mr. Fairchild and his brother Eli made a trip to Joliet, Illinois, taking with them a load of apples. They forded the Kankakee river, camped out at night and were upon the road for an entire week. The father did his milling by placing a sack of corn upon a horse and then sending it with the boys to the mill. Our subject has attended camp meeting when church services were held in the grove, tallow candles being placed on the bushes in order to afford light. He has seen the young girls go to church barefooted and before reaching their destination they would sit down upon a log and put on their shoes, and these were removed as soon as the service was over and they returned home barefooted as they had come. They would ride to church sitting upon a sheepskin thrown over the horse's back behind the man who acted as a driver.

As a companion and helpmate for life's journey, Mr. Fairchild chose Miss Elizabeth Fitzgerald, to whom he was married April 21, 1869. She was born November 8, 1844, a daughter of Benjamin and Eliza Fitzgerald, and she died August 19, 1874. She had three children, of whom two survived the mother, Marshall C. and Ada V., but the latter died October 4, 1893, in her twenty-second year. The other child died in infancy. On the 30th of March, 1875, Mr. Fairchild was married to Mrs. Sarah Dove, a widow, who was born in Vermilion county June 11, 1842. By her first marriage she had two children. J. Douglas, a

popular school teacher living southwest of Jamesburg; and Cynthia E., the wife of Otis Wilson, of this county. Mrs. Fairchild is a daughter of Ezekial and Elizabeth (Outten) McNamer, the former a native of Delaware and the latter of Ohio. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild have been born four children: Wesley, who was married August 24, 1897, to Stella Bonnett, by whom he has one child, Clayton Nathaniel; Jesse, at home; Nettie A., who became the wife of Shelby M. Starr, November 10, 1901; and Nathaniel R.

When fifteen years of age Mr. Fairchild became a member of the Methodist church, with which he has since been identified, and has ever been deeply interested in the cause of Christianity and its advancement. In politics he is a stalwart Republican. He to-day owns one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land and is a farmer whose perseverance and energy have brought to him a creditable position in agricultural circles. His entire life has been passed in Vermilion county and the fact that many who have known him from boyhood are numbered among his staunchest friends, is an indication that his has been an honorable and upright career.

OLIN A. MCFARLAND.

Olin A. McFarland, who for twenty-two years has practiced at the Danville bar, making a specialty of commercial, real estate and probate law, was born in Farmington, Maine, November 11, 1856, and is a son of Dr. P. M. and Sarah E. (Mace) McFarland. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, the mother of Massachusetts, and they were married in Kentucky. The

Doctor was a graduate of Allegheny College, of Meadville, Pennsylvania, and of the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati, and was successfully engaged in practice from 1863 until 1892. Throughout the Civil war he served his country as surgeon of the Fifty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, remaining at the front for four years, during which time he did much to allay the suffering caused by war and its hardships. For many years he was a resident of Centralia, Illinois, where his death occurred in 1892. The mother of our subject had passed away in 1879 and the Doctor had afterward married Stella V. Casey, who is now living in Colorado Springs, Colorado. There were three children of the first marriage: Edward P., Frank M. and Olin A.

In the public schools of Centralia, Illinois, Mr. McFarland of this review pursued his elementary education, which was supplemented by a full course of study in the Asbury University, at Greencastle, Indiana. After spending four years in that institution he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and thus having acquired broad literary knowledge to serve as a foundation for professional training, he entered the Union Law College of Chicago—the law department of the Northwestern University—and was graduated in 1880 with the degree of L.L. B. In August of the same year he opened an office in Danville. From 1885 until 1888 he was associated in practice with Albert Emerson, but with the exception of that period has been alone during the twenty-two years of his connection with the Danville bar, where he has continually advanced until he has long since gained a place among the lawyers of distinction and ability in this part of the state. Although

he has followed general practice he is now making a specialty of commercial, probate and real-estate law, and has informed himself thoroughly concerning these branches, with the result that he handles with skill such cases as are entrusted to him and seldom fails to win a verdict favorable to his clients. Much important litigation has been conducted by him. He prepares his cases with great thoroughness and precision and his devotion to his clients' interests is proverbial.

In 1881, in Greencastle, Indiana, Mr. McFarland was married to Mary B. Fletcher, who was born in Indianapolis, that state, in 1856, a daughter of Milo J. Fletcher, who was professor of literature in Asbury University at Greencastle, and state superintendent of instruction in Indiana. He was a graduate of Brown University and of Harvard Law School, and throughout his life was connected with educational work. At the time of the Civil war he was appointed one of the commissioners of Indiana to look after the wounded Indiana soldiers injured in the battle of Shiloh, and shortly after he was killed in a railroad accident at Spencer, that state. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Jennie M. Hoar, and was a native of Providence, Rhode Island, died about 1890. Unto Mr. and Mrs. McFarland have been born three children: Elizabeth, who is a graduate of the Danville high school and now attends the Chicago University; Fletcher and Allen P., both of whom are students in the high school here.

In his political views Mr. McFarland is a Republican. For eight years he has been a member of the library board of the city and at the present time is serving as a member of the city board of education. So-

cially he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He has passed all the chairs in the former and has served as a representative to both the grand lodge and grand encampment. He attends the Methodist Episcopal church and is interested in every measure of progress and improvement for the general good of the city. In a profession where distinction and success depends upon individual merit, comprehensive knowledge and a readiness in correctly applying such knowledge, he has attained high rank.

FRANK LINDLEY.

Frank Lindley is a member of what is now the oldest law firm of Danville as regards years of continued connection with the bar of this city. The profession of the law when clothed with its true dignity, purity and strength must rank first among the callings of man, for law rules the universe. The work of the legal profession is to formulate, to harmonize, to regulate, to adjust, to administer those rules and principles that underlie and permeate all government and society and control the varied relations of men. As thus reviewed there is attached to the legal profession nobleness that can not but be reflected in the life of the true lawyer, who, rising to the responsibilities of the profession, and honest in the pursuit of his purpose, embraces the richness of learning, the firmness of integrity and the purity of morals, together with the graces and modesty and the general amenities of life. Of such a type Frank Lindley is a representative.

Mr. Lindley was born March 10, 1858, in Wayne county, Indiana, and is a son of

Osmond and Archie W. (Wilson) Lindley, who were orthodox Quakers and were natives of North Carolina. James Lindley and John W. Wilson, the paternal and maternal grandfathers, respectively, of our subject, were slave owners in North Carolina, but many years prior to the Civil war they liberated all of their slaves and both were strong advocates of freedom. The parents of our subject are graduates of Earlham College, a school of Indiana, conducted under the auspices of the Society of Friends. The father was one of a family of five children, of whom the only survivor is Jonathan Lindley. The others were Hiram, Calvin and John, and the family was of Scotch and English lineage. Osmond Lindley, after completing his education, engaged in teaching to some extent and in his later years followed farming, stock-raising and pork-packing. He successfully conducted his business affairs until his life's labors were ended in death in 1877, when he was forty-five years of age. His widow still survives him and now resides at Fairmount, Indiana.

In the public schools Frank Lindley began his education, which was afterward continued in Hopewell Academy in Henry county, Indiana. He came to Shelbyville, Illinois, with his parents in 1872, and for a time engaged in teaching school, when desiring to still further perfect his own education he became a student in the State Normal. Soon afterward he began reading law in the office of the firm of Thornton, Wendling & Hamlin, at Shelbyville, Illinois, and when he had largely mastered the principles of jurisprudence he was admitted to the bar in May, 1881, and came to Danville. Here he entered into partnership relations with Frank W. Penwell, under the firm name of Penwell & Lindley, a relation that has since



Frank Lydley

been maintained, so that this is now the oldest law firm in Danville. They have enjoyed a very large share of the most important clientage in their district and have been found as counsel for the plaintiff or defendant in almost every important case in the history of this locality throughout the years of their connection with the bar.

While active in any movement pertaining to the best form of government, Mr. Lindley has never sought or desired political office, yet does his duty as a private citizen to the best of his ability and his influence and efforts in this direction have been effective and far-reaching. He believes firmly in the principles of the Republican party, has been a delegate to state conventions and chairman of the congressional committee of his district in Illinois, succeeding the late William P. Cannon. He has been identified with many local enterprises in his home town, co-operating in every measure and movement for the public welfare. He is one of the promoters and builders of the Stahl Urban factory, a director of the Equitable Building & Loan Association and one of the appraising board. The firm of Penwell & Lindley are attorneys for the Second National Bank, having served thus for fifteen years, while for twenty years they have also been attorneys for the Bradstreet Company.

In 1885 Mr. Lindley was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Gregg, a daughter of Daniel Gregg, one of the early citizens and leading manufacturers of Danville. Mrs. Lindley is a leader in social circles and took a very prominent part in the establishment of the Chautauqua movement in Danville and is now the president of this organization, which is known as the Clover Club. Mr. Lindley is likewise popular in social life, being a member of the Benevolent and Pro-

ductive Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias fraternity, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Modern Woodmen of America. For more than twenty years he has stood as a leading representative of the Vermilion county bar, having that mental grasp which enables him to readily discover the points in a case. 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. The success of his life is due to no inherited fortune or to any happy succession of advantageous circumstances, but to his own sturdy will, steady application, studious habits, tireless industry and sterling integrity.

REV. JOHN J. COSAT.

Rev. John J. Cosat, who for many years has devoted his time and labors to the work of the ministry of the Christian church and who is also engaged to some extent in real estate dealing, was born six miles northwest of Danville in what is now Blount township, March 31, 1844, and at the present time he makes his home in the county seat. From Scotland at an early day came his ancestors in the Cosat line and at the time of the Revolutionary war members of the family served with the continental army. General Macomb, one of the great-grandfathers of our subject, served in the war of 1812 with the rank indicated by his title. David Cosat, the father of our subject, was born in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, and was married in Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1833, to Nancy Truax, whose birth occurred near Lexington, Kentucky. He had come to Vermilion county in 1832, while the year 1826, witnessed her arrival. The father

engaged in school teaching and in farming and continued to live in Blount township until his death, which occurred in 1886, while his wife had passed away thirty years before, in 1856. In early life he was associated with the Whig party and upon its dissolution he joined the ranks of the Republican party, remaining one of its active supporters until his demise, while of the Christian church both he and his wife were prominent members. In their family were thirteen children, of whom five are now living: Margaret, the widow of Thomas Myrick and a resident of Armstrong, Illinois; John J.; David, of Parsons, Kansas; Mrs. John S. Leave, who is residing near Danville; and Emma, the wife of John Williams, whose home is near Snyder, Illinois.

Rev. John J. Cosat began his education in the schools of Blount township and after attending the public schools of the county for a number of years he took up educational work and for twenty-nine terms, covering a period of twenty-five years, he was classed among the successful school teachers of Vermilion county.

On the 11th of September, 1864, in Janesville, Wisconsin, he wedded Miss Frances H. Rosebaum, who died February 8, 1868, leaving one child, Eldora, who became the wife of J. H. Poulter, of Vermilion county, and died August 2, 1886, leaving two children: Amanda, who is a school teacher of Armstrong, Illinois; and Frank, who follows farming in this county. After the death of his first wife Elder Cosat was married July 15, 1869, in Danville, to Miss Emma Cline, whose birth occurred in this city, November 30, 1851, a daughter of Nathaniel and Cynthia (Sanders) Cline, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Kentucky. The Cline family comes of German ancestry and the name was orig-

inally spelled Klein. The parents of Mrs. Cosat were married in Vermilion county, where Mr. Cline had located in 1826, doing gunsmith work for the Indians in early pioneer times. He was a Republican in politics and a member of the Baptist church and made his home in this county until his demise, owning a large tract of land at Coal Hollow, which he entered from the government. He served as a fifer during the Civil war, being a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, commanded by Colonel Harmon, and he died near Nashville while in the service. In his family were eight children, six of whom are now living: Mary, the wife of John Barnett, who resides near Blount, Illinois; Benjamin, of Danville; Mrs. Cosat; Lewketty, the wife of Lafayette Saltz, of Danville; John V., and Charles, who are residents of this city. Unto Mr. Cosat and his second wife have been born thirteen children, of whom eight are living: Professor E. H. Cosat, who married Miss Tessie Martin and is principal of the Collett school of Danville; Theodore W., who is engaged in the real estate business in this city; Everett, who is agent for the New York Nursery Company in Danville and married Miss Ella Gritton, by whom he has one son, Olaf; Effie, the wife of Pearl Hastings, residing on Fairchild street of Danville, by whom she has two children, Floyd and Altha; Charles L., a carriage painter of Danville; Nellie, Marion and Lowell, all attending school.

Elder Cosat was ordained a minister of the Christian church October 10, 1871, and his first charge embraced Union and Prairie Chapels of Vermilion county. He has successively been pastor of church No. 10 near Armstrong, Illinois, the church at Bismarek, at Stateline, at Walnut Corners, Church No.

8 and also the church of his denomination at Fithian, Oakwood, Maple Grove and other points. He was pastor of the church at Union, Illinois, where he has preached for the past twenty-one years and he is now pastor of the churches at Georgetown and at Janesburg, Illinois. Throughout the greater part of his life his attention has to some extent been given to business interests and he has likewise been active in official service. For eleven years he was town clerk, was justice of the peace for nine years, was assessor for six years, supervisor for one year and overseer of the poor for one year, holding all of these offices in Blount township. In 1892 he removed to Danville and later spent a short time in Kansas, but returned to this city in 1895 and was here engaged in merchandising. He is now connected with his son in the real estate business.

Prior to 1881 Mr. Cosat voted with the Republican party and since that time he has been a Prohibitionist. In matters of citizenship he is interested and also in everything pertaining to the general good and actively co-operates in every measure for the promotion of progress, reform and improvement. He belongs to the United Order of the Golden Cross and was an active member of the Farmers Grange. At the time of the Civil war he was an earnest advocate of the Union cause and on the 14th of July, 1864, he enlisted in Company I, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Thomas Flint and Colonel E. A. Allen, joining the army at Broadhead, Wisconsin. He was then ordered to the front and under Sheridan participated in the Shenandoah campaign and was present when Sheridan made his famous ride from Winchester to Cedar Creek. In the fall of 1864 the regiment was transferred to the Army of the Poto-

mac and operated with that great military division until 1865. Mr. Cosat participated in the battle of Petersburg and in the sanguinary engagement at Sailors Run. Because of meritorious conduct and marked bravery he was recommended by General Grant for a commission. With his command he pursued General Lee to Appomattox, and was afterward at Burksville Junction, guarding stores until the following June, after which the troops marched to Danville on the North Carolina line. In the meantime General Johnston had surrendered to General Sherman and Mr. Cosat with his regiment returned to Burksville and afterward to Richmond, later going to Washington, while on Hall's Hill, on Ridge Point, he was mustered out. He then proceeded to Madison, Wisconsin, where in July he received an honorable discharge with the rank of corporal. He is now a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His military service was in keeping with the family record for loyalty, patriotism and bravery. His influence has ever been found on the side of progress, the truth and the right, for he believes that Christian faith should find its exemplification in the daily walks of life.

JOHN DEAL.

John Deal was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, on Christmas day of 1844. His father, Jonathan Deal, was a native of Ireland, while the mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Rebecca Fleming, was born in Scotland, their marriage being celebrated in Boston. The father was a carpenter by trade and spent his last years in Fayetteville, North Carolina, where he died in 1851 on the seventh birthday of his son

John. The mother survived about two years and also passed away in Fayetteville. They were the parents of three children, of whom John Deal is the youngest.

At the time of his parents' death our subject went to live with his sister in Darke county, Ohio, making his home with his relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Young, until 1864. His educational privileges were quite limited and his youth was largely a period of toil. When twenty years of age he left the Buckeye state and removed to Benton county, Indiana. Three years later he became a resident of Iroquois county, Illinois, and there he began farming for himself upon rented land in Lovejoy township. The year 1875 witnessed his arrival in Hoopeston and here he began work on a section of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, occupying that position continuously until 1880, when he was appointed janitor of the Honeywell school of Hoopeston. In this capacity he has since served with marked ability and fidelity, and no sooner is school out in the summer time than he obtains another position which he occupies until his duties again call him to the school. Never, except for one-half day has he been detained from work by illness, and his life has been characterized by unremitting diligence and perseverance.

In 1868, in Sheldon, Illinois, Mr. Deal was united in marriage to Henrietta Wise, who was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, on the 28th of October, 1850. Her father, Cyrus Wise, is now living with her, but her mother passed away near Wellington, Illinois. Three children have graced the union of our subject and his wife: William Cyrus, who is clerking in the freight office of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company, in the city of Chicago; Georgiana, the wife of W. B. Myers, of Austin,

Illinois; and Vernon, who makes his home with his parents and is still attending school.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Deal hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and give considerable time and attention to church work. He was formerly identified with the Masonic fraternity and he has always been a Republican in his political views. He has a pleasant home at the corner of Bank and Front streets, which was erected in 1899 at a cost of fifteen hundred dollars, and he likewise has five lots on block 22. He keeps a horse and buggy and also has two cows. Everything about his place is neat and well equipped and the home is tastefully furnished. All that he has he has made through his own efforts and he certainly deserves commendation for what he has accomplished.

LEMUEL D. LANE.

Lemuel D. Lane, one of the extensive landowners of Vermilion county, was born in Blount township, this county, in 1855, a son of Wyrant V. and Sarah J. (Crawford) Lane, in whose family were five children, all of whom are yet living, Mr. Lane of this review being the eldest. His early education was acquired in the common schools of his native township, which he attended until he had attained his majority. He was also a student in the United Brethren schools of Greenhill, Indiana, and on putting aside his text books he began farming on his own account and also raising stock. His father gave him one hundred and sixty acres of land which was under cultivation and improved to some extent. Later he purchased forty acres and afterward eighty acres, and



L. D. LANE.

from time to time he has still further added to his possessions, which now aggregate twelve hundred acres of well improved and valuable land. This is located in Vermilion county and in Indiana, but the greater portion is in this county. Mr. Lane has placed his land under a very high state of cultivation and the productive fields yield splendid crops and in the pastures are also seen high grades of stock and both branches of his business bring to him a good financial return.

Mr. Lane was first married in 1878 to Maria Wilson, a sister of S. G. Wilson, of this county, and a daughter of John Wilson, one of the pioneers of eastern Illinois. A daughter was born of this marriage, Edna, who is now the wife of E. D. Wyman, a resident farmer of Ross township, living upon land belonging to her father. In 1890 Mr. Lane was again married, his second union being with Anna Goodwine, a daughter of John and Mary (Alexander) Goodwine. This marriage has been blessed with a son, Wyrant Vinton, now ten years of age.

Mr. Lane's study of the political issues has led him to give his support to the Republican party and he has held the office of road commissioner, but has never been an active politician in the sense of office seeking. Fraternally he is connected with the Masons, the Woodmen, the Knights of Pythias and the Court of Honor, and has held offices in all of these with the exception of the first named. He takes a deep interest in public affairs, desiring that Vermilion county's advancement shall be equal to that of any section of the Union, and he has co-operated in many measures toward this end. He takes no active part in politics.

In business affairs Mr. Lane has prospered and has accumulated a handsome property in connection with his agricultural

interests. He owns a heavy interest in Henning Bank, a private banking institution, in which he is associated with L. C. Messmer of Potomac. This establishment was organized in 1892 and capitalized at one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Mr. Lane has clear insight into business affairs and his judgment is rarely if ever at fault. This is because he forms his plans after due deliberation and then he puts forth every effort to carry forward the plans which he has made. A creditable and very desirable degree of success has been won by him and, moreover, he enjoys the confidence and good will of all with whom he has been associated.

OLEN HENDERSON.

Olen Henderson, who is now living on section 27, Elwood township, where he devotes his energies to agricultural pursuits, was born January 31, 1870, in the township where he yet makes his home. His parents were Albert and Jane (Brown) Henderson. The father was also a native of Elwood township, born August 21, 1844, his parents removing from South Carolina to Whitewater, Indiana, where they were married. The mother of our subject was born August 16, 1844, and came with her parents to Illinois at the time of the Quaker emigration to this state. Her father was a wealthy farmer and she was one of a family of six children, all of whom are yet living. Albert Henderson had one brother, Austin, who is now living in Homer, Illinois, and is a veteran of the Civil war. He enlisted for three years in the Seventy-third Illinois Infantry, was wounded at Mission Ridge, Tennessee, and being captured he was held as a prisoner of war in Andersonville for

fourteen months, and for two months in Libby prison. He is now engaged in merchandising. There were also two half-brothers and four half-sisters, and the family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death. In 1862 Albert Henderson attempted to enter the army and take part in the war, but was sent back home because he was too young for service. In 1864, however, he ran away and enlisted in Company E of the Twelfth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he remained until after the cessation of hostilities, participating in a number of important battles and engagements. He has every reason to be proud of his war record because, although he was but a soldier boy, he was as true and loyal to the old flag as many a man who wore the blue and was twice his years. He is now living quietly in Ridgefarm, a respected resident of his community. For sixteen years he served as justice of the peace in Vermilion county, Indiana. His political support is given to the Republican party and he is a member of the Society of Friends. He and his wife were overseers for sixteen years in that church. It was on the 9th of September, 1866, that he married Jane Brown, a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Brown, of this county. Their children are, Lucetta, now deceased; Juletta, a twin sister of Lucetta and now at home; Mrs. Elva Perkins Crapt, who had three children and died leaving two of them; Olen, of this review; Owen, who is a twin brother of Olen and resides in Eugene, Indiana, with his wife and one child; Austin, of Vermilion Grove, who had three children, two of whom are living; Lucy Alice Henderson, deceased; and George W., at home.

Olen Henderson obtained a common-school education and was reared to farm work. On the 24th of December, 1890, he

wedded Arminta Sanders, a daughter of Daniel B. and Mary E. (Shiers) Sanders, of Ridgefarm. Mrs. Henderson was born on the old homestead where she is now living, September 4, 1869. She had two half-sisters, Mrs. Sarah Henderson, who resides in Ridgefarm, and Mrs. Laura M. Payne, who is now deceased. Both of her sisters had two sons. Mrs. Henderson's people came from Virginia and were of a prominent and influential family of that state in modest financial circumstances. For six months after their marriage our subject and his wife lived in Vermilion county, Indiana, and then came to their present home which was formerly the old Sanders homestead, the childhood residence of the wife, and here they have a commodious and beautiful home in which they are rearing their two children, Daniel A. and Frances. Mrs. Henderson also had a daughter by her former marriage—Nettie B. Duff.

Mr. Henderson belongs to the Society of Friends and is a staunch Republican in his political views. He also has membership relations with the Modern Woodmen of America. His time and attention, however, are largely given to his business affairs, and in the control of his farm he displays an excellent understanding of agricultural interests and a knowledge of the best methods of cultivating his land and raising stock.

ALEXANDER S. GREGORY.

Alexander S. Gregory, a retired contractor and undertaker, has been a resident of Danville for ten years. He is a native of Martinsburg, Berkeley county, Virginia, born on the 13th of July, 1829, and his parents were Robert and Ann (Stephens)

Gregory. His maternal grandfather was General Robert Stephens who won his title by service in the Revolutionary war. In that long and sanguinary struggle he was connected with General Green, General Sullivan and other distinguished military leaders and became a prominent man in the south. Robert Gregory, the father of our subject was born in Martinsburg, Virginia, and made his home there throughout the greater part of his life. He rendered effective service to his country as a soldier of the war of 1812 and he was a devoted member and great worker in the Episcopal church at Martinsburg. Both he and his wife died in Virginia.

Alexander S. Gregory is the only one of their family now living. He acquired his early education in the common schools of his native state and began learning the carpenter's trade in Martinsburg, following that pursuit there until twenty-two years of age, when he left home and went to New Orleans, where he worked at carpentering for two years. On the expiration of that period he returned northward and for a short time was a resident of Lafayette, Indiana. Again he worked at his trade, being thus engaged in Lafayette until the time of his removal to Hutsonville, Illinois, where he was engaged in the undertaking business.

While living there in 1864 Mr. Gregory was united in marriage to Miss Mary Waters, a native of Clark county, Illinois, born January 23, 1839, her parents being James and Sarah (McClure) Waters. Her father was a merchant, grain buyer and commission man of Darwin, Illinois, where he spent the greater part of his active business career, but his last days were passed in New Orleans, where he died in 1847. Mrs. Gregory obtained a good education and at

the age of eight years entered St. Marys school in Terre Haute, her native town, being the youngest pupil there. She afterward entered the Nazareth Academy of Bardstown, Kentucky, in which she was graduated. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children: James W., who married Ida Mann, who died on the 17th of April, 1890. He now makes his home with his parents in Danville and occupies the position of car inspector for the Wabash Railroad Company. Mary, the only daughter, also resides with her parents.

For several years following his marriage Mr. Gregory engaged in the undertaking and furniture business in Hutsonville, Illinois. He was there living at the time of the Civil war and in February, 1865, he enlisted for service in Company C, One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, under Captain John W. Lowber and Colonel Smith. He was detailed as an undertaker at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, where he had charge of an undertaking shop for the government until the close of the war. There he was discharged in September, 1865. He then returned to Hutsonville, where he continued for a few years longer when he sold out his business and removed to Robinson, Illinois, where he was engaged in undertaking and contracting for ten years. On the expiration of that period he sold out and came to Danville, where he has since lived a retired life. He has been a very successful business man and as his financial resources have increased he has wisely invested his capital in property in Illinois and Indiana. In politics he is a stalwart Democrat, having always supported the party. He belongs to the Grand Army Post of Danville and to the Masonic Lodge at Hutsonville, of which he became a charter member a half century ago. He is also con-

nected with the Knights of Honor of Hutsonville. He and his family reside at No. 3 East Seminary street in Danville and during the years of their residence here they have won many friends. The prosperous career of Mr. Gregory well serves as an illustration of the fact that business advancement may be won through honorable methods, close application and unfaltering perseverance.

WILLIAM F. BAUM.

William F. Baum was born in Covington, Indiana, February 5, 1848, a son of Abner and Louisa (Hull) Baum, both of whom are natives of Ohio. The father is still living at the age of eighty-four years, the mother at the age of seventy-four years, and their home is in Nebraska. Throughout his active business career he carried on agricultural pursuits. When he was but six years of age he removed with his parents from Fayette county, Ohio, to Covington, Indiana, and saw the latter place in the days of its infancy, his father purchasing a farm near that town. He witnessed the building of the canal there and saw many other improvements made that led to the substantial development and progress of the city. His father, Jonas Baum, was a Revolutionary soldier, who valiantly aided in the struggle for American independence and died at the age of seventy-five years. As the name indicates the Baum family is of German lineage and the first representative in America was John Baum, the grandfather of William F. Baum. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Abner Baum were born six children, of whom William F. is the eldest. The members of the family still living are Rev. O. S. Baum, a Presbyterian minister located in Colo-

rado; James A., who is engaged in the drug business in Lee, Nebraska; and Emma, the wife of Frank Scott, a druggist of Rising City, Nebraska.

After completing his literary education in his native county William F. Baum engaged in teaching school, but ambitious to make a start which would promise better results he began working at the drug business, receiving fifteen dollars per month for the first year. This was in 1870. The following year he was given thirty dollars per month and the third year forty dollars. At the end of that time the firm in Covington by whom he was employed, established a branch store at Marshfield, that state, and made Mr. Baum its manager. He continued in charge there for a year and then purchased the store, while later he established a drug store in Gibson City, Illinois. On the 1st of November, 1874, he came to Danville, where he opened a drug store, removing his stock from Gibson City. His Marshfield store he had previously sold and on coming to Vermilion county he first located near the Aetna House in Danville, where he continued for more than four years, when he removed to the Public Square. There he remained until 1889, when he established his store at No. 41 North Vermilion street. He owns that store building, which is a fine business structure of modern design. It has a tile floor with plate-glass front and every convenience for carrying on the trade in an improved manner. Mr. Baum has thirty-two years' experience in the drug business and during twenty-eight years of this time has been in Danville. Few merchants are more widely known in the city and the circle of his friends is very extensive. When he arrived in Danville in 1874 there was a population of about five thousand and in point of years of connection with the city's



W. F. BAUM.

mercantile interests Mr. Baum is to-day the oldest druggist of Danville.

On the 10th of September, 1874, occurred the marriage of William F. Baum and Miss Louisa A. Johnson, who was born in New Marshfield, Warren county, Indiana, in November, 1851. She supplemented her early school privileges by study in St. Mary's Seminary in Terre Haute, Indiana. She is a daughter of Henry and Amanda (Davis) Johnson, who were pioneer settlers of Warren county and by her marriage she has become the mother of one son, Clarence H. Baum, who was born September 6, 1875, in Danville and is a graduate of the high school here. In 1894 he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and completed a course in pharmacy and chemistry by graduation in the class of 1896, while in 1898 the degree of Bachelor of Science was conferred upon him. In July, 1900, he started on a trip around the world, visiting every country of any importance and while sojourning in Europe he was entertained by the sultan of Turkey. He traveled throughout the Holy Land, seeing everything of note and interest in that historic district. He has seen all classes of people in their native attire and in their systems of worship and he returned to his home in Danville with a valuable collection of all kinds of currency used in Europe. He also has a diary of his travels which would contain many points of interest to the general reader. He is able to converse fluently in the German, French and Spanish languages as well as in English, and in this regard as in others, his aid will be of much value to his father in conducting the drug business which he now controls. Many were his experiences of an unusual nature. While traveling abroad on the island of Ceylon he went on a hunt for elephants. The party

captured one hundred of these immense beasts but sixty got away, and for a few moments it seemed that the life of Mr. Baum was in great danger.

In his political views William F. Baum is an earnest Republican, being recognized as one of the standard bearers of his party in this locality. He was recently elected alderman from the fifth ward in the face of strong opposition which fact indicates his popularity. He and his family attend the Methodist Episcopal church and he is a member of the Masonic fraternity. He also belongs to Vermilion county and the Illinois Pharmaceutical Association and he served for one year as vice president and for one year as treasurer of the State Association, and has been state delegate to the National Association of Retail Druggists a number of times. He owns one of the best business blocks in Danville, on Main and Jackson streets, having been built in 1882, and has other valuable property in the city, including a handsome home on North Vermilion street. He has been identified with the growth and progress of the town through almost thirty years and Danville recognizes him as one of its foremost and progressive men.

MANGUS YEAGER.

A clear understanding of business possibilities, familiarity with his chosen pursuit in all of its departments and unfaltering energy and perseverance, these have been the concomitants in the successful career of Mr. Yeager, one of the old contractors and builders of Danville, who is engaged in business as the senior member of the firm of Yeager & Son. Since 1864 he has made his home in this city, arriving here when a

young man of twenty-two years. He was born in Saxony, Germany, January 30, 1840, a son of Nicholas and Amelia Yeager, both of whom were natives of the same country, whence they removed to the United States in 1850. Reaching New York city after a voyage of eight weeks, they proceeded westward to Ft. Wayne, Indiana, where the father died.

Mangus Yeager obtained only a common-school education in Fort Wayne and there remained with his parents until the country became involved in war over the spirit of rebellion in the south. He was but nineteen years of age, yet with patriotic impulse he offered his services to the government, enlisting in October, 1861, as a member of Company K, Third Indiana Cavalry, under Captain Cline. He participated in fourteen important battles, including the engagements of Shiloh, Murfreesboro and the Atlanta campaign. At the battle of Franklin, Tennessee, he was shot in the knee and remained in the hospital there for several weeks. He was also again injured in the shoulder, this being caused by a fall.

In December, 1864, after three years' service Mr. Yeager was mustered out and came direct to Danville, where he entered upon his business career as a grocer's clerk on South street. Later he conducted a livery stable on his own account for two years and then spent sometime as a dealer in threshing machines. Before going into the army he learned the carpenter's trade and worked in that capacity for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, being employed at various points along their line, his connection with the corporation continuing for thirteen years. On the expiration of that period he began contracting and building on his own account and his business career has been a prosperous one as is evidenced

by the liberal patronage accorded him and the splendid character of the buildings which he has erected. He has taken and executed the contracts for many of the fine structures of this city, including the Danville Postoffice, the Plaza Hotel, many of the fine residences here and also several of the buildings in connection with the Soldiers Home. He also built the houses and shafts and did other carpenter work in connection with the Kelly mines. He is now associated in business with his son and they employ from fifteen to twenty men. It is their endeavor to retain in their service only workmen of superior ability and thus in the execution of their contracts they give the most satisfactory results. During the year 1902 Mr. Yeager has spent a portion of his time in Hot Springs, Arkansas, where he has also carried on business to some extent as a contractor and builder.

In 1865 occurred the marriage of Mr. Yeager and Miss Hannah Campbell, a native of Vermilion county, born April 20, 1847, and a representative of one of the early families of the county, her parents being Harper and Elizabeth (Butterfield) Campbell, who resided in Newell township, where the father followed farming for many years and there on the old homestead both he and his wife died. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Yeager have been born four children: O. Phillip, who married Grace Dillon and served as captain of Battery A, in the Spanish-American war, now major, is now in partnership with his father; Lizzie is employed as head trimmer in a large wholesale millinery house in Indianapolis, Indiana; and Amelia and Edna are at home.

For almost forty years Mr. Yeager has resided in Danville and has been active in the improvement of the city not only in business lines but also through the earnest

co-operation he has given to many measures for the general good. He was the first member of the first fire department of Danville. He has never been an office seeker but served as government inspector in the post-office here, his appointment coming through Congressman Joseph Cannon. A staunch Republican, he formerly took a very active interest in political work. Both he and his wife are members of the First Methodist Episcopal church and he belongs to the Grand Army Post of this city. He also established Battery A here and he now owns the controlling stock in the Armory of Danville, together with business blocks on Main street and residence property on Hazel street in addition to his pleasant home at No. 439 Main street. He likewise has other realty in Danville and his wife is the owner of the old Campbell homestead in Newell township. To his earnest purpose, laudable ambition and well directed efforts may be attributed his success, which is the legitimate outcome of his own efforts. He is to-day one of the prosperous and prominent men of Danville and a leading representative of the building interests of Vermilion county. He has been on the Building Association appraising committee for the last ten years. His social qualities, too, have endeared him to many friends and his life of honor and integrity has commanded the respect and good will of all with whom he has been associated.

A. H. FLEMING.

A. H. Fleming, whose farming interests are extensive and valuable and who is numbered among the well known and respected residents of Hoopston, was born near Hamilton in Hamilton county of Upper

Canada in 1834. His father was a native of New Jersey, born in Newark, of Irish lineage, and in early life he was a distiller, but within our subject's recollection he never followed other pursuits than that of farming. He wedded Daziah Hibler, also a native of New Jersey and of German lineage. When A. H. Fleming was about three years of age, at the time of the incipient rebellion in Canada, the parents left that country and with their family went to Pennsylvania, where they remained until 1839, when they became residents of Seneca county, New York. In 1845 they located in New Jersey, which was the place of their abode until 1851. That year witnessed their arrival in Peoria county, Illinois. In 1857 they went to Stark county, this state, where the father died in 1874.

Mr. Fleming of this review accompanied his parents on their various removals until they arrived in Peoria county, Illinois. There he began farming on his own account in 1853. Two years later, in 1859, he was married in Brintfield, Peoria county, to Catherine McIntosh, who died in 1890, leaving five children: James A., William A., Enoch W., Allen T. and Charles W. There were also two daughters who died in infancy. The mother's death occurred while they were living upon a farm eight miles southeast of Hoopston.

On the 28th of September, 1892, in Elliott, Iowa, Mr. Fleming was again married his second union being with Mrs. Mary J. Young, who was born in Sussex county, New Jersey, in 1836. Her parents came to Stark county, Illinois, in 1865, but both are now deceased, the father having passed away on the 30th of October, 1868, while the mother died on the 15th of November of the same year. Mr. Fleming has three brothers and one sister: Barney, of Wash-

ington; William, who is living in Kansas; Joseph, a resident of Milford, Illinois; and Mrs. Elizabeth Vliet, of Woodland, Illinois. Mrs. Fleming was first married to Mr. Young, and they lived in Clark county until after the death of her husband. Later she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Fleming. She had one child by her first marriage, Clinton A. Young, who is now living in Murray, Clark county, Iowa. Of Mr. Fleming's sons, James A. is now living in Danville, being connected with the manufacturing firm of Farrwright & Scott; William A. is a farmer of Milford, Illinois; Enoch W. is living in Hoopeston; Allen T. is a mail clerk on the Rock Island & Peoria Railroad and lives in Peoria; and Charles W. is also a railway mail clerk.

In the year 1893 Mr. Fleming came to Hoopeston and erected a home at the corner of Main and Fifth street. In the fall of 1861 he had purchased land in Vermilion county, becoming the owner of one hundred and forty acres, for which he paid thirty-three and one-third dollars per acre. When this had increased in value in 1884 to fifty dollars per acre, he sold it. He is now an equal partner with his brother in five hundred and sixty acres of land in Minnesota. For three years he was engaged in the ice business in Hoopeston and to some extent has dealt in real estate here. He now owns a house which he rents on the north side, but for the past ten years he has largely lived retired, his labor in former days having brought to him a competence sufficient to provide him with all the comforts of life without recourse to further work. A prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, he is now serving as one of its stewards, and in the work of the church takes an active interest. In politics he has always been an earnest Republican. He keeps

well informed on the issues of the day, thus being enabled to support his position by intelligent argument.

SAMUEL A. BRISTOW.

Samuel A. Bristow, one of the most successful and prominent young lawyers of Danville, was born in Fithian, Vermilion county, May 9, 1871. On the paternal side his ancestors were among the French Huguenots, who came to America in search of religious freedom and settled in Virginia, but the branch of the family to whom our subjects belongs subsequently removed to Kentucky. Among the most prominent and illustrious members of this family was his great-uncle, Benjamin Bristow, who served as secretary of the treasury in President Grant's cabinet. For years he was also attorney general for the New York & Hudson River Railroad Company, and it was through his influence that Samuel A. Bristow took up the study of law, being offered a position in his office, but shortly before our subject's admission to the bar his uncle died. Pearson Bristow, his father's brother, is now second assistant postmaster general and was one of the number that unearthed the Neely-Rathbone frauds in Cuba.

Alva C. Bristow, the father of Samuel A., was born in Ohio, and was a son of William Bristow, one of the '40ers, who accumulated considerable wealth in California, but was killed and robbed on his way home. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Abigail Smith, belonged to an old and prominent family of Kentucky. Being left an orphan when young, Alva C. Bristow spent his early life with relatives, and with an uncle, George Smith, he came to



S. A. BRISTOW.

Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1858, another uncle, Dr. S. S. Smith, having previously located here. The latter was one of the pioneer physicians of the county. Here Mr. Bristow started a newspaper called the Independent, which he published until 1860, when he returned to Kentucky and made his home with his grandmother until the country became involved in civil war. He then ran away and enlisted at Mazon, Illinois, in Company F, Fifty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was with Sherman on his campaign and during the battle of Atlanta was shot in the arm. At the close of the war he joined the regular army as a sergeant and was stationed at Cairo, Illinois, for some time, remaining in the service until 1869, when he returned to Vermilion county and located at Fithian, where he engaged in merchandising until 1872. During that year he became a resident of Danville and was connected with the Beethoven Organ Company until 1879, when he embarked in business on his own account as a dealer in wall paper and paints, continuing in that line for twenty years. Later he was engaged in the insurance business in Danville until 1901, when he received the appointment of usher at the Illinois state penitentiary at Joliet and is now holding that position. In 1866 he was married at Mt. Vernon, Illinois, to Miss America McLean, a native of Adams county, Kentucky. By this union were born three children, two sons and one daughter, but our subject is the only one now living. Religiously the father is a member of the Christian church, and fraternally is connected with the Bankers' Union and the Grand Army of the Republic. The Republican party always finds in him a staunch supporter of its principles and as a public-spirited and enterprising citizen he has never withheld his aid from

any object which he believed would advance the moral, social or material welfare of the community in which he lives.

Samuel A. Bristow of this review began his education in the ward schools of Danville and for two years attended the high school of this city. Later he was a student at Garfield University of Wichita, Kansas, for the same length of time and also attended the State University of Arkansas for two years. His law studies were prosecuted in the law department of the Northwestern University, where he was graduated in June, 1896. After leaving that institution he held a position in the circuit clerk's office at Danville until the following December. In November previous he was admitted to the bar and on the 1st of December opened an office at No. 16 East Main street, where he remained two years. Subsequently he had an office in the courthouse and from there removed to his present location at No. 14 East Main street. Success has attended his efforts and he has been connected with some of the most important litigation tried in this county, including the Watson case, which was carried through the appellate and supreme courts, the decision of the lower court being affirmed in each.

On the 15th of December, 1897, at Lafayette, Indiana, Mr. Bristow was united in marriage to Miss Emma Ruth Humbert, who was born near that city, at West Point, in August, 1873. Her parents, George and Laura (McNeill) Humbert, were natives of Ohio and Illinois, respectively, and were married in Lafayette, Indiana. Near that city the father was engaged in farming until his retirement from active life in 1900, since which time he has made his home in Lafayette, being one of the wealthy and highly respected citizens of that place. In politics he is a Democrat and has held a number of

township and county offices. Socially he is a member of the Odd Fellows society, and is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He has two children: Emma R., wife of our subject; and Harry, a resident of Lafayette.

Since boyhood Mr. Bristow has been practically identified with political affairs and has taken a very influential and prominent part in local elections, his support being given the men and measures of the Republican party. He is still actively connected with political work in Vermilion county, and is now serving as city collector of Danville. He is a prominent member of the Danville Club and of Danville Lodge, No. 332, B. P. O. E., and is one of the most popular young men of the city, a recognized leader in both social and political circles.

CHARLES E. JONES.

Charles E. Jones is the proprietor of Grovedale Farm, situated on section 28, in Vance township, Vermilion county. This farm is one of the best in Vermilion county, and the owner is classed among the substantial and representative agriculturists of this part of Illinois. He was born November 9, 1853, near Dubuque, Iowa, and is a son of William H. R. and Penimah (Coon) Jones, the former a native of Greene county, Ohio, and the latter also a native of the Buckeye state, where they were married. In this connection it will be interesting to know something of the genealogy of the Jones family. Elisha Jones, the great-grandfather of our subject, was born April 15, 1770, and was married to Persia Taylor, who was born July 15, 1770. Eight children were born of this union, their son,

Elisha Jones, Jr., being the second in order of birth. He was born January 28, 1796, and married Kalinda Watkins, who was born May 20, 1800, and died January 13, 1872. Twelve children were born of this union, of whom William H. Raper Jones, the father of our subject, was the fifth in order of birth. He was born June 11, 1828, and married Penimah Coon, October 4, 1848. Seven children were born unto them: James K., born September 20, 1849, married Carrie Harrison. They have one child and reside in Norwood, Kansas. Mary Angelina, now deceased, became the wife of Samuel Rudolphus Copeland, a resident of Oakwood township. She was born August 9, 1851, and his birth occurred May 16, 1850. Charles E. is the third child of this union. Lydia Ann, born March 20, 1856, died July 15, 1857. George T. is the fifth in order of birth. Marguerite Louise, born July 5, 1862, is also represented on another page of this work. Willie, the seventh child, was born August 10, 1865, and died January 30, 1866.

William H. R. Jones, the father of Charles E., was a blacksmith by trade and also followed farming to some extent. In the '40s he removed from Ohio to Dubuque, Iowa, where he engaged in coal mining, operating one of the mines there. He also worked at the blacksmith's trade there. In a few years he sold his farm there and returned to Ohio, where he purchased another farm. Later he sold this and removed to Richland county, Illinois, settling near Olney. Here he purchased a farm and remained thereon for two years. He then removed to a farm which he purchased six miles south of Fairmount, Illinois. Later he sold this and bought the John Daugherty farm. He sold this and bought a farm of the heirs of Dr. Fellows. There he lived

until his death, which occurred March 17, 1901. He had lived for thirty years continuously upon this latter farm. His wife had died on the farm in 1880 and in the year 1881 he was married the second time, the lady of his choice being Henrietta Smith, a native of Illinois, and now a resident of Fithian, Illinois. Mr. Jones was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and fraternally was connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics he was a Republican. He was a very active and energetic man and did much toward the general upbuilding and development of the communities in which he resided.

Charles E. Jones first attended school near Xenia, five miles east of the city, and later in Illinois, leaving school at the age of twenty. He then assisted his father on the farm and also engaged in teaching school. At the age of twenty-one he rented a farm. On the 24th of December, 1874, Mr. Jones was united in marriage to Mary Ann Stearns, born in Oakwood township, Vermilion county, September 26, 1855, and a daughter of Harrison and Hester Ann (Reiley) Stearns. The father was a son of Melzar and Axie (Cranson) Stearns, both natives of New York, where Harrison Stearns also was born. Hester Ann (Reiley) Stearns was a daughter of Richard Reiley and her mother bore the maiden name of Sarah Macy. They were married in North Carolina and when their eldest child was eleven months old they removed to Ohio,—a distance of five hundred miles,—Mr. Reiley walking while his wife rode horseback, carrying the baby. Mrs. Jones' parents were married in Ohio, where Mr. Stearns engaged in farming until his removal to Illinois in 1836, locating near Muncie, Vermilion county. He entered

land and built a log house, later adding to his landed possessions and building a frame house. This modest structure was supplanted later by a large and commodious residence of modern design and architecture. In this home he lived until his death, which occurred on the 12th of December, 1885. His remains were interred in Stearns cemetery near Muncie. Three years later the mother was called to her final rest. Mr. Stearns was a member of the Baptist church, in which he was a deacon. He was a staunch Democrat in his political views, yet he always refused to hold office, preferring to give his attention to his business affairs and live the quiet life of the private citizen. He was a man of prominence in his community, highly respected by all. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, four of whom are yet living. Sarah is the wife of William Reams and resides on the old homestead near Muncie, Illinois; Melzar R. resides in Danville, Illinois; Martha L. is the wife of Walter Reams, of Chicago, Illinois; and Mary Ann, now Mrs. Jones, is the fourth member of the family.

After his marriage Mr. Jones settled on his father's farm, and there remained for two years. He then removed to his wife's father's farm and there remained for a period of three years, at the end of which time he purchased one hundred and ninety-five acres in Vance township, on section 28. There he established the beautiful farm called Grovedale. On this farm everything is done to make it the most attractive and productive of its kind. The rich fields of grain yield abundant harvests and the stock is of the best grade. The grounds too are laid out in an artistic manner and the farm as a whole is one of the finest in the state. Mr. Jones erected on his place a handsome

residence on the Queen Anne style of architecture, and has a splendid large barn and every necessary equipment.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Jones has been blessed with nine children. Nettie E., born August 31, 1875, is the wife of Coll McPherson, of Catlin, Illinois, a farmer by occupation. They have three children, Archie, Earl, and Leone. Herman P., born July 14, 1877, resides with his parents. Penimah, born July 19, 1879, married Dr. J. W. O'Haver; Carrie Pauline, born May 6, 1882, Harrison, born March 22, 1884, Turner, born June 9, 1888, and Lemmie, born April 25, 1893, are all at home. An infant, born August 11, 1898, died the same day. Nellie Marguerite, born April 25, 1900, is the baby of the family. Mr. Jones is a member of the Baptist church, of which he is a deacon. A Republican in politics he has never cared for and has always refused to accept office. He is a man of genuine worth, whose influence for good in his county is widely felt. His farm is one of the attractive places of the county and he enjoys a high reputation as a representative citizen and agriculturist.



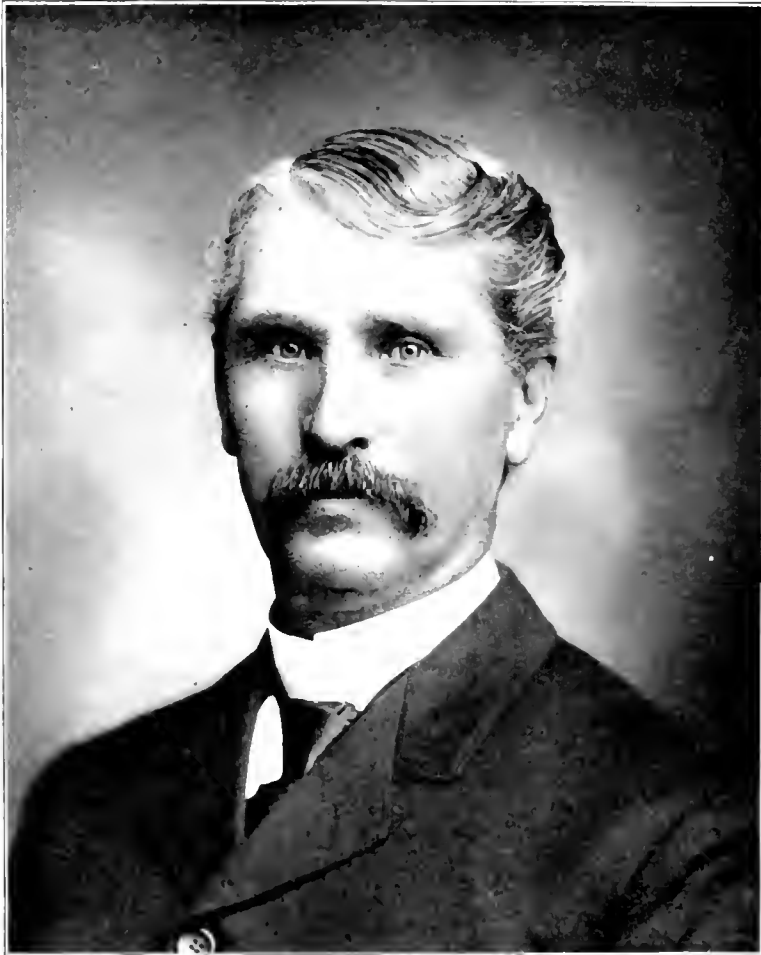
DAVID MEADE.

David Meade was born in Newtown, Vermilion county, Illinois, October 4, 1845. His great-great-grandfather, Lewis Meade, emigrated from Gloucester, England, to the United States long prior to the Revolutionary war. His children were Jerry, Luke, Levi and Louisa. Of this number Levi Meade was the great-grandfather of our subject, and his children were Simeon, Nathaniel, Lewis, Sanford, Maria, Louisa and Amanda. Nathaniel Meade, the grand-

father of our subject, also had seven children: Sarah; William; David, who has passed away; George W., a resident of Fithian; James R., also of Fithian; Ann; and Mary Jane.

William Meade, the father of our subject, was born near Hamilton, Ohio, May 24, 1822, and was married to Margaret Tanner, about the fall of 1844, the wedding taking place near Middlefork, Vermilion county. She was born near Columbus, Ohio, June 2, 1824, a daughter of Peter Tanner, who was of German birth, and Mary (Nichells) Tanner, a native of New York. Her father was a colonel in the Revolutionary war and two of his sons were captains in the same regiment. Mr. and Mrs. William Meade became the parents of the following named: David, Mary Hannah, Samuel, Sarah Louisa, Melissa, Jacob, Allie and Effie, and Nathaniel, who died when about three years of age. There were also three half brothers, Irvin, Delbert and Robert Meade.

Levi Meade, who wedded Mary Farris, became one of the pioneer settlers of Vermilion county, settling in the edge of the timber between Fithian and Fairmount in 1835. He entered land from the government at one dollar and a quarter per acre and engaged in the raising of grain and stock. Both he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives upon this farm. William Meade, the father of our subject, arrived in this county with his parents, Nathaniel and Hannah (Crane) Meade, when he was thirteen years of age and he has been identified with the upbuilding and development of this portion of the state almost from the beginning. He obtained his education in this county in the primitive subscription schools, attending school in a log house in which was an immense fireplace. The jour-



DAVID MEADE.



WILLIAM MEADE.

ney had been made in one of the old time covered wagons and while en route they crossed the black swamps of Indiana. After arriving at years of maturity the father of our subject engaged in farming in Oakwood township up to the time of his death. He had lived there from the age of thirteen years, and, in fact, from that time until called to his final rest he never resided more than five or six miles from where the early settlement of the family was made. He died February 5, 1903, at the age of eighty years, six months and eleven days, and the mother of our subject passed away on the 4th of October, 1866, at the age of forty-two years, four months and two days. After her death Mr. Meade was again married. In politics he was originally a Whig and subsequently became a staunch Republican. For many years he was officially connected with the schools of his district, yet he was never an office seeker nor did he desire political preferment. When he died he was the owner of two hundred acres of choice land all well improved and upon this place were seen many evidences of his life of industry, activity and capable business management. He made all of the improvements there and secured many modern accessories in order to facilitate his work.

Mr. Meade, whose name introduces this review, was reared upon a farm in Oakwood township and early became familiar with the work in its various departments. At the usual age he began his education, and the first two schools which he ever attended were held in two primitive log buildings, where school was conducted on the subscription plan. The room was heated by an immense fireplace at one end and light was admitted through greased paper windows. The children sat upon slab benches and around the room was a writing desk con-

sisting of a block supported upon pins driven into the logs. When twenty-one years of age Mr. Meade left the old home farm and began teaching, his desire and ambition being to become a successful educator. He then taught for one term in Vermilion county, Indiana, and then returned to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he was employed as a teacher in his home district. Subsequently he entered the State University in order to further his own education and by hard study during the succeeding three years he was enabled to master the branches of learning therein taught, so that he was qualified to take charge of the Fairmount graded school as its principal. He acted in that capacity for one year, and then became a student in the National Normal at Lebanon, Ohio, where he spent three terms at different times. Later he returned to his native county and taught a graded school in Oakwood, Illinois. On account of the smallpox epidemic, however, he was forced to abandon that school, where he had remained only from September until the holidays. He then took charge of the school of Fithian, where he remained for some time and afterward went to Eugene, Indiana, where he taught for one term and then finished a term for a teacher in Newport, Indiana. Again he came to Vermilion county and taught another term in Oakwood. Once more he went to Eugene, Indiana, and was there united in marriage to one of his former pupils, Miss Lucy Hosford. He continued in charge of the Eugene schools with three teachers under his supervision, remaining at that place for nine years, during which time the school system was materially improved and excellent work done along educational lines.

Mr. Meade resigned his school in order to become an active factor in politics with

the expectation of securing the nomination for sheriff of Vermilion county, Indiana, but he lost by a fractional part of one vote, although he had two hundred plurality over any one candidate on the Republican ticket. He resumed teaching at Perrysville, Indiana, and from there came to Danville in the spring of 1881. The succeeding autumn he went to Indianola, where he taught for one winter term and again he returned to Danville and was elected principal of the East Danville school, in which were eleven teachers. For nine years he capably served in that capacity and then at his request was transferred to the Franklin school, where he remained for five years. During the succeeding year he enjoyed a period of rest and then took charge of the township high school in Perrysville, Indiana, the scholars there having had to pass the eighth grade before entering that school. Professor Meade continued as a teacher there for over two years. Wherever he has been employed his work as an educator has given excellent satisfaction for his methods of teaching are practical and progressive and he is continually alert to anything that tends to advance the cause of education. In 1900 he was one of a number who sought the office of county superintendent of Vermilion county and came within two of being elected. Socially he is identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity, holding membership in White Oak Lodge, of Danville. He is also connected with the Royal Circle and in politics he is a stalwart Republican.

It was on the 24th of September, 1873, that Professor Meade was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Hosford, who was born, reared and educated in Eugene, Indiana, and is a graduate of the Eugene school. Her parents, Milo and Maria (Holtz) Hosford, were also natives of Indiana. Unto Pro-

fessor Meade and his wife have been born four children. Anna, who is now a teacher in the Douglass school, where her father was principal for nine years, is a graduate of the Danville high school and the State Normal school of Michigan and is well qualified for the task which she is now performing. Ray H., who is also well educated, is now in the employ of the Wabash Railroad Company as chief clerk in the machinery department. Jessie and Margaret Meade are both students in the high school.

Since abandoning his educational work Professor Meade has devoted his attention to farming interests northwest of Danville and he also owns a farm in Wayne county, Illinois, in addition to his town property. In 1894 he located at No. 520 Meade avenue in a well appointed house on the street which is named in his honor. He is a gentleman of strong intellectuality, of marked strength of character and of sterling purpose and whatever he has undertaken he has accomplished through diligence, untiring energy and capability. Wherever he has labored in the interest of the schools it has been found that education has made marked advancement and his influence along this line has been far-reaching and beneficial.

WILLIAM A. CHURCH.

To recount the events of Mr. Church's boyhood would be to give a history of pioneer life and experiences in Vermilion county. He was born about seventy-five yards from his present home on section 33, Catlin township, his natal day being July 15, 1833. His parents were Alexander and Ruth (Caraway) Church, pioneer settlers of Vermilion county. Charles and Joshua Caraway entered the land comprised within

the farm of our subject. Alexander Church accompanied by his family, arrived in Vermilion county from Virginia in 1830 and settled three-quarters of a mile west of Catlin. He was of English descent and the great-grandfather of our subject was the founder of the family in the new world, where he arrived prior to the Revolutionary war, taking up his home, it is thought, in the Old Dominion. It was in that state, at least, that William Church, the grandfather made his home and at the time of the war of 1812 he joined the army in defense of America and died during the contest while in a hospital at Norfolk, Virginia. He left a wife and nine children, including Alexander Church, who was reared, educated and married in Virginia and as stated above he came to Vermilion county as one of its pioneers. When he arrived here the country was very wild, in fact, Vermilion county was situated on the very border of civilization and the Indians were more numerous than the white settlers. The family was established in a little log cabin with puncheon floor made of native timber and the father devoted his attention to general farming and stock-raising. He was always very fond of good horses and kept good grades of stock. In these early times he would haul his farm products to Perrysville, Eugene and Lafayette. By his marriage to Miss Caraway ten children were born, of whom four are living, William A. being the fourth. The others are: Sarah, who makes her home with her brothers in Catlin township; and Joseph C. and Charles C., who are residents of that township. Those who have passed away are John, Charles, Mary Jane, Ruth, Isabel and Morgan. The father died February 7, 1892, and had he lived two months longer he would have reached the age of ninety years. The mother of our

subject, however, passed away during the boyhood of her son William.

The educational privileges which William A. Church received were limited. He attended a subscription school, the little "temple of learning" being a log building with a stick and clay chimney, the smoke making its egress from an immense fireplace that extended across one end of the room. In those days the scholars would carry the fuel to school and take turns in lighting the fire. Hickory rods always hung upon the wall ready for the chastisement of an unruly pupil. While Mr. Church had but meager school advantages his training at farm labor was not limited and almost from the time he could reach the plow handle he worked in the fields. The first plow which he used had a wooden mold board and the corn was cultivated with a single shovel, while a single line rope made from flax was used in driving the horses. Grain was planted by hand and covered with a hoe and when ripe the small grain was cut with a sickle and cradle. The family wore homemade clothing, the mother doing her own spinning and weaving, making her thread from flax and also manufacturing woolen garments that were used in the winter months. The shoes were manufactured by a traveling shoemaker, who visited one house after another in the neighborhood, but when the weather was not too inclement the members of the household, especially the children, went barefooted and it was no unusual thing to see the little girls of the neighborhood carrying their shoes to church and sitting upon a log to put them on just before the services. After the meeting they would remove them and return home barefooted. Fires were made with the use of flint and tow and light was furnished by grease lamps or by dipped candles, for in

those days not even candle molds had come into use and kerosene was not known. At an early pioneer epoch camp meetings were held in Mr. Caraway's barn, which is now over seventy years old, but which has since been remodeled. Cooking was done over the fireplace, the heavy iron pots hanging from the crane and the corn bread was baked upon a smooth board.

When William A. Church began farming for himself he rented land and later he purchased an eighty acre tract in Catlin township. This was wild and unimproved, save that fifteen acres had been broken, but with characteristic energy Mr. Church began its further cultivation and development and to-day his splendid farm is the direct result of his labors. Here he planted trees and erected a good building and from time to time he has added to his landed possessions until he now owns several good farms, in addition to the home place, upon which he located about 1892. Since that time he has built an addition to the house and has remodeled it into a modern structure. He has also built fences and otherwise improved the property and is now successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising, having a number of good horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, including some thoroughbred cattle of the polled angus breed, in fact, the farm is indicative of the supervision of a progressive, practical owner and yields to him a good return for the labor he bestows upon it.

On the 9th of December, 1852, William A. Church was married to Hester M. Douglas, who was born in Catlin township, October 7, 1834, and is also a representative of a pioneer family, her parents, Thomas W. and Delilah (Payne) Douglas, having entered land where the county poor farm now stands. They too lived in Vermilion

county when Indians were numbered among its inhabitants. They became the parents of eleven children, seven of whom are living, namely: William H.; John M.; Mrs. Emily J. Campbell; Mrs. Clarissa A. Douglas, who is a widow and resides in Catlin; Mrs. Hannah E. Songer, a widow living in Kansas; Hester M., the wife of our subject; and I. E., a resident of Jewell county, Kansas. Those who have passed away are Elizabeth, Stewart, Erastus and Angeline, who was Mrs. Kingham. Mr. and Mrs. Church became the parents of five children: Mrs. Sarah D. Acree, a widow of Danville, who has eight children; W. J., who married Clara Boggess and has six children; Laura, the wife of Alonzo Busby and the mother of seven children; T. W., who assists in the operations of the home farm and married Hannah Shelton, by whom he has a bright baby boy named Fay; and C. S., a merchant of Sidell, who married Ella Wright and has four children. Mr. and Mrs. Church have twenty-six grandchildren and one great-grandchild, Jarrett H. Acree, of Danville. On the 9th of December, 1902, Mr. and Mrs. Church celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. This worthy pioneer couple are indeed widely known in Vermilion county and have many warm friends. This history would be incomplete without mention of them so long have they resided here, witnessing the growth and progress of the county and bearing no insignificant part in its work of development.

JAMES GOODWINE.

James Goodwine is a leading and well known stock-dealer of Vermilion county, having conducted important business interests of this kind. He was born May 19,



JAMES GOODWINE.



MRS. JAMES GOODWINE.

1851, a half mile south of his present home, his parents, John and Jane (Charleton) Goodwine, having been very early settlers of Blount township. In the district schools he acquired his education, working on a farm in the summer months, while in the winter he pursued his studies. He continued upon the old homestead until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life on his own account, locating on his present place on section 30, Blount township. Here he engaged in general farming and stock-raising. He makes a specialty of shorthorn cattle and also has a large number of horses, mules and hogs. He has altogether over two hundred head of stock on his farm and he is regarded as one of the leading stock farmers of this portion of the state. When he took possession of this property it was largely covered with timber, but he cleared away the trees, improved his land, drained and tiled it. In the early days he saw many deer, and lesser game of all kinds was to be had in abundance. He engaged in hunting and has shot many wild turkeys, prairie chickens, geese and ducks on his own place. He remembers well his early boyhood days and the pioneer conditions and environments, and it is with deep interest that he has witnessed the growth and progress of the county, bearing his part in its development. He has never sought office, but has been identified with the upbuilding of the county and is justly regarded as one of its worthy citizens.

Mr. Goodwine was married in 1879 to Minerva King, who was born in New Jersey. She died September 1, 1901, and her twin babies died about the same time. All were buried in the same coffin, a little child being placed on each of the mother's arms. This was one of the saddest funerals ever held in the neighborhood, for Mrs. Good-

wine was deeply loved by all who knew her. She was a devoted and tender wife and mother and her memory is still enshrined in the hearts of those with whom she had been brought in contact. Five children still survive her. Nellie is now the wife of J. C. Newberry and has two daughters, Ruth and Minerva. Roy, Goldie, Harry and Marie are all at home.

Mr. Goodwine gives his attention largely to his farm work and is a progressive, wide-awake agriculturist. His corn and oats usually average about fifty bushels to the acre. He has all of the latest improved machinery upon his farm, as well as his high grades of stock, and each branch of his business is proving a profitable source of income. Energy and determination have been one of the strong elements of his success, and his life record should prove to others what may be accomplished through resolution and energy.

WILLIAM J. MOORE, M. D.

William J. Moore, M. D., who as a representative of the medical fraternity of Vermilion county has practiced long and successfully in Danville, was born in Champaign county, Illinois, July 14, 1847, a son of William R. and Mary (Hargen) Moore, the former a native of Trenton, New Jersey, and the latter of Oxford, Ohio. Locating in Danville, his father carried on general merchandising and real estate business, living in this city until his death. His political support was given the Whig party until its dissolution, when he joined the ranks of the new Republican party, supporting it until his demise, which occurred in 1875. His wife had passed away in 1847.

Dr. Moore, their only child, was a student in the schools of Danville until fifteen years of age, when he enlisted as a defender of the Union cause, becoming a member of Company L, Sixteenth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, in 1862, under Captain Wollcott and Colonel Theilman, being mustered in at Springfield. The regiment was ordered to southern Illinois and thence to Virginia, being attached to the command of General Burnside. Dr. Moore was taken prisoner at the battle of Jonesville, Virginia, and held as a captive for seven weeks, after which he succeeded in making his escape. He was also wounded by a rebel ball in the left ankle and then returned home on a furlough, following which time he rejoined his command in Georgia and entered the campaign under General Sherman, as a member of Stillman's Cavalry Corps. After the fall of Atlanta he returned to Kentucky, proceeded southward to the Tennessee river and, entering the command of General Thomas, fell back to Nashville, participating in the battle in that place. Later he followed Hood in Alabama and afterward again went to Tennessee, this time being ordered to Franklin, where he was mustered out in 1865 by reason of the close of the war.

Returning to Chicago, Dr. Moore was for one year a student in the Dearborn University of that city and next entered Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College, in which he was graduated in 1867. Returning to Danville, he was for one year a clerk in Woodbury's Pharmacy, followed by a year spent as a student in a college in Keokuk Iowa, after which he entered the Rush Medical College of Chicago, in which he was graduated in 1870. In Carthage, Hancock county, Illinois, he entered upon the practice of his profession, but later came to

Danville, where he has since remained and through almost a third of a century he has continued in practice here, winning an enviable reputation as a physician, whose skill and ability commended him to the confidence of the public and won for him a liberal patronage.

On the 20th of October, 1881, in Rossville, Illinois, Dr. Moore was married to Ella Doretta Langhans, who was born in Wooster, Ohio. Mrs. Moore's parents were married in Wooster, Ohio, and subsequently Mr. Langhans engaged in business in Vermilion county, where he arrived about 1870. He is now residing on Gilbert street in this city. Unto the Doctor and his wife have been born two children, of whom one is living, Lucile D.

The Doctor owns real estate in Danville and farm interests in Vermilion county, having made judicious investments of the capital that has come to him through his successful practice. He is a member of the Vermilion County Medical Society and the American Medical Association and fraternally he is connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he votes independently, not being bound by party ties.

MONROE PUGH.

Monroe Pugh, who is engaged in general merchandising in Hamrick, was born a mile and a half south of this village in Elwood township on the 25th of May, 1864. His parents were Granville and Lydia (Thompson) Pugh. The father was a native of Ohio and was reared to farm life. He had one brother and one sister, but both are now deceased. His death occurred upon the home farm in Elwood township

when he was seventy-four years of age. His wife was born in Clark county, Indiana, and came of a family of Quaker farmers. Most of the children of the household are now deceased, but Mrs. Pugh is still living at the age of sixty-seven years, her home being in Ridgefarm. By her marriage she became the mother of nine children: John, who is a farmer of Ridgefarm and has eight children; Isaac, a widower living in Eureka Springs, Arkansas; Ezra, a resident farmer of Champaign county, Illinois, who has four children; Paris J., an agriculturist of Love township, Vermilion county, who has three children; Monroe of this review; one that died in infancy; Howard, who is living upon the old homestead near Humrick, and has two children; Mrs. Jane Banta, of Edgar county, Illinois who has four children; and Mrs. L. Dolly Kiger, who died leaving two children.

Monroe Pugh was reared to farm life and continued to reside on the home place assisting in the work of the farm until 1891, when he abandoned the plow and turned his attention to commercial pursuits, opening a general store in Humrick which he has since conducted with good success. He carries a large and well selected stock of goods and his earnest desire to please his patrons has resulted in winning for him a good trade.

On the 29th of September, 1892, Mr. Pugh was united in marriage to Minnie Tutt, who was born March 2, 1870, a daughter of Albert and Jemima (Fraser) Tutt, of Humrick, who were farming people. Mrs. Pugh has one brother, James M. Tutt, who is an agriculturist of Humrick. She was educated in the common schools and reared under the parental roof. Her father was a soldier of the Civil war, enlisting from Vermilion county, Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Pugh have a pleasant home in Humrick and their household is justly celebrated for its hospitality. Their marriage has been blessed with three children, Percy, Dolly L., and Patrick H., aged respectively nine, seven and five years. Mr. Pugh is a member of the Society of Friends, or Quakers, and in politics he is an earnest Republican. He filled the office of justice of the peace for several terms, is now a notary public and is also serving as a school director. He is active in educational matters, as well as in business, and the cause of the schools has found in him a warm friend. Socially he is connected with the Masonic fraternity, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor. Devoted to the welfare of his family, contributing in every way to their happiness, a good neighbor and a loyal citizen, Mr. Pugh ranks high among the residents of his village.

CHARLES E. STEVENS.

The farming interests of Vermilion county are well represented by Charles E. Stevens, who owns a valuable farm on section 18, Vance township. He is a native son of the county, his birth having occurred therein, on the 10th of June, 1862. His parents, William J. and Adeline (Smith) Stevens, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Illinois, were married in Vermilion county, near Georgetown. The father purchased land in Vance township and thereon resided until about 1887, when after a life spent in active labor, he and his wife removed to Homer, Illinois, where they are now living retired, enjoying the fruits of their former toil. They are members of the Christian church and Mr. Stevens is a

staunch Republican. They were the parents of five children, all of whom are yet living. Flora is the wife of John Hardin, and resides in Allerton, Illinois; Charles E. is the next in order of birth; William married Dora Lynch and resides in Champaign county, Illinois; Bertrand married Della Ogden and also resides in Champaign county; and Lulu resides with her parents.

Charles E. Stevens spent his boyhood and youth in the usual manner of farmer lads of the period, attending the district schools of the neighborhood and in the seasons of vacation working upon his father's farm. Here he acquired habits of industry and economy which in later life formed the foundation of his successful business career. He attended school until nineteen years of age, then worked for his father for a period, after which he rented land and engaged in farming on his own account. He was married January 14, 1883, to Miss Estella Custer, who was born in Vermilion county January 7, 1865. Her parents were George and Margurieta (McCauley) Custer, both natives of Ohio. The father, George Custer, was a distant relative of the famed General Custer, the great Indian fighter and scout. The parents were married in Vermilion county, Illinois, and located on a farm here. They now reside in Homer, Illinois, where they are living retired from active life. Mr. and Mrs. Custer are both members of the Presbyterian church and he is a staunch Republican. They were the parents of seven children, three girls and four boys. Of these, one son is now deceased. Orela, the wife of David Winters, resides in Vermilion county. Estella, now Mrs. Stevens, is the second in order of birth. Ophelia is the wife of Frank Hunt and resides in Emporia, Kansas. Vincent married Etta Waldorf and resides in Fernwood,

Chicago, where he is acting as an agent. Quess married Ethel Vandergriff, and resides in Homer, Illinois. Howard married Minnie Maddern and resides in Roseland, Chicago.

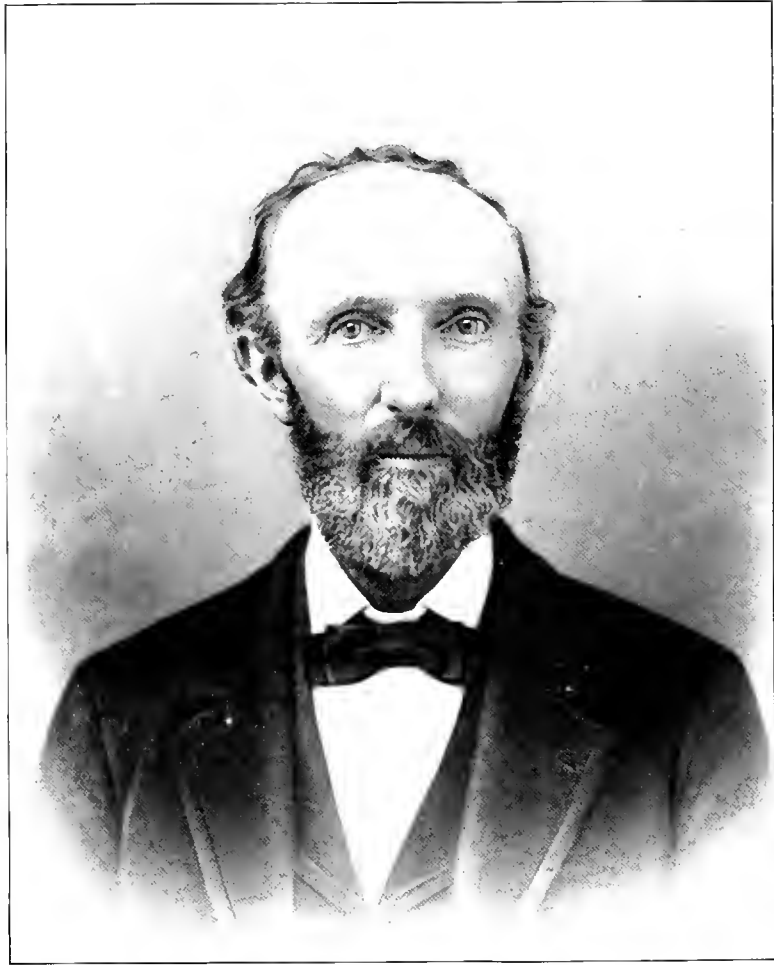
After his marriage Mr. Stevens located on a farm in Vance township where he has since lived continuously, with the exception of nine months spent in Kansas. In the latter place he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. He then removed to his present home in 1901, which was given to him by his father. This consists of one hundred acres of well cultivated land. He has a good home on it and substantial farm buildings of all kinds. He follows general farming and raises a high grade of horses, cattle and hogs for the market. His Christian belief is indicated by his membership in the Presbyterian church and fraternally he is a member of the Ben Hur and Knights of the Globe organizations. A strong believer in the principles of the Republican party, he gives his support to its candidates but he has always refused to hold office. He is a public-spirited man who takes a deep interest in the welfare of his community and is not forgetful of his duties as a citizen. He is well known in his community as a man of integrity and honor.

JAMES A. DICKSON.

A native son and prominent farmer of Vermilion county, Illinois, is James A. Dickson, who was born near Indianola, December 5, 1834. He is a son of John and Elizabeth (Doyle) Dickson, both of whom were natives of Kentucky, where they were reared and married. From Kentucky they removed to Indianola, Vermilion county, Illinois, and



MRS. J. A. DICKSON.



JAMES A. DICKSON

here the father entered land and built a log house for his family. At this time the country was wild prairie land and sloughs were numerous. The Indians, too, were encamped near, along the rivers. With characteristic energy Mr. Dickson, Sr., began to clear the land, and with tireless effort he labored until he had his farm well under cultivation. He lived here until his death, which occurred in 1837. He was an honored pioneer settler of Vermilion county and in politics was a Democrat. After the death of the father the mother continued to remain upon the farm and here reared her family. In 1853 she had built a commodious frame house upon the place. Her death occurred December 28, 1854.

James A. Dickson was one of a family of six children, only one of whom besides himself, still survives, namely, Mrs. Phebe Swank, the wife of J. P. Swank, of Indianola, Illinois. Mr. Dickson was born in the log house built by his father and he pursued his education in a log schoolhouse three-fourths of a mile west of Indianola, and later a log schoolhouse in the town of Indianola. These primitive schools had slab seats placed on wooden pegs, no windows except those made of greased paper, and were heated with an old-fashioned stick fireplace. He left school at the age of sixteen and remained after that one year on the home farm assisting in the work of field and meadow. He then worked with his brother, on some swamp land, and later purchased land in what was then Carroll township, but is now called Jamaica township. This land he improved and cultivated, and upon it he built a frame house of two rooms. He remained there until 1857, when he was married. In taking up the life history of Mr. Dickson it cannot fail to be noted that his taste and ability along

lines of agriculture are not only acquired, but are also inherited. As has been stated, his father, John Dickson, came to Vermilion county from Kentucky. The grandfather of our subject, who was Robert Dickson, came to Vermilion county from Kentucky in 1820, here entering land and building a log house, west of Indianola. This land he improved and cultivated and it remained in possession of the Dickson family, so that for the past eighty-five years continuously a Dickson has owned land in Vermilion county and the family is therefore one of the oldest if not the oldest settlers of the county.

In 1857 James A. Dickson was married to Mary Frances Busby. Later, on the 18th of November, 1860, he was married to Amanda J. Sheppard, who was born in Vance township, Vermilion county, Illinois, December 20, 1832, and died July 11, 1888. She was a daughter of John and Nancy Sheppard, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Indiana, she being his second wife. They were married in Vermilion county and Mr. Sheppard built and owned the farmers' Sheppard mills. In politics he was a Republican, and he was the father of a family of two girls and two boys, all now deceased. By his first union Mr. Dickson had one child, Geneva, now the wife of Deloss Campbell, of Winterset, Iowa, and who has one little daughter, Geneva. Unto the second marriage of Mr. Dickson three children were born. John W., born September 13, 1861, married Miss Mary Sowers, and resided in Vance township. He died April 13, 1895, leaving one child, James R. Simon was born December 13, 1863, and married April 21, 1886, to Miss Cora Hilton, who was born July 12, 1865. They reside with the subject of this review, and have four children, Grace P., Ernest E., Edna May, and Hazel Ester. Charles E.,

born in October, 1865, died February 3, 1890. In December, 1890, he was married to Jessie Miller, who died February 2, 1898.

Mr. Dickson lived on the farm of his first purchase for eleven years. He then sold it and bought the farm on which he now lives. This comprises five hundred and forty acres of land situated on sections 22 and 27 in Jamaica township and eighty acres in Georgetown township. In addition to his agricultural pursuits he was for many years extensively engaged in stock-raising, but he is now living retired upon his farm. Here he has a comfortable and attractive residence, which is large and roomy, as well as being of a pleasing style of architecture. His farm is equipped with the latest improved farming implements and he has one of the largest and best barns in the county. Mr. Dickson is also largely interested in gold mining stock. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Jamaica in which he is acting as trustee. He is a staunch Democrat and is well versed on the questions of the day which are important to the interests of the country. A genial and well informed old gentleman, his friends find his companionship pleasureable and instructive. He is still quite active and does not look to be over forty-five years of age. He is a man of prominence in his township and is highly regarded by all.

HENRY S. BAKER.

The family history of all good American citizens is of general interest, because it has been through the efforts of these that our nation has thrived and prospered and has become one of the greatest of the world. Henry S. Baker comes of a family

who have ably born their share in the work of improvement and development in the United States which has been carried forward to such wonderful accomplishment. He was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, October 12, 1856, and is a son of Enoch and Margaret (Speers) Baker, both natives of Washington county, Pennsylvania, the former born at Belleville, near Fredericktown, that state. The mother was born in a brick house which is now one hundred years old, and was visited two years ago by the subject of this review. Enoch Baker was the son of David Baker, whose father was Nathan Baker, who settled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and by his first wife became the father of the following children: Aaron, Nehemiah, David, Joseph, Enoch, Nathan, Mrs. Mary Linten, Mrs. Lidia Townsend and William. The second wife of Nathan Baker was Mrs. Jordan, a widow. By this union were born the following children: Israel, Mahlon and Hannah. David Baker, the third son of the first marriage of Nathan Baker, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, December 15, 1781, and was married February 14, 1805, to Margaret Robbins, a daughter of Joseph Robbins, born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, February 10, 1780. David Baker died August 27, 1836, and his wife passed away March 30, 1852. They were the parents of seven children. Elizabeth was born November 26, 1805, and died June 13, 1872. She was the wife of Thomas Horton and resided at Belleville, Pennsylvania. Hiram, born October 27, 1807, was married to Miss McDuneylugh and died May 13, 1891. He resided at Ridgefarm in Elwood township, Vermilion county, Illinois. Joseph was born November 20, 1810, and died February 5, 1813. Sarah, born November 9, 1813, married Daniel Dunn,



SIMON A. DICKSON.



MRS. JOHN DICKSON.

resided in West Union, Washington county, Pennsylvania, and died June 19, 1902. Enoch, born December 25, 1815, died January 7, 1882, and was the father of Henry S. Baker, of this review. Jane, born May 10, 1818, died March 2, 1878. She was the wife of Benjamin White, and resided in Belleville, Pennsylvania, but died in Jay county, Indiana. Emeline, the seventh child, was born September 24, 1823, and died July 3, 1880. Enoch Baker, the fifth child of David Baker, was married in Washington county, Pennsylvania, about 1839, to Margaret Speers, who was born in the same county, September 29, 1822. She was a daughter of Appolis and Elizabeth (Cooper) Speers. Elizabeth Cooper was one of a family of nine children, as follows: Elizabeth, born March 22, 1803; Harriette, born July 5, 1805; Jackman, born December 10, 1807; George W., born September 5, 1810; Nancy B., born November 16, 1812; Narcissa, born May 20, 1815; Jelu, born August 10, 1818; Josiah, born October 25, 1821; and J. Frederick, born October 7, 1824. Unto Appolis and Elizabeth (Cooper) Speers were born ten children, as follows: Margaret, the wife of Enoch Baker, born September 29, 1822; Nancy, deceased, was born July 6, 1825; Mary S., who was born October 1, 1827, is the wife of B. W. Johnson and resides in Nebraska; Sarah B. Lucas, born February 25, 1830, is a widow and resides in Iowa; Captain Solomon C., born May 12, 1832, was twice married and resided in Pennsylvania; Noah, born August 23, 1834, married Amanda Ward and lived on the old Speers homestead, where he died November 28, 1898. Henry V., born February 27, 1837, married and lived in Marshalltown, Iowa. Jacob B., also a resident of Marshalltown, was born July 8, 1839; Jasper,

born January 17, 1842, died at the age of twenty-one; and Clara E., who was born October 2, 1844, married James Walker, a resident of Marshalltown Iowa. For some time after his marriage Enoch Baker, the father of our subject, engaged in farming in Washington county, Pennsylvania, living at his first place for a short period and then removing to Ten Mile, in the same county. From there he removed to Amwell township, in Washington county, and there spent the remainder of his life. He died January 7, 1882. His widow is still living there. His remains were interred in Pleasant Hill cemetery, in Washington county. For years he was a member of the Presbyterian church and held office in his township. In politics he was a staunch Republican.

Enoch Baker and his wife became the parents of eight children. Sarah Jane, born December 19, 1839, married Albert Voorhees, who came to Vermilion county in 1850. She died in 1893. Nancy Maria, born January 24, 1843, died August 24, 1900. She married J. N. Horn and resided in Washington county, Pennsylvania. David B., born December 18, 1845, married Sarah Strauss, and resides in Washington, Pennsylvania. Apollo S., born September 20, 1850, married Clara Clark, who died, and he afterward married Sarah F. Long. They reside one mile east of Jamaica, Illinois. Henry S., the fifth member of the family, is the subject of this review. Charles H., a twin brother of Henry S., was born October 12, 1856, and died on the 31st of the same month. Clara B. was born January 5, 1859, married William Hughes, and resides in Washington, Pennsylvania. Frank R., born July 12, 1862, married Kittie Hamilton and resides on the old homestead farm.

The subject of this review attended the

district schools of Anwell township, Washington county, Pennsylvania, until he was twenty-one years of age. During vacation he assisted his father upon the farm. He came to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1879, where he entered the employ of Silas Clarke, continuing with him for three years. He then returned to Pennsylvania, but was not satisfied and returned again to the west. On the 27th of February, 1884, he was married near Catlin, Illinois, to Miss Nettie E. Boggess, who was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, June 10, 1862. She was a daughter of E. P. and Mary (Lightner) Boggess, both natives of Vermilion county, the father born July 17, 1837, and the mother in Danville, September 4, 1841. Mr. and Mrs. Boggess were married in Danville, Illinois, and located on a farm in Vermilion county, three miles northwest of Catlin, where Mr. Boggess remained until his retirement in 1895, when he removed to Catlin. His first wife died in August, 1867, and in 1868 he was again married, leading to the altar Mary E. Austin. She was born near Dayton, Ohio, and was a very successful school teacher. Mr. Boggess was also a school teacher of note. His wife died December 15, 1880, and on the 25th of December, 1882, he was again married, his third union being with Hannah J. Elliott, who was born in Paxton, Ford county, Illinois, in December, 1840. She and her husband are now living in Catlin. She was a successful school teacher, having taught in the high school in Champaign, Illinois. As has been said, Mr. Boggess was also a teacher in his early days. He was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church and took an active interest in its work, at different times holding all the offices in the church for many years. He was formerly a member of the Masonic

fraternity and voted with the Republican party. Mrs. Baker is the second of three children born unto her father by his first marriage. Alice, the wife of Peter L. Shaver, resides at Latham, Illinois. Robert L. died at the age of six months. By Mr. Boggess' second marriage there were six children. Olive G. is the wife of William H. Ray, a successful farmer of Homer, Illinois. Frank A. married Rose Bacon, of Danville, Illinois, and now resides in Fowler, Colorado, where he is principal of a school. His wife was formerly a teacher in the Danville schools. Arthur C. was born in Catlin, Illinois, March 2, 1874, is now attending the University of Wisconsin and holds a state certificate in Illinois. He was graduated from the Illinois State Normal in 1900 and from Illinois University in 1902. Maud L. died at the age of nine months. Agnes M. resides at home. Ralph V. is principal of schools at Cheneyville, Illinois, and is a teacher of marked ability. By the third marriage of Mr. Boggess were born two children, Charles, at home, and Edith E., a student of the Danville high school.

In connection with the genealogical history of the Baker family it is necessary to mention the Robbins family, who were noted and honored early settlers of Pennsylvania. Jane Robbins was the great-grandmother of Mr. Baker of this review on the paternal side and was the wife of Joseph Robbins in whose family were the following children, twelve in number: Sarah, born December 7, 1768; Leah, born March 10, 1770; Mary, born January 30, 1772; Joseph, born May 27, 1774; Jane, born May 31, 1776; Abraham, born May 21, 1778; Margaret, the grandmother of our subject, born February 10, 1784; Lyda, born November 2, 1781; Alice, born Octo-



WM. FITHIAN, M. D.

ber 29, 1783; Bethany, born September 17, 1785; Abigail, born December 17, 1787; and Esther, born November 7, 1789. Mr. Baker's ancestors were a hardy family of people, with strong constitutions and sterling traits of character.

After their marriage Henry S. Baker and wife settled upon the farm which they now occupy. This farm comprises one hundred and twenty acres on section 24, in Vance township. Mr. Baker has cultivated his land improving it in every way and making it one of the model farms of the county. Here he successfully carries on farming and is extensively engaged in raising a good grade of stock for the markets, including Poland China hogs, horses and cattle. He is authority in his community on this grade of hogs and is considered a substantial and representative business man of Vermilion county. He has a comfortable residence and large barns on his place.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Baker has been blessed with six children: Enoch P., born April 15, 1885, died May 11, 1885; Ralph Leslie, born November 11, 1887, died October 26, 1896; Charles Virgil, born March 22, 1890, Froman C., born August 5, 1892, and Earl B., born September 8, 1894, are at home with their parents; Henry Raymond, born November 20, 1897, died August 19, 1898.

Mr. Baker is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of which he is steward. He is a generous contributor to and an active worker in the church, being devoted to the cause of Christianity. He is a Republican in his political views, but the honors and emoluments of office have no charm for him and he has refused to accept office. He and his wife are valued residents of Vance township and are well known throughout the county.

WILLIAM FITHIAN, M. D.

One of the most prominent and distinguished residents of eastern Illinois was Dr. William Fithian, and if man's place in the world is determined by his usefulness assuredly the Doctor's position was a leading one. For many years ranking as one of the most capable physicians of this part of the state, his labors were not limited by his profession. Along many other lines he contributed to the general progress and upbuilding, became a factor in banking and mercantile circles and was instrumental in securing the extension of many railroads into this county.

To Dr. Fithian also belonged the distinction of having been the first white child born in Cincinnati, Ohio, his natal day having been April 7, 1799. His father, George Fithian, was a native of Elizabethtown, New Jersey, where he was reared and married. He afterward removed to the Northwest Territory, being one of the earliest settlers of Cincinnati, then a mere hamlet situated on the very borders of civilization. He was also among the first to engage in merchandising there. Later he removed to the new town of Springfield, Ohio, and after a few years he removed to the present site of Urbana, Ohio, erecting the first house there. It was a large double log building, in which he conducted a tavern for a number of years. He and his wife afterward removed to Danville, Illinois, and made their home with Dr. Fithian until death.

The Doctor was but thirteen years of age at the time of the outbreak of the war of 1812, but although too young to join the army he became a member of a company of home guards which was organized for protection against the Indians, who were proving troublesome. As was the custom in

those days, at an early age he began learning a trade—that of printing—and later he secured a contract to print a volume of legislative enactments of the state of Ohio. He worked many times late into the night, by the light of a tallow dip, in order to complete the task at the time specified. This was an act characteristic of his entire career. With the money thus earned in the printing business he began the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. Joseph Carter, an eminent physician of Ohio, then located at Urbana. After three years' study he received a diploma and soon afterward began the practice of his profession in Mechanicsburg, Ohio, where he remained for two years, returning then to Urbana, where he formed a partnership with his former preceptor, Dr. Carter, this relationship being maintained until 1830. While still living in Ohio, according to an old law of that state, he was made one of the associate judges, sitting with the county judge and trying cases.

Prior to 1830 Dr. Fithian had visited Danville and in the year mentioned he came by wagon to this city, accompanied by his wife. It was his intention to here embark in practice. The town at that time contained some two hundred inhabitants and was the site of an old Indian settlement and Indians still continued to make it their trading point. For almost sixty years Dr. Fithian practiced here and was probably as widely known as any physician of the state during the years of his active connection with the profession. He would sometimes ride for weeks at a stretch with but a few hours' sleep at night. He made his trips on horseback, keeping from six to eight head of horses. His practice extended as far west as Bloomington, McLean county; south to Paris, Edgar county; north into

Iroquois and Kankakee counties, and at times even to Chicago; and east far into the state of Indiana. As accommodations and supplies were limited and the country sparsely settled the Doctor always carried some tea with him, which he would steep if opportunity offered or chew the leaves if he found it impossible to make the drink.

The Doctor served as a soldier in the Black Hawk war and during the Civil war was appointed by President Lincoln to the position of provost marshal of what was then the seventh congressional district of Illinois, which trying and responsible office he most creditably filled. The friendship between Dr. Fithian, the young physician, and Abraham Lincoln, the young lawyer, was formed in the early days of the former's residence in Illinois and continued up to the time of the President's death in 1865. What little litigation Dr. Fithian had was always in charge of Lincoln and perhaps no one stood closer in the early days to the great emancipator than did our subject. For many years Dr. Fithian was the leader of the Whig party in this section of the two states of Illinois and Indiana and was an active factor in the campaign of 1860, which resulted in the election of his friend Lincoln. He served for one term as state senator and two terms as representative. While in Springfield he professionally attended a number of the most distinguished men of Illinois and there formed friendships which continued a lifetime.

Dr. Fithian became a wealthy man, owning a number of thousand acres of land. He also established a large mercantile enterprise and a private banking business in Danville and these were carried on by his sons for many years. He was largely instrumental in securing the building of several railroads through Danville and gave the right of way through a large tract of land

to the Indiana, Bloomington & Western, now a part of the Big Four system, and the town of Fithian on this line was named in his honor.

The Doctor was four times married, his second wife, Oleatha T. Berry, of Urbana, becoming the mother of his four children, of whom George, the father of William E. Fithian, of Danville, is now deceased, and John has also passed away. Henry and Elisha C. B. are yet living. In his late years the Doctor retired from active practice and died on the 5th of April, 1890, lacking but two days of reaching his ninety-first birthday. He was a man in the best sense of the term. Successful himself, he was ever ready to aid a deserving friend and while unostentatious in his giving many have cause to remember his kindness in time of need. The Illinois State Medical Society, in its report of 1890, said of him. "The man matched the times in which he lived, and was a product of them; resolute, simple, severe and exact, something of the hardness of his circumstances gave force to his character, but by the bedside he was low-voiced, tender, precise and faithful. Autocratic as became the physician in whose hands are the issues of life and death, he was regardful of the feelings of those in whose presence he stood. He was a good man with defects; a strong man with weaknesses; and he made a large impression on his time and in the country of his choice. Those who watched and witnessed his passing, long, painful, solitary, will realize as never before, how great a boon it is to die when the springs of life have ceased to sparkle and shadows cover the whole wide world and the only light is from the one open gate through which the loved ones have gone before. He has ushered in thousands and lightened the pains and softened the departure of three

generations of men. He, the great and old physician, bowed before the King of Terrors, to him a Minister of Peace."

DAVID HIMROD.

David Himrod, secretary and treasurer of the Himrod Coal Company and a resident of Danville, was born in Sterling, Kansas, March 10, 1876, a son of Patten Himrod, whose sketch is given on another page of this work. He began his education in the schools of his native city, but left school in the year of graduation, removing to Chicago with his parents and in that city became a student in the Chicago Manual Training School. He afterward attended the State University of Kansas, at Lawrence, and then returned to Sterling, where he accepted the position of bookkeeper in a bank. While thus engaged he made arrangements to enter the service of the Himrod Coal Company, in July, 1895, at which time he came to Danville, where he has since remained, and upon his father's death, in 1902, he assumed control of the business as its secretary and treasurer. He is largely engaged in the development of the rich coal deposits of this portion of the state, being secretary of the company owning a mine situated six miles south of Danville and another eight miles southeast of the city. The product is shipped mostly to Chicago and other metropolitan centers and the volume of the business is constantly growing with the result that the enterprise has returned an excellent income to the stockholders. The officers of the company are Bernard Himrod, president; Charles Himrod, vice president; David Himrod, secretary and treasurer; and W. Keefer, superintendent.

On the 28th of January, 1898, in Danville, Mr. Himrod of this review was united in marriage to Miss Cornelia Roberts, who was born in Champaign county, Illinois, September 1, 1876, a daughter of Thomas and Mary B. (West) Roberts. Mr. Himrod votes with the Republican party and in June, 1901, he was made a Mason, while of the Modern Woodmen of America he is also a representative. A young business man, possessed of the enterprising spirit of the west, he occupies a creditable position in industrial circles, and arguing from the past it is not difficult to prophesy for him a successful future.

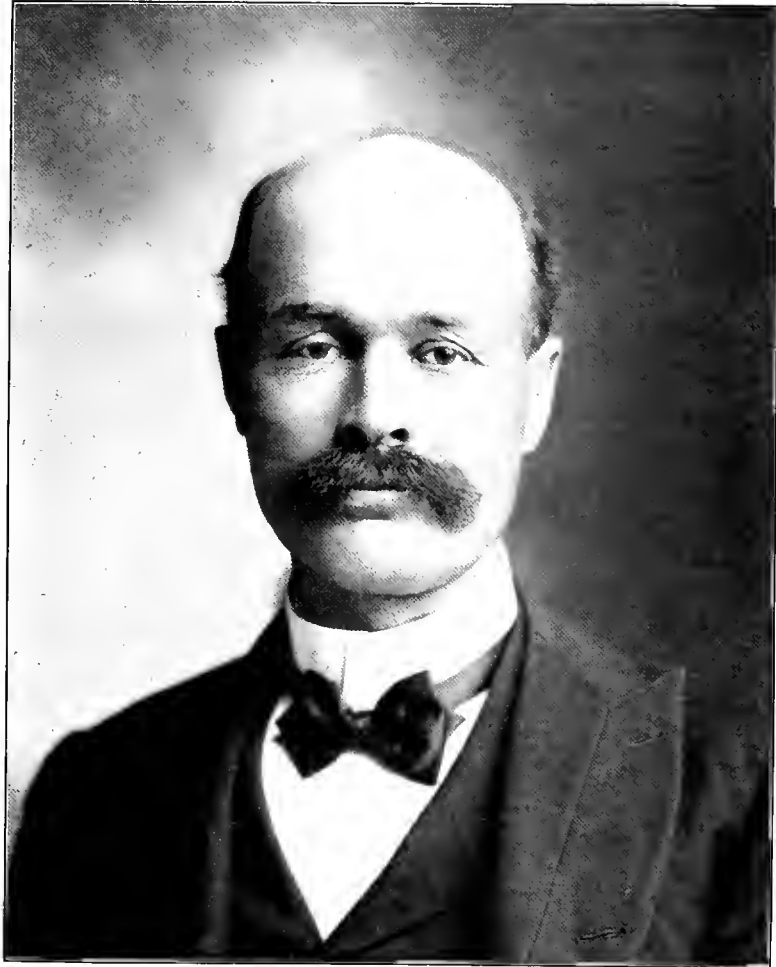
W. R. ALLDREDGE.

During his residence in Danville W. R. Alldredge has won due recognition of labor, being now one of the substantial residents of this city, although when he located here he had just ten dollars. He now has extensive real estate interests, being the owner of much property in the city and the rental from his tenement houses brings to him an excellent income.

Mr. Alldredge is a native of the neighboring state of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Bartholomew county, on the 6th of December, 1860, his parents being Isaac and Elizabeth (Galyean) Alldredge. The father was born in Virginia of Welsh and Scotch ancestry and the mother was born in Indiana of Scotch and Irish parentage. They were married in Muncie, Indiana, and in order to provide for his family the father carried on farming and also engaged in mechanical pursuits. His death occurred in Logansport, Indiana, in 1878, and his widow lived with the subject of this review at the time of her death in 1890. They were

the parents of nine children, of whom five are yet living: Daniel L., John, Francis, Mrs. Martha A. Stanley and our subject.

W. R. Alldredge spent the greater part of his early life in Logansport, Indiana, and left that city at the age of twenty years to become a resident of Muncie, Indiana, where he worked at the mason's trade and was engaged in the construction of cement sidewalks and similar work from 1880 until 1883. In the latter year he came to Danville, where he followed his trade for about nine or ten years. His attention was then given to the coal business and gradually he became extensively interested in real estate. He purchased eighty acres of land adjoining Vermilion Heights on the southwest and has since sold forty acres of this. On the remaining forty acres he opened a coal mine about six years ago. He had previously leased coal lands to other parties who had worked out the mines. Through eight or ten years in the winter seasons Mr. Alldredge has engaged in operating his coal mines to a limited extent, supplying the local markets. As his financial resources have increased, however, he has made judicious investments in real estate and he now owns twenty-two tenement houses located in different sections of the city. He built some of these at very moderate expense in order that they might be rented at a low rate, while others are very desirable residences. He devotes the greater part of his time to the management of his property interests. During the year 1901 he did a building business to the extent of eleven thousand dollars, erecting a flat building on Pine street to the value of seven thousand dollars. He has been quick to recognize opportunities in real estate dealing and his efforts in this direction have brought to him excellent success.



W. R. ALLDREDGE.

On the 23d of September, 1891, Mr. Alldredge was married in Danville to Frances Tate, who was born in this city in 1873, and is a daughter of Huston and Margaret (Hodge) Tate, natives of Pennsylvania and Illinois, respectively, their marriage being celebrated in Vermilion county. The father was one of the first white men in the neighborhood, establishing his home here when Danville was a mere village and when no railroads connected it with the outside world. He killed many deer in the woods near where Danville now stands and took an active part in the early pioneer development of this region. He was a cooper by trade, being an expert workman in his line, and for some time he conducted a shop in this city. Later, however, he purchased land and resided upon his farm, devoting his attention to agricultural pursuits up to the time of his death, which occurred in March, 1897. His wife passed away in 1876. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom eight are yet living: Mrs. Alice Blakeney, Mrs. Flora Stump, Mrs. Lizzie Best, Mrs. Anna True-love, Mrs. Jennie Bennett, Mrs. Mattie Smart, Jasper and Mrs. Ethel Lucas.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Alldredge have been born four children: Mary Lena, born August 11, 1892; Harry, born January 26, 1898; Huston, born August 31, 1899; and Virgil, born May 25, 1901. They also lost their second child, Wilhe, born December 31, 1894, who died at the age of three years. The parents hold membership in the Lincoln Methodist Episcopal church and take an active part in its work and upbuilding. Mr. Alldredge has served as trustee, as steward and as a member of the building committee. In politics he has always been a stalwart Republican, doing everything in his power to promote the growth and to promote the

success of his party. Socially he is identified with Vermilion Camp, No. 254, M. W. A. When he came to Danville in 1883 he had less than ten dollars in cash, but he possessed energy, ambition and fortitude and these qualities have been salient features in his career. His successful life demonstrates that his business instinct have been well guided and that his enterprise has been exercised to a good advantage. His success has been the result of honest, persistent effort in the line of honorable and manly dealing. His aims have always been to attain to the best and he has carried forward to a successful completion whatever he has undertaken. His life has marked a steady growth, and now he is in possession of an ample competence, and more than all has that contentment that comes from a consciousness of having lived to a good purpose.



WILLIAM T. STEVENS.

An honored and influential resident of Georgetown township, William T. Stevens has lived in Vermilion county for more than three quarters of a century. He was born in Rush county, Indiana, March 18, 1821, and is a son of James and Susanna (Thomas) Stevens. The parents of the former were natives of Indiana, and the latter of Germany, who came to America in an early day and settled on land in Rush county, Indiana. They lived and died near Crawfordville, Indiana. James and Susanna (Thomas) Stevens were the parents of eight children, but of this number two died in infancy. James lived and died in Vermilion county and left a widow and three children. H. P. left a widow who is also now deceased. Samuel G. was a resident of Vermilion coun-

ty and died leaving a widow and two children. She married again and is now living in Missouri. Steven C. went to California and died there, leaving a widow and two children who are yet residents of that state. Lavina became the wife of John Calvin Cory, of California, and died leaving one son, who also resides there. Nancy M. became the wife of Joseph Miller, of Vermilion county, but both are now deceased. They left seven children. All received a common-school education. H. P. and James H. Stevens were both school teachers in Vermilion county for years. Mr. Stevens, Sr., followed farming as a life occupation and in politics he was a Democrat, taking an active part in the work of the party. He was a very talented orator and delighted many an audience with his eloquence. He served in the war of 1812 as a private and received a pension from the government on account of injuries sustained. Both he and his wife were members of the Christian church and were consistent workers therein. She passed away in 1870, while he was called to rest in 1874, both dying on the family homestead one mile east of Westville on section 8, in Georgetown township. They had moved to Vermilion county, Illinois, in the fall of 1827, when our subject was six years of age.

Mr. Stevens of this review early began to earn his own living, starting out on his own account at the age of fourteen. He worked for three years for ten dollars per month, then bought calves and raised the hay and grain for them, and fed them until they were three years old, when he sold them for money enough to buy his present farm. However, this was not until after he had attained his twenty-seventh year, for he worked upon farms by the month until that time. He was energetic, persevering and industrious and

he started out determined to win his way in the world, having no influential friends or capital to aid him. However, he realized that the opportunities of this great commonwealth were before him and he had the keen discernment and the sound judgment which enabled him to take advantage of these and win for himself and family a competence. Shortly before his marriage he bought eighty acres of his present farm of two hundred and thirty-two acres on section 7, Georgetown township. This land was totally unimproved when he made the purchase, and he at once began to prepare the fields for the raising of crops. He has made all necessary improvements on the same and now has one of the model farms of Vermilion county.

February 22, 1848, is the date on which was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Stevens and Miss Martha Ann Alexander, a daughter of Robert Alexander, a native of Indiana. Her mother died when Mrs. Stevens was an infant. Mr. Stevens and his first wife raised a little girl from the age of a year old. Her name was Matilda Ann Guest, and she made her home with our subject until her marriage with C. L. Downing and they reside in Georgetown township. Mr. Stevens was again married, February 4, 1872, to Nancy Blakeney, a daughter of William and Susanna (Ellis) Blakeney. Her father was born in Ripley county, Kentucky, and her mother in Ohio. In their family were twelve children, of whom eight reached years of maturity. Wright died in 1872, in Edgar county, and was buried in Brooks Point. Thomas Westberry Blakeney is now a resident of Danville, where he is engaged in the real estate business. Sarah is the wife of Samuel McCord, who is living three miles east of Westville, a farmer by occupation. Rachel is the wife of Jonathan

Ellis, who lives in Ridgefarm, and also operates land there. Mary is the wife of Andrew Roys, a farmer residing near Foster, Indiana. Martha is the widow of Thomas F. Field, and lives near Wellington, Illinois. Susanna Brooks is the wife of Theodore Brooks and resides a half mile south of Westville. He is also a farmer.

Mr. and Mrs. Stevens are the parents of three children: Ina J. became the wife of Charles Nease, of Vermilion county and died February 20, 1894, leaving her husband to mourn her loss, as well as the father and mother and many friends, also two children, William Curtis and Gracie. Her husband has since married. Susanna is the wife of John S. Olmstead and lives in Catlin. He taught school for twelve years and is now mail agent on the Wabash Railroad from St. Louis to Detroit, Michigan. Savannah Elsie is at home. All the children enjoyed good educational privileges. Mr. Stevens now has four hundred and fifty-two acres of land; two hundred and twenty acres in section 12, Pilot township and two hundred and thirty-two acres on sections 7, Georgetown township. He also has an acre and a half just west of his home with a three-room house on the same, which he rents. He has three houses and barns on the homesteads and has made all the improvements found thereon. Mr. Stevens is a Democrat of the very strongest convictions in the principles of his party. He first voted for Jackson for president. He has never been a politician, however, in the sense of office seeking, preferring to devote his attention to his farming interests. He and his wife as well as the other members of the family belong to the Christian church, in Westville. Fraternally he is a member of Catlin Lodge, No. 85, A. F. & A. M., of which he is a charter member. Truly a self-made

man. Mr. Stevens' praiseworthy career would serve as an example to those who are starting out in life for themselves with nothing but willing hands and strong determination as aids to their success. Having so long resided in the community where he makes his home, is well known by all, who honor him as a pioneer settler and a valued citizen.

MRS. A. L. NEWMAN.

Mrs. A. L. Newman well deserves mention in the history of Vermilion county. She was born in Otsego county, New York, July 22, 1834. Her father, Potter Gardner, was a native of Vermont and came of a family of English origin that was founded in America by three brothers of the name who, leaving the "merrie isle" sailed for the new world. These were, Squire, Nicholas and William Gardner, and one of the number was the great-grandfather of our subject.

Potter Gardner, after arriving at years of maturity, was united in marriage to Miss Mary Thurston, a daughter of Amos Thurston, who served his country in the war of 1812. Mr. Gardner died August 21, 1845, at the age of forty years, and his wife, long surviving him, spent her last years in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Newman, passing away in 1891, at the age of eighty-three years. The family is noted for longevity. Mrs. Newman's grandmother lived to be ninety-four years of age, one uncle ninety-three, another uncle eighty-seven years and another grandmother eighty-eight years of age. She has a living brother, William H. Gardner, who resides in Rensselaer, Indiana, while three brothers have passed away.

Mrs. Newman spent her early girlhood days under the parental roof and pursued a common school education. At the age of sixteen years she began teaching and followed that profession with success for a number of terms. On the 1st of August, 1852, she gave her hand in marriage to Harrison Harrington, who died twelve years later, on Christmas day of 1864, leaving three children: H. Adelaide, the wife of H. L. French, of Falbot, Indiana; James H., who has always resided with his mother and is now living with her in Hoopston; and Mary A., the wife of J. H. Booth, of Hoopston.

In March, 1867, in Otsego county, New York, Mrs. Harrington was again married, becoming the wife of W. O. Newman. The same year they removed to Woodford county, Illinois, and purchased land upon which they lived for seven years. They then came to Vermilion county, Illinois, in February, 1875, settling two miles south of East Lynn, where they became the owners of eighty acres of land, afterward adding to this another eighty acres so that the farm now comprises an entire quarter section. There they lived until Mr. Newman's death in 1886, after which Mrs. Newman took up her abode in East Lynn, which was her place of residence until 1902. She then came to Hoopston, where she had previously made many friends, and here she now occupies a pleasant home. She also owns eighty acres of land in Butler township.

Mrs. Newman has been a devoted church member since the age of fourteen years. She first united with the Baptist church and after her first marriage she became a member of the Christian church. Her second husband, however, was a member of the Baptist church and she again joined that denom-

ination, with which she is now connected. She is connected through membership relations with the Royal Neighbors, to which her son James and his wife also belong and he is a member of the Modern Woodmen. Mrs. Newman formerly belonged to the Order of the Eastern Star.

James H. Harrington is a native of Otsego county, New York, and for a number of years has carried on agricultural pursuits. He, too, owns eighty acres of land and the home property in Hoopston. He is now engaged in the mercantile business at that place. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his entire time and attention to the management of his agricultural interests.

JAMES HOOVER.

James Hoover, who is one of the substantial farmers of Ross township, has been a resident of Vermilion county since 1858 and to-day he has here a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres of well improved land, which is the visible evidence of his life of industry and thrift. He was born in Holmes county, Ohio, February 1, 1837. His father, John Hoover, was of Holland descent. The grandfather settled in Pennsylvania at a very early day and his son John was there born and reared. He wedded Deborah Siddons, also a native of Pennsylvania, and in order to provide for his family he followed the blacksmith's trade in the early years of his manhood, having learned that pursuit prior to his marriage. On his removal to Ohio he took up his abode in Holmes county, where in connection with blacksmithing he cleared a



JAMES HOOVER.



MRS. JAMES HOOVER.

tract of land and developed a farm, making his home thereon for a number of years. He afterward removed to Richland county, Ohio, where he spent the last days of his life.

James Hoover remained in the county of his nativity until seventeen years of age and then went to Indiana, settling in Stateline. He learned the carpenter's trade in early life and to some extent followed blacksmithing in repair shops. At Stateline he was engaged in the building trade and in following other pursuits that would yield him an honest living. In the winter he went into a blacksmith shop and later he owned a smithy, conducting work along that line and also doing various kinds of repair work at that place for fourteen years. In 1871 he came to Ross township, Vermilion county, Illinois. He had bought and traded for one hundred and sixty acres of land here and at the time of his arrival turned his attention to farming and further improved his property. He erected a large and attractive farm residence, built good barns for the shelter of grain and stock and added all modern equipments such as are seen upon a farm of the twentieth century. His home is surrounded by beautiful shade trees and the fruit trees of a fine orchard annually stock his cellar with apples. It is also evident from the appearance of the productive fields that his land has been well tilled. He resided upon the farm until the spring of 1899 when he removed to Alvin, where he purchased a residence which he has since rebuilt and remodeled so that now he has one of the best homes in the town. His personal supervision is yet given to his farm work, although he resides in the village. He commenced life a poor man at the bottom of the ladder but steadily he has climbed to success.

Mr. Hoover was married in Benton county, Indiana, in October, 1857, to Elizabeth Logan, a native of Rush county, that state. Seven children reached adult age: John, who is married and follows blacksmithing in Stateline, Indiana; Francis M., who was married but is now deceased; George W., who is married and resides in Oklahoma, where he follows farming; Deborah, the wife of William G. Copeland, of Danville; James M., who is married and is operating the home farm; A. M., who is married and resides in Bismarck, Illinois; and Jesse L., who is married and lives in Marshfield, Indiana. They also lost four children: Mary E., Gertrude, F. M., and an infant son.

As every true American citizen should do, Mr. Hoover keeps well informed on the political questions and issues of the day and is therefore able to cast an intelligent ballot for principles in which he firmly believes. He voted for Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and has since supported each presidential nominee of the Republican party with the exception of one year in which he was in the west. He believes in good schools and has served as a member of the school board and also township trustee. He and his wife belong to the Christian church, in which he has been an elder for many years and they put forth every effort in their power to promote the cause of Christianity and extend its influence. While at Bismarck Mr. Hoover joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. During his residence in Vermilion county he has seen Rossville grow from a crossroads village of two houses to a thriving town, while Danville has developed from a small town to one of the leading cities of this great state. For forty-four years Mr. Hoover has made his home within the borders of the county and is one of

the few remaining pioneers who can tell the tale of development and progress. As the years have passed he has prospered, owing to his unflagging industry, and his life history contains much that is worthy of emulation.

ISAAC ROBERTSON.

Isaac Robertson, of Hoopeston, was born in Stateline, Indiana, February 20, 1853, and was there reared to manhood upon his father's farm. He is a son of Zachariah and Abigail (Starr) Robertson, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Ohio. They were married, however, in Vermilion county and the father followed farming. The mother died in 1878 and the father is now living upon land which he entered from the government, being the only survivor of the early pioneer settlers of his neighborhood. In their family were sixteen children, of whom eight are yet living: Mrs. Jacob Deck, Mrs. S. L. Mesmore, Jacob, P. S., William, Isaac, Mrs. William Cox and Mrs. John Smith.

Isaac Robertson acquired a common school education and put aside his text books early in order to assist in the cultivation of the home farm. At the age of twenty-one he left home with a horse, saddle and bridle. For ten or twelve years he cultivated rented land and then with money which he had earned through his earnest labor he purchased forty acres of land near Blue Grass in Butler township. On selling that he bought eighty acres near East Lynn and afterward added to it another tract of eighty acres, living upon that farm for sixteen years. In November, 1869, he came to Hoopeston and purchased property on Penn street. He has some town lots here also

which he is holding as an investment. For a time after coming to Hoopeston he was employed as a clerk in a store and after a year acted as a traveling salesman for the Fairweight Scale Company, serving in that capacity for seven months. He was afterward employed in a shoe store and now he is handling scales, the Fairbanks, the Victor, the Jones and the Hartman scales, which he sells to farmers and elevator men. He is also writing the accident insurance for the North American Accident Insurance Company.

In February, 1876, near Bismarck, in Newell township, Mr. Robertson married Laurena Hortense Cox, who was born near Oakwood, Illinois, February 8, 1857, a daughter of James H. Cox, of this state, who, when his daughter was but six years of age, passed away. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Mary Osborn, is still living and is now the wife of Daniel Johnson. They reside with our subject. Mrs. Robertson has but one sister, Mary Belle Bennett, and she likewise has a half brother, Reverdy S. Johnson. From the age of twelve years Mrs. Robertson resided upon a farm and she attended the district schools.

Both our subject and his wife have long been members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served as steward and for ten years as trustee. He is the present district steward and has long been identified with Sunday-school work, while his wife is a member of the Missionary Aid Society and of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Mr. Robertson belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and she to the Royal Neighbors. They are the parents of two children, Harry Emmert, who died at the age of thirteen months; and Everett Floyd, who was married in March, 1902, to Miss Lettie M. Hall and they are

living on our subject's farm. Both Mr. and Mrs. Robertson are people of genuine worth, kind hearted, loyal in friendship and honorable in all life's relations.

JUDGE S. MURRAY CLARK.

Among the leading lawyers of Danville, Illinois, probably none stand higher in the profession than Judge S. Murray Clark, who is now serving as county judge of Vermilion county. He was born on the 15th of May, 1869, in Crawfordsville, Indiana, a son of John G. and Mary (Holiday) Clark, who are now living in this county and are natives of North Carolina and Indiana, respectively. His paternal grandfather, Samuel Clark, was also a native of North Carolina and from that state removed to Indiana with his family when the father of our subject was only two years old. William Holiday, the maternal grandfather, was also born in North Carolina and on the Holiday side traces his ancestry back to the Penn colony. He was one of the honored pioneers of Vermilion county, Illinois. The parents of our subject were married in Vermilion county, where the mother had located in her girlhood days, her father having been one of the early settlers here. After their marriage Mr. Clark engaged in the practice of dentistry at Covington, Indiana, and owing to failing health he turned his attention to farming near Crawfordsville, that state, where he remained for some time. Later he resumed the practice of his profession in Thorntown, Indiana, and then again he farmed. In the spring of 1870, however, he came to Vermilion county and engaged in farming in Elwood township, near Ridgefarm, where he remained until 1890. He afterward resided at Vermilion Grove for five years and in

Georgetown he engaged in banking, being at the present time the president of the First National Bank at that place. His wife is also living and they are prominent and influential residents of Georgetown. The Doctor is a staunch Republican and is a member of the Quaker church. He has always refused to hold public office but in matters of citizenship he is loyal and progressive and his life has ever been honorable and upright. In his family were three children, the eldest being O. P. Clark, who married Ada Elliott, by whom he has four children. He resides in Georgetown, being the cashier of the bank there. The Judge is the second in order of birth. Emma, the only daughter, is the wife of Professor C. E. Cosand, the principal of the Lincoln Street school of Danville, by whom she has two children.

Judge Clark of this review began his education in the public schools and later was a student in Vermilion Academy, at Vermilion Grove, where he remained until 1887. He was also a student for two years in Earlham College, of Richmond, Indiana, and then entered the Bloomington Law School, a department of the Wesleyan University, where he completed the prescribed law course and was graduated in 1893. At Ridgefarm he began practice but in 1894 he came to Danville, entering into partnership with George G. Mabin, since which time he has practiced in this city with marked success. A man of sound judgment he manages his cases with masterly skill and tact and is regarded as one of the best lawyers of the city. He has been connected with much of the important litigation tried in the courts of this district. He was chosen as counsel for the plaintiff in the case of Carrie Corbett versus John Gernand, in which the jury gave a verdict in favor of his client for fifty-four thousand three hundred and thirty-three and one-

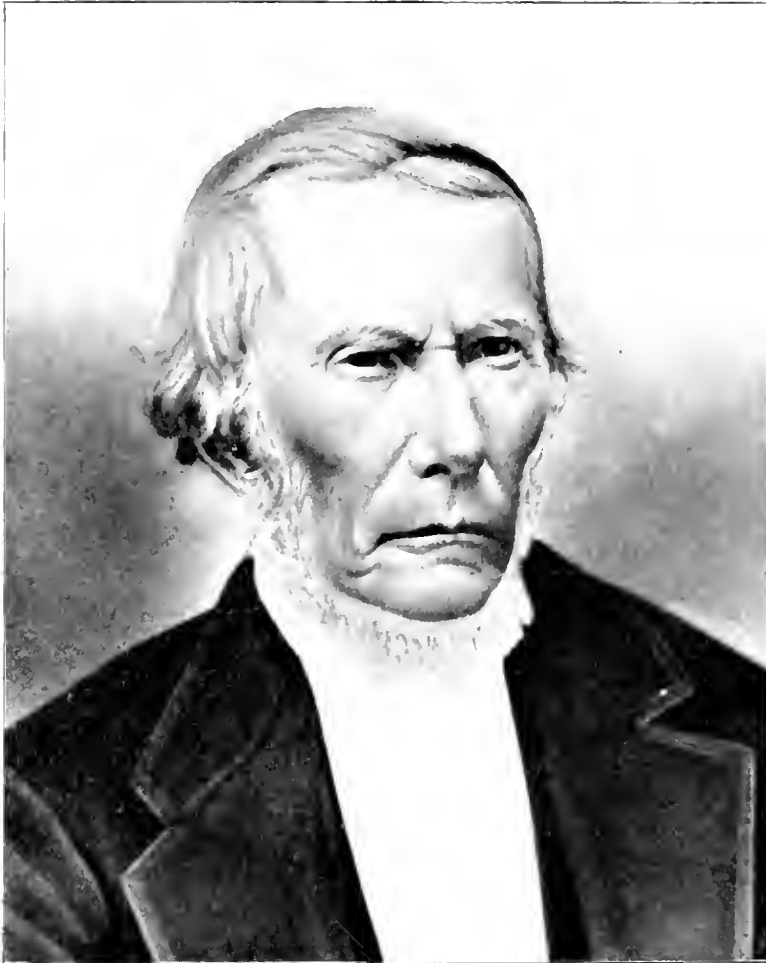
third dollars—the largest breach of promise verdict ever rendered in the United States. In the conduct of these cases the firm of Mabin & Clark was assisted by E. R. E. Kimbrough. Mr. Clark has conducted many personal injury cases and the firm won a verdict of ten thousand dollars for their client in the case of Sherber versus Lorton. Judge Clark prepares his cases with marked precision and care and enters the courtroom well qualified to meet every possible point of attack. He is a convincing and earnest speaker, strong in argument, and his deductions follow in logical sequence. In the spring of 1902 he was nominated by the Republican party for judge of Vermilion county, and the following September was appointed to that position to fill out the unexpired term of Judge Thompson, who had resigned. As the Republican candidate he will undoubtedly be elected to the same office at the November election, that party having a good majority in this county. In his social relations Mr. Clark is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Pythias and the Elks, and he is quite prominent in social, political and professional circles.

On the 6th of August, 1895, Judge Clark was united in marriage to Miss Myra Mendenhall, the wedding taking place in Vermilion Grove, Illinois. The lady was born in Catlin, this state, on the 6th of January, 1871, a daughter of Dr. M. C. and Cynthia (Kennedy) Mendenhall, the former a native of North Carolina and the latter of Indiana. Her parents were married at Center Point, Indiana, and the father afterward engaged in the practice of medicine in Catlin, Illinois, being one of the pioneer physicians and successful representatives of the profession in this county.

During the seven years of their residence in Danville Mr. and Mrs. Clark have become widely known and have been received into the best circles of society, because of their innate culture and refinement, their intelligence and genuine worth. In a profession where advancement can only be gained through merit, because it depends upon intellectuality as well as earnest and continuous labor Judge S. Murray Clark has gained a position of distinction, and upon the bench he is proving by his fairness, impartiality and capability that the trust in him is well placed.

LEMUEL P. ADAMS.

Prominent among the progressive agriculturists of Newell township is numbered the gentleman whose name introduces this review and who is also classed among the honored pioneers. He lives on section 22, where he has a splendid farm of three hundred and forty-nine and one-half acres or rich and well improved land. He was born here May 2, 1854. His paternal grandfather, William Adams, was an honored soldier of the Revolutionary war, serving as an officer in that struggle for independence. He lived to be about ninety years of age and was buried in the Martinfield cemetery, in Newell township, near where the old walnut tree now stands. Samuel Adams, the father of our subject, was born in Harrison county, Kentucky, and married Nancy Martin, whose birth occurred in the same county. In the year 1825 Samuel Adams came to Vermilion county, settling among the Indians, who outnumbered the white men ten to one. There were three families in the party which traveled westward, all coming with two horse wagons and it required



SAMUEL ADAMS.



MRS. SAMUEL ADAMS.

three or four weeks to make the trip, the party camping along the roadside at night. The members of the party were John Adams, a cousin of Samuel Adams, and his family; Joseph Martin, a brother-in-law of our subject's father; and Samuel Adams, who was accompanied by his first wife and two children. They took up their abode on the state boundary line and soon Mr. Adams erected a log cabin with a stick and clay chimney. This stood on section 22, Newell township, the old family homestead. He entered eighty acres of land from the government, for which he paid one hundred dollars. No transfer of this property has ever been made since that time, save when it came into possession of our subject. Samuel Adams was a noted dealer in hogs, which he raised for the home market. His earliest trading points were Eugene and Perrysville on the Wabash river and he oftentimes also hauled products to Chicago, which required about eighteen days to make the trip. It was necessary to ford the rivers, for no bridges had been built, and to camp out along the road at night. The history of such pioneer experiences, if written in detail, would fill a volume. Home made clothing was used and the second wife of Mr. Adams was noted for her skill in weaving. She made blankets and coverlets for the beds and assisted materially in establishing a good home for the family through her labor in the household. In the '40s Mr. Adams was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife and later he married Sarah Rayle, who was a widow with five children. He had thirteen children by his first marriage and there were two children born of the second marriage, the elder being James H., who resides in West Newell, and the younger being Lemeul. The second Mrs. Adams was a daughter of Luke Kayles, who

was an early pioneer of Vermilion county and was the first owner of land on the north fork. Samuel Adams died in 1881, at the age of eighty-one years and twenty days, and the mother of our subject passed away in September, 1882, when about seventy-four years of age.

Lemeul P. Adams was reared in Newell township amid the wild scenes of frontier life and was educated in the public schools. Although his privileges in that direction were limited, his training at farm labor was not meager, for from early spring planting until crops were harvested in the late autumn he bore his part in the work of the fields. He was about twenty years of age when he began business for himself and today he is one of the substantial farmers of Newell township. He has added to his landed possessions through thrift and good management and has been actively and successfully identified with general farming and stock-raising. He has made a specialty of the feeding and raising of hogs, keeping on hand annually about seventy hogs and at the present time he has one hundred and fifteen head. Mr. Adams has aided quite largely in clearing timber land and in developing the agricultural resources of this part of the state. He has ever been a friend of the varied interests which have contributed to the welfare and upbuilding of the county. He can remember when Danville was but a mere village and when the greater part of the land was wild and unbroken. There were many timber wolves, turkeys and other wild game which could be had in abundance, while deer were also frequently seen. His father often told of seeing as many as eighteen and twenty deer in a herd upon his farm but he never cared for hunting.

Mr. Adams was married in 1879 to Miss

Martha Current, but after a short married life of four years she died in 1883, leaving two children, William H. and Alva Oscar. For his second wife Mr. Adams chose Miss Minerva Rouse, daughter of Edward and Minerva (Martin) Rouse, early settlers of Newell township. Mrs. Adams was born on the old Rouse homestead farm in this township May 31, 1803, and gave her hand in marriage to our subject May 29, 1884. They have become the parents of five children, of whom four are living: Sarah Ella, twelve years of age; Grover Dennis, aged ten; Ethel May, aged seven; and Clarence Delmar, who is a little lad of five years. They also lost one child, Myrtie E., who died at the age of five years. The living children are now attending the district school.

Mr. Adams is a well informed man who keeps abreast with the times. With the exception of the small tract of land given him by his father all that he possesses has been acquired through his own exertions, and in addition to his valuable home farm of almost three hundred and fifty acres he owns two hundred and fifty-two acres in Greene county, Indiana. This has upon it a good orchard and substantial buildings and is surrounded by a well kept fence. This property is rented, bringing to him a substantial income. Since his father's death Lemuel Adams has added to the old home place many substantial and valuable improvements. He has a good grain farm and fine pasture lands with every facility for cultivating his fields, including the latest improved machinery. His corn crops yield from forty to forty-five bushels per acre and his oats from thirty to thirty-five bushels. The farm work is now, however, largely performed by his sons, Mr. Adams merely giving his supervision to the work

during the past five years. Both he and his wife are members of the Primitive Baptist church located upon his father-in-law's old homestead and in his political affiliations Mr. Adams is a Democrat. He deserves mention in this volume not only because he is a representative of one of the pioneer families of the county but also on account of his genuine worth, his loyal citizenship and his upright life.

FRIENDS IN VERMILION COUNTY.

In the early years of the nineteenth century the Friends or Quakers in the east and south became dissatisfied with their surroundings and began an exodus north and westward. The reason for this movement was probably two fold. First—To get away from slavery which was very distasteful to them and which they considered a very wrong and vile business, besides being contrary to their church creed. Second—Having never been very prosperous in the rocky and mountainous regions of Virginia and Tennessee, they determined to establish themselves in a more fertile and productive region where they could build for themselves a religious and educational community according to their own ideas and beliefs. Ohio and Indiana received a great number of these emigrants, some of which being still dissatisfied, pushed farther west and settled in the fertile plains of Vermilion county, Illinois, near what is now Vermilion Grove. This was soon after the grand old Prairie state had been admitted to statehood and since that time many communities and meetings have sprung up around this place.

The first of these settlers came by way of Indiana from Jefferson county, Tennessee,



L. P. ADAMS.

arriving at Vermilion Grove in 1822. Among the first families were those of John Haworth, Henry Canaday and John Mills. John Haworth settled on what is now known as the Academy Farm which was donated to that institution by his son, Elvin Haworth, some years ago. On this farm was located a rude log hut, in which the first meetings for worship were held soon after the settlement was made. Henry Canaday settled on what is known as the R. H. Canaday farm one-half mile west of the Grove. Henry Canaday was the first man to be appointed to the position as head of the meeting, a place of great importance in the carrying on of the Friends Church at that early day.

John Mills settled on what is known as the Old Mills homestead two miles west of the station near where Richard Mills now lives.

The country was wild prairie and timber lands at that time. Foxes and wolves were plentiful and wild turkeys and prairie chickens furnished much food for the settlers. Indians, wild and fierce, still roamed over the prairie and timber lands and hunted the bison and deer and fished unmolested along the little streams. No roads were seen except the hunter's path. No bridges crossed the sluggish streams. No fences bound the traveler's way, but nature held complete control and seemed to battle hard against invasions made by human hands. Ague and fever proved dreadful foes and pestilence made havoc amongst the little band, but push and perseverance, which those early settlers possessed and which has been a predominant characteristic of their descendants, soon made the wild and barren lands "to blossom like the rose" and produce abundant crops. Ponds were drained, the land was cleared, roads were laid out and

soon the country assumed the appearance of civilization.

Following the first settlers or families came the Hendersons in 1824, and the Reeses in 1830, and Hesters and Mendenhalls about the same time. Others whose names are not mentioned came early and helped to make up the neighborhood and subdue the wild country. The first "meeting house" was built in 1823 in the north end of what is now Vermilion cemetery. It was built of huge walnut logs measuring from two to three feet in diameter. The roof was clapboards and the seats were hewed logs. It was here in this rude house that Friends for miles around came together regularly, twice a week for twenty-nine years to worship God and study of Him out of His Word. At the end of this time, or in 1853, the first frame house was built near where the log one stood. This house had many more accommodations, but still the conveniences were very meager compared with a modern church. The first branch meeting was established at Elwood, at which place a log house was built about 1830. This cabin served as a church until 1846, when a frame house with a stone foundation was built.

The next meeting set up was at Hopewell and a house was built in 1848, and then Pilot Grove about the same year. Ridge-farm, Carol and Georgetown meetings were established later. Sabbath schools were early established in all the meetings and reading and spelling were the branches taught. Later the Bible became the text book. The quarterly meeting was begun in 1863 in that memorable year of the Civil war. The Vermilion meeting house being too small for the accommodation of the crowds that gathered at these times, was enlarged the same year and stood as a land mark for all the country around, until its

place was taken by the splendid new brick structure which was built in 1884.

The quarterly meeting is now composed of eight monthly meetings with a total membership of one thousand eight hundred members. All of these meetings are not in Vermilion county but all have sprung from this central point.

Friends have always believed in education as a means of uplifting humanity and provisions were early made for schools. The first school was a subscription school taught by Reuben Black, who came from Ohio, in 1824-5. It was in a log house one mile west of Vermilion Grove. There were fourteen children on roll and the branches taught were reading, writing and spelling. Among others whose names are mentioned as early teachers were Elijah Yeager, Henry Fletcher and Elisha Hobbs. In 1849 the people got up a subscription to build a new house but could not raise the money, so David and Elvin Haworth and William Canaday with the help of some others built what was called Vermilion Seminary in 1850, a building thirty by fifty-two with two recitation rooms and supplied with proper desks and furniture. They employed J. M. Davis as principal and school opened with one hundred and ten students. This school continued for many years and prospered. The standard of education was held high and as a result the Academy was founded in 1874. This was really a continuation of the old seminary which disappeared with the advent of free schools. The present two-story brick building was erected at a cost of eight thousand dollars. A peoples' endowment of ten thousand dollars was raised. William Rees, John Henderson, Richard Mendenhall, John Elliott, Jonah M. Davis and Elvin Haworth were the first board of trustees. Edwin Harney was first principal.

The school is under control of Vermilion quarterly meeting of Friends Church, but it is not sectarian. The location of the academy is a very beautiful one, in a natural grove of three acres which was donated to the school by Thomas Hester, father of the late William Hester. Other liberal donations have been made to the institution, among which was the donation by Elvin Haworth of all his property, including a splendid farm of one hundred and twenty-five acres close by. A movement is on foot at the present to increase the endowment ten thousand dollars more, which if accomplished will put the school on a splendid financial basis. The quarterly meeting is proud of her school and liberally patronizes the institution.

Such is the history of Friends from their beginning in Elwood township and Vermilion township and Vermilion county. Many points of interest are necessarily omitted, but we feel sure that the points mentioned will be of interest to many.—BERTRAM REES.



COLONEL ISAAC CLEMENTS.

Colonel Isaac Clements, who is now serving as governor of the Danville branch of the National Home for disabled soldiers, is a native of Brookville, Indiana, born March 31, 1837. His father, Isaac Clements, was a native of Maryland, but removed to Indiana and died in Laurel of the latter state in 1873.

Between the ages of six and eighteen years Colonel Clements attended the common schools of Indiana and was afterward engaged in teaching for a year or two in order that he might further continue his studies. When twenty years of age he en-

tered the Asbury University at Greencastle and was there graduated on the completion of the regular course with the class of 1859. In the same year he came to Illinois, locating in Jackson county, where for six months he pursued his temporary vocation of teaching. Later, however, as soon as he had read sufficiently so as to be admitted to the bar, he began practice, having been admitted in 1861. His professional career, however, was soon interrupted for the great issue of civil war was before the country and in July Colonel Clements offered his services as a defender of the Union. He was made second lieutenant of Company G, Ninth Illinois Infantry, and was appointed provost marshal at Athens, Alabama, acting in that capacity from 1863 until the spring of 1864, when he resigned in order to join his company which was then advancing on Atlanta. During the term of his military service he participated in many notable engagements and sustained two severe wounds. He was in the battles of Shiloh, where he was twice wounded, Fort Donelson and Corinth and at the last named place was again wounded. He was also in the advance on Atlanta. He did valiant service for his country wherever duty called him and since the close of hostilities he has long been engaged in public service of a more quiet nature, although of a no less important character. His loyalty to his country is above question and with distinguished honor he represented his district in the forty-third congress, being elected from Illinois to participate in the councils of the nation. In 1877 he was appointed a penitentiary commissioner for the southern Illinois Prison at Chester and acted in that capacity for eleven consecutive years. Subsequently he did duty at Chicago as United States pension agent for three years and for nearly a year he was superintendent of the

Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Normal, Illinois. In December, 1898, he was appointed to his responsible and honorable position as governor of the Soldiers' Home of Danville.

On the 16th of November, 1864, the Colonel was married to Miss Josephine Nutt, a daughter of Cyrus Nutt, D. D., LL. D., of Bloomington, Indiana. They became the parents of four children, of whom three are living: Frank, Louis and Robert. For thirty years Colonel Clements has been a valued representative of the Masonic fraternity and he is also connected with the Grand Army of the Republic. Almost his entire life has been spent in the government service, either upon the field of battle or in civic office and his course has been such as to awaken the highest commendation and confidence. Like a soldier, he has ever felt that his first duty was to his country and its welfare and he has ever placed the general good before personal aggrandizement.

WILLIAM HESSEY.

For many years this gentleman resided in Vermilion county and his name is inseparably connected with the early commercial interests of Danville, where he was engaged in merchandising for a long period. His birthplace was near Louisville, Kentucky, either in that state or southern Indiana, and he was a boy of twelve when he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, with his parents. His father took up government land here and engaged in farming.

The early life of our subject was spent upon a farm in Middlefork township and his education was obtained in the subscription schools so common in those days. Removing to Danville in 1857 he entered into partnership with E. P. Martin and opened a

general store, becoming one of the early merchants of this place. He continued to engage in business here until 1876 and then lived retired until his death, which occurred on the 4th of December, 1888, his remains being interred in Spring Hill cemetery.

Mr. Hessey was twice married, his first wife being Miss Catherine Cannady of Indiana, by whom he had six children. Those still living are Mrs. English, a resident of Danville, Illinois; Belle, who makes her home with Mrs. English; and Cordelia, wife of Seth W. Denny of Evansville, Indiana. The mother of these children died in November, 1858, and Mr. Hessey subsequently married Elizabeth Hessey, and to them were born two children, one of whom is deceased. The other is the wife of Daniel W. Voorhees of Peoria, Illinois. By a former marriage Mrs. Hessey had two children, both now deceased.

Mr. Hessey was a supporter of the Democratic party but took no active part in politics aside from voting. He was connected with the blue lodge of the Masonic fraternity at Danville and held membership in the Christian church. He was a man of the highest respectability, and he left behind him an honorable record well worthy of emulation.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS.

William Williams is a retired farmer now living in Hoopston. During the years of his active business career his persistent labor and carefully directed energy brought to him a competence which now enables him to put aside all business cares and rest in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. He was born in McLean county, Illinois, in 1832, and was the only child of William

Williams. The father was a native of Tennessee and after arriving at years of maturity he wedded Miss Riela B. Hobson, a native of North Carolina, their marriage being celebrated in McLean county. The father died during the early boyhood of our subject and the mother afterward became the wife of J. G. Reyburn, and her death occurred when William Williams of this review was but sixteen years of age. Mr. Williams had two half-sisters, Mrs. Ellen Bunn and Mrs. Margaret Rowell, and a half-brother, James, now deceased.

Mr. Williams remained with his mother until after her death, living upon the old home farm, and in the district schools pursued his education. He continued on the old home place until twenty-one years of age and then started out in life on his own account, renting land for several years. He was married in 1854 to Miss Abigail Dean, who was born in Knox county, Ohio, in 1833, a daughter of Jonathan N. and Mary (Elwell) Dean, who removed from Maryland to Ohio and subsequently took up their abode in McLean county, Illinois. The father there died while the mother passed away at the home of her daughter Mrs. Williams. The latter has two sisters and one brother yet living: William S. Dean, Mrs. Joseph Wilson and Mrs. Margaret Williams.

The year 1871 witnessed the arrival of our subject in Vermilion county. He purchased eighty acres of land in Grant township and afterward added another eighty acre tract, so that he now owns altogether a quarter section on sections 18 and 19, Grant township. All of the improvements upon this place he has made and the substantial buildings stand as monuments to his enterprise and earnest labor. He continued the cultivation of his fields with marked success

until 1889, when he removed to Hoopeston, where he purchased a lot on South Second avenue and erected thereon a very comfortable and attractive residence. He now leases his land and the rental from his property brings him a good income. For a number of years he was known as a wide-awake and progressive agriculturist of his community and his persistent purpose and honorable dealing were potent elements in his success.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Williams was blessed with six children, of whom four are yet living. Elnora R. is the wife of Samuel Umbanhowar, a farmer of Grant township, by whom she has six children, Nellie, George, Charles, William, May and Frank; George, who married Emma Van Clave and died leaving one son, Frank; James J., who resides upon his father's farm and married Anna Sellers, by whom he has two children, Grace and Reed; Eva, the wife of George Hobbs, of Michigan; and Lee, who married Myrtle Hewett, by whom he has two children, Robert and Harry, and makes his home in Rockford, Illinois.

Mr. Williams and his wife are devoted members of the Church of Christ, although the lady was at one time a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is serving as a trustee and takes a deep interest in church work and the promotion of the cause of Christianity. Of the Masonic fraternity he is an exemplary member, embodying in his life the beneficent spirit of the craft. In his political views he is an earnest Republican and he served as highway commissioner, as trustee and school director in this county, while in McLean county he once filled the position of constable. During the administration of Dr. Wilson as mayor of Hoopeston he served as alderman from the first ward. In political thought and action he has always been independent, carrying

out his honest views without fear or favor. In business he has achieved success through honorable effort, untiring industry and capable management, and in private life he has gained the warm personal regard which arises from true nobility of character, deference for the opinions of others, kindness and geniality.

LINCOLN PAYNE.

Lincoln Payne was born in Vigo county, Indiana, December 2, 1861, and is a son of Allen F. and Mary A. (Jewell) Payne, in whose family were six children, he being the fifth in order of birth. In the common schools of Clay county, Indiana, he pursued his education, his parents having removed to that county when he was but five years of age. He remained as a student in school until seventeen years of age, when he began teaching in the district schools. He afterward attended the state normal school in Terre Haute, Indiana, and the county normal school at Brazil, Indiana.

When twenty-one years of age Mr. Payne came to Danville and here learned the printer's trade with the Daily News, working in the office as an employe for five years. He then entered the employ of the Illinois Printing Company with which he continued for four years, and during that time he was a member of the board of directors and the secretary of the company. In 1890, however, he sold his interest and organized the Payne Printing Company of which he is the chief stockholder. He was also the manager of the Danville Daily News, having assumed the office in February, 1891.

Mr. Payne was married August 26, 1890, to Miss Mary Graydon, of Indianapolis, Indiana, and they have three children,

Lilla, Mary Graydon and Lincoln, Jr. Mr. Payne is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Knights of the Maccabees. He has a public-spirited interest in the city and its progress and through the columns of his paper he has championed many measures for the general good, exerting strong influence over public opinion in this way. His career has been successful chiefly by reason of his natural ability and his thorough insight into the business in which as a young journalist he embarked.

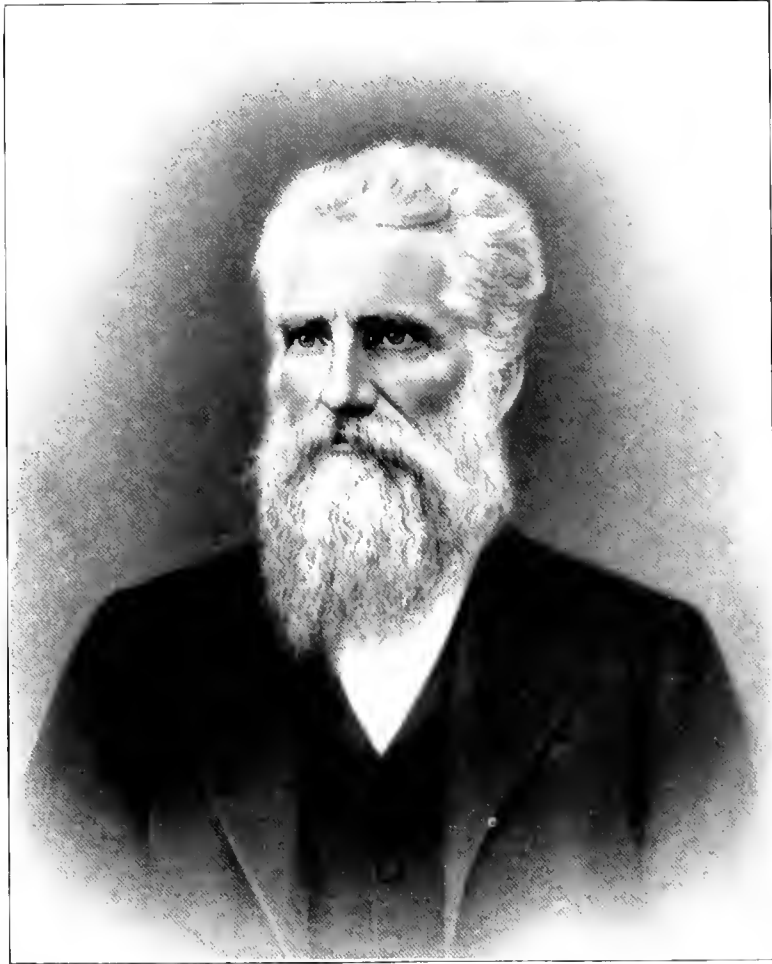
WILLIAM D. PORTER, M. D.

Dr. William D. Porter for many years occupied a leading position in professional circles not only because of his skill as a practitioner but also because of a life that would bear the closest investigation and scrutiny and that ever commanded esteem and good will. He was prominent among the representative citizens of Vermilion county and was numbered among the pioneers of Blount township. His birth occurred in Kentucky March 25, 1826, and his death on the 20th of August, 1890, when he was sixty-four years of age. Many friends mourned his loss. His parents were Seth and Cynthia (Davis) Porter, also natives of Kentucky. In their family were four sons and a daughter, three of the sons becoming physicians.

Dr. Porter of this review completed a literary course by graduation and afterward entered the medical department of the University of Kentucky, at Louisville, in which he likewise graduated. In 1863 he came to Vermilion county, settling in Uigginsville,

which at that time was a prosperous and growing village. He began his practice, however, in Brown county, Indiana, remaining for a number of years in that county, to which his parents had removed. After coming to Vermilion county he opened his office and his practice extended over a wide territory. The night was never too dark or the weather too inclement for him to respond to a call from the sick and suffering, and his professional services were extended as readily to the poor as to the rich, even though there was no hope of any pecuniary reward. He formed a very wide acquaintance and the qualities of his manhood endeared him to those with whom he came in contact.

It was in Vermilion county that Dr. Porter formed the acquaintance of Miss Phoebe Holloway, and winning her hand in marriage they were joined in wedlock on the 28th of January, 1866. The lady was born in Franklin county, Ohio, January 25, 1833, a daughter of William and Eleanor (Willfawn) Holloway. Her father was a native of Maryland, removing from the eastern shore of that state to Ohio, the mother being born in the Buckeye state. She died when Mrs. Porter was only nine years of age and the daughter was left an orphan at fourteen. There were three daughters in the family, of whom Mrs. Porter was the second, and is now the only survivor. When she was a little maiden of five summers her parents removed from Ohio, settling in Warren county, Indiana and there the mother died. The father afterward came to Vermilion county, taking up his abode near Myersville, where he carried on farming until his death. Mrs. Porter then went to live with the family of John Myers, a miller, for whom the town of Myersville was named. She remained there and attend-



DR. WM. D. PORTER.

ed school until she reached womanhood. Her older sister had become the wife of George Crossman, who died, leaving two children, and Mrs. Porter then went to live with Mrs. Crossman, with whom she remained until her own marriage. Her younger sister, Mary, became the wife of J. H. Fairchild, a son of Timothy Fairchild, and died October 16, 1901, leaving a family of three daughters and one son, all of whom had reached adult age. The marriage of the Doctor and his wife was blessed with three children. Cynthia became the wife of A. C. Firebaugh, September 24, 1884, and to them were born five children: Glenn, Mary, Nellie, Ruth and Mossie. Eleanor was married in 1886 to Patrick Jordan, of Jamesburg, Illinois. Mossie B. was married June 25, 1893, to Daniel O'Brien, of Chicago.

Dr. Porter was one of the influential citizens and progressive men of the county. He was identified with the Indiana State Medical Society and was recognized as an able representative of his chosen profession. Fraternally he was connected with the Masonic Lodge and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and at the time of his death he owned three hundred acres of very valuable farm land and thus provided his wife and children with a good living. He was a model husband, a kind and loving father, a charitable and benevolent man and a loyal friend. Mrs. Porter now lives in a comfortable, pleasant home close to her children and grandchildren. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and has served as Sunday-school superintendent and is now conducting a class of young ladies. She has always looked upon the bright side of life and has done her part toward elevating mankind, assisting in the care of the sick and helping the needy. Like her husband she has ever enjoyed the warm regard

of many friends and her many excellent qualities of heart and mind have endeared her to those among whom she has lived.

IRA GRANT DAVIS.

I. Grant Davis was born in Vermilion county, Illinois, June 10, 1863, and is a son of Henry V. and Catherine (Callahan) Davis. Henry V. Davis was the son of Henry Davis, whose name appears elsewhere in this work in connection with the sketch of James Davis. Henry V. Davis was born September 25, 1819, and was married in February, 1843, to Mary Ann Copeland. By this union were born the following children: William E., who resides at Beatrice, Nebraska, and has one child; and Sarah E., who has only one child living. Mr. Henry V. Davis was again married, his second wife being Catherine Callahan. She died September 13, 1893. By this union three children were born: Oscar H. resides in Homer, Illinois. He is in the grain business at Marshfield, Indiana, and has four children—Chester, Katie, Harry and Frank, all at home. I. Grant Davis is the second child by the second union. George W. married Highley Robertson and resides five miles southwest of Homer, Illinois. They have two children, Chester and Clara. Henry V. Davis has made a distribution of his land among his children and retired to Homer, Illinois, in 1892. On the 5th of July, 1894, in Danville, he was married to Mrs. E. R. Thompson. They went to Mississippi, where they lived for three years, when they came back to Danville, where they are now living. Mr. Davis is a hale and hearty gentleman, well able to attend to his business affairs and he and his wife have a

comfortable home fitted up with every convenience.

I. Grant Davis attended school at Pleasant Valley, and afterward took the high school course at Champaign, Illinois. At an early age he drove a carriage in Champaign, during a period of two years. He then removed to a farm five miles southwest of Homer, owned by his father. On this farm he remained for four years, when he removed to the old homestead farm where he now lives. On the 15th of February, 1888, he was married to Miss Mary E. Palmer, who was born in Homer, December 3, 1867. She is a daughter of Milburn and Elizabeth (Miller) Palmer. The father was born May 13, 1836, near Yellow Springs, Ohio, and the mother was born March 31, 1831, in Zurich, Switzerland. They were married in Homer, Illinois, where Milburn Palmer purchased land, following agricultural pursuits, and where he still lives. In politics he is a Democrat, and he is a man of prominence and influence in his community. Mrs. Davis, the wife of our subject, was one of a family of ten children, eight of whom are still living. Clarence married Mattie Stebbins and resides in Homer, Michigan. Alice is the wife of William Flaughter and resides in Anderson, Indiana. Mary E. is the wife of our subject. Carl M. resides in Anderson, Indiana. Olive and Oliver (twins) are now deceased. Jacob resides in Homer, Illinois. Emma is a telephone operator of Homer, Illinois. Ellen G. is the wife of Walter Wood, of Homer. Ada also lives at Homer, Illinois.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Davis have been born three children: Mallie L., born December 25, 1888; Henry H., born April 13, 1891; and Palmer, born September 23, 1895. Mr. Davis has a large farm of two hundred and fifty-eight acres. This is one of the best

in Vermilion county. He has rebuilt the old homestead and has now a very attractive home. This is situated on sections 6 and 7 in Vance township. He is a pleasant and genial gentleman and has many friends. He belongs to the Baptist church and his wife to the Presbyterian. He is connected with the Masonic fraternity and a member of Homer Lodge, No. 199. He belongs to the Court of Honor, of which his wife is also a member. In politics he is a Republican. Every movement and measure intended for the welfare of his township, state or county, is heartily endorsed by Mr. Davis and to-day he is regarded as one of Vance township's leading agriculturists.

IRA GROVER JONES.

Ira G. Jones is a retired farmer and capitalist living in Ridgefarm. Seventy-six years have come and gone since he arrived in Vermilion county and the history of the pioneer settlement of this portion of the state would be incomplete without the record of Mr. Jones, who from the earliest development of the town has watched its growth and has been a prominent factor in its substantial improvement. When Illinois was cut off from the advantages and comforts of the older east by the unbroken prairies and rivers which were unbridged, he was brought to this county by parents who reared him amid hardships and trials of pioneer life.

The birth of Mr. Jones occurred in eastern Indiana, near Liberty, on the 11th of January, 1826, his parents being Aaron and Phoebe (Watkins) Jones. The father was a native of New Jersey and in his early boyhood was taken by his parents to Fayette county, Pennsylvania, where the family

home was established. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a soldier in the Revolutionary war and valiantly fought with the colonists in the struggle for independence. Aaron Jones was reared to manhood in the Keystone state and after arriving at years of maturity he wedded Phoebe Watkins, who was a native of Fayette county, Pennsylvania. They became the parents of eleven children, but only one is now living—Ira, of this review. In the year 1827 Aaron Jones brought his family from Indiana to Edgar county, Illinois, and became one of the earliest settlers of this locality, locating at Quakers Point. There he rented land for two years, after which he entered a claim from the government at the land office at Crawfordsville. He paid for this the usual government price and at once began the cultivation and development of the farm. He erected a double log cabin with a clay chimney, a puncheon floor and a clapboard roof. The nearest trading places at that time were Newport and Eugene, Indiana. The now flourishing and attractive city of Danville and the smaller cities and towns of Vermilion county were then but mere hamlets or had not yet sprung into existence. The work of improvement seemed scarcely begun and the most farsighted could not have dreamed of the rapid changes which were to occur and make this one of the garden spots of the great Mississippi valley. "Father Jones," as he was called, was a very hospitable man and his home was always open to the weary traveler, whom he entertained to the best of his ability, never accepting any pay for his trouble, his courtesy and his hospitality.

It was amid pioneer surroundings that Ira G. Jones was reared. The only education which he received was that afforded in one of the primitive log schools of the day.

Children set on slab benches, their feet resting on a puncheon floor. There was an immense fireplace in one end of the room and the furnishings were of the most primitive character. The methods of instruction, too, were in keeping with the building and the text books were limited, but while his educational facilities were meager Mr. Jones had ample training at farm work and it was hard work at that, for he assisted in the arduous task of clearing and developing new land. Well can he remember the spinning wheel at which his mother worked for all the clothing used by the family was spun and woven in the household. A wooden mold-board was used in plowing the fields and the other farm implements bore little resemblance to the improved machinery which lessens and facilitates farm labor at the present day. Wild game of all kinds was to be had in abundance, such as turkeys, pigeons and prairie chickens, much larger game was also killed, for deer still roamed over the prairies and venison furnished many a meal for the early settler. Wolves frequently made the night hideous with their howling and all around were seen the evidences of frontier life. There was, however, a spirit of good will, friendliness and helpfulness among the pioneers that is somewhat lacking at the present day. They rejoiced in each others happiness and sympathized in each others sorrows and the latchstring was always out, friends and neighbors being heartily welcomed at the different pioneer homes.

Mr. Jones continued to work upon his father's farm up to the time of his marriage, which important event in his life was celebrated in July, 1855. He wedded Miss Ruth Connor and for fourteen years they traveled life's journey together, but on the 9th of August, 1860, she was called to her

final rest. She had become the mother of seven children, but of this number only four are yet living: Emeline, George W., Rosalie and Seymour.

On the 24th of November, 1871, Mr. Jones was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Rhoda J. Rice, the widow of James M. Rice and a daughter of James F. Weller, of Elwood township, Vermilion county. Unto this marriage have been born four children, all sons: Pearl wedded Allie Davis and they reside in Ridgefarm, where he is engaged in the planing mill business. They have three children. Frank married Mollie Dubre and has one child. His home is in Edgar county, Illinois, where he is engaged in farming. Bertie died at age of one year. Arthur married Nettie Cooke and they reside in Elwood township, where he is devoting his energies to agricultural pursuits.

Throughout the years of his active business career Mr. Jones engaged in farming. He worked industriously and energetically and was a progressive farmer who kept in touch with the advancement made in agricultural implements and in the methods of tilling the soil. His untiring industry and capable management proved the evidence of his success and as the years passed he added to his landed possessions until he is now the owner of almost three thousand acres of the rich, productive and valuable land of Vermilion county. All this has been acquired entirely through his own labors. From early spring time until the crops were harvested in the late autumn he worked in the fields or superintended the operations of his farming interests as he advanced in years and also made progress in a financial way. Certainly such a life record is commendable and should serve as a source of inspiration and

encouragement to others who have to begin life as he did, empty handed. On April 14, 1887, he retired from his home in Elwood township, removing to Ridgefarm, where he has since resided.

In politics Mr. Jones is a stalwart and earnest Republican who has given his support to the party since its organization and has been active in its councils. He has served as highway commissioner, as road overseer and as school trustee and has also been a member of the city council of Ridgefarm. In matters pertaining to the general good he has ever borne his part and in public office has discharged his duties with promptness and fidelity. Mr. Jones has now passed the seventy-seventh mile-stone on life's journey. His life has been one of honor as well as of industry and wherever he is known he is held in the highest esteem. He has a very wide acquaintance gained through his long residence in Vermilion county. His memory goes back to the time when this section of the state was but sparsely settled, when Indians still visited the district, for it was several years after the arrival of the family before the Black Hawk war occurred. The land was yet unclaimed for the uses of the white man, only here and there was a settlement to show that the representatives of the white race had made their way into this district. Mr. Jones can relate many interesting incidents of those early days and takes pleasure in recalling events which occurred at that time and yet, he does not live in the past, but still maintains an active interest in the present and rejoices in what Vermilion county has accomplished. He certainly deserves mention as one of its leading agriculturists and his life record proves what splendid advantages Illinois offers to the wide-awake and energetic farmer.



Wm Stewart

WILLIAM STEWART.

Deeply engraven on Danville's roll of fame is the name of William Stewart. By the death of this honorable and upright citizen the community sustained an irreparable loss and was deprived of the presence of one whom it had come to look upon as a guardian, benefactor and friend. Death often removes from our midst those whom we can ill afford to spare, whose lives have been all that is exemplary of the true, and thereby really great, citizen. Such a man was Mr. Stewart, whose whole career, both business and social, served as a model to the young and an inspiration to the aged. During a long and successful commercial life, characterized by enterprise, he ever maintained an enviable reputation for the highest honor and principle, and no unworthy deed or word ever linked itself with his name. Through the conduct of important business affairs he contributed largely to the general prosperity, and no citizen of Illinois ever made better or more unostentatious use of his accumulations. Danville in many ways profited by his prosperity and the welfare and upbuilding of the city were very dear to his heart.

William Stewart was born in Bo'ness, Linlithgowshire, Scotland, January 26, 1840, a son of Thomas and Anna (Young) Stewart, who were also natives of the land of the heather and were there married. The father engaged in teaching in the schools of Scotland, but forty-five years ago he was called to his final rest and his wife died twelve years ago. In their family were six children.

The subject of this review pursued his early education in the schools of his native town and afterward continued his studies in Glasgow until fifteen years of age, when

he put aside his textbooks to become a factor in the business world. No special advantages surrounded him in his youth, save that which comes as an inheritance from honorable parentage. He saw the necessity of providing for his own support and began learning the trade of a machinist and engineer, working as an apprentice for seven years and afterward as a journeyman in Scotland for a short time. A young man of twenty-two years, he came to America in the fall of 1861, to enjoy the broader business opportunities of the new world. Making his way westward to Fort Wayne, Indiana, he secured employment in the Wabash Railroad shops and becoming foreman he remained there for eleven years. His success was undoubtedly largely due to his persistency of purpose and his thorough understanding of the work in which as a young tradesman he embarked, his efficiency rendering his labors of value to those by whom he was employed.

While in Fort Wayne Mr. Stewart was united in marriage to Miss Mary Dickey, a native of Scotland and a daughter of Robert and Ellen (Bell) Dickey, who were born, reared and married in Scotland and came to America in 1850. The father followed farming in early life and in Fort Wayne he was employed as a boiler-maker. For the past twenty years he has lived retired and he and his wife now make their home in Fort Wayne. In their family were eight children. Mr. Dickey is a member of the Masonic fraternity and his political support is given the Republican party.

Mr. Stewart resided in Fort Wayne, Indiana, from the time of his marriage until January, 1873, when he came to Danville and was made foreman of the machine department of what is now the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad at this place.

Three years later he resigned his position to enter upon an independent business career, purchasing an interest in the Reynolds foundry, which was then a small concern. Not long after he bought out Mr. Reynolds' interest. In 1878 a disastrous fire occurred and Mr. Stewart lost much that he had previously saved, but with stout heart and strong determination he set to work to retrieve his lost possessions. The name of the enterprise was changed to the Stewart Foundry & Machine Company and in 1891 the business was incorporated under the name of the Danville Foundry & Machine Company, the stockholders being William Stewart and L. A. Chesley. Under the capable management of Mr. Stewart the business prospered until it became the leading industrial concern of this city, furnishing employment to many workmen. The plant was continually enlarged until it covered four acres and the annual outcome is now very extensive, the products being sold throughout the length and breadth of the land.

Many other enterprises of importance in the business development and prosperity of Danville received the co-operation, encouragement and direct assistance of Mr. Stewart. He was interested in the Danville Street Car Company, the Danville Electric Light Company and was one of the stockholders in the Danville Fair Association. He had valuable real-estate holdings here and much farm land in Indiana. The extent and importance of his investments indicate in a measure the degree of his success. His prosperity came as the reward of a life of industry, guided by sound judgment and absolute fidelity to the ethics of commercial transactions.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stewart was born one child, Helen B. S., the wife of L. A.

Chesley. They also had a niece and adopted daughter, Elizabeth F. Mr. Stewart was a prominent Mason, being made a member of the order soon after his arrival in Danville, while in Chicago he received the consistory degrees. He also belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he affiliated with the Presbyterian church. A Republican in his political faith, he staunchly endorsed the party and for three terms he served as a member of the city council of Danville, although the aid which he rendered to the city was usually unofficial. Local progress was a cause most dear to him and he rejoiced heartily in the substantial improvement of Danville and contributed in very large measure to its upbuilding, being for many years associated with almost every improvement here made. He was connected with the opera house, the city hall and other public buildings, and the public library found in him a warm friend. He was largely instrumental in securing the establishment of the Soldiers' Home here and his aid was never sought in vain when the object was the betterment of public conditions here. He was a man of deep and earnest nature, of steadfast purpose and unflinching fidelity to what he knew to be right. He made no loud professions of his religious faith, but he believed and trusted in the supremacy of God and frequently repeated the first fifteen verses of the fourteenth chapter of Job in a Scotch paraphrase, teaching of man's mortality and sin, and that his body would arise again and he would appear before God. Of him it might be said as it was of Goldsmith's "village preacher" that "e'en his failings leaned to virtue's side," for he was charitable almost to a fault and although his was a most active business life he always had time to listen patiently and sympathetically to a tale of

real distress. In his giving, however, he was unostentatious, nor did he believe in indiscriminate giving which often fosters vagrancy. His donations relieved genuine distress and many times were of marked value in enabling a man to gain a start in the business world. He was always glad of an opportunity to recognize and reward faithfulness on the part of his employes, by whom he was held in the greatest admiration and respect.

Mr. Stewart passed away at eight o'clock on Wednesday morning, May 29, 1901, and on Friday afternoon he was laid to rest in Spring Hill cemetery of Danville. His life record covered sixty-one years. He had used well the talents which had been entrusted to him and had accomplished much in his earthly pilgrimage of three score years. Viewed from any standpoint his life might well be called successful. He amassed a splendid fortune, but he never allowed the accumulation of wealth to in any way warp his kindly and genial nature and the sterling rectitude of his character won him the honor and esteem of men.



THOMAS B. CASTLEMAN.

In the promotion and advancement of the world in all the normal lines of human progress and civilization there is no factor which has exercised a more potent influence than the press, which is both the director and the mirror of public opinion. Vermilion county has been signally favored in the character of its newspapers which have been vital, enthusiastic and progressive, ever aiming to advance the interests of this favored section of the country and aiding in laying fast and sure the foundations of an enlight-

ened commonwealth, to further the ends of justice and to uphold the banner of Illinois. In all of these matters the Danville Press has been among the foremost papers of the county and Thomas B. Castleman, its manager, is a well known factor in journalistic circles.

Mr. Castleman was born in Clark county, Virginia, a son of William A. and Ann R. (Isler) Castleman, who were also natives of the Old Dominion. The father was a farmer and merchant of Clark county, Virginia, and also served as judge. He died in 1884 at the age of seventy-four years, but the mother of our subject is still living. They became the parents of eleven children who reached manhood or womanhood and of this number seven are yet living, Thomas B. being the third in order of birth.

In Berryville Academy, of Virginia, Thomas B. Castleman pursued his education, completing his school course in 1867. He afterward engaged in farming in his native state until 1870 when he came to the west, establishing his home in Danville in that year. Here he entered the employ of William Hessey as bookkeeper and subsequently accepted a similar position with the firm of William Mann & Company with whom he continued for seven years. Later he engaged in dealing in men's furnishing goods for three years, after which he entered the postoffice as mail clerk, capably serving in that capacity for four years. The year 1888 was spent as city editor of the Danville Press and he then became bookkeeper for the Kellyville Coal Company. In the year 1891 he acted as clerk in the state legislature and in 1894 he was assistant postmaster of Danville, acting in that capacity under John Beard until 1897, when he became secretary, solicitor and local manager for the Danville Press, a position which he

now holds. In June, 1901, he also became a member of the board of review of Vermilion county, and is now acting in that position. In his political affiliations he is an old school Democrat. He is not bitterly partisan, and, in fact is liberal on political matters believing it policy to maintain favorable conditions rather than to inaugurate changes. In the year 1889 he was elected city treasurer of Danville.

Mr. Castleman holds membership in Olive Branch Lodge, No. 138, F. & A. M., of which he is a past master, and he also belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In 1875 he married Harriet Du Puy, of Flemingsburg, Kentucky, and unto them have been born three children, William D., Estelle M. and Irene A.

JOHN WILLIAMS.

John Williams, now deceased, was a man respected for his sterling traits of character and at his death the community lost a valued citizen. He was born in Harrison county, Ohio, September 29, 1832, a son of Nathan and Sarah (Hoopes) Williams, who in the spring of 1854 came to Vermilion county. They belonged to the Society of Friends and the father was a preacher of that denomination.

John Williams was a young man of twenty-two years when he arrived in Vermilion county to face pioneer conditions and assist in the development of this region from a frontier district to an advanced state of civilization. He engaged in breaking prairie and in farming and during the third year after his arrival he entered three hundred and twenty acres of land on section 12, Prairie Green township, Iroquois county.

There he lived for seventeen years. For several years he was engaged in the grocery business and then removed to his farm south of Hoopeston, carrying on agricultural pursuits until, on account of ill health he retired from business life and purchased a home in Hoopeston, where he spent his remaining days.

On the 13th of October, 1858, Mr. Williams was united in marriage to Elnora Shankland, who was born in 1841 and died February 23, 1864. They had three children, but all had passed away before Mr. Williams was a second time married. On the 12th of August, 1867, Jennie M. Harwood became his wife. She was born April 7, 1844. They had two children who died in infancy and there are two who now survive; Nellie, the wife of J. E. Whitecomb, of Hoopeston, and Josephine, the wife of Mont Wolverton. Mrs. Williams was born in East Rupert, Vermont, in 1844 and came alone to Illinois, being married in Watseka in 1867.

For many years Mr. Williams was a member of the Christian church and through a long period served as one of its elders. He took a very active interest in church and Sunday-school work and his widow now attends the Christian church, although she is a member of the Congregational church. For some years prior to his death Mr. Williams was an invalid and at length passed away at his home in Hoopeston on the 27th of January, 1902, his remains being interred in Floral Hill cemetery. His life was ever honorable and upright and all who knew him respected him for his genuine worth. He served as assessor of Prairie Green township for four or five consecutive years and in all life's relations he was found true to the trusts reposed in him and to principles of upright manhood. Mrs. Williams



John Williams

now owns a farm in Indiana and her pleasant home in Hoopeston, so that she is comfortably situated in life. An earnest Christian woman her influence is always on the side of improvement, progress, truth and the right. She belongs to the Women's Christian Temperance Union and is well known in temperance and church circles.

ISAAC M. REES.

Isaac M. Rees, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 26, Elwood township, near Ridgefarm, was born near Vermilion Grove in this county, November 28, 1840, his parents being John and Susannah (Dillon) Rees. In the year 1830 his parents arrived in Vermilion county and were married here. They came with twenty-two others who were members of the Society of Friends or Quakers and to that faith they always adhered. The father was a farmer by occupation and carried on agricultural pursuits near Ridgefarm, thus providing for his family, which numbered seven children. These are, Thomas C., now deceased; Mrs. Bethany Hiatt, who resides in Terre Haute, Indiana; Mrs. Jane Wallace, of Carthage, Missouri; James S., of Newburg, Oregon; Mrs. Ella S. Weeks, of Sapulpa, Indian Territory; and Mrs. Mary Gulick, of Cushing, Oklahoma. The father died in the year 1854, and was survived by the mother for thirty-seven years.

In taking up the personal history of Isaac M. Rees, we present to our readers one who has a wide acquaintance in Vermilion county. He pursued his education in the public schools and was reared in the usual manner of farmer boys, assisting materially in the development of his mother's land after his father's death. On the 10th of Decem-

ber, 1868, he was united in marriage to Miss Araminta Mills, a daughter of William and Hannah Mills. She was born about a mile and a half west of Vermilion Grove and is a representative of the prominent and well known Mills family that was established in Vermilion county at a very early day in its history, when the Indians were far more numerous than the white settlers in this portion of the state. Unto the parents of Mrs. Rees were born twelve children, nine of whom reached years of maturity and are still living, being useful and representative citizens of the community. Like her husband Mrs. Rees was educated in the public schools and by her marriage she has become the mother of five children. Emory J. was married December 28, 1898, to Deborah Gorman, and they went as missionaries to Johannesburg, Africa. William A., who is living at Vermilion Grove, married Adella A. Commons. Mrs. Olive Walthall is the wife of A. J. Walthall, a farmer of Quaker, Indiana, and they have two children. Milo E. is a student in Penn College at Oskaloosa, Iowa; and Anna S., who completes the family, is still at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Rees began their domestic life in the vicinity of Ridgefarm, where they lived for five years or more, and then removed to Champaign county, where they remained for nineteen years. On the expiration of that period they came to their present home on section 26, Elwood township. Here they now live happily and comfortably, our subject devoting his energies to general agricultural pursuits with the result that he is annually adding to his capital. He is a progressive agriculturist, a quiet, unassuming man, and a citizen of value. He manifested his loyalty to his country at the time of the Civil war by putting aside all business and personal considerations and offering his aid

to the Union. He enlisted on the 22d of July, 1862, as a member of Company A, Seventy-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and he afterward served with Company H, of the First United States Veteran Volunteer Engineers, continuing with that command until mustered out, about the close of the war on the 27th of June, 1865. When the war was over and the country no longer required his services, he received an honorable discharge and returned to his home to again take up the work of the farm which he has since followed. He has taken an active interest in education and for many years served as a school director. He belongs to the Society of Friends, and in his political faith is a Prohibitionist, having long been an ardent advocate of the cause of temperance. In fact his life has ever been one in harmony with upright principles and he has favored every measure and movement calculated to uplift his fellow men and advance the cause of morality in the community where he makes his home and believes that in severing his connection with the Republican party in 1888 he compromised none of the original principles of that party as a party of progress and reform.

JUDGE JACOB W. WILKIN.

The name of Judge Jacob W. Wilkin is inseparably associated with the history of jurisprudence in Illinois and no man has been more respected in the state and none more highly deserved the honor that has been bestowed upon him. He is now serving as one of the supreme judges of the commonwealth and his ability makes him one of the most capable jurists that ever graced the court of last resort. The Judge was born in

Licking county, Ohio, in June, 1837, and is a son of Isaac and Sarah (Burner) Wilkin, natives of Virginia. Soon after their marriage they removed to Ohio, settling in Licking county, and in 1845 they became residents of Crawford county, Illinois, where the father engaged in farming. Prior to his arrival in this state, however, he had followed contracting and building. His life record covered eighty-one years, while his wife passed away at the advanced age of eighty-five, both dying in Marshall, Clark county, where they were living retired. In their family were nine children, six sons and three daughters, of whom four are yet living, but the Judge is the only one who resides in Danville. One brother and a sister are living in Robertson, Crawford county, and this brother, H. O. Wilkin, is filling the position of circuit clerk there. The sister, Mrs. Mary M. Coulter, is a widow. The other brother, Rev. M. T. Wilkin, is a minister of the Methodist church, now preaching in Urbana, Illinois.

When a lad of eight years Judge Wilkin was brought to Illinois by his parents and attended school in Crawford county. He afterward became a student in McKendree College in St. Clair county, Illinois, and was thus pursuing his literary education when the Civil war broke out. Deeply interested in the questions which involved the country in the struggle and most loyal to the Union cause, he offered his services to the government, enlisting in Marshall, Clark county, as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel Nathaniel P. Miles, the regiment being assigned to the Thirteenth Army Corps. With his command the Judge participated in the battles preceding the siege of Vicksburg and in the campaign which was followed by the surrender of that southern

stronghold. He was on detached service at General Grant's headquarters for sometime during the siege and he was also in the Red River campaign, during which he participated in the battle of Sabine Cross Roads and other engagements. He also aided in the siege of Spanish Fort, in the campaign against Fort Blakely and in other movements of the army in that district of the south. He had enlisted in the spring of 1862, was mustered in in August of the same year and in the fall of 1865 he received an honorable discharge, having been in the army for more than three years. He joined his company as a private but was soon afterward commissioned its captain and when mustered out held the rank of major of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Regiment, which was a consolidation of the old One Hundred and Thirtieth and the Seventy-seventh Regiments. With his command he was mustered out at Mobile and received his discharge at Springfield, Illinois.

Following his return to civil life Judge Wilkin took up the study of law under the direction of Judge Scholfield, a distinguished member of the Illinois bar and a jurist of prominence. In 1866 he was admitted to the bar and he began practice in Marshall, Clark county. As a partner of his former preceptor he practiced from 1867 until 1873, and in the latter year the dissolution of the business relationship was brought about by the election of Judge Scholfield to the supreme bench. Judge Wilkin was then alone in practice until 1879, when he was elected circuit judge of the fourth circuit, comprising the counties of Clark, Edgar, Coles, Vermilion, Douglas, Moultrie, Macon, Piatt and Champaign. He continued to reside in Marshall, Illinois, until 1885, when he was re-elected circuit judge and was as-

signed to the appellate court of the fourth district, at which time he removed to Danville. In June, 1888, he was elected to the supreme bench, succeeding Judge John M. Scott, of McLean county, and in 1897 was re-elected so that he is now a member of the court of last resort. When first elected he became an associate of his former preceptor, Judge Scholfield, who was also upon the bench and continued a member of the supreme court until his death, which occurred in February, 1893. A man of unimpeachable character, of unusual intellectual endowments, with a thorough understanding of the law, patience, urbanity and industry, Judge Wilkin took to the bench the very highest qualifications for this most responsible office in the system of the state government; and his record as a judge has been in harmony with his record as a man and lawyer, distinguished by unswerving integrity and a masterful grasp of every problem that has presented itself for solution. The Judge has great respect for the dignity of judicial place and power, and no man ever presided in a court with more respect for his environments than does Judge Wilkin. As a result of that personal characteristic the proceedings are always orderly upon the part of every one—audience, bar and the officers from the highest to the lowest. His opinions are fine specimens of judicial thought, always clear, logical, and as brief as the character of the case will permit. He never enlarges beyond the necessities of the legal thought in order to indulge in the drapery of literature. His mind, during the entire period of his course at the bar and on the bench, has been directed in the line of his profession and his duty. Aside from the practice of law and the performance of his judicial duties, Judge Wilkin has to some extent been

interested in other business enterprises, having formerly been the president of the Oriental Flouring Company of Danville.

In September, 1805, was celebrated the marriage of Judge Wilkin and Miss Alice E. Constable, a daughter of Judge Charles H. Constable, and into them were born four children, of whom one died in infancy. The others are: Harry O., John Scholfield and Jessie B. The sons are both in Oregon. In the early spring of 1883 Mrs. Wilkin died, her remains interred in Marshall cemetery. In the fall of 1885 the Judge was again married, his second union being with Sarah E. Archer, a daughter of Judge William C. Whitlock, of Marshall, Illinois. By her first marriage she had one son, William Archer, who is now a practicing attorney of Chicago.

The Judge is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Danville and is serving as one of its trustees. In politics he is a Democrat. Formerly he was a Republican and served as a Grant elector in 1872. To a man of broad mind who has made a close study of social and economic questions as well as of the political history of his country, the subject of education is always a matter of interest and for many years Judge Wilkin served as a trustee of the Southern Illinois Normal School. Fraternally he is a prominent Mason, belonging to the lodge, chapter and commandery of Danville and of the consistory and shrine of Chicago. He is also identified with the Grand Army of the Republic and with the Loyal Legion of Chicago. A gentleman of pleasing and courteous manner he is not less esteemed for his social worth than his professional ability and he is to-day numbered among the distinguished residents of the state because of his well rounded character, his evenly balanced mind and splendid intellectual attainments.

JAMES SLOAN.

James Sloan, who is now so efficiently serving as sheriff of Vermilion county, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Joliet, Will county, on the 31st of March, 1851. His parents, Samuel and Mary (Campbell) Sloan, were both born in Canada and are now deceased. During his early life the father followed farming in the Dominion, but his last days were spent in Joliet, Illinois. Of his nine children six are still living but our subject is the only member of the family residing in this county.

Mr. Sloan is indebted to the public schools of Joliet for his early school privileges but at the age of fifteen years his education was completed as far as attending school was concerned, and he then started out in life for himself, at first working as a farm hand in Will county. On the 3d of May, 1868, he accepted a position with the Chicago & Alton Railroad as water boy, and remained in the railroad service for a quarter of a century, being gradually promoted—first to laborer and later to section foreman, road master and general road master. He only remained with the Chicago & Alton a short time, however, being employed on the construction of their double tracks, and on the 24th of November, 1868, left their employ and was connected with the construction of the Peoria, Pekin & Jacksonville Railroad until June 23, 1869. He was next with the Indiana, Bloomington & Western road, now a part of the Big Four system, entering their employ June 23, 1869, on construction work, and remaining with them until the completion of the road December 19, 1870, when he took charge of a section as foreman and served as such until October 3, 1875. He was then



JAMES SLOAN.

promoted to road master in charge of the Peoria division and filled that position until the 15th of November, 1878, when he was given charge of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad as general road master, with office in Danville. He remained with that road until March 31, 1890, when he resigned and took charge of the Clover Leaf Railroad with offices in East St. Louis, but remained with that company only until the 3rd of May, 1890, when he resigned and accepted a similar position with the Lake Erie & Western Railroad between Lafayette, Indiana, and Peoria, Illinois, with headquarters at Paxton.

On the 17th of September, 1873, Mr. Sloan was united in marriage to Miss Lucinda Stone, a native of Pekin, Tazewell county Illinois, and to them have been born eight children, as follows: Lucinda, the oldest child, who died in infancy; Minnie, now the wife of O. D. Ehlicher, a druggist of Pekin, Illinois; James, who married Frances McReynolds, of Danville, and is now assisting his father in the duties of his office; Ellen; Henry, who married Esther Tobby, and is engaged in the confectionery business in Danville; Will, Lula and Florence, all at home.

The Republican party has always found in Mr. Sloan a staunch supporter of its principles and he has taken a very prominent and influential part in public affairs. During his early residence in Danville, in 1884, he was elected and served as alderman from the second ward for two terms and in 1887 was elected mayor of the city, while serving his second term as alderman, and that office he filled with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents for two years. In April, 1893, while living in Paxton, Illinois, he was again elected mayor of Danville, and returned to this city to enter

upon the duties of the office, again serving one term. On December 5, 1894, he accepted the position of deputy sheriff and served in that capacity for four years, continuing after his term as mayor expired, and was elected sheriff in the fall of 1898. He proved a most capable and trustworthy officer, serving until December 1, 1902, and in all the relations of life has been found true and faithful to any trust reposed in him. Socially Mr. Sloan is a prominent Mason, belonging to the blue lodge, chapter and commandery of Danville, and the consistory and Mystic Shrine of Chicago. He is also connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Roadmaster's Association of America, in which he served as vice-president for three or four terms. He is now a director of the Vermilion Building Association, and as a public-spirited citizen he takes a commendable interest in all movements calculated to prove of public benefit.

JOHN SPROULS.

John Sprouls, a prominent and enterprising farmer, is the owner of two hundred and seventy-five acres of rich land in Georgetown township and the neat appearance of his place with its excellent improvements and modern equipments is an indication of the careful supervision which he gives to his property and to his farm work in its various departments. His birth occurred upon this farm, February 26, 1845, and he belongs to one of the old and honored pioneer families of the county. His father, James Sprouls, was born in Pennsylvania and in early life went from that state to

Ohio, where he became acquainted with Miss Mary Hathaway. He sought and won her hand in marriage and they began their domestic life in Ohio, which was her native state, there living until 1837, when they started westward, taking up their abode in Vermilion county, Illinois. Here Mr. Sprouls entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government, becoming the owner of a quarter section, a part of the farm upon which his son John now resides. With characteristic energy he began improving the land, turned the first furrows in the fields and carried on the task of plowing and planting until his fields were under a high state of cultivation, in fact, he continued farm work there throughout his remaining days. On the 11th of March, 1845, while riding a horse, he was thrown and killed. In her later years the mother lived among her children in this county and reached the very advanced age of ninety-three. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Sprouls had been born thirteen children, five of whom now survive, while most of the others died in early childhood. Andrew married America Prible and is engaged in farming in Vermilion county, Indiana. George wedded Hannah J. Davis and follows agricultural pursuits on a part of the old homestead. Elizabeth is the wife of William Ruby and resides in Newport, Indiana. Hannah is the widow of Sansbury Holdaway and resides in Eugene, Indiana.

John Sprouls, of this review, the youngest member of the family, was but an infant at the time of his father's death. His educational privileges were obtained in the common schools. Throughout his youth he remained at home assisting his mother in the work of the home farm and assuming its management as he attained an age that qualified him for such a task. He sought as a

companion and helpmate for life's journey Miss Sarah Ann Hearst, their marriage being celebrated here. The lady was born in Vermilion county, Indiana, where her father carried on farming, but afterward he removed to Missouri and there died. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Sprouls has been blessed with nine children: Etta, the wife of John Brown, a resident farmer of Georgetown township; Amos B., who married Bessie Sollars and is a farmer of Georgetown township; Alice, the wife of Hanson Nutcher, who is living in Vermilion county, Indiana; and Leonard, Clara, Laura, Grover and Gertie, all at home; and Dolla, who died in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Sprouls and his brother George took charge of the home place, equally dividing the property, our subject becoming the owner of the south half and there he has since resided. He has, however, extended the boundaries of his place by additional purchases until he now owns two hundred and seventy-five acres of rich and arable land, on which he has made many nice improvements, where he carries on general farming. His attention is chiefly given to stock raising and he makes a specialty of fine cattle. He has found this a good source of income and has become well known as a stock-dealer throughout this part of the state. As the years have passed by his success has increased and yet he owes his financial advancement not to any outside aid or influence but to earnest work, supplemented by sound business judgment. He has always voted with the Democracy and believes firmly in the principles of the party. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Georgetown township and are earnest Christian people, whose lives are in harmony with their faith and professions.

C. D. HENTON, M. D.

The fitting reward of a well spent life is an honorable retirement in which to enjoy the fruits of former toil and a period of rest from labor. This has been vouchsafed to Dr. Henton as the reward of his energy and perseverance in former years. He was one of the first practicing physicians of Vermilion county, having located here in 1853. His death occurred in Hillsboro, Ohio, August 3, 1831, his parents being Evan and Maria (Inskeep) Henton, both of whom were natives of Ohio and during the greater part of their lives they were residents of the vicinity of Hillsboro. The father was a farmer by occupation and always carried on that pursuit in order to provide for the support of his family.

The Doctor obtained his early education in his native state, supplementing his common-school privileges by study in the academy at Hillsboro, Ohio. He was the only member of the family that ever came to Vermilion county, the year 1853 witnessing his arrival here and he took up his abode near Myersville, where he began practicing. While living there he was married to Miss Susan Gundy, thus securing a faithful companion and helpmate for life's journey. She was born near Myersville, June 6, 1833, a daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Davidson) Gundy, both of Columbus, Ohio, whence they came to Vermilion county at a very early epoch in the history of this portion of the state. Her father purchased a tract of land near Myersville and was there engaged in general farming and stock-raising, successfully carrying on business until his death. The Doctor and his wife have one daughter, Hattie May.

In 1860 Dr. Henton entered Rush Medical College of Chicago, in which he was

graduated with the class of 1861 and given a certificate to practice. He then returned to Myersville, where he soon secured a liberal patronage and gained thorough experience as a medical practitioner. He continued at that place until 1872, when desiring a wider field of labor he came to Danville and opened an office on Vermilion street. He was not long in winning the public confidence by reason of his skill and ability and he continued in active practice until 1897, when on account of failing health he laid aside his professional duties and has since lived retired. He was very successful in his chosen field of labor and his career was one of progression for his was a nature that could not be content with mediocrity and he steadily advanced until he won a foremost place among the capable physicians of Vermilion county.

Mr. Henton has never held nor sought office, yet he has ever been a staunch advocate of Republican principles and has kept well informed on the issues and questions of the day. He is an exemplary representative of the Masonic fraternity of Danville and both he and his wife are members of the Kimber Methodist Episcopal church of this city. He owns a beautiful home at No. 519 West Madison street, where he is now living with his wife and daughter. Hospitality reigns supreme there and unto the Doctor and his family is freely accorded in turn the hospitality of many of the best homes of the city.



JESSE LANE.

For sixty-seven years Jesse Lane has resided in Illinois. He is now living retired in Potomac, but was for many years one of the active business men of the town and a thrifty

farmer of the county. He was born near Lafayette, Indiana, January 27, 1831, and is a son of William Lane, whose birth occurred in North Carolina about 1796. About 1815 he removed with his parents to Ohio, the family becoming early settlers of that state. William Lane was three times married, his third union being with Nancy Lacy, who was a native of Georgia but was reared in Ohio. It was she who became the mother of the subject of this review. Mr. Lane removed from Ohio to Indiana and lived in different counties of that state until 1835, when he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling in Blount township. There he entered land and opened up a farm which continued to be his place of residence until his death, which occurred in 1884, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-eight years.

It was upon this farm that Jesse spent the days of his boyhood and youth, working in the fields and meadows through the summer while in the winter season he attended school to a limited extent, but his knowledge has been largely acquired in the school of experience, and through observation and reading he has gained much practical knowledge. In early life he began farm work on his own account. His father gave him ninety five acres of raw land in what is now Middlefork township. Upon this he turned the first furrows and also made the rails to fence his tract. With the work of plowing, planting and harvesting he was actively engaged and in later years as his financial resources increased he added to his property from time to time until he had three hundred and seventy-five acres. He erected a good residence, substantial barns and out-buildings and planted three orchards. He also adorned his place by shade trees, tiled his land and made substantial improvements

which transformed his farm into a valuable place. In the barnyard were found good grades of stock and he both raised and fed stock for the market. About 1875 he rented his farm and removed to Potomac, where he purchased residence property. He also bought a lumber yard and became connected with the commercial interests of the place. For ten years he engaged in dealing in lumber and coal. He has also made investments in more land and is to-day the owner of two valuable farms in the county, the rental from which returns to him an excellent income. He has purchased the old Lane homestead of two hundred and seventy-five acres on the Danville road, eight miles northwest of the city.

Mr. Lane was married in this county March 3, 1853, to Delilah Smith, a native of Ohio, although reared in Vermilion county where her father, John Smith, located at an early day. Mr. Lane was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife about 1864. She left four children: Clara B. is the wife of John Davis, of Arizona; Effie is the wife of William Warren, of Terre Haute, Indiana, and has two children, William and Daisy; Mary Elizabeth and Amanda, the third and fourth children, lived to be married and both are now deceased. In 1867 Mr. Lane was married to Emaline Fouch, who was born and reared in Ohio. There she married Simpson Fouch and later came to Illinois. Mrs. Lane has a son by her first marriage, William O. Fouchs, of Oregon, who is married and has a family. Mr. Lane has another grandchild, Alta Holth, the wife of John Holth, and a son of Amanda Lane, who married Francis Shain.

Politically Mr. Lane is a Jeffersonian Democrat, having always supported the party since casting his first presidential ballot for James Buchanan in 1856. The only excep-

tion which he has made was in 1872. He has served as one of the town board, aided in organizing the town and has frequently been a member of the school board. He has also served as a delegate to the county conventions of his party and has ever been deeply interested in its growth and success. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren church of Potomac and he is one of its trustees. Through almost seven decades Mr. Lane has resided in Vermilion county and is therefore to-day one of its honored pioneers and has witnessed almost its entire growth and development as it has emerged from primitive conditions to take its place among the best counties of this great state. The deer and wolves which lived in the forest and roamed over the prairies have all disappeared and in their place are seen fine grades of stock. The primitive frontier homes have been replaced by substantial farm residences and attractive city homes. Roads have been constructed, farms improved and industrial and commercial activity has transformed the cities. Everything indicates improvement and progress, in all of which Mr. Lane has taken a keen and active interest, bearing his part in the work of development as he has found opportunity. He is to-day an honored resident of the community and it is with pleasure that we present the record of his life to our readers.



ENOS COOK.

No state in the Union can boast of a more heroic band of pioneers than Illinois in their intelligence, capability and genius. They ranked with the pioneers of the east, and their hardships, privations and earnest labors have resulted in establishing one of the fore-

most commonwealths of America, the possibilities of which are greater than any of those possessed by her sister states. Among the early settlers of Vermilion county was Enos Cook, who for thirty-five years maintained his residence here, dying September 11, 1877. He was born in Union county, Indiana, November 14, 1817, and came of Quaker ancestry.

The ancestral line can be traced back to Peter Cook, a native of Chestershire, England, who started for America in 1713 but died on the voyage. The next in direct line was Peter Cook, Jr., who was the father of Thomas Cook. The latter was born in Chestershire, England, in 1704, a son of Peter and Elinor (Norman) Cook, who settled in Pennsylvania in 1713, and in Chester county, that state. Thomas Cook wedded Mary Underwood. In 1742 they removed to Warrington, York county, Pennsylvania, where Thomas Cook died between 1749 and 1752. His son Isaac was the great-grandfather of our subject. He was probably born in 1743, as the records show that he died at Caesar's Creek, Ohio, in 1820, at the age of seventy-seven years. His wife was Charity Cook, a gifted woman among the Quakers, who took a very active and prominent part in the work of the society. She was a daughter of John and Rachel (Wells) Wright. Her son, Thomas Cook, was born in South Carolina, January 3, 1770, and was married September 5, 1792, to Keziah Henderson, a daughter of Nathaniel and Rebecca Henderson. Emigrating westward in 1824, Thomas Cook took up his abode in Vermilion county, Illinois, where he resided until his death. Throughout the greater part of his life he was a leading member of the Society of Friends and was noted for his many social and Christian virtues. His son, Zimri Cook, the father of our subject, was also a native

of South Carolina and in youth became a resident of Ohio, settling near Dayton. He afterward removed to Union county, Indiana, and from there came to Vermillion county, Illinois. While in Ohio he married Elizabeth Thornton, by whom he had six children, five sons and one daughter. They all died in this county. They were Enos, Henderson, Evarts, Thomas, Joshua and Ellen, the wife of Arthur Jackson, a noted Methodist minister, who resided here for many years.

Enos Cook was reared in the place of his nativity until about nineteen years of age. From 1830 until 1838 he lived in the counties of Fayette, Henry and Wayne, Indiana, and then went to Iowa, spending several months in traveling over that state. Later he returned to Wayne county, Indiana, where he followed the saddler's trade and afterward carried on a similar business in Henry county. The fall of 1841 witnessed his arrival in Vermillion county, Illinois, where he resided continuously until his death. He turned his attention to farming, which he followed in connection with work at his trade for several years. In 1858, however, he took up his abode in Georgetown and there engaged in the saddlery business throughout the period of the Civil war. In 1868 he established a hotel in Georgetown, which he conducted until his death. It is the only hotel in the place and was well patronized, because of the earnest effort which he made to provide for the comfort of his guests.

Mr. Cook was married in Louisville, Henry county, Indiana, on the 3d of July, 1839, to Melinda, daughter of Robert Harris. Unto them were born three children: Benjamin F., whose sketch follows this; Sylvester J., who is living retired in Georgetown; and Emma, who died at an early age,

her death being deeply deplored by all who knew her, because of her beautiful character. Both sons served as soldiers in the Union army, enlisting at the same time in Company A, Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, in which the younger served out his time, while the elder brother was in active field service until wounded at the battle of Nashville, on the 11th of December, 1864, after which he was detached and appointed judge advocate of court martial at Nashville, filling that position until 1866. The father was a strong supporter of the Union cause and the government policy throughout the period of the Civil war and cheerfully gave his only sons to the Union cause. He led a life of industry and of honor and, although he did not acquire wealth, he gained a comfortable competence and maintained a reputation for straightforward dealing and for upright manhood, which is above wealth.

BENJAMIN F. COOK.

For more than a quarter of a century Benjamin F. Cook has been a representative of the legal profession at the Danville bar and has long maintained a place in the foremost ranks of this calling. With a nature that could never content itself with mediocrity and with a realization of the fact that at the bar advancement is had only through individual merit, he has worked his way upward, having long since passed the many to stand among the successful few.

Mr. Cook was born on the 3d of February, 1841, in Greensboro, Indiana, and in his first year was brought by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Enos Cook, to Vermillion county, the family settling in Georgetown. The father's sketch is given above. At the

usual age Mr. Cook began his education, attending the public schools and in early life he also learned the harness maker's trade with his father, but after the country had become involved in Civil war, arising through the differences of opinion brought on by the slavery question and the attempt of the south at secession, he put aside his business cares and personal interests that he might perform his duty as a loyal son of the Union. Enlisting, he became a member of Company A, Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, in 1863 and he participated in a number of important engagements, including the battle of Pea Ridge, Perryville, Stone River and Corinth. He was also in the battle of Nashville, on the 11th of September, 1864, at which time he was wounded in the shoulder. In the meantime he had been appointed by President Lincoln to the position of first lieutenant in the Twelfth United States Colored troops and it was with that command that he went forth to take part in the engagement at Nashville. His injuries disabled him from further field service and he was thereupon detailed for court martial duty, being appointed the judge advocate, and until the close of the war he prosecuted claims and cases for the government before the several military courts in the city of Nashville and that vicinity, being thus engaged until honorably discharged on the 16th of January, 1866. Mr. Cook remained in Nashville until the fall of 1869 and in the meantime he was there admitted to the bar, successfully passing an examination before the judge of the circuit, the chancery and the criminal courts. In 1867 he was elected prosecuting attorney of Nashville and discharged his duties with such ability that he was re-elected, serving for two terms. He then determined to return to the north and in 1869 left Nashville. On the 17th of

March, 1875, he came to Danville and has since been an active representative of the legal profession in this place. The clientage accorded to him has been of an important and representative character. He has made a specialty of acting as pension attorney and has presented many claims against the government for his clients from Maine to California, being successful in a large number of these. Mr. Cook has also been connected with real estate dealing, buying and selling property, and has handled considerable valuable realty here, whereby he has materially increased his income.

On the 2d of September, 1872, was performed the marriage ceremony of Benjamin F. Cook and Laura M. Lawrence, a daughter of John and Eliza Lawrence, of Georgetown, Illinois. The hospitality of many of the best homes of this city is extended to them and they have a large circle of friends here. They belong to the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Cook is identified with the Grand Army Post. In politics he is a Republican, but he has preferred to abstain from active part in political work in order to devote his entire attention to his professional duties.

MRS. LINEA E. GOODNER.

Mrs. Linea Elizabeth Goodner is well known in Ridgefarm, having for a considerable period been a resident of this portion of Vermilion county. She was born October 1, 1866, in Jasper, Illinois, a daughter of George W. and Nancy (Gregson) Sanders, both of whom were natives of Kentucky, whence they removed to Jasper county, Illinois, soon after their marriage. There they remained for a number of years and then

came to Vermilion county, settling on a farm near Georgetown. Here the father died in 1875 and the mother afterward took up her abode in Ridgefarm, where her death occurred in 1885. Mrs. Goodner had four sisters: Vanetta McCorkle, who died leaving two children; Mrs. Rebecca Foster, of Danville, who has two children; Mrs. Mary Goodner, of Ridgefarm, who has two children; and Mrs. Maggie Carson, of Ridgefarm, who has four children.

Mrs. Goodner, whose name introduces this record, spent her girlhood days under the parental roof and obtained her education in the public schools. She lived with her parents until she gave her hand in marriage to John Goodner on the 13th of December, 1887, when about twenty-one years of age. He was born near Georgetown in this county and his parents were natives of Germany, whence they came to America, settling in Vermilion county at an early day. His family became prominent in the community and Mr. Goodner was ever respected for his genuine worth. For a year after their marriage the young couple resided on the home farm and then removed to the village of Ridgefarm, where they lived happily until the 31st of May, 1891, when Mr. Goodner was called to his final rest, passing away from heart trouble. His remains were interred in Pleasant Mound cemetery at Georgetown, and his death was the occasion of deep regret throughout the community. Mrs. Goodner was thus left alone with the care of her two children, Charles Wesley and Cassius, aged respectively twelve and seven years. They are still with their mother, who is devoted to their welfare and happiness. Mrs. Goodner is an active and earnest member of the Christian church, takes a leading part in the Christian Endeavor Society and in Sunday-school work.

Her influence is ever on the side of moral progress and throughout the community where she has now resided for some years she is held in the highest esteem.

A. L. JOHNSON.

A. L. Johnson is one of the progressive and wide-awake farmers and stock-raisers of Ross township, living on section 4, where he owns and operates two hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, well improved with modern equipments. He was born in Vinton county, Ohio, January 21, 1844, and his father, Abraham Johnson, was also a native of that locality, born in 1816. He came of German ancestry and wedded Matilda Pewthers, a lady of Scotch descent, who was also a native of Ohio. To provide for his family he followed farming in Vinton county and there spent his entire life, his death resulting from an accident in 1876. His wife had previously passed away, having been called to her final rest in 1873. In their family of five sons and two daughters A. L. Johnson was the second in order of birth. The sons and one of the daughters are yet living in Ohio with the exception of him whose name introduces this review.

A. L. Johnson was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads of the period. In the summer months he worked in field and meadow and during the winter seasons pursued his education in the common schools. After he was grown he began buying and shipping stock and followed that pursuit for fifteen years. Later he engaged in the cultivation of the old home farm and ultimately he determined to establish his residence in Illinois, coming to Vermilion county in 1879. He then purchased the farm upon which he



A. L. JOHNSON.

now resides, took up his abode there and began to improve the place in 1883. He has since erected a large and substantial farm residence, good barns and other necessary outbuildings, has planted an orchard, has set out shade and ornamental trees, has tiled and fenced his fields and has added all modern machinery and equipments. He has a windmill and waterworks upon his place and the substantial improvements which are ever found upon a model farm. He has been engaged in raising and feeding stock which he fattens for the market, shipping about three car-loads of cattle and two of hogs each year.

On the 31st of May, 1866, in Vinton county, Ohio, Mr. Johnson wedded Mary Craig, a native of that county, and a daughter of William Craig. They had three children, but Addie C., the first born, died in her ninth year and Sophia died in 1894, at the age of twenty-two years. Clara M. is therefore the only surviving member of the family and lives with her parents on the home place in Ross township. The mother of these children died in 1893, and on the 14th of May, 1895, Mr. Johnson married Phebe Craig.

Mr. Johnson cast his first presidential vote for General Hancock in 1868 and has since supported each candidate of the Democracy for the office of chief executive of the nation. At local elections he votes independently, regarding only the capability of the nominees. He has never been an office seeker himself, but was elected commissioner of highways, by his fellow townsmen, who recognized his worth and loyalty. Ever a warm friend of education, he believes in securing good schools and competent teachers, and for twelve years he did effective service in this direction. While acting as a member of the school board he

served as its secretary. He has served as a delegate to the numerous county and state conventions of his party. He and his wife and daughter are members of the Christian church of Pleasantview. He served for five years on the Ohio Christian conference as president, and after coming to Illinois he was elected without his knowledge as president of the Central Illinois Christian conference, having served for nine years in that capacity. His life has been upright, his actions manly, sincere and unaffected, and his salient characteristics have been such as to win for him the confidence and good will of those with whom he has been associated.

O. C. BENSON.

O. C. Benson is the owner of a mill and elevator in Fairmount and is now conducting an extensive and profitable business. He is one of the citizens of foreign birth who, believing that the new world offered superior advantages, came to America and utilizing the opportunities which have come to them, now occupy creditable and honorable positions as leading representatives of the communities with which they have become identified. Mr. Benson was born in Sweden, October 23, 1848. His father, Benjamin Olson, was likewise a native of that country, as was the mother of our subject who bore the maiden name of Karna Nelson. They were married in Sweden and the father was well known there because of his musical skill, being a good performer on many instruments and a leader of one of the national bands. He died in 1851 and his wife, long surviving him, passed away in 1901. In their family were five children, of whom four are yet living, but Eleanor died in Sweden.

The others are: Johanna, the wife of Nelse Hanson, of Sweden; Bengta, the wife of John Christianson, of Fairmount; O. C., of this review; and Mary, who is married and resides in Sweden.

O. C. Benson attended school to a limited extent in his native country, but at the age of fourteen he put aside his text books and began earning his own living. He lost his father when only three years of age, and it was therefore necessary that he provide for his support in early youth. He first secured employment in a mill at Molmer, Sweden, where he remained until he was twenty-five years of age, in the meantime winning promotion until he had become head miller and manager. In the year 1873 he crossed the Atlantic to America, landing in New York, but he did not tarry long in the eastern metropolis, making his way at once to Danville, Illinois, in company with a companion, Andrew Anderson, who had been visiting in Sweden and had induced our subject to seek a home in the United States. He began working for M. M. Wright, and his close application and his capability caused him to be retained in Mr. Wright's service for five years. In 1883 he came to Fairmount where he purchased the John Dougherty flour mill. This he conducted until 1896 when it was destroyed by fire, but with characteristic energy he erected his present mill. His elevator was not burned, and he has both the mill and elevator at this place, also a mill and elevator in Catlin, Illinois. Both are large plants and his business is fast reaching mammoth proportions. He handles a large amount of grain annually and also conducts an extensive milling business, his products finding a ready sale upon the market because of the excellence of the quality.

In the city of Danville Mr. Benson was

united in marriage to Miss Matilda Ellison, who was born in Sweden, October 15, 1846. Her parents lived and died in that country and she has one sister who is yet living in Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Benson have three children still living: Alvina, born June 22, 1879; Emily, February 5, 1882; and Lilly, September 24, 1885. Clarence, born August 10, 1887, died when fourteen months old. Mr. Benson owns a good home and other city property in Fairmount. In politics he is independent, without partisan bias, his support being given to the measures which he believes are best calculated to promote the public welfare and to advance local progress. He holds membership relations with the Modern Woodmen of America and he is a member of the Baptist church. Mr. Benson has never had occasion to regret his determination to come to America, for, utilizing the opportunities of the new world he has progressed in business until he is now the possessor of a very handsome competence, and he has, moreover, gained a good home and the regard of many friends.

AUGUSTINE R. CLAPP.

The history of Vermilion county would not be complete without mention of Augustine Clapp, Sr., one of its few remaining early pioneer settlers, now residing on the old homestead on section 9, Newell township. Mr. Clapp was born in Guilford county, North Carolina, September 28, 1814, in the Clapp neighborhood, close to Greensboro and about one mile from the old Clapp church, which is a brick structure. He is a son of Isaac and Catherine Clapp, the latter in her maidenhood having also borne the name of Clapp. They were both of German extraction and natives of North Carolina. August-

tine Clapp is the eldest of a family of nine children, the others living being: Manuel, a resident of North Carolina; Isaac, who resides in Cherryvale, Kansas; and George A. Clapp, of Nebraska, and Catherine in North Carolina.

Augustine Clapp with his wife and two children came from North Carolina to Illinois in a covered wagon drawn by a span of gray horses which he prized very much. He started on his journey April 13, 1841, and was on the road until May 10, arriving and settling in Newell township, where Newell station now stands. He settled upon the south forty acres of that location. On arriving there he purchased seventy acres of land, that was partly broken, from the heirs of an estate, paying them forty dollars each for their interests. He later purchased his present place, a farm of eighty acres which he bought at six dollars per acre, and immediately began the work of improvement, placing the tract under a high state of cultivation. Like many of the early settlers he found the country new and wild. Prairie wolves were numerous and wild game of all kinds was plentiful. Hunting in those days was, to use his own expression, "a treat." The deer ran through the cornfields of the place and geese, brant, ducks, prairie chickens and plover were within easy reach of the marksman. Danville was the nearest trading point. Besides being engaged in farming Mr. Clapp learned the carpenter's trade which he followed for years. He has seen the wonderful transformation which has taken place in Vermilion county and has helped to build the churches and schools of his district. He was united in marriage to Elizabeth Clapp, who in marriage did not change her name. She was born in Orange county, North Carolina, November 24, 1809, and is now deceased. She

was a daughter of John and Catherine (Starr) Clapp, of North Carolina. She died leaving a family of nine children and a husband to mourn her loss. The family record is as follows: John Clapp, a minister of the gospel, resides in Newell township. For his first wife he chose Emily Knox, and after her death he was married to Mrs. Cox, a widow, and a daughter of Joseph Blair, of Vermilion county. The second member of the family, Catherine E., died April 5, 1842. Alfred died August 8, 1848. George A. resides in Crawford county, Illinois. He married Mattie Cox and they have four children. Isaac S. married Mary Knott and resides in Newell township. They are the parents of ten children, five of whom are yet living. Augustine R. is the sixth member of the family. Barbara Jane married C. B. Williamson and departed this life leaving one child, Minta, who lives with her father, in Ohio. She had one sister, Bertha, who died previous to the death of her mother. Mr. and Mrs. Clapp were members of the Christian church of which he has been a trustee. He helped build the church known as Pleasantview. In his political views he was first a Whig and after the organization of the Republican party he became a staunch advocate of its principles and is very proud to be numbered as a member of the party which he thinks embraces the best form of government. He has been a voter for many years, being now eighty-eight years of age. He has taken an active part in public affairs, having filled the offices of school and district treasurer, township trustee and township supervisor. He also served as town clerk for a number of years and one year as assessor. His life has ever been worthy of the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens, which he has enjoyed in a high degree.

Augustine R. Clapp is the sixth in order of birth in his father's family. He was born on the old home place in Newell township, December 23, 1810. He received his early education in the district schools, working on the home farm in the summer seasons and attending school during the winter. He, too, has been an active factor in the growth and development of this county, and to his efforts is largely due the present high state of cultivation of the farm which he occupies. He and his father have labored together to make their farm productive and attractive, and from all care and labor on the place. He now relieves his worthy and honored father who retains his faculties in a remarkable degree.

On the 22d of October, 1874, Augustine R. Clapp was united in marriage to Miss Phoebe Seymour, who was born in Vermilion county, November 2, 1855. She is a daughter of Hutton and Eveline (Allen) Seymour. This marriage has been blessed with two children, Edward and Elizabeth Eveline, both living at home. Edward assists his father in the work of the farm, which is very valuable and yields about thirty-five bushels of corn and thirty bushels of oats to the acre. Augustine R. Clapp is, like his father, a staunch Republican and has long been recognized as one of the standard bearers of the party. He has long been associated with the progress and improvement made in the county, and is very proud of its material, moral and intellectual advancement toward which he has ably contributed.

JOHN W. O'HAYER, M. D.

For twenty years Dr. O'Hayer has practiced his profession in Danville with marked success and to-day he has a very large patronage, which indicates his high standing in

the ranks of the medical profession. He was born near Pleasantville, Indiana, February 11, 1859, and comes of a family of German lineage, the ancestry being traced back to a very early date. About 1728 Christopher Joseph Hifer was born in Prussia. He was of the great industrial and professional class of the fatherland and he and his brother Cornelius pursued a seven years' course in medicine and surgery, after which they went to Ireland, where they won such success and distinction that the prefix "O" was placed before their names and they were then called O'Hifer. When the Catholic persecution began they went to England, but not liking that country returned to Germany, where both pursued another seven years' course in medicine and surgery. They then emigrated to the new world, settling in Virginia, where they were married. Dr. Christopher J. O'Hifer became a resident of Tennessee in 1760, and there Joseph O'Hayer, the grandfather of our subject, was born in 1766. By a happy turn of affairs Joseph O'Hayer married the daughter of a sister of Frederick the Great. She was a wonderful singer, possessing musical talent of the highest order.

When the brothers came to America the family name of O'Hifer was changed to O'Hayer, and that spelling has since been retained. The great-grandfather was very celebrated in his profession and cured every case of cancer and other tumorous disease that was brought to him. His patients came from many states, over a radius of hundreds of miles. Among his descendants are many who have gained distinction in professional lines, including physicians, teachers and ministers of the gospel.

Pleasant Miller O'Hayer, the father of Dr. O'Hayer, of Danville, became a resident of Sullivan county, Indiana, in 1819,



JOHN W. O'HAYER. M. D.

and there as the result of his industry and enterprise became the owner of fifteen hundred acres of land. He also built the best flouring mill which had been erected in the county up to that date. In public affairs he was very prominent and influential. He served as justice of the peace, was a leader in church and Sunday-school work, served as a trustee in the church and as a leader in the Sunday-school. By his first marriage he had twelve children, of whom ten are living. His eldest son, Rev. W. P. O'Haver, is an elder in the Methodist Episcopal church. For his second wife P. M. O'Haver married Cynthia Ann Hinkle, and of this marriage the Doctor and seven other children were born. Her father was Philip Hinkle and her grandfather Wondall Hinkle, one of the pioneers of Indiana. In the Hinkle family were also many worthy preachers and teachers. P. M. O'Haver followed farming in Indiana until called to his final rest. He is survived by two children of the first marriage, Rev. W. P. O'Haver, of Bloomfield, Indiana; and Mrs. Harriet S. Edwards, a resident of Freelandville, Indiana. The children born of the second marriage are: Thomas B., of Pleasantville; Martha M., the wife of Jesse H. Fleming, of Marco, Indiana; Charles J., a resident of Keuka, Florida; R. S., of Lyons, Indiana; and Grace, the widow of Shannon Ogg, and a resident of Bloomington, Indiana.

Dr. O'Haver pursued his early education in Greene and Sullivan counties of Indiana, leaving the district schools at an early age. He then began work with his father in the mill and gained much practical knowledge of both engineering and agricultural pursuits. For a few years he had full charge of the machinery of the mill, serving as engineer for four or five years. This occupation continued to claim his attention until

1879, when, desiring to become a member of the medical profession, he devoted three years to the mastery of the principles of the science and was graduated with high honors in the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery in the spring of 1882. He also received a fine set of instruments as the first prize for winning the highest scholarship in the college on the diseases of women and children, and his great skill along those lines and in other branches of his profession has always enabled him to maintain a foremost place in the ranks of the medical fraternity in Danville. Opening an office in Danville his practice has steadily grown until it has reached extensive proportions, covering a large part of the county. He belongs to the Tri-County Medical Society and the Vermilion County Medical Society, the State Medical Society, and the National Medical Society, and has been on the staff of both of the hospitals of Danville for a number of years. He was also one of the founders of the training school for nurses and served on its staff for five years. While he engages in general practice he makes a specialty of the diseases of women and children and in this branch has been extremely successful.

Dr. O'Haver first wedded Mary M. McConnell, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of William McConnell, who was of Irish descent, and of Sarah (Dyer) McConnell, a native of Owen county, Indiana. Mrs. O'Haver died August 3, 1899. She was a devout Christian woman, holding membership in the Kimber Methodist Episcopal church, and she belonged to the Court of Honor and the Home Forum. On the 12th of November, 1902, the Doctor married Miss Peninah Ann Jones, a native of this county, and a daughter of C. E. Jones, who was a pioneer of the county and now a farmer of Vance township, living near Fair-

mount. Mrs. O'Haver is a member of the Baptist church of Fairmount.

The Doctor is medical examiner for a number of insurance societies and for a number of fraternal organizations, including the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal Circle and the Court of Honor. In all of these he holds membership and is likewise a member of the Kimber Methodist Episcopal church, with which he has been identified since 1882, while his membership relation with the denomination dates from the time when he was fourteen years of age. He views political questions from a Republican standpoint, having always given his support to that party, and in 1900 he was elected in the fourth ward to the city council and re-elected in 1902 for another term of two years. He has served on some of the most important committees, is chairman of the committee on health, and a member of the ordinance and sewer committees. The council is now preparing to build the Carnegie library, which will be a handsome structure, erected at a cost of forty thousand dollars, the city furnishing the site. The Doctor is a man whose prominence is not the less the result of an irreproachable private life than of professional skill and ability. The world instinctively pays deference to the man whose success has been worthily achieved and because of this Dr. O'Haver is occupying an enviable position in the regard of those by whom he is known.

GEORGE F. MENIG.

Prominent as a representative of industrial interests of Danville stands George F. Menig, the superintendent and secretary of the Danville Woolen Mills. This is an

enterprise of importance, contributing in no small degree to the commercial prosperity of the city. It has been said that the man who each week pays a large force of workmen over his counter is more deserving of the gratitude of his race than is the general who leads his hosts forth to battle, for he supplies his fellow men with the means of preserving life instead of destroying it and enables them to become self-supporting, self-reliant and self-respecting citizens. Mr. Menig may therefore be classed among the important factors in business life in Danville where from his boyhood days he has lived a life of industry and enterprise that has found its culmination in the successful control of an important industry.

A native of Edgerton, Ohio, he was born August 6, 1870, and is a son of Ferdinand Menig, a native of Germany. His paternal grandfather, George F. Menig, spent his entire life in Germany, but the father of our subject came to America in 1852, crossing the Atlantic to New York city, where he first located. There he learned the baker's trade and followed that pursuit for several years or until the Civil war broke out, when, loyal to his adopted land, he joined the Union army and served throughout the period of hostilities. After the war was over he went to Edgerton, Ohio, where he engaged in the manufacture of barrel staves, shipping his product to Cleveland. Subsequently he turned his attention to general merchandising, which he followed in Edgerton for a few years. He afterward entered into partnership with George Kerr, in the establishment of a woolen mill and continued in that business for five years or until February, 1878, when he came to Danville and founded the Danville Woolen Mills, which have since been conducted with success, the scope of their business being continually increased,

while the output of the factory grows from year to year.

Mr. Menig was united in marriage to Miss Mary Shean, of Worcester, Massachusetts, and unto them have been born eleven children, as follows: Margaret, who is now in the convent in Notre Dame, Indiana; Mary, the wife of Thomas Brown, who is employed as a bookkeeper in the Second National Bank, of Danville; George F., of this review; Gertrude, the wife of William Hooten, of Danville; Ursula, who is a bookkeeper in the Danville Woolen Mills and in the merchandise stores owned by her father and brother; Frank, who is employed as a clerk in a grocery store owned by the firm; Nellie, who is clerking in the dry-goods department; Gustavus, who is also acting as a clerk; Bertha, at home; and two who died in childhood.

The children were provided with good educational privileges in the schools of Danville and of Loretta, Ohio. Mr. Menig of this review was but eight years of age when brought by his parents to Danville. Here he studied in the public schools for a time and afterward entered a college of Notre Dame, Indiana. On completing his education he joined his father in business and is to-day the superintendent and secretary of the Danville Woolen Mills, incorporated. The plant is located at No. 220 Logan avenue and is one of the largest manufacturing plants of the city. They make all kinds of woolen goods. The mill was erected about 1850 and was conducted by the firm of Hobson & Ellsworth. It was then an old frame structure, operated by water power. That firm continued as owners for several years and then sold out to Ferdinand Hanke, who also conducted the business for several years. The next owner was S. H. Riggs, who continued in charge for some

time, when Ferdinand Menig purchased a half interest in the business, entering into partnership with Mr. Riggs, in a business connection that maintained for about eight or ten years, when Mr. Menig purchased his partner's interest and became the sole owner. In 1890 the business was incorporated with Ferdinand Menig as the president of the company and George F. Menig as the superintendent and secretary. They now employ about one hundred hands and manufacture all kinds of woolen goods mostly for the eastern trade. They also do a great deal of work for the government, making woolen cloths of different kinds. In connection with the woolen mills the firm also owns and conducts a grocery store and dry-goods store, located on Logan avenue near the mills, handling everything in this line and enjoying a large trade, which has now assumed profitable proportions. Both father and son devoted their entire time to the business, which makes heavy demands upon their attention, owing to the volume of their trade in both the manufacturing and mercantile departments. Neither have held offices in the city or county, nor have they desired political preferment of any kind. They are recognized as reliable and enterprising business men, accurate in trade transactions and with business sagacity which enables them to recognize possibilities. The father owns a beautiful residence at No. 222 Logan avenue located near the stores and mill.

George F. Menig was united in marriage to Miss Lucy J. Mathias, of Chicago, and they now have an interesting little daughter, Lucile. Their home is at No. 422 Oak street, where they have a nice residence. Mr. Menig votes with the Republican party and socially is identified with the Elks Lodge at Danville. He and his family are all con-

nected with St. Patrick's Catholic church of this city. Mr. Menig is a man of enterprise, positive character, indomitable energy, strict integrity and liberal views and has been fully identified with the growth and prosperity of the city of his adoption, while at the same time he has controlled important business interests. In the world of trade the name of Menig is well known and through the marked industry and enterprise of the owners of the Danville Woolen Mills they have become men of affluence in this city.

J. L. FINLEY, M. D.

Among the young men of Vermilion county who have attained distinction in business and professional ranks is Dr. J. L. Finley, who, although not yet thirty years of age, has gained success as a member of the medical fraternity that many an older physician might well envy. He was the second and only son in a family of three children. His parents were natives of New England and from Vermont removed to southern Indiana, where they are still living, the father devoting his attention to the practice of medicine. He is a capable and successful physician and is widely and favorably known in the locality where he resides.

The Doctor was born in 1874 and early in life enjoyed good educational privileges which he improved until he had completed the high school course by graduation when seventeen years of age. Then thinking to follow in the professional footsteps of his father, he read medicine with him and later became a student of the University of Kentucky, at Louisville, completing the course in the medical department with the class of 1896 and ranking high among his ninety-six classmates.

In the previous year the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Nannie Richards, of Fredericksburg, Indiana, and after his graduation he removed to Collington, Illinois, where he began practice, quickly gaining a fair patronage. He has the confidence of the public by reason of his thorough and accurate understanding of the principles of medical science and his correct application thereof to the needs of suffering humanity. He reads broadly, thinks deeply, works earnestly, and thus is meeting with success.

Unto Dr. and Mrs. Finley has been born one son, J. Keith, three years of age. Socially the Doctor is connected through membership relations with the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America and in these he has held many offices. He belongs to the Methodist church and in his political views is a strong Republican, but has never sought or desired office, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his professional duties. He belongs to the County and State Medical Societies and is also a member of the American Medical Association.

PROSPER LESEURE.

Few men were as widely known or as sincerely mourned as Prosper Leseure, who passed away November 23, 1897, while visiting his children in Danville. He was born on the 26th of May, 1820, in Nancy, France, a son of Pierre and Anne Leseure, also natives of the same place. When Prosper Leseure had reached the age of ten years his father, accompanied by the family, emigrated to America, locating in Philadelphia, where he remained for a short time. Later he removed to Cincinnati, Ohio, and subse-

quently to an estate in southern Indiana, where he lived the life of a country gentleman. It was on this estate that the children grew to manhood or womanhood and acquired their English education. When yet a young man Prosper Leseure came to Danville, soon to be joined by his brother, and together, under the firm name of V. & P. Leseure, they established a large general mercantile store, which they carried on for many years with marked success, theirs becoming one of the leading enterprises of the kind in the city. In 1867, however, this partnership was dissolved, and for a time Prosper Leseure was not engaged in any business. Later, in connection with George Yeomans, he operated a large lumber business but eventually disposed of his interests to his son-in-law, J. G. Shedd. In 1883 Mr. Leseure, together with several others, organized the State Bank, of which he was vice president for a number of years, retiring from active business in 1889. In the spring of 1892 he removed to California, living retired in Los Angeles.

Prosper Leseure was twice married. To the first union three children were born, of whom two are yet living: Helen L., the widow of J. G. Shedd, who was the superintendent of schools in Danville for many years; and Oscar, who is a prominent surgeon of Detroit, Michigan. His wife having died in 1858, Mr. Leseure was again married, in 1863, to Miss Harriet Crane, of Danville. One child was born to them, Ernest N. Leseure, the president of the Danville National Bank.

As a politician Prosper Leseure was little known, but in charitable and philanthropic work many have cause to remember him. He was unostentatious in his giving and it could be truthfully said of him that his right hand knew not what his left hand did. An

earnest Christian worker, he was for a long period a moving spirit in the Presbyterian church. He died leaving to his children a precious legacy—the heritage of a good name.

WALTER R. WILSON, M. D.

Dr. Walter R. Wilson, of Hoopeston, is a native of Oneida county, New York, born on the 20th of February, 1852, and comes of an old New England family. His father, Otis E. Wilson, was a native of Massachusetts, while the mother, who bore the maiden name of Mary Matthews, was born in New York and in the Empire state they were married. The father was a farmer in early life and later devoted his attention to general merchandising in East Lynn, Illinois. There he died in 1894, but his wife still survives and is now a resident of Hoopeston. In their family were the following children: Mrs. Hattie Elliott, of Hoopeston; Mrs. Dr. Fallis, of Danville; Mrs. Frank Hall, of Hoopeston; and the Doctor.

When only two years of age Dr. Wilson was taken by his parents to Kendall county, Illinois, and thence the family removed to Kankakee county about 1858. He was reared upon the home farm until nineteen years of age, making his home in Kankakee county until his removal with his parents to Hoopeston, in 1877. His early education was acquired in the public schools and for six months he was a student in Kankakee Seminary. Later he went to Chicago, Illinois, and entered upon a course of study that could prepare him for the practice of medicine and after the completion of the regular course he was graduated in Hahnemann Medical College with the class of 1877. He had previously studied

with Dr. Campbell, of Wilmington, Illinois. Well equipped for his chosen work, he located in Hoopston, in February, 1877, on leaving Hahnemann College, and has since made his home here. He received an honorary degree from the Chicago Homeopathic College in 1878. As a general practitioner of medicine and surgery he has displayed marked ability, showing that he is well equipped to successfully cope with the intricate problems which continually face the physician. He has a thorough knowledge of anatomy and keen insight into the ravages made by disease or cast upon people as a legacy by progenitors. In the administration of remedial agencies he has been most successful and to-day he stands among the leading representatives of a profession which by many is given the highest rank among all the lines of activity to which man can devote his energies. The Doctor has recently added an X-ray machine to his office. He has all of the modern appliances for the successful treatment of disease and for surgical work. His practice extends over a wide territory and comes from many of the best families in this portion of the state, but although it makes heavy demands upon his time he is also controlling and superintending his valuable farm of two hundred acres in Iroquois county. This farm is well stocked and is now the home of his son. In addition to his labor the Doctor hires farm hands to assist in the work of the place. For about twelve years he was in the drug business which he carried on in connection with his practice. In this enterprise he was associated with S. A. Kennedy and W. H. Elliott, but about 1896 he disposed of his drug interests.

In Hoopston, in October, 1877, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Wilson and Miss Anna C. Muirhead, a daughter of Rev.

James M. Muirhead, who was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, largely preaching in central Illinois. He died in the year 1892, but the influence of his noble life remain as a blessed benediction to those who knew him. His wife, who in her maidenhood was Mary Blackstock, is now living in Champaign county, Illinois. Unto the Doctor and his wife have been born two sons and a daughter, the latter being Alice May, the wife of Ernest Bishop, of Hoopston, Illinois. Robert E. is a graduate of the Chicago Homeopathic College, of the class of 1902, while Clarence J. is an enterprising farmer. The elder son was a member of Battery A, of Danville, during the Spanish-American war and served at Porto Rico. Clarence resides in Iroquois county, Illinois, operating his father's farm of two hundred acres. The Doctor is quite prominent in Masonry, belonging to the blue lodge and chapter, and in the latter he has served as a high priest for several years. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Royal Circle, and in the last two he is the medical examiner. He was reared in the faith of the Methodist church and has long been one of its earnest members. Formerly he served as its Sunday-school superintendent. He has taken quite an active interest in its work, contributing most liberally to its support. In his political affiliations the Doctor is a Republican and for two years he served as mayor of Hoopston, while for six years he was one of the aldermen of the city. He owns a two-story brick building in this town, the lower floor being occupied by Elliott's drug store, while the upper story is occupied as a residence by the Doctor and his family. He is a member of the State Homeopathic Association and reading, study and investigation are continually

broadening his knowledge to an extent that makes him one of the best informed members of the medical fraternity in this part of the state. His practice has assumed extensive and profitable proportions and this success is merited because of his close application and his deep interest in the work.



THEODORE B. REDMOND, M. D.

On the roll of physicians in Vermilion county appears the name of Dr. Theodore B. Redmond, who has attained considerable distinction in his chosen field of labor. He resides in Vermilion Heights, a suburb of Danville, where he has a large practice, and moreover he is not only entitled to distinction of mention in this volume as a representative of professional life but also as a representative of a prominent pioneer family of the county.

He was born in Salem, Washington county, Indiana, November 1, 1846, and is a son of William H. and Elizabeth (Boulton) Redmond. The father was born in Floyd county, Indiana, about 1820, and his wife was born near Louisville, Kentucky, about 1824. She was there reared and educated, having good school privileges, and in Washington county, Indiana, she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Redmond. During the early part of his life the father resided near New Albany, Indiana, where he learned and followed the tailor's trade, carrying on business there until 1848, when he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling at Georgetown. At an early day he served as postmaster there and was a well known and influential citizen. He worked at the tailor's trade until his death, which occurred in 1877, and his wife passed away upon a farm

in Danville township, in 1885. She was a lady of superior culture and of literary taste and ability. She read broadly, became extremely well informed and was justly regarded as the most literary woman of Georgetown. Writing was to her a pleasure and in an early day she was the correspondent from Georgetown to all the leading papers of this part of the state. She also possessed considerable poetical talent and contributed a number of poems as well as prose productions to periodicals, including both newspapers and magazines. She wrote for the papers under the non de plume of Lizzie and her productions were eagerly read. She had a very wide acquaintance not only in this county but also in eastern Illinois and Indiana and the public passed favorable judgment upon her literary and poetical powers. She is survived by two sons, the Doctor and John G., who resides upon a farm near Catlin.

In the public schools near his home Dr. Redmond obtained his preliminary education, which was supplemented by study in the Georgetown Seminary, at Georgetown, this county, after which he spent one term as a student in the State University at Normal, Illinois. Returning to Vermilion county he then began teaching in the country schools near Georgetown. In 1868 he went to that place and took up the study of medicine in the office and under the direction of Dr. Kimbrough, with whom he studied for two years. He then began practice in Palermo, Illinois, where he continued for a year, going thence to Parke county, Indiana, where he practiced for three years. Feeling that his medical education was not complete, however, he next went to Indianapolis and matriculated in the Indiana Medical College in which he was graduated with the class of 1875, receiving his diploma. At the gradua-

tion exercises he delivered an essay upon zymosis and was accorded the first prize. He returned then to Parke county, where he remained in practice until 1882, covering a period of ten years altogether in that county.

On the 26th of December, 1872, the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ellen Richmond, a native of Parke county, and a daughter of Return J. and Mary (Miller) Richmond, but the latter is now deceased. Her father, however, is still living. He was an extensive farmer of Parke county, but has now retired from business cares and for the past eighteen years has resided with his daughter and the Doctor. Mrs. Redmond is one of a large family and has three brothers and one sister yet living. All have married and have families of their own and are now residents of Indiana. Mrs. Redmond was educated in her native county and is a most estimable lady. She belongs to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Danville and her influence is ever given in behalf of measures intended for the uplifting of humanity. By her marriage she became the mother of one child: Idelle, who is the wife of Harry Gilliland, a contractor and builder, who resides at Vermilion Heights and is actively connected with the improvement of that portion of Danville. They have two children, Rosalie and a baby boy.

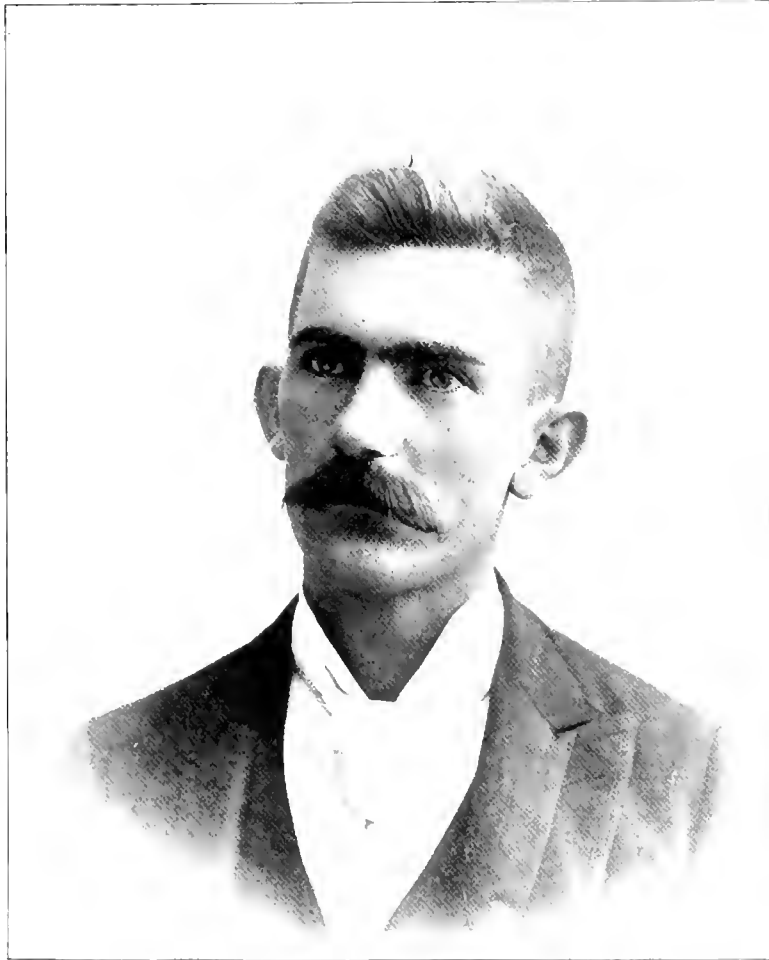
In the year 1882 Dr. Redmond returned with his family from Indiana to Vermilion county and purchased a small farm in Danville township, whereon he took up his residence, and while supervising its improvement he also continued in the practice of medicine. There he remained until December, 1900, when he removed to the city, establishing his home at Vermilion Heights, where he erected a nice residence and office at the corner of Second street and Warring-

ton avenue. He has been very successful, in fact his professional duties make such heavy demands upon his time that it leaves him little opportunity for social enjoyment. He is, however, a zealous student who has a deep interest in his profession from the scientific and from the humanitarian standpoint. His capability in coping with disease in its many intricate forms has been the means of gaining for him a very large patronage and in consequence a good annual income. In early life the Doctor was an advocate of the Democracy but is now a staunch Republican, believing firmly in the principles of the latter party. He belongs to the Odd Fellows Lodge at Danville and both he and his wife are members of the Christian church.

CHARLES E. ELLSWORTH.

Although comparatively a young man at the time of his death Charles E. Ellsworth had already attained a prominent position in public affairs and was a recognized leader in political and social circles of Vermilion county. His business relations brought him in connection with many of the citizens of Danville and the surrounding districts, all of whom respected him for his genuine worth, for his loyalty in citizenship and his fidelity to every trust reposed in him.

Mr. Ellsworth was born near Springfield, in Clark county, Ohio, June 11, 1868, and was a son of Jacob and Sarah J. (Bireley) Ellsworth, who were also natives of the Buckeye state. On the paternal side he was descended from an old New England family, his great-grandfather, Jacob Ellsworth, having been born in New England. His grandfather was William Ellsworth, who



C. E. ELLSWORTH.

resided in Ohio for many years. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Lewis Bireley, who lived and died in Ohio, passing away at the advanced age of eighty-five years. His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah Shank. The Shanks were originally from Pennsylvania but the branch of the family to which she belonged lived in Maryland. Jacob Ellsworth, the father of our subject, spent his entire life in Ohio and followed the profession of teaching, thus aiding largely in the intellectual development of the various communities with which he was connected. At the time of the Civil war he joined the Union army, becoming a member of Company G, Ninety-fourth Ohio Infantry. His widow still survives him.

In the common schools near his boyhood home Charles E. Ellsworth obtained his early education and at the age of sixteen was granted a teacher's certificate. After teaching for two terms in Ohio, he came to Danville, Illinois, and attended the high school here for a time. Later he resumed teaching, which he followed until twenty-two years of age, and in 1890 turned his attention to the work of surveying, entering the service of Alexander Bowman, then county surveyor of Vermilion county. Two years later Mr. Ellsworth was elected to that office on the Republican ticket and discharged the duties of the position so acceptably and creditably that he was re-elected in 1896 and was chosen for a third term in 1900, being the incumbent at the time of his death, which occurred March 19, 1903. Many of the new additions to the city of Danville were surveyed by him. He was also civil engineer in connection with the construction of a large portion of the streets of Hoopston and made the surveys for the interurban lines of railroad connecting Danville with outside places. He made and

published a map of Hoopston in 1890 and of Danville in 1892. He laid out the towns known as Vermilion Heights and Oak Lawn and in 1897 he made the topographical outline which was used in making all the arrangements by the United States government for the National Soldiers' Home in Danville. In the following winter he assisted the United States geological engineers in making the topographical survey of the country around Danville, covering fifteen miles square. Mr. Ellsworth thoroughly mastered his profession, which he understood in principle and detail and his accurate workmanship, his systematic labors and his fidelity to trusts reposed in him made him a most commendable and acceptable officer.

On the 29th of December, 1892, Mr. Ellsworth was united in marriage to Miss Julia Madden, an adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Madden, of Catlin, and to them were born three children: Helen Elizabeth, Esther Mary and Grace Jane.

Mr. Ellsworth was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Tribe of Ben Hur, and the Court of Honor. He took an active part in the work of organizing many of the societies of the Sons of Veterans of Illinois and was captain of Kearney Camp at Danville for four years. He was also in charge of the mustering office of the Illinois division for four years and during that time he instituted one hundred and twenty-five camps. In 1899 he became junior vice commander of the Illinois Division and perhaps to no other resident of this part of the state did the organization owe so much of its advancement and substantial progress. He was president of the Danville Poultry Association and one of the promoters of the Vermilion County Poultry Association. With the second meeting of the State Poultry Association under

the new appropriation by the legislature he was placed on the executive board. Five years ago when the joint meeting of the state and county associations was held, he was secretary of the latter association and assisted the state secretary. His work for the official was so thorough that he was chosen to that office, and in January, 1903, he was elected state president. In politics Mr. Ellsworth was a prominent and active Republican and was one of the promoters of the Joseph Cannon campaign club. He was a typical American citizen, wide-awake and progressive, who entered heartily and enthusiastically into any movement which received his indorsement.

WILLIAM BEVER, SR.

William Bever, Sr., who is now enjoying the fruits of his former toil, living a retired life in Potomac, was born in Fountain county, Indiana, October 23, 1831. His father, John Bever, was a native of Kentucky, in which state the grandfather, Michael Bever, had located at a very early day. Later the family removed to Ohio and about 1825 Michael Bever became a resident of Fountain county, Indiana, establishing a home there in pioneer times. He had a family of nine sons and two daughters, among whom was John Bever. The father of our subject spent the days of his childhood and youth in Adams county, Ohio, and was married there to Jane Pemberton. He and his wife then established their home upon a farm in Ohio, where they lived for a number of years. When his father removed to Indiana he also took his family to that state, traveling with a six horse team. He settled in Fountain county in 1825, among the early residents who had established

homes there. The grandfather and his sons each entered land from the government, cleared their respective tracts and developed good farms. John Bever owned two hundred acres of good land which he transformed into a nice farm and upon which he spent his remaining days, there rearing his family.

In taking up the personal history of William Bever, Sr., we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in Potomac and throughout the surrounding district. In retrospect we can see him as a young boy, assisting in clearing his father's farm, in planting the fields and cultivating the crops until after the harvests were garnered in the autumn. To some extent he attended the public schools, but his educational privileges were limited to some degree. In early life he engaged in teaching for one term. He was married in Fountain county, Indiana, January 18, 1852, to Lydia Jane Keller, a native of Tennessee, born in Greene county. His attention was then given to agricultural pursuits in Fountain county until 1880, the year of his arrival in Vermilion county, Illinois. Here he located on a farm a half mile east of Potomac, becoming the owner of two hundred acres of land which he continued to cultivate successfully for nine years, when he removed to Potomac, although he carried on farm work for a year thereafter. In connection with his son, William A., he purchased a steam thresher—the Huber machine,—which they have together operated during the harvesting season for a number of years and the son is still successfully engaged in threshing grain in the county.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bever have been born four children who are yet living: Rebecca, the wife of William Blackford, a farmer of Middlefork township; Sarah, at home; Will-

iam A., who is married and resides in Potomac; and Ella, the wife of Asa Felmley, of Potomac. They also lost three children. The eldest daughter, Minerva, grew to womanhood and married Charles Davis, of Fountain county, Indiana. She died in that county about 1878. Mary became the wife of J. Blackford, of Fountain county, afterward came to Vermilion county and died in Middlefork township. Franklin died at the age of eighteen months.

Mr. Bever's study of the political questions of the day has led him to give an earnest support to the Republican party, with which he has been allied from the time of its organization, casting his first ballot for its first presidential candidate, John C. Fremont, and for each presidential nominee of the Republican party since that time with the exception of the year 1880, when he lost his vote by reason of his removal from Indiana to Illinois. He has been elected assessor and re-elected until he has now served for five consecutive terms and has been elected for the sixth term, having made five assessments of the town and township. He has likewise been a member of the town board and has ever been found loyal and efficient in every position of public trust to which he has been appointed. All who know him esteem him for his genuine worth and for his fidelity to duty in both public and private life.

W. W. DYE.

Progression might well be termed the watchword of the newly organized firm of Miller & Dye, dealers in marble in Danville. There is nothing of fearful conservatism to be seen in their business methods, but on the other hand advancement and on-going are

the elements which have already placed this firm in the vanguard of the business enterprises of the city, where but a comparatively few months ago it was entirely unknown—the business having not then been established.

W. W. Dye is a western man by birth, training and preference and possesses the enterprising spirit of this section of the country. He was born near Riola, Illinois, August 20, 1871, and is a son of C. T. and Elizabeth (Shaver) Dye. On the paternal side the ancestry can be traced back to William Dye, who was a soldier under the command of George Washington in the Revolutionary war and participated in the campaign of New Jersey and the memorable winter at Valley Forge. He died in New Jersey in 1784. His son, Kenneth Dye, of Mason county, Kentucky, died in 1817 and he was the father of Peter Dye, the great-grandfather of our subject. Peter Dye, also lived in Mason county, Kentucky, and died in 1822. John Dye, the grandfather, became a private of Company C, Seventy-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war and was killed at the battle of Stone River. It was his son, C. T. Dye, who married Elizabeth Shaver and became the father of our subject. Mrs. Dye was the eldest daughter of Captain David Shaver, of Danville, and a descendant of Zachary Taylor, president of the United States. Still further back can the ancestry be traced. His great-grandfather, John Allen Taylor, was a son of Harrison Taylor, a cousin of the president of the United States. Peter Shaver, also a great-grandfather of our subject, was born in Botetourt county, Virginia, in 1790, and served in the war of 1812. After his marriage C. T. Dye began farming and throughout his entire life followed agricultural pursuits.

W. W. Dye, whose name introduces this record, was reared by his parents, who gave him a sure foundation upon which to build character as well as business success, for he was trained to habits of industry and economy. After attending the common schools he pursued a normal course in the Kansas Normal College at Fort Scott, Kansas, but did not graduate. For ten years he engaged in teaching school and was a successful educator. He afterward went upon the road as a traveling salesman, representing a monumental business and was extremely successful in that line. For three years he was upon the road and then embarked in business on his own account. It was early in his business career that he entered the employ of the firm of C. N. Clark & Company, of Urbana, Illinois, dealers in cemetery work of all kinds. Having mastered the business in all its departments he became their leading man and then ambitious to engage in business on his own account he entered into partnership with J. W. Miller, who was the chief designer for the firm of Knox, Miller & Company, of Danville, of which he was also a partner. On the 15th of July, 1902, the firm of Miller & Dye opened an office at No. 22, South Vermilion street and have since conducted business with constantly growing success. They make a specialty of work in American and imported marbles or granites, and from their establishment are sent out some of the finest specimens of the sculptor's art to be found anywhere. They carry a large stock of granite and marble and are prepared to do work of all classes from the smallest headstone to the most elaborate mausoleum. Both men are fully qualified to superintend the business in any department and splendid success has attended their efforts, in fact, their business has far exceeded their expectations, many

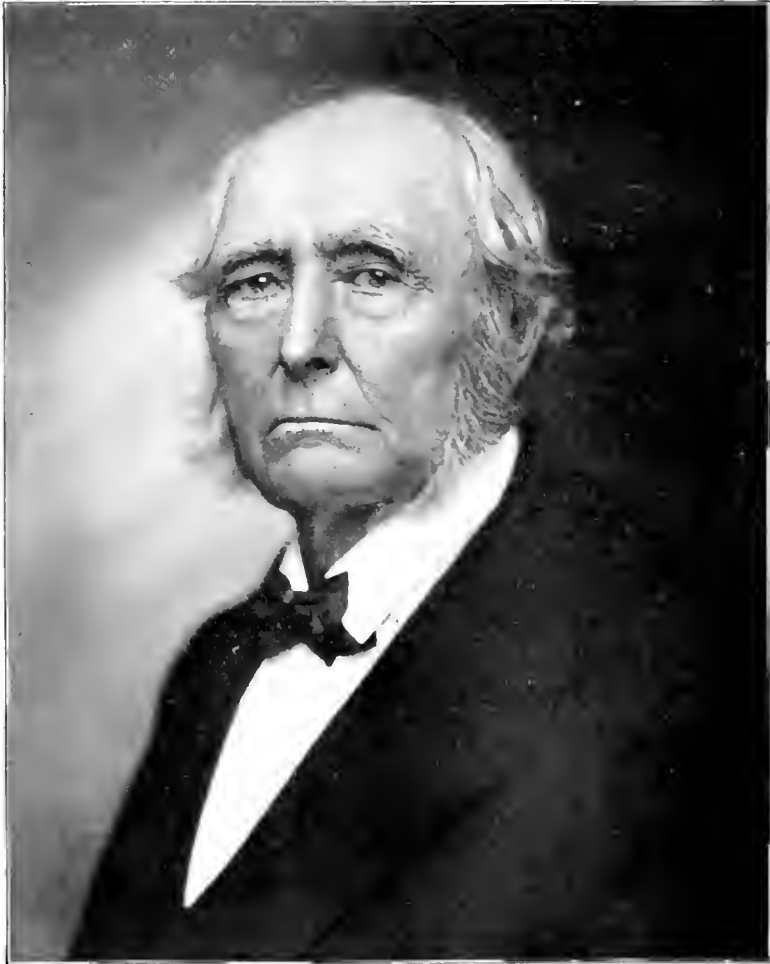
very large and important contracts being awarded them until the output brings to them a very gratifying financial return. Enterprise and energy, a knowledge of the trade and the desires of the public, and business methods, which neither seek nor require disguise—in these are found the secret of their success.

On the 24th of August, 1893, Mr. Dye was united in marriage to Miss Emily Alice Church, of Catlin, Illinois. Her parents were born and reared in the city of London and after attaining mature years came to America. Mr. and Mrs. Dye now have four children: Gladys, Francis, Walter C. and Vida. Socially Mr. Dye is connected with the Masonic fraternity, the Odd Fellows Society, the Modern Woodmen of men of America and the Court of Honor.

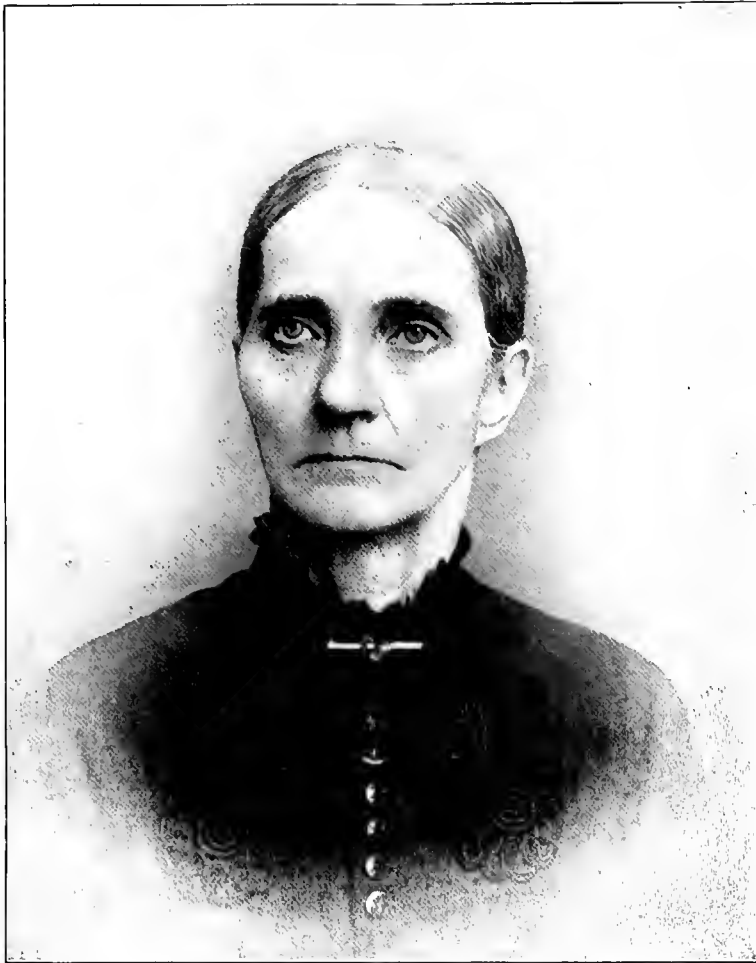
DORMAN B. DOUGLASS.

Dorman B. Douglass is the owner of one of the finest farms of Catlin township, having three hundred and sixty acres of valuable land on sections 1 and 2, his broad acres being under a high state of cultivation, while substantial buildings have been erected and the place is rendered still more attractive by numerous shade and fruit trees with which he has adorned the grounds. Concrete walks have been laid and all modern equipments, improvements and conveniences have been added until the Douglass farm is now one of the finest and most valuable in this section of the county.

Its well known and progressive owner was born October 11, 1827, in Danville township, Vermilion county, and is therefore one of its oldest native sons. Its history from pioneer times down to the present



D. B. DOUGLASS.



MRS. DORMAN B. DOUGLASS.

is familiar to him, his memory forming a connecting link between the days when this section of the country was a frontier district to the present period of progressiveness and prosperity. Mr. Douglass comes of New England ancestry and is the second in order of birth of the children of Cyrus and Ruby (Bloss) Douglass. The father was born in Vermont and the mother's birth occurred in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, she being a representative of one of the worthy families of the Keystone state. They were married about three miles north of Danville at a place called Denmark, and soon afterward they took up their abode about three miles south of Danville. The father was a hatter by trade, having learned the business in New York, and on emigrating westward he brought with him considerable material with which to engage in business in St. Louis, Missouri. There he remained for a time, afterward removing to Brown county, Indiana, but in that locality he remained for but a short period. It was in the year 1824 that he arrived in Vermilion county, first settling east of Georgetown near Eugene, where he entered some land from the government, the grant being made by President James Monroe. He afterward lived at Butler's Point and it was while residing in that locality that he was married. Subsequently he entered other tracts of land and became the owner of a valuable farm. He was numbered among the founders of the county, aiding in laying broad and deep the foundation upon which has been builded the present improvement and prosperity of this portion of the state. Indians were very numerous during the early days of his residence here. The forests stood in their primeval strength and were not only the haunt of the red men but also were the lair of many wild animals. From the time of his

marriage until his retirement to private life Cyrus Douglass carried on agricultural pursuits and his labors resulted in making his farm very productive. In 1865, however, he removed to Fairmount and there his wife died on the 15th of December, 1866. Mr. Douglass survived her for fourteen years, passing away December 20, 1880, and thus the county lost one who had been very active in advancing its interests from an early epoch in its history. Mr. Douglass served under Captain Morgan L. Payne in the Black Hawk war of 1831-2, and was most helpful in reclaiming this portion of the state for the uses of the white man. In his family were thirteen children, nine sons and four daughters, all of whom reached years of maturity with the exception of one son, who died at the age of nine years.

Those things which are to most of the residents of Vermilion county matters of history are to Mr. Douglass things of experience. It is hardly possible for the visitor of to-day to realize that a half century ago all this rich region was wild and unimproved, and yet Mr. Douglass can well remember the stretches of forest and of unbroken prairie, the log cabin homes, the little villages which stood upon the site of now flourishing towns and cities. He can remember Danville when it contained but three stores, and during the period of his boyhood many of the towns of the county were not founded. He pursued his education in a log schoolhouse, which was heated with an immense fireplace that extended across one entire end of the room. Like the other scholars he sat upon the slab benches and he conned his lessons from schoolbooks of a primitive character in institutions of learning were the motto of "spare the rod and spoil the child" was one that was closely followed. It was only through the winter

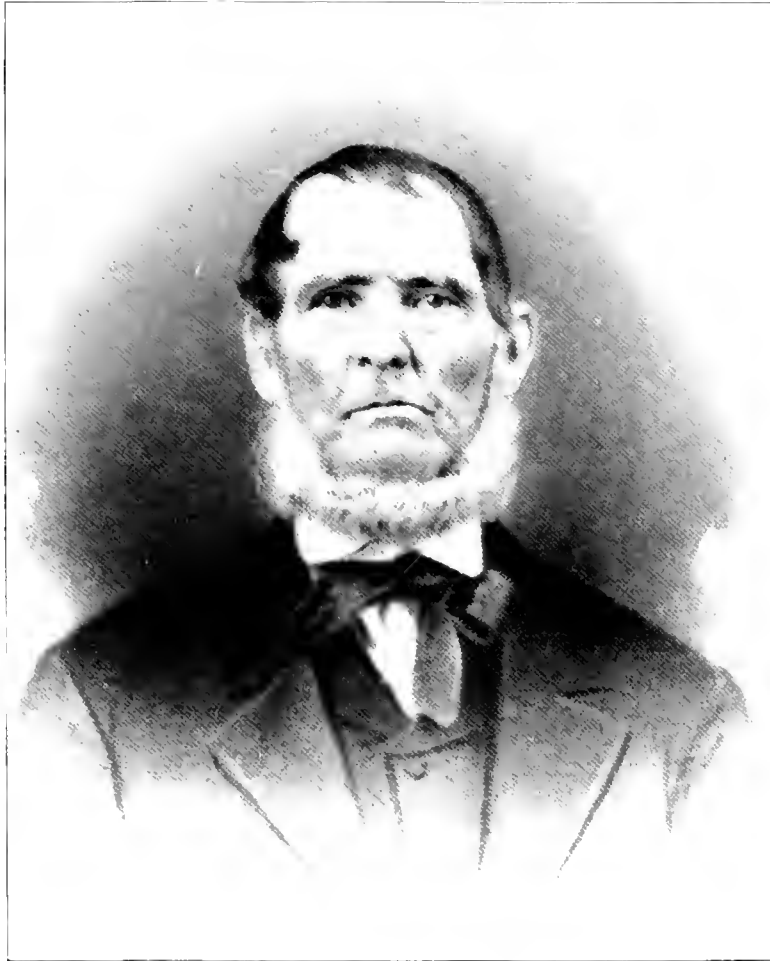
season that he had the privilege of attending school, for during the summer months his services were needed upon the home farm. As soon as old enough to handle the plow he took his place in the fields and was thereafter always busily engaged in the work of cultivating the crops until after the harvests of late fall. The first plow which he used was a wooden mold board and he drove with a single line harness made of rope. He did his harvesting with a reap hook, which later was superseded by a cradle. After turning the furrows the girls of the family would drop corn by hand. At length, however, Mr. Douglass left home and spent three years in the gold regions of southern Oregon and also of California, being located principally upon the little fork of the Feather river. He resided in California from 1851 until 1853, during which time he was engaged in mining, and then returning home by way of the ocean and Nicaragua route to New York, crossing the country then to Vermilion county, Illinois. Again in 1864 Mr. Douglass made that long trip to the Pacific coast, crossing the plains to Idaho and Montana, where he remained for about two and one-half years. In that period he engaged in mining and different occupations. After his trip to California he returned to his farm of two hundred acres, which was partially improved, and at once began its further development and cultivation. In his agricultural pursuits he has ever displayed industry and enterprise, combined with excellent business judgment, and thus through his own labors he has steadily advanced to a position of affluence, being now the possessor of a very valuable farm property. When he was a boy Chicago was the trading point for the family and long trips were made by wagon to that city. Mr. Douglass can also remember when the people largely

attended church by walking the entire distance, seeing whole families go two or three miles in this way. Frequently they made the journey on horseback, the wife sitting behind her husband on the same horse. Camp meetings were held out of doors and candles were fastened to the bushes in order to afford light. Mr. Douglass remembers quite well the first matches which he ever saw, and previous to that time fires were built by using flint and tow, also punk, which was picked up in the timber. The clothing was largely made from flax spun in the household, the women doing the carding and spinning, the cleaning and weaving, utilizing indigo for coloring. Even the congressmen went to Washington in the home made clothing, and few indeed were the tailor-made suits seen in Vermilion county during that epoch. It was quite difficult to obtain leather for shoes, and the individual had only about one pair a year. On Sundays the girls would carry their shoes until they were near the church, when they would put them on, removing them after the service was over and returning home barefooted.

In 1855 Mr. Douglass was united in marriage to Miss Anna Downing, in Danville township, the lady being a daughter of Ellis and Louise (Hathaway) Downing, who were natives of Virginia and Kentucky, respectively. Her parents began their domestic life in the latter state, and afterward became pioneer settlers of Logansport, Indiana, where the father died. Subsequently the mother came to Catlin township, Vermilion county, where she remained until her death. Four children were born of their union, of whom Mrs. Douglass is the eldest. She was born near Washington, in Mason county, Kentucky, December 25, 1825, accompanied her parents to Indiana and with her mother came to Illinois. By her marriage she had



MRS. CYRUS DOUGLASS.



CYRUS DOUGLASS.

five children: Samuel, who is now living at home; Eliza, the wife of G. W. Cook; Allen, who married Maggie Byerly; Belle B., the wife of Charles Lucas; and George W., who married Miss Cord, and lives on the old homestead. Mr. Douglass also has twelve grandchildren. In 1902 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 16th of June of that year. They had traveled life's journey together for more than forty-six years, sharing with each other its joys and sorrows, its adversity and prosperity. They had been most happy in their home life and the loss of the wife comes as a very great blow to the husband. She had been an invalid for about fifteen or sixteen years, but bore her illness uncomplainingly, without a murmur.

Mr. Douglass has indeed seen many changes in Vermilion county. He himself has made trips down the Mississippi river to New Orleans, going upon a flatboat made at Olmsted Mill. Twice he has crossed the plains to the Pacific ocean, making the trips with ox teams. To-day when he travels he finds it possible to speed over the country in a palace car in which one can enjoy almost all the comforts and conveniences of a modern home. He takes a deep interest in what has been accomplished in Vermilion county and he has ever borne his part in the work of development and improvement. For over thirty years he has been an honored member of Catlin Lodge, No. 285, F. & A. M., has passed through all of the chairs and that he is one of the valued representatives of the craft is shown by the fact that his picture hangs upon the wall of the lodge room. Fifty-four times has he exercised his right of franchise, being a Democrat of the Jacksonian type and one of the standard bearers of the party. A number of times has he attended congressional and county convention

tended county and congressional conventions and has put forth very earnest effort in behalf of the party and its success. He owns three hundred and sixty acres of the best farm land in the county and his home farm, all of which is well tilled and fenced and under a very high state of cultivation, is the visible evidence of his life of industry and toil. He also has other farm property which he leases. Coal underlies his home place and at any time he could command one hundred and fifty dollars per acre for his land. His property is the reward of his labor and well does he merit the comfortable competence which now provides him with all of the necessities and many of the luxuries of life.

AUSTIN M. SONGER.

Austin M. Songer, who is one of the prosperous business men of Vermilion county, having been actively and honorably engaged in merchandising in Alvin, has been a resident of this portion of the state since August, 1868. He was born in Warren county, Indiana, August 17, 1850, and his father, Lewis Songer, was a native of Virginia. When a young man he came to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county, and later removed to Warren county, Indiana. He married Catherine Daniels, also a native of the Old Dominion and both were of German ancestry. It was during the pioneer epoch of Warren county that Mr. Songer located there and he often took a flatboat down the Wabash and Mississippi rivers to New Orleans, thus transporting his products to the southern market. In 1868 he came to Vermilion county, settling in Ross township.

Austin M. Songer, who accompanied his parents, was then a young man of eighteen years. He had acquired good school privileges in Indiana and had assisted his father in the more arduous task of developing and clearing the home farm. Here he also bore his part in the farm work until after he had attained his majority, when he started out in life on his own account, working by the month as a farm hand for a few years. He also chopped wood and made railroad ties during the winter, while during the summer months he devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits. His labor and economy at length brought to him capital sufficient to enable him to make a purchase of land and he became the owner of forty acres of timber land near Alvin. From this he cleared the trees and in course of time transformed the tract into a richly cultivated field. He successfully carried on farming until 1884, when he came to Alvin and purchased an interest in a mercantile enterprise here. Later the stock was divided and Mr. Songer has since carried on the business alone, increasing his stock to meet the growing demands of his trade. He now carries a large line of general merchandise and has a very liberal patronage, owing to the reputation which he has gained for handling a high grade of goods and fair dealing. He has qualities which make him a popular merchant, being genial, approachable and obliging, and through his trade transactions he has gained many warm friends. He purchased a lot in the town and has erected thereon a large brick residence, which is one of the attractive homes here. He also owns other town property and a good farm near Alvin and has a business block in Alvin aside from the one which is occupied by his own store.

While his agricultural and commercial

interests have made heavy demands upon his time Mr. Songer has yet found time to take an active interest in political affairs, as every true American citizen should do who has the welfare of his country at heart. He has long been a Democrat, supporting the men and measures of the party and he was appointed by President Cleveland to the office of postmaster of Alvin, serving for four years. He has also been president of the town board for a number of terms, has been president of the school board for two terms and has frequently been a delegate to the county conventions of his party, his opinions carrying weight and influence in its councils. He has been elected a member of the county board of supervisors from Ross township, although he is living in a strong Republican district and on the board is serving as a member of a number of important committees, including those on public buildings and grounds. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is serving as trustee.

Mr. Songer was married in Ross township, September 26, 1871, to Amanda E. Biteler, a native of Indiana and a daughter of William and Mary Biteler, who were pioneer settlers of Vermillion county, coming to this state from Indiana. They are still living here numbered among the honored early settlers of the community. Mrs. Songer has spent the greater part of her life in Vermillion county and by her marriage has become the mother of three children: William L., who assists his father in the store; Effie May, the wife of Fred Pasma, of Alvin; and Audubon Cleveland. The family have a very attractive and pleasant home in Alvin, noted for its gracious hospitality, and the members of the household occupy an enviable position in social circles where true

worth and intelligence are received as passports into good society. The record of Mr. Songer is one which the American citizens hold in highest regard for it proves the possibilities that this country affords to her residents. He has by strong purpose, supplemented by industry and clear business judgment advanced to a very creditable position in commercial circles and now possesses a handsome competence which is the direct reward of his own labors.

ABRAHAM L. FOX, M. D.

Centuries ago the sage Epicharmus gave expression to the adage "Earn thy reward; the gods give naught to sloth," and throughout the ages which have run their course since that time the truth of this admonition has been verified. It is as manifest in professional life as in industrial work and the men who gain advancement and success are those who apply themselves earnestly to their chosen calling, making it always the first consideration. Because of close application, broad learning and capability Dr. Abraham L. Fox has become well known as a successful physician of Danville. He was born at Oakwood, Vermilion county, October 30, 1858, and is a son of George A. and Margaret Oakwood Fox, the former a native of Greene county, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Kentucky. His parents were married in this county, the mother belonging to the old and prominent Oakwood family which is represented elsewhere in this work. George A. Fox came to Vermilion county when a young man of twenty-three years, driving one thousand head of sheep across the country from Pennsylvania. He settled in Oakwood township, where he purchased

came the possessor of extensive property interests. Unto him and his wife were born six children, all of whom are yet living, the daughter being the fourth in order of birth. The father died October 14, 1900, and his wife passed away in July, 1898, their remains being interred in the Oakwood cemetery.

Dr. Fox of this review began his education in the district schools of Oakwood township and afterward entered the seminary at Danville, pursuing a course in advanced studies. Subsequently he engaged in teaching for three years in Catlin, Oakwood and Pilot townships of Vermilion county, but he regarded this as a preliminary step to other professional labor. At the end of that time he entered Rush Medical College in 1879 and was graduated with the class of 1882 upon the completion of a thorough course. He then returned to Oakwood and entered upon practice, remaining there for four years, since which time he has lived in Danville. He has never had a partner, but has made his way unaided and has gained a creditable standing in professional circles as one whose knowledge and ability entitles him to the patronage of the public. In 1893 he was elected health commissioner of Danville and served for two years. In 1899 he was again chosen for that office and in 1901 he was re-elected, his second term expiring on the 30th of April, 1903. From 1890 until 1894 Dr. Fox served as local surgeon of this division of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. He is examining physician for several insurance companies, including the Metropolitan of New York, the Pacific Mutual of California, the Western Mutual Life Association of Chicago, the Security Trust & Life Insurance Company of Philadelphia and the Chicago Guarantee Life Fund of Chicago. He

belongs to the Vermilion County Medical Society, the Tri-County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, thus keeping in touch with the advanced thought of the profession as it is continually broadening its field of usefulness.

In March, 1882, the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Lida Shean, of Danville, and to them were born two children, Mabelle Clare and Gertrude G. On the 6th of August, 1889, the Doctor was again married, his second union being with Miss Eva G. Gibbs, of Danville. Politically he is a Republican with firm faith in the principles of the party, yet without desire for official honors as a reward for party fealty. Fraternally he is connected with Damascus Lodge, No. 84, K. P., the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of Danville and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in which he is a past grand. He is also connected with a number of insurance orders. His genial nature makes him a favorite in social as well as professional life yet his first consideration is always his professional duty to which he is ever faithful.

NOAH D. SOWERS.

Noah D. Sowers was for many years a progressive farmer of Vermilion county, Illinois, and, recognized as a valued citizen, his loss was deeply deplored by many friends. He was born in Fountain county, Indiana, February 5, 1843, a son of Michael and Sarah (Richard) Sowers, who were natives of Davidson county, North Carolina, where they were married in 1835. Four years later they removed to Fountain county, In-

diana, where the father engaged in farming until his death, which occurred August 15, 1845, when he was fifty-two years of age. The mother afterward married a Mr. Morgan, who has since died, and she passed away on the 21st of November, 1881, at the age of seventy-one years. Our subject's father was a Democrat in his political views and was identified with the Lutheran church. In his family were three children: Louis, who resides in Fairmount, Illinois; Phebe, the wife of Thomas Gooding, a resident of Fountain county, Indiana; and Noah D.

In the district schools of his native state the subject of this review pursued his education until sixteen years of age. His advantages in that direction, however, were somewhat limited because during the months of summer his services were needed upon the home farm. He remained upon the farm, assisting his stepfather in its cultivation until he was twenty-one years of age. In 1867 he arrived in Illinois, taking up his abode in Vermilion county, where he engaged in farming with his brother for ten years. During that time he saved his earnings and with the capital thus acquired he purchased eighty acres of land in Vance township. Upon this he erected a good house and substantial barns and continued the cultivation of his fields with good success for a number of years.

On the 17th of February, 1881, Mr. Sowers was united in marriage in Washington county, Pennsylvania, to Miss Cinderella Conklin, who was born in that county, March 21, 1847. Her parents, William and Catherine (Ross) Conklin, were both natives of the Keystone state and were married in Greene county, Pennsylvania, after which they located on the farm near Prosperity, Washington county. They lived

there until the father died on the 1st of June, 1879, and the mother still makes her home on the old farm. He was a Democrat and held a number of township offices, including that of justice of the peace. He belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church, and his life was in consistent harmony with his religious faith. Mrs. Sowers was one of a family of nine children, six of whom are now living: William A., who resides upon the old homestead; Cinderella, the widow of our subject; Phebe Jane, the wife of Cephus Meeks, who is living near Waynesburg, Greene county, Pennsylvania; Ophelia, the wife of Ross McLain, of Greene county, Pennsylvania; Iva G., the widow of George Mann, and a resident of Washington county, Pennsylvania; and Ross M., who makes his home in Portland, Oregon.

At the time of their marriage Mr. Sowers took his bride to his home farm and there they resided continuously until 1899, when they removed to Fairmount. He was quite successful in his agricultural work and was the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of valuable land. His death occurred June 27, 1900, and he was laid to rest in the Fairmount cemetery. A staunch Democrat in his political views he always refused to hold office, but in other ways rendered his party what services he could. He belonged to the Cumberland Presbyterian church and his life was a busy, useful and upright one characterized by qualities which in every land and every clime command esteem and good will. In 1901 Mrs. Sowers built a commodious home in Fairmount and she also owns an acre of ground here on which are some good residences, which she rents. She is an estimable lady and is widely and favorably known in this portion of Vermilion county.

ERNEST X. LESEURE.

E. X. Leseure, the president of the Danville National Bank, was born in Danville, March 24, 1864, a son of Prosper and Harriet T. Leseure. In the common and high schools of this city he obtained his English education and in 1882 he went to Europe, spending two years in travel and study in France and Germany. Upon returning to Danville he at once entered upon his business career, in the State Bank. He entered the bank as bookkeeper in order to become familiar with all the details of the business, and a little later became its assistant cashier. In due course he became the cashier of the institution, with which he remained until the 1st of January, 1891, when he entered the Second National Bank of this city as assistant cashier. He acted in that capacity until 1894, when he left the bank and became general manager of the Danville Street Railway & Light Company, with which he was connected until the fall of 1900, when the plant was sold to eastern parties. Mr. Leseure then purchased the interest of R. D. McDonald and J. S. McFerren, in the State Bank of Danville, and on the 1st of December, 1900, assumed the presidency of the bank. Six months later the State Bank was converted into the present Danville National Bank, of which Mr. Leseure is the president and the principal stockholder.

In 1891 Mr. Leseure was united in marriage to Miss Mable F. Cannon, a daughter of Hon. Joseph G. Cannon, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. They now have two daughters, Virginia and Helen. In his political views Mr. Leseure is a Republican. He is thoroughly conversant with the banking business in all its departments and to it gives the major part of his attention with the result that the Danville

National Bank has become one of the strongest financial institutions in this part of the state.

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WILLIAM H. PRICE.

Nature seems to have intended that man shall spend the latter years of life in retirement from labor. In youth he is ambitious, energetic and resolute and the future lures him on with bright hopes. As manhood advances mature judgment is added to the qualities of younger years and results in the careful conduct of business affairs. Later, one's physical powers are not so great and it is thus evident that man was intended to labor less strenuously in his declining years. To Mr. Price has been vouchsafed a well-earned retirement from work. He was long associated with agricultural interests and at one time he owned and operated twelve hundred acres of land, thus carrying on farming on an extensive scale. Now he is living quietly at his pleasant home at No. 408 Robinson street, Danville, leaving the more active duties of a business life to others. He was born in Pike county, Ohio, July 4, 1827, and since December, 1830, has been a resident of Vermilion county, Illinois. His father, Robert G. Price, born July 27, 1788, was a native of Kentucky and was there reared. During the war of 1812 he loyally served his country as a soldier under General William Henry Harrison. When a young man he went to Pike county, Ohio, where he was married to Nancy Howard, born February 27, 1793, a native of the Buckeye state. He took his bride to his farm home and in Pike county carried on agricultural pursuits until 1830, when he brought his family to Vermilion county, Illinois. Here he entered from the government

eighty acres of land, which was located near the city of Danville. He cleared this, as it was timber, turning the first furrow on many a field. There he carried on farm work for some time and later sold that place and settled near the state line, where he was living at the time of his death, which occurred in January, 1856. His wife had passed away about 1844.

Mr. Price is the youngest of five children, and the only survivor. He was only about three years of age when brought by his parents to Vermilion county, and he lived near Danville until sixteen years of age. His educational privileges were very limited and the knowledge that he has gained has been largely won in the hard school of experience. He remained with his father until he had reached the age of sixteen, when he started out in life for himself, working as a farm hand by the day and month for two or three years. The first land which he ever owned he entered from the government, securing two hundred and forty acres in Pilot township, about 1845. This he broke and improved, transforming it into a good farm, the well tilled fields returning to him rich harvests. There he remained until 1891. The property has never been transferred and has never had a mortgage upon it. Though he left that farm it has still continued in his possession. He bought more land, however, from time to time, until his possessions aggregated twelve hundred acres, with two hundred and forty acres in the home farm and the remainder near by. Mr. Price erected a good residence, two large barns, and made other improvements. He planted a large orchard and set out shade and ornamental trees, which added much to the attractive appearance and value of his property. As the years passed he added all modern equip-



W. H. PRICE.

ments, including the latest improved machinery, which aided him in carrying on the work of the farm.

On the 30th of January, 1850, in this county, Mr. Price was united in marriage to Mary J. Cazott, who was born July 4, 1833, in Vermilion county, a daughter of Henry Cazott, who was one of the first settlers here, coming from Kentucky. Mrs. Price spent her girlhood days here and at length gave her hand in marriage to the subject of this review, with whom she traveled life's journey for about forty-one years. She was then called to her final rest in 1891, her remains being interred in the Embery Chapel cemetery. After the death of his wife Mr. Price retired from the farm and came to Danville, residing with a daughter for a year or two. He was then married in this city September 5, 1892, to Mrs. Sarah J. Ellsworth, a widow, who was born in Clark county, Ohio, May 23, 1841. There she spent her early life and gave her hand in marriage to Jacob H. Ellsworth, who died in the Buckeye state. Mrs. Ellsworth afterward came to Illinois, joining her son, Charles E., the late county surveyor of Vermilion county. Mr. Price had five children by his first marriage: Jerusha J. is the widow of Henry Helmick, and resides in Pilot township. She has two sons, Charles and William Helmick. The former is married and has one daughter. Lloyd H., born December 2, 1852, married Mary Snider, and follows farming in Vernon county, Missouri. Emily M., born March 2, 1855, is the wife of Guy C. Howard, of Armstrong, Illinois. Charles R., born January 30, 1857, married Della Hatfield, and is a farmer of Pilot township, and has two children, Everett L. and Elsie M. Alice N., born May 2, 1859, is the wife of Asbury Duncan, of Potomac, Illinois, and has one child, Lola.

Since retiring from farm life Mr. Price has given to his children over eight hundred acres of land. After removing to this city he purchased eighty acres near the town and this is well improved, constituting a valuable tract. He also owns two hundred and eighty acres, which includes the old home place of two hundred and forty acres that he entered from the government. In Danville he purchased a lot and built thereon a neat residence, which is yet his home.

In early life Mr. Price was an old line Whig and later he assisted in the organization of the Republican party and has supported each of its presidential nominees since he voted for its first candidate, John C. Fremont. He has never missed a township or a presidential election. While on the farm he served as a commissioner for twelve years, although he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to give his time and attention to his business interests. He holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Danville and belongs to the Masonic fraternity. During seventy-two years he has lived in Vermilion county. Few indeed of its residents have so long been identified with its growth or have been eye witnesses of its progress and development. He has seen the county emerge from the wilderness to take its place among the leading counties of the great commonwealth. He has watched it as it has kept abreast of the progress and improvement of other counties, for its citizens have been of a progressive class who are ever ready to adopt any methods for improvement. He can remember Danville when it was a mere village, giving little promise of its future metropolitan growth. In the early days he suffered many hardships and privations incident to pioneer times, but he persevered in his work of

farming until his labors brought to him very gratifying success. He is truly a self-made man, for at the early age of sixteen he started out to make his own way in the world. He had no money, but he possessed determination and force of character and gradually he acquired not only a good living but extensive landed possessions that enabled him to provide handsomely for his children and at the same time retain a very gratifying competence for his later years. His life has been quietly passed and his history is commendable because he has always been true to his duties of citizenship, honorable in his relations with his fellow men and true to every duty that has devolved upon him.

NATHAN M. ARNOLD.

Nathan M. Arnold is the efficient post-master of East Lynn, which position he has occupied for a number of years. Almost five decades have passed since his arrival in Illinois and for more than a third of a century he has lived in Vermilion county. Thoroughly imbued with the spirit of enterprise and progress which has ever dominated the west he has steadily worked his way upward, winning not only financial success but also the good will and confidence of those with whom he has been associated.

A native of Livingston county, New York, he was born on the 12th of May, 1831. His father, William Arnold, was born in Cayuga county, New York, and was a son of Elijah Arnold, likewise a native of the Empire state. The family is of English origin and was founded in America at the time when the early Pilgrims sought refuge in the new world. The father of our subject was reared to manhood in the county of

his nativity and was there married to Laura Merritt, a native of Connecticut, who was reared in Cayuga county and was a daughter of Nathan Merritt. In order to provide for his family Mr. Arnold followed his trade of wagonmaking. Removing from Cayuga county to Livingston county, he established a shop at Mount Morris, which he conducted successfully for some time. There he reared his family and spent his last days, passing away when only thirty-one years of age, his death resulting from an accident. His wife survived him and cared for their children. Later she removed to Spring Water in Livingston county, taking up her abode upon a farm.

It was upon his father's farm that Nathan Arnold was reared and entering the common schools near his home he pursued his education. When he had arrived at years of maturity he began farming on his own account in Livingston county, representing agricultural interests there for some time. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Miss Maria Redmond, their wedding being celebrated October 23, 1850. The lady was born and reared in Livingston county and was a daughter of Richmond Redmond, one of the early settlers of that part of the state.

In 1864 the subject of this review left the Empire state and took advantage of the business opportunity of the growing west. He located in Greene county, Illinois, upon a farm of three thousand acres, belonging to the firm of Gregory Brothers, bankers of Whitehall. He was made their foreman and occupied that position for eleven years, successfully controlling their extensive agricultural interests. In 1872 he came to Vermilion county and purchased a tract of raw land in Butler township. Soon the plow had turned the furrows in the hitherto un-

cultivated fields and, breaking and fencing his land, he soon placed it under a high state of cultivation, thus developing an excellent property of two hundred and forty acres. He carried on his farm work there with excellent success until about 1889, when under President Benjamin Harrison he was appointed postmaster of East Lynn, acting in that capacity for about five years. Again he was appointed by President McKinley in 1896 and 1900, and is now serving in his sixth year, his incumbency in this office altogether covering eleven years. He was afterwards elected justice of the peace of his township, in which capacity he has served for sixteen years, and for about ten or twelve years he has been a township trustee, and to whatever positions of honor and trust he has been called he has ever been found loyal. He has been a resident of East Lynn since first appointed postmaster here and the interests of the village have been largely advanced through his efforts.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold have a family of four children: William, of East Lynn; Edella, the wife of Wheeler Insley, a resident farmer of Iroquois county; Frank, who is engaged in the livery business in East Lynn; and Myrtle, the wife of W. S. Flick, who is the station agent and telegraph operator at East Lynn. In 1900 the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold was celebrated and over a hundred guests were present, friends attending from Danville, Indianapolis, Indiana, and various other places.

Politically Mr. Arnold was in early life an old line Whig and in 1856 he voted for John C. Fremont, the first presidential candidate of the Republican party. Since that time he has never failed to support the men whose names have headed the ticket and in all matters of citizenship he is equally loyal

and faithful. For thirty-eight years he has been a resident of Illinois and for thirty years has lived in Vermilion county. He has seen the swamps and sloughs drained, the prairies broken and farms developed until this is one of the richest agricultural sections of this great state. He has aided materially in opening up and improving Vermilion county and has been identified largely with its development and prosperity. He is well known in Hoopston and in the northern part of the county and is a man of tried integrity and worth. Both he and his estimable wife are held in high regard and are well deserving of mention in the history of the Past and Present of Vermilion county.



G. M. SCOTT.

G. M. Scott owns and operates one hundred and eleven acres of land on section 19, Pilot township. He was born a mile and a half southwest of his present home on the 30th of September, 1854, and is a son of George C. and Margaret (Hubbard) Scott, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Ohio. They were married, however, in Oakwood township, Vermilion county, having emigrated westward when the Indians still roamed over the plains and pitched their tents in the forests. The father died in the year 1847 and the mother, long surviving him, passed away in 1892. There were ten children in this family of whom the subject of this review is the ninth in order of birth. The family record is as follows: Willis, a resident of De Witt county, Illinois; Elizabeth, the wife of Hedge Thompson, of Pilot township; Jane, the deceased wife of John Stump, of Pilot township; Victoria, the wife of Lawrence Jones, of Ross town-

ship; Louisa, at home; Caroline, the wife of James Creamer, of Oakwood township; George W., of White county, Indiana; Marcus W., who is living in Blount township; G. M., of this review; and John T., who is a resident of Pulaski county, Indiana.

The educational privileges which G. M. Scott enjoyed were those afforded by the district schools of his locality. Throughout his entire life he has followed farming, and in boyhood days he became familiar with the duties and labors which fall to the lot of the agriculturist in connection with the raising of grain and stock. At the time of his marriage he started out upon an independent business career with about two hundred dollars in money. He has always lived upon the farm which is yet his home and which he purchased about fifteen years ago, becoming the owner of one hundred and eleven acres. Here he carries on general farming and stockraising and the well tilled fields return to him a golden tribute for the care and labor he bestows upon them. Everything about his place is neat and attractive in appearance and the persistent efforts of Mr. Scott have formed the foundation upon which he has builded his success.

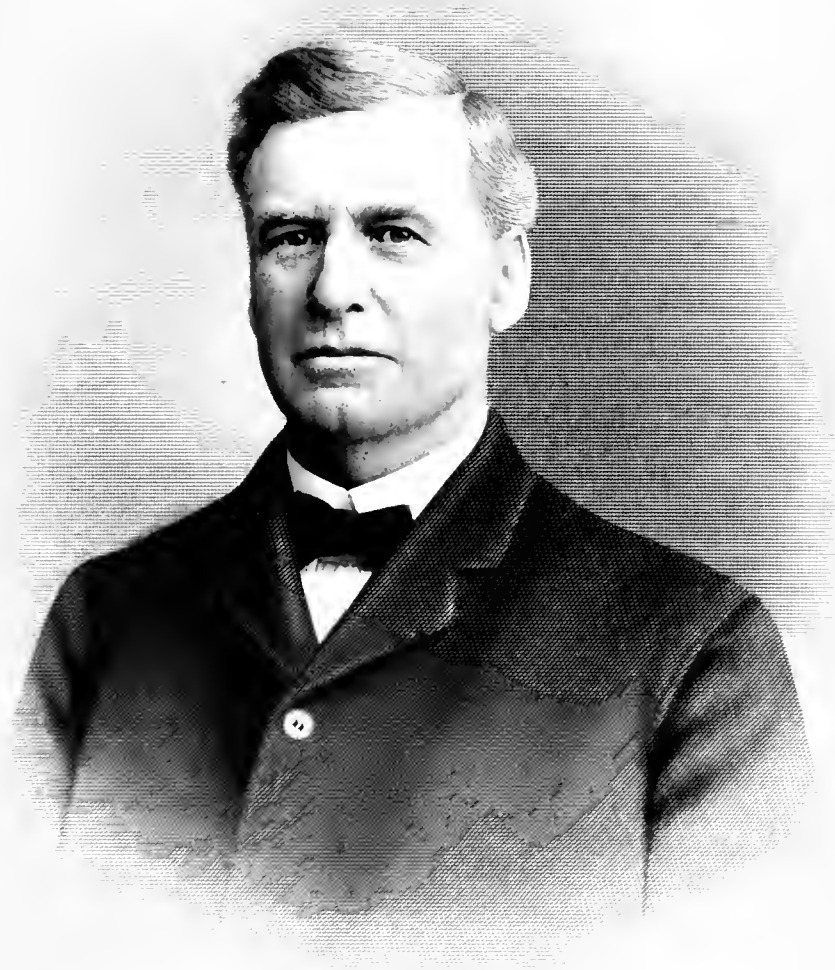
In 1875 occurred the marriage of our subject and Miss Sarah Jane Trimmell, who was born in Pilot township in 1855, and is a daughter of James and Hepzibah (Davis) Trimmell. Her parents were natives of Ohio, but were married in Illinois, March 25, 1832, and from that time until called to their final rest they resided in Pilot township. The father died in 1875. He was a veteran of the Civil war, having served for four years as a loyal defender of the Union, during which time his meritorious conduct on the field of battle won him promotion from the position of private to the rank of captain. In his family were five children, but only

two are now living, Mrs. Scott and James Trimmell. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed with four children; Nora, the wife of George Lee, of Blount township, by whom she has one child, Janet; Otie, the wife of Ernest Seymour Moore, of Pilot township, by whom she has a daughter, Lillian; and Eta and Edward, who are still under the paternal roof.

Mr. Scott belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp at Collison, and he exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Republican party. He is now serving as road commissioner and for twelve years he has filled the office of school director the cause of education finding in him a warm friend who does all in his power to advance its interests. By perseverance, determination and honorable effort he has overthrown all obstacles which have barred his path to success, and his genuine worth and public spirit have made him a valued representative of Pilot township.

EUGENE H. WHITHAM,

When ambition is satisfied and every ultimate aim accomplished, then effort ceases and energy gives way to inactivity. The motive power of the world is ambition, and to this every community owes its upbuilding. Eugene H. Whitham, who stands to-day as one of the leading men of his portion of Vermilion county, has been actuated by a spirit of ambition for personal success, for public progress and for an advanced citizenship and to this end he has directed his labors with the result that he has become a prosperous resident of Rankin and has contributed in an appreciable manner to the upbuilding and substantial improvement of this



E. A. Whitcomb

locality. He has long been identified with the banking and grain interests of Rankin, and the latter branch of his business furnishes an excellent market for grain producers and the former provides a necessary medium of financial exchange, at the same time bringing to Mr. Whitham a very desirable return for his labor and investment.

Mr. Whitham was born in Canal Fulton, Fulton county, Ohio, November 8, 1847, a son of John De Ment and Caroline (Farwell) Whitham. The father was born in Ohio county, West Virginia, March 22, 1815, and died in Olympia, Washington, January 14, 1897. His parents were Joseph Rider and Sarah (De Ment) Whitham, and he was of English, Irish, Holland and French extraction. His parents were members of the Presbyterian church and he united with that denomination before he was twenty years of age. Under the direction of his pastor, Rev. John McCloskey, he prepared for college and was graduated in Washington College, of Pennsylvania, with the class of 1835. For two years he engaged in teaching in the academy at West Nottingham, Maryland, after which he entered Princeton College and was graduated in 1840. On the 25th of May, of that year, he was licensed to preach, and was ordained October 12, 1841. He had three pastorates in the Presbyterian church—Unity and Wolf Run, Pennsylvania, and at Keene and Canal Fulton, Ohio; two pastorates in the Free Presbyterian church—Mount Jackson, Pennsylvania, and Lowell, Ohio, together, and Paint Valley, Ohio; and two pastorates in the United Presbyterian church—Sugar Branch, Illinois, and Fairfax and Florence, Iowa. He continued to preach occasionally until he had passed the eightieth mile-stone on life's journey, and he accomplished much good for the cause of humanity and the

church. He was a very ardent Abolitionist and assisted many a slave on his way to freedom, his home being one of the stations on the "underground railroad."

Rev. Whitham was married twice. On the 2d of November, 1841, he wedded Christina B. Gray, who died August 2, 1843, leaving a daughter, who grew to maturity and married. On the 25th of September, 1844, Rev. Whitham wedded Caroline Farwell, a native of New Hampshire, and unto them were born four children: Eugene H.; Robert Farwell, a government surveyor and civil engineer, residing in Seattle, Washington; George Louis, an attorney of Seattle; and Charles Sumner, a real-estate agent of Randolph, Nebraska. The mother survived her husband about two years, passing away March 18, 1899, when she was laid by his side in the cemetery of Rankin. Rev. Whitham was a most liberal man, both with his time and money and never hesitated in the performance of any duty. He was practically the builder of the Olympia United Presbyterian church and he labored untiringly for the advancement of the cause of Christianity and for the uplifting of his fellow men. There were, moreover, as dominant traits in his character, an abiding sympathy and charity which won him the confidence and love of his fellow men.

Eugene H. Whitham received his primary education near Millersburg, in Holmes county, Ohio, and afterward attended the State Normal, at Normal, Illinois. He had come to Illinois at the age of eighteen years, settling in Rankin, of which he is one of the founders and promoters. He first worked upon his father's farm near the town but in 1872 entered the grain business in the employ of Mr. Rankin, for whom the town was named. With him he remained until 1875, when the private bank of Rankin, Whit-

ham & Company was formed, and Mr. Whitham became the owner of a half interest and has since been its cashier and manager. His partners are W. A. Rankin and B. H. Durham, both prominent and reliable business men, but the success of the institution is practically due to the enterprise and business ability of Mr. Whitham, who from the first has controlled its affairs and placed it upon a paying basis. In addition to their bank the company owns ten hundred and forty acres in Iroquois county, just across the Vermilion county line; and four thousand acres of grain land in Chariton county, Missouri. Mr. Whitham has also been identified with the grain business since coming to Rankin, being a partner in the Rankin Grain Company, which is incorporated, and in addition to his business interests here, he has three hundred acres of valuable land adjoining the town, and an interest in five hundred and forty acres of good farm land in Indiana.

On the 1st of January, 1879, Mr. Whitham was married to Elizabeth George, a daughter of Robert George, one of the early settlers of Ford county, Illinois, who is now deceased. Mrs. George, however, is living with Mr. and Mrs. Whitham, at the age of ninety-three years. She was the mother of six children, four of whom are living. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Whitham have been born two children: Glenn Howard, born October 11, 1882, and now in the bank with his father; and Gladys Eugenia, born October 8, 1888. The parents are prominent members and active workers in the Presbyterian church at Rankin and Mr. Whitham is serving as one of its elders.

He has always taken an active interest in politics as a supporter of the Republican party, has been a member of the

county central committee, and yet has never consented to become a candidate for office. His best service to the public has been given as a private citizen and his work in behalf of his locality has been far-reaching and beneficial. He is a leader in many movements for the benefit of the town, and his active co-operation is given to all measures tending toward public progress and improvement. There has been nothing sensational in his business career, for his advancement has not been secured through speculation but through earnest labor, careful investment and sound practical judgment in the guidance of his affairs. His prosperity has followed his efforts as a logical sequence and there has come with it the good name that is ever enjoyed by those who do not take advantage of the necessities of their fellow men in business transactions.

GEORGE W. MILLER.

Living on section 16, Ross township, George W. Miller owns and operates a farm of four hundred acres. Almost six decades have passed since he came to this county and the changes which have occurred during this period are well known to him for he has been a witness of the growth and improvement of this section of the state. He claims Indiana as the state of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Vermilion county, there, November 26, 1841. He represents an old family that has been prominent in the development of districts in Ohio and Mississippi river valleys through many years. His great-grandfather became an early settler of Ohio and was captured and killed by the Indians during the warfare with the red men. Cornelius Miller, the

grandfather of our subject, was said to be the first male child born in Hamilton county, Ohio, where the city of Cincinnati now stands. He became one of the pioneer settlers of Kentucky and afterward removed to Indiana, casting in his lot with the early settlers of Vermilion county, that state. Andrew J. Miller was born in Kentucky in 1814 and by his parents was taken to Indiana, where he was reared. He wedded Catherine Moyer, a native of Ohio, and afterward engaged in agricultural pursuits in Indiana for a number of years. Three of his children were born there and about 1844 he came with his family to Illinois, settling in Ross township, Vermilion county, among the first settlers to reclaim the wild land for purposes of civilization. From the government he entered a tract of land and afterward bought other property until he was the owner of sixteen hundred acres. He developed the farm adjoining that on which his son George W., now resides and became a prominent agriculturist of his locality, carrying on his work in such a manner that his progressive ideas and unfaltering diligence made him a progressive farmer. He died in 1873, at the age of fifty-eight years and his wife, still surviving him, now resides on the old home place with one of her sons.

George W. Miller of this review belonged to a family of five sons and seven daughters, and of this number four sons and four daughters reached years of maturity, while three sons and two daughters are yet living. No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for our subject in his youth. He was only three years of age when brought to Vermilion county, Illinois. Here he attended the common school during a few months each year, but from the time of early spring planting until the harvests were gathered in the au-

tumn he worked in the fields. He is almost wholly a self-educated as well as a self-made man. He remained with his father until thirty years of age and in the meantime took charge of and carried on the home farm. During this time he had purchased one hundred and sixty acres of his present farm and in 1872 he took up his abode thereon, since which time he has placed the land under a high state of cultivation. He has remodeled the buildings, built others and now has a substantial residence and commodious barns and sheds for the shelter of grain and stock. An orchard which he planted now bears its fruit in season and forest trees throw their shade over the lawn and protect the home from the hot rays of the summer sun. A valuable and well improved farm is that now owned by George W. Miller, who from time to time has added to his property until his landed possessions now aggregate four hundred and fifteen acres, all of which is under a high state of cultivation. In addition to the raising of grain he makes a business of feeding and shipping cattle and hogs for the market.

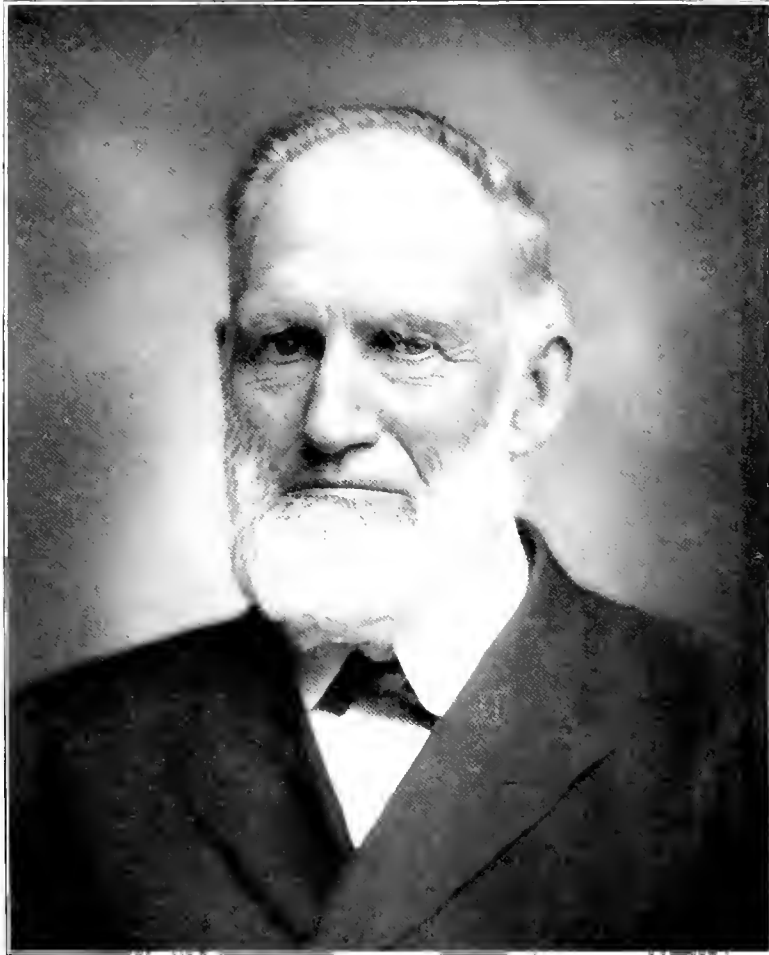
The home life of Mr. Miller has been very pleasant. He was happily married in Ross township, February 13, 1872, to Miss Vienna C. Hass, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Daniel Hass, who was born in the Keystone state and came to Vermilion county in 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were parents of nine children: Andrew D., who is married and follows farming in this county; Samuel L., who is married and also carries on agricultural pursuits in this county; George and Garver C., who assist in the cultivation of the home farm; Louisa, the wife of Jesse Landown, a farmer of Vermilion county; Mary Ellen, Elsie Maude and Pearl, all yet under the paternal roof. They also lost an infant son, John.

The political work of Mr. Miller has been directed in behalf of Democracy when state and national issues are involved, but at local elections votes independently of party ties. He served for three consecutive years as commissioner of highways and for a number of years as a member of the school board, but has never been active in seeking public office, as his attention has been largely claimed by his business affairs. His wife is a member of the Christian church. Throughout the greater part of his life George W. Miller has resided in Vermilion county and those who have known him from boyhood as well as his acquaintances of later years give to him their friendship, a fact which indicates that his has been an honorable and upright career.

REV. W. H. WEBSTER.

Among the men who are well known not only in Vermilion county but in central Illinois because of their various activities is Rev. William H. Webster, D. D., of Danville. Dr. Webster was born in Schoharie county, New York, in 1835. Before he was ten years old both of his parents died. He came to Danville in 1848 with his sister, who was the wife of a Methodist minister. As the sister died a few months after coming here and her husband moved away in a short time, he was left when about fourteen years old to make his own way in the world as best he could. This he did by working at whatever came at hand. He sawed wood, worked in a livery barn, painted wagons, plows, buggies and houses, besides other work. For a time he made all of the putty sold in the stores in Danville. He relates that he took care of the fires for a lumber

kiln where the lumber was dried for many of the houses then being built in Danville. This kiln was at the corner of Vermilion and North streets, where the Illinois Printing Company building now stands. Of the lumber there dried some was used for the new residence on Hazel and North streets erected by William Lamm, which was then the pride of the town, and some for the Methodist Seminary. Across the street south from the lumber kiln was the little frame Methodist church in which preaching was held on Sundays, and on week days a school, that developed into Danville Seminary, was kept by the Rev. O. S. Munsell and his wife. At a recess some of the attendants of the school came to where Mr. Webster was at work and spoke of their studies in a way that excited his interest. He determined that he, too, would know something of those wonderful studies. So the next fall he was enrolled as a scholar. He worked nights and mornings and Saturdays to pay expenses. Some times he was out of school several weeks while he earned money to pay his bills. In this way working, going to school and teaching he attended the seminary in Danville, then Asbury University of Indiana, and finally the Ohio Wesleyan University, where he graduated in the classical course in 1859. He began teaching school before he was eighteen years of age. His first school was at what was called the Rickart schoolhouse, about eight miles northwest of Danville. He afterward taught where Potomac is now located and at Kygers Mill, now Grape Creek, Mam's Chapel and other places and in Shelbyville Seminary. He joined the Methodist church at a camp meeting held near Danville. He was licensed as a local preacher while teaching at Shelbyville. After teaching during the week he often rode



REV. W. H. WEBSTER.

miles into the country to fill his Sunday appointments. In the winter of 1858-9 he was appointed as assistant preacher on the circuit that embraced the north half of Vermilion county. He traveled over this circuit on horseback, preaching an average of once a day. He preached in private houses, schoolhouses, barns, groves and in the few churches, and wherever a small congregation could be gathered. Besides preaching he furnished Bibles and religious books to the people and kept up his college studies. Some times in crossing the sloughs and streams his jaded horse would refuse to proceed and he was compelled to alight and lead the horse and wade through the mud and water.

Becoming a member of the Illinois conference at its session in Danville in 1859 his work since that time has been connected with that body. For his first year's work in the conference he was paid ninety dollars and he paid his board in part out of that sum. For a time he taught school to pay expenses while he served as pastor of a church. His salary, however, increased until it reached two thousand dollars per year. Mr. Webster has served as pastor of churches at Urbana, Champaign, Bloomington, Quincy, Jacksonville, Springfield and Decatur, and as presiding elder of Jacksonville, Springfield and Danville districts. He has been a member of four general conferences of his denomination and has taken an active part in shaping its polity. In the long struggle which ended in the admission of women to the law making body of the church he was from the first actively in favor of their admission. He was in favor of laymen being represented with ministers in the councils of the church and has seen this measure also succeed. He was for years a trustee of Illinois Women's College at Jacksonville and

of Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington. He was a member of the committee to oversee the great publishing interest of his church when the new publishing house in New York, costing a million dollars, was built, and when the Epworth Herald, the paper having the largest circulation of any paper of the denomination, was published.

At the close of his term as presiding elder of the Danville district Mr. Webster took the work of superintendent of the Domestic Missionary Society, which he had helped to organize. In its interests he traveled over a large part of central Illinois, raising funds, establishing missions and aiding weak churches. For this service, continued during ten years, he refused to accept compensation above his actual traveling expenses. He is now acting as financial secretary for the superannuated relief fund, a fund intended to aid those veterans in the ministry who, having devoted their lives to the work, are now in need. For many years he has been the treasurer of the board of trustees of his conference. In that capacity he has annually had charge of thousands of dollars of church funds, of which he gives a strict account at each session of the conference.

Early in the ministry Mr. Webster formed the opinion that for a minister to attempt to make no financial provision for himself was wrong and often injurious to his usefulness. He believes that while a minister should not turn aside to make money yet that for him to give some thought to business and thus provide for himself in age will render him a better preacher as well as enable him to be useful where otherwise he could not be. So in early life he invested his small savings with the result that now he is in comfortable circumstances. He believes that churches ought not only to

give their pastors a support but should encourage and assist them in making provision for themselves in old age.

Before his majority Mr. Webster became active in behalf of the then newly formed Republican party. He made political speeches in the exciting campaign between Fremont and Buchanan in 1856. He advocated the election of Lincoln in 1860. During the war of the rebellion he assisted in raising a company but failed to get into the service. He let it be known that his church stood for the Union and that disloyal persons were not wanted as members. While he still counts himself a Republican, he claims the right and duty to vote for any men or measures that will promote the best interest of the people. While not allied with the Prohibition party he has often aided in securing anti-license laws in the cities where he has been pastor. For several years Mr. Webster was president of the Danville school board and gave much time to advancing the interests of the schools. During his ministry he has seen many hundreds converted and brought into the church. He has been successful in building churches, paying church debts, aiding missions and while loyal to his own church he has stood for brotherhood among all Christians.

The history of the changes in Danville and Vermilion county since Mr. Webster came here, if written, would read like a romance. Then Danville was a frontier village of a few hundred people with many log houses and few conveniences. The wildest fancy could not then predict the splendid city it is to-day. Communication with the outside world then was had only by stage coach. The streets were often impassable with mud and were dark at night. The Methodist church which Mr. Webster attended was lighted like most of the dwell-

ing with tallow dips or candles, from which the tallow often dropped down on the worshippers who sat near them. The church was seated with wooden benches and the women sat on one side of the church and the men on the other. Men and women were not allowed to sit together. In the county the few settlers lived mostly either in the timber or along the edge of the prairie and usually in log cabins. The prairies were covered to a large extent by sloughs and tall grasses and were inhabited by rattle snakes, deer and wolves and cranes. The woods abounded with wild turkeys and game. Land that now is worth more than one hundred dollars per acre could then be bought at less than a dollar an acre, and was thought by many to be worthless. When Mr. Webster looks back to his youth and notes the vast strides made since then to the present time he feels that he has lived in the most wonderful period of the world's history. From the Danville as he first saw it to the Danville of to-day with its splendid churches and public buildings, magnificent streets, its business houses, parks and public utilities, in any other age would represent the progress of a thousand years. Mr. Webster feels that he has been favored by living and trying to do his part in such an age.

Mr. Webster was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Augusta Robinson, a daughter of William Robinson, and one of a family of five children. She was born October 3, 1807, and by her marriage has become the mother of several children, of whom only one son, John Wesley Webster, is living. He is now an attorney of Danville. He was graduated at DePauw University of Indiana, became a law student in the State University of Illinois, and then entered the Harvard University at Cambridge, Massachusetts. While he was

at DePauw, the paper of that school, the DePauw Palladium, was running behind and Mr. Webster assumed its management, made it an enterprising school journal and placed it upon a paying basis. He married Miss Esther J. Baum, a daughter of John W. Baum, and they now have a daughter, Elizabeth.

In a summary of the career of Rev. Webster it would be impossible to give the result of his life work for influence is immeasurable and the force of character can not be determined by any known standard. There is, however, much tangible proof that his labors have been of practical value. The churches of Vermilion county have felt the impetus of his zeal and energy. Methodist congregations in various parts of the state also owe their growth in no small degree to his teachings and his example, and in the history of the Christian development of the state the name of Rev. William H. Webster should be enrolled as one whose diligence and zeal have been important elements in Christian advancement.

JAMES GILMORE.

There is no rule for achieving success and yet there are certain elements which are indispensable in a prosperous career. These are strong determination, sound practical judgment and a recognition of possibilities. All of these have been manifest in the career of Mr. Gilmore who, though he started out at the early age of twelve years to fight life's battle unaided, has come off conqueror in the strife. To-day he is numbered among the capitalists of Danville holding important realty interests and at the same time controlling extensive mercantile affairs. The perseverance, energy, and strong determination

which have been concomitants in his success, furnish an example that is well worthy of emulation.

Mr. Gilmore is a native of Canada, his birth having occurred in Dundass, on the 17th of August, 1853. His parents, Edward and Bridget (Stanton) Gilmore, were both natives of County Mayo, Ireland, and were married in Canada, both having located in that country in the year 1846. The father engaged in farming, following agricultural pursuits in the Dominion until 1856, when he came to the United States, locating first at South Bend, Indiana. There he followed railroading until 1859, in which year he removed to Kokomo, where he continued in the railroad employ and there he lived until 1868. In the meantime—in the year 1866—his wife had passed away. Coming to Danville, Illinois, he continued to make his home with the subject of this review until called to his final rest in 1899. He was a Democrat in his political affiliations and in his religious faith was a Catholic. In the family were three children: James; Mary, the wife of C. F. Springer, of Kokomo, Indiana; and John, who resides at Cates, Fountain county, Indiana.

James Gilmore was only about three years of age when his parents came to the United States and in Howard county, Indiana, he acquired his education. His school life was completed when he was but twelve years of age and he then began work on the Wabash & Erie canal as a driver, being employed in that capacity for two summers. He then made his way to Covington, Indiana, where he worked on the Big Four Railroad for a year, after which he turned his attention to the retail liquor business with which he was connected in the Hoosier state until 1871.

In that year Mr. Gilmore came to Dan-

ville and entered the employ of Mattis Miller, who owned a retail liquor house on South street and who died the following year. Mr. Gilmore then embarked in business for himself in the same locality, conducting his new enterprise until 1874 when he left the city and went to Coal Creek, Fountain county, Indiana, where the coal veins were being developed. For a few months he engaged in digging coal and in the same year he came once more to Danville. In October of the same year he was united in marriage to Miss Mary McLean, who was born in Danville in 1857, a daughter of Patrick and Mary (Sculen) McLean, both of whom were natives of the Emerald isle and came to America at an early day, locating in Lafayette, Indiana. In the early fifties they became residents of Danville and the father carried on agricultural pursuits. His wife died in 1860, but he long survived her, passing away in 1884. In his political views he was a Democrat and was a life communicant of the Catholic church. In his family were six children: Ellen, wife of Frank Cavanaugh, deceased; Anna, the wife of Charles Davis, of the state of Washington; Ruth, the wife of Michael O'Bern of Champaign, Illinois; Bridget, the wife of M. J. Wiseman, of Danville, Illinois; George, who resides in Danville; and Mrs. Gilmore. Unto the marriage of our subject and his wife have been born seven children: Ellen, now the wife of William McDonald, of this city; Edward, who is acting as his father's bookkeeper; William, who is pursuing a law course in Georgetown University, of Washington D. C.; John, a pharmacist of Danville, Illinois; Grover, Emmet and Cecil, all of whom are with their parents.

At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore began their domestic life in Coal Creek, Indiana, where he was engaged

in mining coal. In 1875, however, he once more took up his abode in this city and was engaged in the retail liquor business in connection with his brother-in-law, Frank Cavanaugh, a relation that existed for nine months. In 1877 Mr. Gilmore established a retail liquor house in Germantown but once more took up his abode in this city in 1879 and carried on business in the same line in the old St. James block. In 1885 he erected the first business block on Jackson street and removed his store to that building. In 1888 he sold out to Neil Olson and opened a wholesale and retail liquor house next door to the courthouse on East Main street. There he continued until 1892, when he again built on Jackson street and engaged in the wholesale liquor business until 1901, when he sold out to E. J. Epstein. On the 1st of September, 1901, he embarked in his present business under the firm name of the Merchandise Company, at No. 425 East Main street. Here he handles billiard tables, office and bar furniture, safes, cash registers and desks, and has already secured a good patronage, receiving the support of many who had previously known him in business relations and who recognized his right to a liberal share of the public support. Mr. Gilmore also owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Fountain county, Indiana, and one hundred and sixty acres in Parke county, Indiana. This is underlaid by rich deposits of coal and is therefore very valuable. He also owns lead and zinc mining interests in Pittsburg, Hickory county, Missouri, and his real estate holdings in Danville are valuable. A local paper said: "James Gilmore, who recently purchased the ground at the corner of Van Buren street and Washington avenue upon which at no distant date he intends erecting a hotel, has a marked preference for corner lots. In fact, all of the property he

owns in the city is of that character. He owns sixty-six feet at the corner of Main and Jackson streets, eighty-six feet at the corner of Van Buren and Washington avenue, one hundred and twenty feet at the corner of Scott and College streets, eighty-eight feet at the corner of Main and McDonald, and residence property at the corner of Vermilion and Davis streets. He has more corner lot property in the business section of this city than any other individual." It will thus be seen that Mr. Gilmore has made very extensive and judicious investments in property and his realty holdings return to him an excellent income.

A Democrat in his political affiliations, Mr. Gilmore believes firmly in the principles of the party but has never been an office seeker. He belongs to the St. Patrick's Catholic church and is a liberal contributor to its support. He has also co-operated in many measures for the general good and Danville has benefited by his efforts in her behalf. His business affairs have ever been capably conducted. Probably the real secret of his success is his untiring industry and his recognition of business openings. From the age of twelve years down to the present time he has been dependent entirely upon his own resources and steadily has he worked his way upward until he now occupies an enviable and prominent position on the plane of affluence. He is a man of strong force of character, and is reliable and enterprising, and throughout Danville James Gilmore is widely known and highly respected.

J. B. COURTNEY.

Actively identified with commercial interests in Potomac for a quarter of a century Mr. Courtney has for twenty years been re-

garded as a popular, enterprising and successful druggist here. Since 1845 he has made his home in Illinois. He was born in Monongalia county, West Virginia, March 2, 1824, and comes of Irish lineage. His father, Robert B. Courtney, was a native of the Emerald isle and when a lad of ten summers crossed the briny deep to the new world with his parents, who settled in Virginia. There he was reared and married, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Courtney, who was a native of the Old Dominion and was also of Irish lineage. In the war of 1812 Mr. Courtney served his country and held the commission of major. He followed farming in West Virginia for many years and afterward removed across the mountains to Ohio, settling near Youngstown, in Trumbull county, where he again took up farm work about 1829. It was in that locality that he reared his family. His home was in the midst of the green forest and cutting down the trees there he cleared a tract of land which he developed into rich and productive fields, making his home upon that place until 1845, which was the year of his removal to Vermilion county, Illinois. Here he again became associated with pioneer conditions and a factor in pioneer work. He entered land here with a land warrant, becoming the owner of a tract in Middlefork township, upon which he spent his last days, passing away in 1866, when about sixty-six years of age. His wife survived him for about three years. In the family of this worthy couple were nine children who reached years of maturity, but the only ones now living are: J. B., of this review; and Mrs. Sarah Briggs, a widow, who is living in Kansas.

In taking up the personal history of J. B. Courtney we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favor-

ably known in Vermilion county, for during the fifty-seven years of his residence here he has gained a wide acquaintance and has ever been honored by reason of his genuine worth. His boyhood days were spent in Ohio, where his school privileges were limited because the system of public education had scarcely been installed at that time and had in no wise reached its present stage of perfection. During the short period of winter he would attend school but during the remainder of the year he was engaged in farm work, his training in that direction being in no way meager.

When a young man he came to Illinois, where he was employed at farm work for about two years and on the expiration of that period he returned to Trumbull county, Ohio, to wed the lady of his choice. He was there married on the 26th of December, 1847, to Samantha Gruey, who was born in that county and was a daughter of Henry Gruey, of German descent. Her people were early settlers of Pennsylvania, establishing their home near Pittsburg. Henry Gruey became one of the first residents of Trumbull county, Ohio, and in pioneer times bore an active part in the early development of that section of the state. After his marriage Mr. Courtney located in Trumbull county, which remained his place of residence for eight years, when in 1855 he returned to Vermilion county. Here he purchased his father's farm, locating thereon. He further improved the place, living there for twenty years. He then came to Potomac, being one of the first to establish a home in the village. Here he embarked in the drug business and also conducted an implement business and since that time he has been one of the active merchants of the town. He now carries a good stock of drugs and medicine, paints, oils and varnishes, and has

a very enviable reputation because of his honorable dealing, his reasonable prices and his earnest desire to please his patrons.

In 1890 Mr. Courtney purchased a lot and built his present residence, where he and his wife dispense cordial hospitality to their many friends. They are the parents of three children, of whom the eldest, J. B. Courtney, grew to mature years and was married. He was associated with his father in business, but died on the 21st of September, 1899. C. F. Courtney, the second son, died in 1879, at the age of twenty-five years. Effie A. became the wife of Lewis Wilber, a business man of Potomac, and died in April, 1899, leaving one son, Harold C. Wilber, who now makes his home with his grandparents.

Originally Mr. Courtney was an old line Whig and cast his first presidential ballot for Zachary Taylor. He was identified with that party until 1860, since which time he has been an earnest Republican. He was elected and served for two terms as justice of the peace, has also been assessor, collector, and for eighteen years commissioner of highways, proving most loyal to the trust reposed in him. Frequently he has been chosen as a delegate to county conventions. For eight years he has been police magistrate and over the record of his official career there falls no shadow of wrong nor suspicion of evil. He and his wife are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he was one of the charter members of the Masonic Lodge of Potomac, in which he served as secretary for a number of years. He has resided almost continuously in this county for fifty-seven years and therefore deserves to be classed among its honored pioneer residents, for it was in the day of its primitive development that he located within its borders. He is well known in Danville, in

Potomac and in northern and eastern portions of the county, and is respected by all with whom he has been associated because his life has been honorable; his course manly; his actions sincere and unaffected. He and his wife celebrated their golden wedding on the 26th of December, 1897, and their children with their families were present. A year later many of their friends surprised them on the anniversary of their wedding by visiting their home and leaving behind them many substantial tokens of good will and esteem. They have now traveled life's journey together for fifty-five years, sharing with each other in the joys and sorrows, the adversity and prosperity which has come to them, their mutual love and confidence increasing as the years have passed by. Their lives have been so ordered and directed that they have won the confidence and regard of all with whom they have been associated and there are no more honored or respected residents in Potomac than J. B. Courtney and his wife.

EVERETT C. SMITH

Everett C. Smith, who is engaged in general farming on section 18, Elwood township, was born September 28, 1879, in this county, and is a son of Francis P. and Sarah J. (Canaday) Smith. His paternal grandfather was a native of Tennessee, and at the age of eighteen years came to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1832, in company with his parents, a settlement being made on what is still known as the Smith farm. Here he was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life and on reaching his majority he married Miss Elizabeth Hester, who was his neighbor. Among their children was Fran-

cis P. Smith, who was born in Elwood township and is now forty-eight years of age. He wedded Miss Canaday and they began their domestic life on the old home farm where they continued to reside until 1897. In that year they removed to Ridgefarm, where they are now living. Mr. Smith was the eldest of six children, the others being Mrs. Mary J. Canaday, of Indianola; Isaac B., now deceased; Mrs. Amanda Mills, of Vermilion Grove; P. H., who is cashier in the bank at Vermilion Grove; and Mrs. Della Peck, of Yankee Point, Illinois. Mrs. Smith was the second of seven children, her brothers and sisters being John, who is living in Georgetown; Charles, who resides at Ridgefarm; Mrs. Annette Mills, deceased; Mrs. Sophia Snapp, of Rochester, Indiana; J. Rice, who is living in Georgetown; and W. O., who makes his home in Georgetown and is an attorney of Danville.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis P. Smith became the parents of four children, the eldest of whom was the subject of this review. The others are, Mrs. Ethel Forbes, who is now twenty-one years of age and resides at Ridgefarm; and Noble and Orrin, who are fifteen and thirteen years of age, respectively, and are attending school. In the common schools Everett C. Smith acquired his preliminary education which was supplemented by study in Vermilion Grove Academy. He remained at home until twenty-three years of age, assisting in the cultivation and further development of the farm. He was then married to Miss Cora M. Canaday, the wedding taking place on the 18th of June, 1902. The lady is a daughter of John F. and Emily Canaday, of Vermilion Grove, her father following farming. She was born October 24, 1878, and has four sisters: Mrs. Grace L. Walthall, of Quaker, Indiana; Carrie J., Florence and Flora, who

are still with their parents. Mr. Canaday and his brother Henry were both soldiers of the Civil war. When he volunteered her father was but a boy and was twice brought back home, but each time he ran away again to rejoin his company and at length was permitted to go to the front.

Mr. Smith is identified with the Quaker church and is a Democrat in his political affiliations, while fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a young man possessing the enterprising spirit which dominates the west, and in his business affairs is meeting with creditable success. Both he and his wife are popular residents of the community and have many friends in the county where they have always lived.

HIRAM HAYNES BOLLES.

Hiram Haynes Bolles was born in Cooperstown, New York, October 19, 1850, and is a son of Elisha A. and Clarissa (Padlock) Bolles, who were also natives of the Empire state. The father followed merchandising in his early life and during the last twenty years of his earthly career he devoted his time and energies to the practice of medicine. He passed away in July, 1900, at the age of 80 years, while his wife died in 1869. In their family were four children of whom Hiram H. is the third in order of birth. One sister, Martha L., became the wife of William P. Ross, a resident of Davenport, Iowa, and at her home in that city she passed away. The other members of the family are Mrs. Mary D. Saxton and W. P. Bolles. After the death of the mother of these children Dr. Bolles was again married and by the second union there were three

children. The Doctor spent his last days in Missouri, having removed to the west some time prior to his demise.

Hiram Haynes Bolles obtained his early education in the common schools of his native state, but at the age of seven years accompanied his parents on their removal westward and completed his education in Illinois. He afterward engaged in merchandising in various places, including Chicago, Bloomington and Rockford. He came from Bloomington to Danville in 1894 and here opened up his present business, that of merchant tailoring. In the years which have since come and gone he has secured a liberal and constantly growing patronage and to-day occupies a leading and creditable position in business circles. He has had a practical education in the line of his chosen calling and is now located at No. 50 North Vermilion street, where he carries a large and carefully selected line of goods and employs good workmen.

On the 15th of March, 1877, Mr. Bolles was united in marriage to Miss Clara A. Saxton, a native of Almont, Michigan. Their marriage was celebrated in Chicago and has been blessed with two children, Addie L. and Harry H. Mr. Bolles is a member of Bloomington Lodge No. 43, F. & A. M., is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Royal Circle, while in politics he is a Democrat. He served for one term as a member of the city council in Bloomington, but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to devote his time and energies to his business affairs. He belongs to the First Baptist church and is chairman of its board of trustees. Mr. Bolles has a finely balanced mind and well rounded character. He possesses a goodly supply of that desirable



H. H. BOLLES.

commodity—common sense—and this he applies not only to his business but to the various relations of life and as a citizen he is loyal and progressive, upholding every measure and movement which he believes will contribute to the general progress and material advancement.

HIRAM H. CATLETT.

The subject of this sketch is one of Virginia's native sons,—the state which has furnished so many honored presidents of the United States. He was born on the 21st of October, 1823, in Charlottesville, four miles from the residence of Thomas Jefferson. His grandfather owned the land on which the University of Virginia now stands. He is a son of Lawrence T. and Sally (Harmon) Catlett, both natives of Virginia, the latter born in Stanton, in which city she was reared and married. After their marriage this couple located in Charlottesville, remaining there until 1828. Mr. Catlett, Sr., was educated for a lawyer, but not liking that profession he learned the saddler's trade. In 1828 he went to Tusculum, Alabama, and remained there a short time, removing thence to Winchester, Tennessee. He remained there for two years and then returned to Charlottesville, Virginia. He remained there until 1835, when he went to Bloomingburg, Ohio. He there remained until October 1, 1846, when he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, arriving here on the 18th of October, 1846. Here he engaged in farming. His death occurred July 2, 1861. He was a Baptist in religious faith, a member of the Masonic fraternity and a stanch Democrat in political affiliations. He had been master of the lodge at Charlottesville, Vir-

ginia. He was a man of noble characteristics, benevolent to a fault, almost. He considered it his bounden duty to share a part of his earnings and wealth with his fellow men. No one ever came to him in distress that he did not receive immediate assistance. As a consequence of his extreme benevolence, the great wealth which he at one time possessed was devoted to charity, leaving him in only moderate circumstances in his declining years. In times when he was not so fortunate he would gather his family round him and ask for assistance from the Omnipotent giver of all good things. He would quote from the passage of scripture "Once I was young but now I am old, but I have never seen the righteous forsaken or his seed begging bread." His prayers were certainly answered, for he died in comfortable circumstances. The nobility of his character was made manifest in many deeds of kindness and acts of benevolence toward his fellow men and he was ever an earnest Christian man, and it may be said of him as of the just men of old, "He walked with God." His loving wife died January 10, 1871, ten years after the death of her husband. They were the parents of twelve children, six girls and six boys, but only two are now living: Virginia, the wife of Dr. Charles Lamon, of Fairmount, Illinois, and the subject of this review.

Hiram H. Catlett attended school in Charlottesville, Virginia, in a log structure taught by William Smithson. He continued his education in Ohio after his father had removed to that state. His studies were conducted during the winter months, while in vacation he assisted his father until he was twenty-two years of age. He then told his father he had faith in the advice of Horace Greeley, which was, "Go west, young man, and grow up with the country." He

proposed to follow this advice and his father and brother Harold accompanied him. They located in Vermilion county, near Fairmount, Illinois. On his first arrival he speculated in hogs and thereby lost all he and his brother possessed, besides three hundred dollars of borrowed money. However, they continued in the stockdealing business, buying and selling hogs and cattle. In the year 1857 Mr. Catlett had had success in that line, but his creditors refused to crowd him. Adversity only made him work the harder and the first year after this he made a payment of ten per cent. on his indebtedness and finally he succeeded in paying it all. In the meantime, he had with his brother accumulated over fifteen hundred acres of land and also a large amount of stock. He now owns eight hundred acres of valuable land. The management of this he controls, but it is divided among his children. Mr. Catlett has experienced both good and bad fortune, but in both he has retained his presence of mind and his unflinching energy has enabled him to succeed. He is thoroughly a self-made man, but possesses pluck, self-reliance and endurance to a great degree. Not only is he distinguished by reason of his landed possessions, but also by the good name he has won through fair and honorable dealing with his fellow men. He has patronized nine different colleges in giving his children college educations. Not one of his boys uses tobacco in any form or spirits or liquor of any kind. His family is one of which to be proud, and his home is a large and attractive residence situated on a high knoll of land, giving it a picturesque appearance, and from his home he can view his well tilled fields and well filled barns and granaries. The brother of Mr. Catlett also became well-to-do and died May 1, 1902.

In 1865 alone he lost seventeen thousand dollars on hogs, and in 1875 he lost ten thousand dollars in corn and wheat. He was one of the most shrewd manipulators of farm land deals in Vermilion county. At one time he made a profit of over five thousand dollars by winning a case which was taken through five courts, in regard to some swamp lands that he had entered.

On the 13th of October, 1858, near Fairmount, Illinois, Mr. Catlett was united in marriage to Lorinda Roudebush, who was born June 6, 1838, a daughter of Daniel and Ruth (Shotwell) Roudebush. Her father was a native of Germany and her mother was born in Clermont county, Ohio, in which county they were married and located, living there until his death, which occurred in 1843. The mother then married William Sailor. They came to Vermilion county in 1856 and his wife purchased a farm upon which they made their home until their deaths. Mr. Sailor died in Oakwood, Illinois, and his wife passed away in 1864. She was the mother of eight children. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Catlett have been born six children, four of whom are living. Nellie is the wife of D. C. Adams and they reside in Vance township. George R. is a farmer of Vance township. Percy L. is in the banking business at Escanaba, Michigan; and Corrinne is at home with her father. Mr. Catlett is a member of the Baptist church, of which his son George is trustee. In politics he favors the Prohibition party, but on questions of national importance supports the Democratic party and is a great admirer of William Jennings Bryan. He is a man of good health and fine constitution, is a brilliant conversationalist and is very popular in his community, commanding the esteem and respect of all.

WILLIAM G. DOBBINS.

William G. Dobbins is the senior member of the firm of Dobbins & Lohr, tin, slate and gravel roofers, also sheet metal furnace workers, doing business at No. 22 West Main street, in Danville. They are both young and enterprising business men, whose efforts add to the industrial activity and consequent prosperity of the city. Mr. Dobbins was born in Knox county, Ohio, April 6, 1872, and was only about a year old when brought to Danville by his parents. His father was Samuel Dobbins a son of Samuel Dobbins, Sr., a native of New York city. The grandfather made his start in the business world by laying brick, later by speculating in property. He accumulated a considerable sum of money and early in the nineteenth century he removed to Ohio, where he purchased land and upon that investment he realized a good margin. He then came to Illinois and purchased what was at that time considered to be the only coal lands in the state. He became one of the first settlers of the northwestern part of Danville township, now known as Tincher-ton, but for many years the district was called Dobbins farm. He paid four dollars per acre for this land which has since sold for one hundred dollars per acre, while to-day it is valued at one thousand dollars per acre. At the time Mr. Dobbins engaged in mining coal from his farm, customers came a distance of from sixty to eighty miles to get this fuel, camping out along the way during the journey. Land adjoining his farm, before its value was recognized, sold for ten dollars per acre for the timber tracts and twelve dollars per acre when it included both timber and land. Samuel Dobbins, Sr., was a most enterprising, progressive business man, very fortunate in his investments because of his

energy and keen foresight. He gained a handsome competence but never selfishly hoarded his means, being a liberal contributor to churches and to missions. He bequeathed a fund of forty thousand dollars to the Presbyterian Mission Board. In the early development of Vermilion county he was a very important character, taking an active part in its substantial upbuilding and improvement and leaving the impress of his individuality upon the early policies of this portion of the state.

Samuel Dobbins, the father of our subject, was born in Ohio and was reared on the home farm. At the time of the Civil war he offered his services to the government and was sent out with the boys in blue of Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, with which he served for four years. At the battle of Missionary Ridge he lost his left arm. Through ten years he engaged in the coal trade in Danville, doing a retail business as well as making extensive shipments. He was united in marriage to Minta Jane Bond also a native of Ohio, and both are now esteemed and honored residents of Danville.

William G. Dobbins, whose name introduces this record, came with his parents to Danville in 1873 and at the usual age he became a student in the public schools, therein acquiring a good knowledge in the English branches of learning that fitted him for life's practical duties. In his youth he served an apprenticeship to the tinner's trade and in 1889 he embarked in business on his own account in connection with William Lohr, as a member of the firm of Dobbins & Lohr. This firm has since enjoyed a continuous existence in which a large trade has been gained. They take and execute extensive contracts for slate and gravel roofing and for sheet metal work as well as the placing

of furnaces. Their patronage is now large and profitable for they have gained a leading position in this line of commercial activity in this city.

In 1864 Mr. Dobbins was united in marriage to Miss Lena Hastings, a daughter of John Hastings, and they have one child, Leonard. Mr. Dobbins belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and he and his wife hold membership in the Kimber Methodist Episcopal church. Their circle of friends in the community is extensive and the hospitality of Danville's best homes is extended to them.



WILLIAM RAY JEWELL.

W. R. Jewell was born in Taylorville, Kentucky, August 7, 1837; removed with parents to Sullivan county, Indiana, in 1841; early education in log schoolhouses from Hoosier school masters. Learned the trade of printer in Terre Haute and also studied law, getting books and kind instruction from that grand old man, Colonel R. W. Thompson. Taught school several terms; went to Northwestern Christian University, Indianapolis, now Butler College, Irvington, Indiana. When the war of the sixties came, he made speeches for the Union cause and helped to recruit several regiments. Enlisted in the Seventy-second Indiana Infantry as private, promoted to lieutenant; was in the famous Wilder Brigade of mounted infantry.

Lieutenant Jewell was one of several soldiers in the front who were sent home on request of Governor Morton in the summer of 1863, to give two months in speaking and explaining to good but wavering

citizens, that the emancipation proclamation and proposal to enlist negro troops were necessary for saving the Union and saving lives of Union troops.

Governor Morton gave Lieutenant Jewell a Captain's commission, stationed at Indianapolis. He liked field duty better and went to the Seventh Indiana, Army of the Potomac. He was in many skirmishes and battles, including battles of Frankfort, Kentucky, Crab Orchard, Huntsville, Tennessee, Stone River and all the bloody battles of the wilderness and siege of Richmond. He was one of six brothers who were in the Union Army, three of whom lost their lives and two others were disabled for life. His health also was much broken.

Mr. Jewell finished his classic college course after the war and entered the ministry of the Church of Christ, in which he was successful; on account of his liberal views he resigned as preacher and took up newspaper work, established the Danville News, weekly and Daily, and has edited it for almost thirty years. The paper is a recognized power in the Republican party. He also aided to organize the Illinois Printing Company, Danville, and was an officer in the company for years, being secretary, president and manager. Mr. Jewell is an able speaker and has taken part in all Republican campaigns since 1856, casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln; was elector for Garfield, 1880, Harrison, 1888, and McKinley in 1896. Has been chairman of the Vermillion county Republican central committee for about thirty years; been a long time a familiar figure at state and national conventions, and is so skilled in drawing platforms that he is called "Old Resoluter." He has been the close personal friend and counselor of Hon. Joseph G. Cannon, the



W. R. JEWELL.

distinguished representative of the Danville district, during his political career. He is much in demand as an all round orator for political, fraternal, Chautauqua and other addresses; is also called upon to talk at funerals of liberal people and is regarded by many as a pastor at large. All classes and kinds of people come to him and pour into his sympathetic ear their tales of trouble and disappointment. He is yet active though suffering from diseases contracted in the army. He is a devoted home maker and considers their family of seven children, all grown, five boys and two girls, the crown of wealth and glory of his noble wife and himself.

Mr. Jewell has well and efficiently served the city of Danville as postmaster under Harrison, Cleveland, McKinley and Roosevelt. The first appointment made by President McKinley was that of him as postmaster of this city. In his conduct of the office he has known no man's politics. His object has been to give the people the best possible mail service and he has accomplished his purpose.

Mr. Jewell, next to Mr. Cannon, has been the controlling force in shaping the policy of the Republican party in this district since the '70s. In controversial politics he has been a gladiator that the party has constantly called to the forum. He has met many foemen worthy of his steel, and they have always felt it. His friends regard Mr. Jewell as one of the most fertile men of this state. The emergency has never arisen that he could not meet. Often the central committee has been disappointed in the coming of some famous speaker. Mr. Jewell promptly took his place, and the audience has usually been thankful for the disappointment. On one occasion, it is said, he spoke five hours to hold the crowd until the speaker

came, and the crowd stayed with him. Great gifts were showered upon Mr. Jewell as a speaker and he has always made splendid use of them. He is forceful, clear and logical. He speaks from a mind well stored and a heart running over with the milk of human kindness, and never fails to convince the intellect or touch the heart and sympathy of his hearers. His fund of illustrative stories is as illimitable as Lincoln's and he is as ready in applying them. He has kept audiences in hearty laughter, sober thought or sympathetic tears on almost every rostrum in this state. In politics, Mr. Jewell is a general as well as a leader. In his long service as chairman of the county central committee, he has so handled matters as to avoid conflict in the party.

In the first McKinley campaign, he could have carried this county against instruction for McKinley, but the unity of the party was of more consequence than victory on his part, so he permitted the instruction to carry. He has been able to see trouble a long distance ahead and thereby avoid it. In this community Mr. Jewell has been a great force for good, he is kind hearted, considerate and forgiving. He has constantly stood for good citizenship, pure politics, the school house and the church.

Without doubt he could have been governor of this state, and when the matter was seriously proposed to him, he said: "I can't raise my boys right and be governor. God gave me my boys and I will stand by them". Without ambition for himself he has constantly lent a kind and attentive ear to the aspirations of others. By his personal example, his speeches and the Danville News, William Ray Jewell has left his permanent impress on Vermilion county and the state of Illinois.

WILLIAM F. KEENEY.

William Fletcher Keeney, a resident farmer of Catlin township living on section 34, was born on the 1st of October, 1843, in Vermilion county, a mile and a quarter northwest of his present home. He is a son of Thomas H. Keeney, who was born on the 12th of March, 1803, near the village of Lewisburg, in Greenbrier county, West Virginia, and after arriving at years of maturity was married in that state to Miss Elizabeth Caraway, born March 31, 1810, in Greenbrier county, West Virginia. In the year 1831 they came to Vermilion county. At that time the country was new and unbroken and full of game. The father of our subject first rented land and later purchased some school land, constituting the farm upon which the subject of this review was born and reared. Throughout his residence here Thomas H. Keeney carried on agricultural pursuits and also engaged in the raising of graded stock, both branches of his business returning to him a good income. In his family were nine children, six sons and three daughters, all of whom reached years of maturity with the exception of one that died in infancy. Our subject was the seventh in order of birth and his sister, Mrs. Amanda Carnes, resides on the adjoining farm to the west of his present home. Both parents are now deceased. Their children were: H. F., David, John A., Lucretia V., James T., Joseph S., William F., Mary E., and Amanda, now Mrs. Carnes, all of whom are now deceased except W. F. and Mrs. Carnes.

In a manner similar to that of most boys of the period William F. Keeney was reared, working on the farm through the summer months while in the winter seasons he attended school. Throughout his entire

life he has engaged in agricultural pursuits and he began earning his own living by managing his father's farm which he controlled until after the father's death. He continued to live on the home place and later purchased forty acres of his present home just west of the town of Catlin. He now owns a valuable tract of three hundred and forty acres, well drained and tilled and supplied with all modern equipments, accessories and conveniences. He raises large quantities of grain and he also has good pasture lands which furnish feed for his stock. He handles about forty head of cattle annually, and this materially increases his income. The first plow which he saw used had a wooded mold board and corn was cultivated with the single shovel. He never wore anything but home made clothing until he was a young man of about sixteen years, and the various experiences, hardships and trials of frontier life became familiar to him. However, in his business career he has prospered and as the years have passed his hard work and careful management have brought to him a very desirable income and a handsome competence.

On the 13th of October, 1880, Mr. Keeney was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Richards, who was born in Floyd county, Indiana, July 16, 1850, and is a daughter of James and Mary Richards, who removed from Indiana to Vermilion county, settling in Georgetown township. Mr. Keeney has witnessed almost the entire development of this portion of the state. His father drove to the county in a covered wagon drawn by horses, and it required several weeks to make the trip, but at length he reached his destination and settled at the edge of the timber in an old log cabin on the farm of Charles Caraway. Chicago was then the market, and Eugene and Percival

on the Wabash, for Danville was but a village. Mr. Keeney can remember when West Main street in Danville was overgrown with jack oaks and hazel brush. The incoming settlers, however, soon wrought a change in all this and in the work of development, improvement and progress Vermilion county has kept abreast with other portions of the state. Mr. Keeney is a supporter of the Republican party in which he has firm faith since attaining his majority. He and his wife attend the Methodist church of Catlin and he served on its building committee at the time of the erection of its house of worship. For a number of years he has been a member of the Fair Association, for three years he was its vice president and for ten years one of its directors, serving in the former position at the time the association was abandoned. In Catlin Lodge, M. W. A., in which he holds membership, he has held office, and both he and his wife are connected with the Royal Neighbors. They are people of genuine worth, widely known in this locality, and their friends are many.

W. A. BROWN, M. D.

Numbered among the practitioners of Danville, the public has passed favorable judgment upon the ability and labors of Dr. Brown, who was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, April 9, 1830, his parents being Francis G. and Mary (Bell) Brown, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Tennessee. They were married in Knoxville and in 1838 came to Illinois, settling in Macoupin county, where the father engaged in farming. Subsequently he removed to Chesterfield, this state, where his death occurred in 1876. In politics he was a life-long Demo-

crat and he was a member of the Baptist church. His wife died in 1864, and he afterward married again. Of the nine children born of the first union, the following is the record: Elizabeth, deceased wife of George S. Huskey; John H., a resident of Carlinville, Illinois, who married Martha Huskey, now deceased; Malinda, deceased wife of Joseph Rafferty, of Fort Worth, Texas; W. A., of this review; Kate, wife of Elisha Harbor, of Barton county, Missouri; L. M., who served three years in the Civil war, being slightly wounded in the famous three days' fight at Shiloh, and died in Los Angeles, California, where he was then making his home; Mary Jane, who was married and is now deceased; Laura and Harriet, twins, the former the widow of Charles Saunders and a resident of Greenfield, Illinois, and the latter the wife of John Leach, of Chesterfield, Illinois.

Dr. Brown began his education in a subscription school held in an old log house in Knox county, Tennessee, and following the removal of the family to Macoupin county, Illinois, he pursued his studies in the common schools until eighteen years of age, after which he engaged in farming with his father until he attained the age of twenty years. Subsequently he carried on farming on his own account for two years and next entered the Iowa University as a student in the Keokuk Medical School. This was followed by study in McDowell College of St. Louis. In the interval he had practiced medicine to some extent and he later located in Renick, Missouri, a station on the Wabash Railroad in Randolph county, where he remained in practice until 1862. He was then appointed assistant surgeon in the First Provisional Missouri Regiment and was in active service in Missouri, remaining in the army for two and one-half years.

Dr. Brown arrived in Danville in 1864 and opening an office continued an active and successful representative of the profession in this city until 1887, when he removed to Los Angeles, California, where he made his home until the fall of 1893, when he returned to Danville and has since continued in this city.

On the 8th of January, 1850, in Macoupin county, Illinois, occurred the marriage of Doctor Brown and Miss Martha Frazier, a daughter of William Frazier, a native of North Carolina, while the mother, whose name was Malinda Gallagher, was a native of Tennessee, in which state she gave her hand in marriage to Mr. Frazier. He is a saddler by trade but afterward engaged in farming. His political support was given the Whig party until its dissolution, when he became a Republican and his religious faith was indicated by his membership in the Society of Friends. He died in Iowa in 1880, at the age of eighty-four years and his wife passed away in 1879 at the age of sixty-four years. In their family were eight children, of whom four are yet living. Mrs. Brown is among the deceased, her death having occurred in California, July 28, 1888, her remains being interred in Evergreen cemetery of Los Angeles. She had become the mother of three children, two of whom survive her: Monroe, who is engaged in the livery business in Danville; and Frank, who resides in California. He was married in California and has two daughters.

The Doctor is a stalwart Republican and has always had firm faith in the principles of that party. He has twice served as a member of the city council. Formerly he was connected with various medical societies and he still belongs to the Vermilion County Medical Society. His long practice

of an important and varied character has made him a man of broad experience and capability and Dr. Brown well deserves mention among the leading representatives of his calling.

A. G. SMITH.

A. G. Smith, who is living on section 5, Middlefork township, and is familiarly called "Al" by his numerous friends in Vermilion county, is at the present time devoting his energies with success to the work of stock-raising and feeding. His landed possessions aggregate fourteen hundred acres and thus he is one of the extensive land owners of the community. His farms are situated near Potomac and from the property he derives an excellent income.

A native son of the county, Mr. Smith was born in Ross township, June 6, 1855. His father, John Smith, was one of the first settlers to come from England to this portion of the state, having crossed the Atlantic in company with Abraham Mann. Both of these gentlemen are represented on another page of this work. The father of our subject was known as "English" John Smith, a title which distinguished him from others of the name in his part of Illinois. Prosperous in business, he owned hundreds of acres of valuable farming land and was one of the prominent, influential and representative farmers and stock-raisers of the county.

Upon the old homestead A. G. Smith of this review spent the days of his boyhood and youth. It is not hard to imagine what kind of a boy he was. He pursued his education in the schools of Rossville and Danville and during the summer months he



JOHN SMITH (ENG.)

worked in the fields, being early trained to habits of industry and enterprise—for these facts are shown forth in his subsequent career. He remained with his father until he had attained his majority and assisted in caring for the home farm. In Danville, on the 7th of October, 1875, he won as a companion and helpmeet for life's journey Miss Lizzie Wilkie, a daughter of James Bruce Wilkie, who was a native of Scotland and on coming to the new world located first at Madison, Indiana, where he reared his family and spent the last days of his life.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith began housekeeping upon a farm near Bluegrass, where he had six hundred and forty acres of land which he cultivated and further improved, making his home there for twenty-two years, and in 1899 he removed to the old family homestead, taking charge of the place. Here he has built two residences and has remodeled the old house. He also erected barns and substantial outbuildings and in connection with general farming has made a business of raising and feeding stock, fattening for the market from one to two hundred head of steers and a large drove of hogs annually. He is justly accounted one of the successful agriculturists and stock men of Vermilion county and his prosperity is well deserved, for he is energetic, possesses laudable ambition and strong determination in carrying out his plans.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children. John Curtis, the elder, is married and follows agricultural pursuits on one of his father's farms. Laura is the wife of Hugh M. Luckey, a prominent farmer of Middlefork township, where he is now serving as supervisor. They have two children—Alvin J. and Pauline.

His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, called Mr. Smith to

public office and for five years he has served as township trustee. He is now filling the position of commissioner of highways, and he has frequently been a delegate to the conventions of the Republican party, of which he is a staunch advocate, having thus followed in the political footsteps of his father. His extensive business interests have made heavy demands upon his time to the exclusion of a great amount of political work, yet he never falters in performing any task that he feels will promote the welfare and prosperity of his native county. He is leading a busy, useful, active and honorable life and is one of the intelligent and highly respected residents of Middlefork township, and well deserves mention in the history of Vermilion county.

CAPTAIN S. S. IRWIN.

Prominent and active in public affairs Captain S. S. Irwin is serving his third term as postmaster of Rankin and is well known as a business man of Vermilion county, where he has lived for about twenty-three years, while his residence in the state covers forty years. The Captain is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Brown county, August 6, 1835. He comes of a family of Scotch-Irish ancestry, representatives of the name emigrating from Ayrshire, Scotland, to the new world in the year 1667. They settled in Honeybrook, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. John Irwin, the great grandfather of our subject, was born in Honeybrook and emigrating westward became one of the pioneer settlers of Ohio. Robert, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Brown county, Ohio, and served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812. He lived in the Buckeye state when the In-

dians were there in great numbers, the work of progress and improvement being scarcely begun. Almost the entire region was a vast wilderness and in the work of development and improvement he bore his part, aiding in laying broad and deep the foundation for the future prosperity and improvement of his county. His son, John Irwin, the father of our subject, was born in Brown county in 1810 and after arriving at years of maturity he married Jane Bratton, whose birth occurred in Highland county, Ohio, and who was the daughter of John Bratton, also an honored pioneer settler and of English ancestry. John Irwin was a farmer by occupation and reared his family in Brown county, where he spent his entire life, passing away in 1882, at the age of seventy-two years. His wife died in 1848. In their family were eight children, three sons and five daughters, all of whom reached maturity. One son, William R., was a soldier of the Eighty-third Ohio Infantry and died at Hempstead, Texas, in 1884. Another brother of our subject, Joseph G. Irwin, now resides in Williamsburg, Ohio.

Upon the old family homestead in the state of his nativity Captain S. S. Irwin was reared. He had good school advantages, his preliminary education being supplemented by a course of study in Lebanon Normal school. Later he engaged in teaching in Clermont county, Ohio, and then came to Illinois, taking up his abode in Douglas county, this state, on the 30th of August, 1857. He was employed as a teacher in the schools of Camargo through the succeeding winter and later was elected school commissioner of Douglas county for four years, but went into the army before his term was up. During that time he and Congressman Joseph Cannon, then a candidate for prosecuting attorney of the county,

and our subject, a candidate for school commissioner, occupied the same office. They labored for their mutual success and became warm friends, their friendship existing to the present time. Successful in his election, Captain Irwin filled the position of school commissioner of Douglas county until the war.

He then felt that his duty was to his country upon the field of battle and his service was continued until the close of the war. He enlisted on the 10th of July, 1861, in the Second Illinois Cavalry and went to the south as a private, becoming a member of the department of the Mississippi. He participated in the battle of Bolivar and of Holly Springs and at the last named place was captured but he managed to cut his way out and rejoined his regiment, which retreated to Cold Water, but the next morning returned to the battle field and drove the rebels out of Holly Springs. Later Captain Irwin participated in the siege and capture of Vicksburg, being present at its fall on the 4th of July, 1863. In the fall of the same year he participated in the Red River campaign and was again with General Banks in 1864. On the 30th of March, of the latter year, he was wounded at Grand Ecore by a gun shot in the right elbow, which temporarily disabled him for field service. He lay in the hospital for a time and was then granted a leave of absence and returned home, where he remained for two or three months. He then rejoined his regiment at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and later was in the siege of Mobile, Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely. The last named fort capitulated on the 9th of April, 1865, and was the last fight in which Captain Irwin took part. He had been promoted to the rank of orderly sergeant and afterward to first lieutenant and with that rank he did

active field service. In June, 1863, while at Vicksburg he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and during the last part of the war he served as such in the commissary department at Apalachicola, Florida. He was three times wounded in defense of the old flag, and the regiment was mustered out January 3, 1866. Captain Irwin has every reason to be proud of his war record, for he never faltered in facing the enemy and though often found in the thickest of the fight he was ever loyal to the cause which he espoused.

When the war was ended he returned to Mattoon, Illinois, and for ten years engaged in farming in that locality. He was married in Mattoon, February 12, 1868, to Sarah Noyes, who was born, reared and educated in that locality. He took his bride to his farm and continued its cultivation until about 1880, when he came to Vermilion county. Here he purchased a stock of general merchandise, which he placed in a store in Pellville and in March, 1884, he removed to Rankin, where he has since engaged in business. He began operations on a small scale, but gradually he extended his business operations and added to his stock hardware and farm implements. As the years passed he built up a very prosperous business, which is now conducted by his son and his partner under the firm name of Sloan & Irwin. The Captain became well known as a merchant and his industry and enterprise brought to him creditable success.

The home of Captain and Mrs. Irwin has been blessed with three children: Anna, a well educated young lady, who is now a teacher in the Vanderbilt Industrial school at Bitmore, North Carolina; William, a prominent business man of Rankin; and Annette, who is conducting a photograph

gallery in Rankin and is also serving as assistant postmaster.

In his political views the Captain has always been a staunch Republican, having supported the party since John C. Fremont became its first presidential candidate in 1856. He has never failed to vote for each man who has been at the head of the ticket with the exception of the year 1864, when, because of his service in the army he could not cast his ballot. He has been elected many times as justice of the peace of his township, serving continuously and efficiently in that office since 1885. In 1889 he was appointed postmaster under General Benjamin Harrison, was again appointed by President McKinley and for a third term by President Roosevelt. He has frequently served as a delegate to county and state conventions and has put forth every effort in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Presbyterian church of Rankin and he also belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being identified with Rankin Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; and Mattoon Chapter, R. A. M. He is also a member of the Grand Army Post at Hoopston. In all life's relations Captain Irwin has shown himself to be a man of genuine worth, being energetic and trustworthy in business, loyal in citizenship and faithful to the ties of friendship and of the home. All who know him accord him high respect and he has a very wide acquaintance in this county.

JACOB P. ELLSWORTH.

Jacob P. Ellsworth, a retired farmer now identified with the business interests of Westville as a general merchant, represents

one of the oldest families of Vermilion county. His father, Sylvanus T. Ellsworth, first came to the county about 1840 and removed his family to the home farm in Catlin township in 1854. The subject of this review was born in Vermilion county, January 8, 1847, his parents being Sylvanus T. and Zarelda (Graves) Ellsworth, the former a native of Miami county, Ohio, and the latter of Kentucky. During his early life the father resided in the place of his nativity and was engaged in farming and logging there until 1840, when he came west to look at the country, believing that it might prove a good location for business ventures. He afterward returned to Ohio and soon again came to Vermilion county and was here married. Later he removed with his family to Lewiston, Illinois, where he resided for a year, working out by the day during that period. Once more coming to Vermilion county he resided in Georgetown township for about three years and then took up his abode on the old family homestead in Catlin township, where he spent his remaining days, with the exception of two years, during which he lived at Westville with his daughter. Throughout this period he devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits, in which he met with good success. His wife died in 1887 and he was called to his final rest on the 12th of August, 1901. They were the parents of seven children: Mary E., the wife of Israel Burroughs, of Danville; Margaret, who became the wife of William Currants and died in 1885; Jacob P., of this review; Sarah, the wife of William D. Parker, a farmer living on section 6, Georgetown township; Eveline M., the wife of George Watson, a contractor of Danville; Levi Lincoln, who married Minnie Hodge and is living on the old homestead in Catlin township; and Cather-

ine, the wife of William C. Dukes, who was formerly engaged in the butchering business, but is now a carpenter of Georgetown.

The common school afforded Jacob P. Ellsworth his educational privileges and after leaving the school room as a student he engaged in teaching in Danville township at the McMillan school house in 1870. He was employed in this capacity for sixteen months and in 1871 was the teacher in the Brooks Point school. In the winter of 1872 he had charge of the Rouse school, after which he returned to the McMillan school for one term. He afterward took up his abode on the old home farm, where he lived for 2 year and in 1871 he came to Westville, erecting the first store building in this place. Here he conducted a general store for a short time and then established another store in 1880, which he carried on for a short period and then sold out. He afterward gave his attention to agricultural pursuits until 1880, when he accepted the clerkship in the Kelly store of Westville, where he remained for two years. In 1891 he erected his present store building and has since been engaged in general merchandising. He likewise owns seventy acres of land in Georgetown township and carries on general farming and in connection with his store he owns one hundred and ten acres of the home farm in Catlin township, which is rented to his brother.

Mr. Ellsworth has been twice married. He first wedded Sarah O'Neal, of Vermilion county, a daughter of Isaac O'Neal, one of the first settlers here. She died June 21, 1888, leaving two children: Austin, who married May Lash and is living near Westville; and Lola B., at home. For his second wife Mr. Ellsworth chose Mary Donlon, of Danville, a daughter of Anthony Donlon, who is now deceased. They have one son,

Ralph Anthony Sylvanus. Theirs is a pleasant and attractive home in Westville. Mr. Ellsworth was the first police magistrate of this place and held the office for four years. He is now assistant supervisor of his township and has held other minor positions. In politics he is a Republican and belongs to the Christian church of Westville, while his wife is a member of the Catholic church. He has been very successful in his business and is widely known throughout this part of the county. He comes of an old and prominent family and his own record is in harmony with the honored name which has ever been borne by the Ellsworths in this portion of the state. Dependent upon his own resources from his boyhood days he has been the architect of his own fortune and has builded wisely and well.



PATTEN HIMROD.

A creditable military service, success in business and loyalty in citizenship—in these few words might be summed up the life record of Patten Himrod, but the interest which his many friends felt in him justifies a more extended account of a life that, while free from exciting episodes and from ostentation and display, yet was rich in all the nobler qualities that command respect and awaken confidence. Mr. Himrod was born in Waterford, Pennsylvania, January 20, 1839, a son of David and Abigail (Patten) Himrod, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Maine. For many years they resided in Waterford, Pennsylvania, where the father was connected with the iron industry, operating a blast furnace. There he lived until his death, which oc-

curred in 1880, his remains being interred in the Waterford cemetery. In early manhood he gave his political support to the Whig party and upon its dissolution he joined the ranks of the new Republican party, while socially he was identified with the Knights of Malta. After his demise his widow removed to Chicago, Illinois, where she passed away in 1900, her remains, however, being interred by the side of her husband, in Waterford, Pennsylvania. In their family were ten children, all of whom reached mature years, while those still living are: Phebe, a resident of Chicago; Charles, who married Alice Judson and is the vice president of the Himrod Coal Company, his home being in Waterford, Pennsylvania; Katy H., the wife of Thomas B. Biggers, who resides in Chickasha, Indian Territory; Kirk, of Waterford, Pennsylvania; Gertrude, the wife of Thomas A. Hagerty, of Chicago; and Bernard, who is the president of the Himrod Coal Company and lives in Waterford, Pennsylvania.

Patten Himrod obtained an academic education in his native town and after putting aside his text books he filled the position of bookkeeper for his father, thus having charge of the accounts of the blast furnace. He remained in that position until twenty-one years of age, when he decided to seek his fortune in the west and made his way to St. Louis, Missouri. There, in July, 1860, he enlisted in the military service of the government, as a member of Company A, Second United States Infantry, and was sent to Fort Abercrombie, in Dakota, where he remained until the outbreak of the Civil war. The regiment was then ordered to the east, where he served until the expiration of his term in 1862. After his discharge he returned to Waterford. His fa-

ther was a personal friend of Governor Tod, of Ohio, and that executive had Mr. Hinrod organize another regiment of volunteers, of which he became first sergeant of Company D, One Hundred and Fifth Ohio Infantry. He remained with that regiment until the close of the war and from time to time won promotion and distinction, being commissioned captain on the 10th of July, 1863. In the latter part of 1864, in Georgia, he was captured and was sent to Columbia, South Carolina. Sherman was at that time on the march to the sea, and the rebel forces had to continually keep moving or their prisoners would have fallen into the hands of the Union troops. In March, 1865, Mr. Hinrod was paroled and taken to Annapolis, Maryland, where he was exchanged, being at that place at the time of the assassination of President Lincoln, whose funeral he attended. A few days after he was exchanged General Lee surrendered and word was received that all officers who were not with their regiments might resign. This Captain Hinrod did, and once more he took up his abode in Waterford, Pennsylvania.

At that place he engaged in business with his cousin, William Hinrod, opening a hardware store which they conducted until 1870, in which year the Captain removed to Woodson county, Kansas. Later he took up his abode near Winfield, Kansas, where he engaged in farming. He had several land claims in that state and removing to Rice county he settled at a town then called Peace, although the name has since been changed to Sterling. There he embarked in the drug business and after a few years he was appointed to fill out the unexpired term of county treasurer and at the next regular election he was chosen for a full term. He proved a capable officer and upon his retire-

ment from the position he was elected cashier of the Bank of Sterling, the town having changed its name in 1876.

On the 6th of June, in that place, Captain Hinrod had been united in marriage to Miss Clara Lacy, who was born near Indianapolis, Indiana, September 2, 1842. They began their domestic life in Peace, Kansas, and Captain Hinrod continued his connection with the bank which in 1884 was merged into the First National Bank and he remained with the institution as its cashier until 1898. He then became a resident of Chicago and accepted the position of secretary and treasurer of the Hinrod Coal Company. In May, 1900, he removed to Danville, where he resided up to the time of his death, which occurred September 10, 1902, his remains being interred in Spring Hill cemetery.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hinrod had been born but one child, David, who is represented on another page of this work. Mr. Hinrod was an earnest Republican and was township treasurer of Sterling township in Kansas for many years. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity having been made a Mason in Erie, Pennsylvania, in 1868, and after taking the degrees of the lodge he advanced in the order until he became a Knight Templar. Various official honors were conferred upon him by the craft and in his life he exemplified its noble and beneficent teachings. A man of excellent business ability he had keen foresight and sound judgment and added largely to his income through dealing extensively in cattle and land. Wherever he went Mr. Hinrod won friends. It would be almost impossible to find one who did not entertain for him regard, while many gave to him a much warmer expression of esteem. Indolence and idleness were utterly foreign to his na-

ture, nor was inertia manifest at any time, his career being one of progress, accomplishment and advancement.

JOHN W. OSMAN.

John W. Osman is the sexton of Woodlawn cemetery, the beautiful "city of the dead" which is situated at Indianola, in Carroll township, Vermilion county, Illinois. This position he has filled since 1889. He was born September 6, 1840, in Coshocton county, Ohio, and is a son of Ellis and Levina (Coy) Osman. The father followed farming for a living and died in Madison county, Indiana, in 1864, from a fever. The mother also died from fever, near West Bedford, Coshocton county, Ohio. She was born in Nevay, Indiana, in 1813 and died in 1841. She had two sisters, Melinda Maxwell and Mary Jewell, and five brothers, Levi, Alonzo, Elisha, William and Lorenzo. Ellis and Levina (Coy) Osman were the parents of three children: Andrew and John W., twins, and Hannah. Andrew and Hannah both died in infancy.

John W. Osman of this review spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the usual manner of farmer lads of the period, enjoying the pleasures as well as performing the duties which came to him. When the country became involved in Civil war, he responded to the call for troops and enlisted in the Sixtieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, on the 12th day of February, 1864, remaining in the service until the end of the war and receiving an honorable discharge, July 28, 1865. He participated in the battle of the wilderness, Spottsylvania, Nye River, North Anna River, Bethesda church, Cold Harbor,

Poplar Grove church, Pegram Farm, Hatcher's Run, Fort Stedman, and Petersburg, Virginia. Throughout his entire service he was a valiant soldier and nobly fought in defense of the old flag and the cause it represented. When the war was ended he laid down the weapons of war and entered upon the life of a private citizen, in which capacity he has performed his duty so capably and well, as when upon the battlefields of the south he followed the starry banner of the nation on to triumphant victory.

On the 16th of May, 1869, Mr. Osman was united in marriage to Serelda Martin, a daughter of Benjamin Martin, Sr., a farmer of Westville, Illinois. She had six brothers and six sisters, of whom four brothers and five sisters have passed away, those still living being Benjamin, a resident of Indianola, Illinois; Andrew, a resident of Arkansas; and Mrs. Frances Henderson, of Danville. Levi, Alexander, John William II., Mary and Marinda are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Osman have one son, Alva H., who is now twenty-seven years of age and assists his father in his work.

Mr. Osman is now sixty-two years of age, but is as healthy and active as a man of forty, and he performs his duties as sexton in a manner which wins the approval of all. The grounds of the cemetery are well cared for by him and the plants, trees and shrubs, which are tastefully arranged, are the recipients of his watchful attention. He is an enthusiastic member of Charles A. Clark Post, G. A. R., of Ridge Farm, Illinois, and thus maintains pleasant relations with his old army comrades. He delights to indulge with them in reminiscences of that great struggle for the preservation of the Union, and he is, as is natural he should be, very proud of his war record. He is held

in the high regard and esteem of his fellow townsmen as is indicated by his long incumbency in his present position as sexton of Woodlawn cemetery.

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HON. JOSEPH G. CANNON.

[We have to thank Colonel W. R. Jewell the life long friend of Mr. Cannon, for the following sketch.]

Joseph G. Cannon, Republican, of Danville, was born at Guilford, North Carolina, May 7, 1836, is a lawyer; was state's attorney of Illinois from March, 1861, to December, 1868; was elected to the forty-third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, fiftieth, fifty-first, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and re-elected to the fifty-eighth, receiving twenty-two thousand nine hundred and forty-one votes to fifteen thousand two hundred and fifty-four for H. C. Bell, Democrat, and eleven hundred and sixty-six for N. J. Wright, Prohibitionist.

Such is the brief statement in the Congressional Directory of the fifty-seventh congress. This is characteristic of Mr. Cannon, who is modest beyond his merits and puts little value upon incidents of life. Being asked by a magazine writer for an autobiography, his reply was characteristic: "I was born of God-fearing and man-loving parents; I made myself and made a poor job of it." While Mr. Cannon so estimates himself it is well known that he was a sound acorn cast into good ground from the bough of a morally and physically healthy oak; that while his growth has been slow in the storm and stress of life, in the open, beneath the broad sky; yet his every fiber is of tough oak, fit for the keel of Old Ironsides; that he is now one of the tallest and grandest among American statesman. The appear-

ance of the man denotes his character. His features are strong, intelligent and firm. His eyes are blue, his hair light, and in youth his cheeks were ruddy, and he bordered on the handsome. Since maturity and a full development of strength his features have become as rugged as those of Abraham Lincoln, firm yet benevolent. Indeed, he belongs to the Lincoln type of man by birth, education and sentiment.

His father was Dr. Horace F. Cannon; his mother's maiden name was Gulielma Hollingsworth; both were of old Quaker families dating back through Revolutionary times to the days of George Fox. There was a noted Quaker preacher named Joseph John Gurney, who came from England as a missionary, and Dr. Cannon was selected to travel with him and thought so much of him that when the subject of this sketch was born he was named Joseph Gurney Cannon, which has been abridged into the familiar name of J. G. Cannon. Hence Mr. Cannon had a birthright in that church and from his youth up was trained in its simple, honest, noble principles, which have been, and are to-day, the solid foundation of his moral life and of his staunch Republicanism.

He grew to manhood on his father's farm, doing the ordinary work of farm boys of that day and attending districts schools in winter. Add to this a few terms in the academy of Professor Barnabas Hobbs, in Annapolis, Parke county, Indiana, and that is the sum of his school education. Yet he is a man of wide reading and full of information. In his fourteenth year his father in going to attend a patient had to ford Sugar creek, which was much swollen, and he and his faithful horse were drowned; his remains were never found, except a clavicle which his wife fondly kept and had buried



J. G. CANNON

with her body at Tuscola a few years ago.

After clerking in a store at Annapolis for five years at two hundred dollars a year, Joseph found that he had saved five hundred dollars and with this fortune he went to Terre Haute and studied law with John P. Usher, one of the best lawyers of the west; thence he went to the Cincinnati Law School. He had to economize, of course, and he knew how and determined to succeed. When his law course was finished he opened an office in Shelbyville, Illinois, where he became acquainted with such men as Judges Thornton, Moulton and others. His brother, William P. and his mother removed from Indiana to Tuscola and he joined them there and resumed the practice of his profession. He said to a friend, "I found the legal pasture very short and had plenty of time to study and I improved it. When I did get a little case I searched out all the authorities and went over it time and again with my imaginary opponent. I had a case at Urbana in those days and walked from Tuscola to that place, with my coat on my arm, because I could make wages walking."

At Tuscola he met Miss Mary Pamela Reed, who became his wife and whose counsel and keen intellect assisted him greatly in his career. Mrs. Cannon was a magnificent lady, elegantly educated, strong common sense, lofty ideals, and gave her husband a steady and powerful support during those days of struggle, and after he became successful in life. She died in Danville in December, 1889, deeply mourned by a wide circle of friends and especially by Mr. Cannon and his two daughters, Miss Helen Cannon and Mrs. Mabel Cannon LeSeure. Miss Helen, a noble and gifted lady, has

been his constant companion and helper since the death of her mother.

It was at Tuscola that Mr. Cannon had the first tussle with the foundation of his fortune. He told the story himself as follows: "We were as poor as church mice, we had to study strict economy. My mother, good economical Quaker soul, said to me, 'Joseph, now that thee is married thee must get thee a cow, a pig and a hive of bees.' I took mother's advice. I tried to milk the cow, but she kicked me over and I had to give that up as a bad job. I tried to feed the calf, but it butted me all around the yard and tore my clothes nearly off. When the bees were ready to swarm I thought I would go out among them like father used to do, and hive them; the bees got all over me, crawled under my shirt and stung me in a hundred different places and I had to let them go. The only thing I could get along with at all was the pig. I could feed that, scratch its back and it would grunt. I got it good and fat and gave it away to a farmer; why, I could no more kill and eat that hog than I could one of the members of my own family; I thought too much of it."

In 1861 Joseph decided to run for state's attorney against Ward H. Lamon, at one time Abraham Lincoln's law partner, afterward marshal of the District of Columbia and an officer of Lincoln's body guard. Lamon was quite popular and extensively known; Cannon was comparatively unknown. His friends tried to keep him from running but he had calculated and believed he could win. While living in Indiana he had attended the big yearly Quaker meetings in Vermilion Grove with his parents, traveling across the rough country in a farm

wagon. He knew every Quaker family of consequence in the region of Georgetown and Vermilion Grove. The mud was terrible, the streams were high and without bridges, but he swam his horse across them, went into the Quaker settlement, made a house to house visit, told them who he was and what he wanted. The good old people listened gravely and replied, "Yes, Joseph, we know thy good mother and father and will vote for thee." They were as good as their word and, to the surprise of every one, when the primary was over, Cannon was nominated by a good majority and subsequently elected. This office he held until 1868 and during the time became so well known that he ventured to run for congress.

In 1872 he made his first race for congress in the eleventh district, composed of the following counties: Champaign, Coles, Douglas, Macon, Piatt and Vermilion. His opponents in the convention which was held at Tolona, were General Jesse H. Moore, then serving in congress, Colonel J. W. Langley, of Champaign, and Colonel Lyman Grinnip, of Vermilion. On the first ballot Cannon had but four votes from Douglas. The voting proceeded with but little change but with much excitement to the thirty-eighth ballot, when Vermilion gave her eight votes to Cannon; Coles and Macon followed and the ballot stood Langley seven, Moore four and Cannon twenty-six. His nomination was made unanimous with thundering applause. He was called and made a modest speech in which he spoke so kindly of his opponents that he won them over. He was elected over his opponent Judge William E. Nelson, of Decatur by a large majority.

Mr. Cannon has been nominated every two years since 1872 and always by acclamation, and been re-elected each time by

good majorities except in 1890, the year of the great landslide, when McKinley and almost the whole line of Republican congressmen went down. The ablest men in the opposition have been his opponents, including the eloquent, accomplished and brave General John C. Black. That he has been nominated by acclamation since his first nomination testifies to his great political common sense and management.

The main elements of his strength are: 1st, His hard common sense. He is a genius of this type of men. He sees things as they are and knows how to meet them. 2d, His steadfast integrity. He never falsifies, prevaricates or shuffles. He makes few promises; he keeps those he makes. He never makes promises during a campaign. 3d, His knowledge of men. He knows men as the most skilled merchant knows fabric; by the slightest touch. 4th, His steadfastness to tried friends. He never uses a man to neglect him afterward. No man remembers services better and reciprocates more fully. 5th, By his fairness and kindness to opponents. He has no feuds with any who desire to be friendly. One has to be a fussy man and fuss by himself who continues to fuss with Mr. Cannon. He prefers to have men with him this year who were against him last year. 6th, By his natural democratic manners, which are ingrained. He is one of the people in act and speech. His conversation is full of homely illustrations from the fireside, the wayside, the shop. He enjoys a good joke and has a fund of anecdote rich and rare, which he tells as well as Joe Jefferson acts Rip Van Winkle. 7th, His power as a speaker. While not eloquent in word painting, yet he pours forth sound facts as a threshing machine pours forth clean golden grain where the yield has been an hundred fold. The substantial peo-

ple who do the thinking and mold sentiment hear him with rapt attention. His clear cut facts gleam like new golden coin in their minds. He will no more misquote statistics or facts than the pious preacher would misquote holy writ. Now and then in his speeches he will tell a funny anecdote, but the great body of what he has to say is solid, sound and goes to the soul of affairs. "What does Cannon say about it?" is in the mouths of his constituents when a new question of importance arises. Long since they have come to trust in his knowledge and integrity for they know he is no demagogue or trifler but a real statesman. 8th, His eminent ability as a legislator. It is useless to enlarge on this. He is honest, faithful, forceful in congress. His political opponents acknowledge this. Mr. Cannon does not speak often in Congress; but when he speaks he has the closest attention on account of the matter of what he says. He is one of the few members in the house who instruct the members, and in whose statements they have confidence. "He is the ablest man in either branch on business statistics," is what Speaker Reed and other members have said. During the stormy days of the '80s and '90s Reed, McKinley and Cannon were the big three who, as committee on rules and as leaders, fought and won great parliamentary battles. His long and able service, his generous nature and his eminent ability as a parliamentarian, has made him speaker of the next house (the fifty-eighth Congress) by the unanimous choice of the Republican members.

Mr. Cannon is strictly domestic. His house is a large, substantial brick, 418 North Vermilion street, Danville, presided over by his stately daughter, Mrs. Ernest N. LeSeure. Here, in his great library, he spends

much of his leisure time and with his two beautiful grandchildren whom he loves and spoils, little Virginia and Helen LeSeure, while from its golden frame, with love-lit smile of wife and grandmother, looks down the gracious face of the noble woman with whom he made life's morning march, when their bosoms were young, and whom he often sees in his visions and dreams.

JAMES A. FLEMING.

This is pre-eminently the age of business activity. In no era in the world's history has energy been so entirely directed in the channels of trade, of commerce, of production, purchase and sale. Each community presents as its representative citizens men prominent in business circles and in Danville among this number is James A. Fleming, who is to-day at the head of the Fairweight Standard Scale Company. He was born in Stark county, Illinois, July 28, 1860. His grandfather, John Fleming, was born in New York, but comes of a family that doubtless originated in Flanders, France, where the people are known as Flemish and undoubtedly because of this the name Fleming originated. The more immediate ancestors of our subject, however, were residents of Ireland and from the Emerald Isle came to America, founding the family in New York. The grandfather married a Miss Hibbler and for a time they resided in Canada.

A. H. Fleming, the father of our subject, was born in Canada and lived for a time in New Jersey, but when twenty-one years of age he came to Illinois, settling in Stark county, in 1856. There he married Miss Catherine McIntosh, a native of that locali-

ty, and they lived upon a farm there until the fall of 1872, when they removed to Troquois county, Illinois, residing there continuously until 1880 with the exception of one year spent in Nebraska and in Iowa. In 1883 Mr. Fleming took up his abode in the vicinity of Hoopeston, Vermilion county, and in 1895 located in the town, where he engaged in the real estate and insurance business. He is now living there and is a respected and worthy citizen. A Republican in politics he has never sought or desired office, but is always interested in the progress and welfare of his county, state and nation. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is serving as a trustee. His wife died May 24, 1890, and two of their seven children have passed away. The five now living are: James A.; William A., of Milford, Illinois; Enoch, of Hoopeston; Allen T., of Peoria; and Charles W., who is a mail clerk and resides in Paducah, Kentucky.

James A. Fleming pursued his education in Stark county and in Troquois county and as an attendant of the schools of Milford. He then entered the Grand Prairie Seminary, at Onarga, Illinois, after which he pursued a course in the commercial college there and was graduated in 1882. For seven years thereafter he resided upon a farm, which he continued to cultivate and improve and later he was employed by the Elgin National Watch Company a short time. He was also in the service of the Western Publishing Company of Chicago for a year and a half and later became local salesman for the firm of H. Hartman & Company, dealers in scales, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. He also sold windmills, his territory being the state of Illinois, and he continued in that business until 1896. In March, of that year, Mr. Fleming established the Fair-

weight Scale Company, which was incorporated June 14, 1900, for the manufacture of farm, elevator, stock and small platform scales. The business has grown to large proportions and the product is now shipped to every state in the Union. Mr. Fleming is the president and treasurer of the company, while F. A. Fleming is its secretary. The factory is located at No. 22-23-24 Franklin street, but in the spring of 1903 the company intend to build a large modern factory to be thoroughly equipped with the latest machinery and accessories. They paid thirteen thousand five hundred dollars for a tract of land, which has been subdivided and is now known as the Fairweight Standard Scale Company's Subdivision. The lots have been placed on the market and have already secured a good sale. Mr. Fleming retains possession of two of these on which he expects soon to erect a fine residence.

On the 25th of December, 1890, occurred the marriage of our subject and Florence Padgitt, who was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, in 1860, a daughter of John L. and Elizabeth (Heaton) Padgitt, who were natives of Ohio and were married in that state. Her father engaged in the pottery business until 1871, when he removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, and here began farming. He was a Republican in politics and was a loyal member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In the family were three daughters of whom the living are: Mrs. Fleming and Belle, the wife of Robert Brillhart, who resides near Knoxville, in Marion county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Fleming now have three children: Charles Irving Eugene, born in Hoopeston, April 1, 1892; Edith Leora, born in Hoopeston, March 17, 1895; and Florence Louise, born in Danville, July 29, 1899. Mr. Fleming gives his political support to the Republican party,

but while he believes firmly in its principles he has always refused to become a candidate for office. He holds membership relations with the Modern Woodmen of America and in the Methodist Episcopal church and cooperates heartily in every movement which he believes will contribute to the general welfare. His own life history is one of progression for he has continually advanced from the time when he completed his commercial course of study and entered upon his business career. He has watched every opportunity to take a forward step and has utilized them as they have been presented and through his unfaltering industry and persistency of purpose he has continually worked his way upward until he now occupies a leading position in industrial circles of his adopted city.

GEORGE W. HOSKINS.

George Washington Hoskins is numbered among the native sons of Vermilion county and has reached the seventy-third mile-stone on life's journey. He was born three and one-half miles southwest of Georgetown near the little Vermilion river, February 20, 1830, and at the present time he resides on section 7, Blount township. His father, Azariah Hoskins, was born in Virginia, August 17, 1799, and leaving that state emigrated to Illinois, starting from what is called the horseshoe bend of the Ohio river. This was about 1825. His uncle Morgan, building a boat in which to travel, they made their way down the Ohio river to Cairo. This was a flatboat and in consequence they had to float with the tide. On reaching Cairo they left the boat and by covered wagon came to Vermilion county,

after several weeks spent upon the road. The father of our subject settled on what was called Helt's prairie and later he removed to the vicinity of Georgetown, settling in the edge of the timber. He married Sarah Swisher and they lived in a district where the Indians were numerous and where the work of development and improvement seemed scarcely begun. Mr. Hoskins of this review has often heard his mother relate how Indians visited their home at the time of the Black Hawk war. The country was all in a wild state when the father purchased a tract of land, in 1831, and settled on the south side of what is known as Walnut Grove, where the prosperous village of Rossville now stands. When he took up his abode at that place there was only one family living in the entire grove and only one white family resided between that place and Chicago. The city of the present day was but little more than a fort which was garrisoned for protection against Indians. Azariah Hoskins hauled wheat to Chicago at that time, selling it for fifty cents per bushel, after which he would return with a load of provisions and when night overtook him he would camp out by the road, waiting for the morning light in order to resume his journey. It was nothing then to have both horses stuck in the mud, for there were many sloughs and the district was very wet. The Kankakee and Iroquois rivers had to be forded and from the Kankakee across the prairie for eighteen miles there was not a single house. Danville had only one store in it at that time. Mrs. Hoskins spun the flax and wool to make the clothing for the family for summer and winter use and the subject of this review never had a suit of anything but homemade clothing until he was twenty years of age, when he purchased some cloth, hired a tailor to cut it and em-

ployed a neighbor woman to make it. In these pioneer days there were no matches and the settlers used to pick punk in the timber and use flint and tow in starting a fire. If their own fires were extinguished they would often go to a neighbor to borrow fire. In these early days corn sold for ten cents per bushel and other crops brought prices fully as low. Houses were lighted with tallow candles, which were made by dipping a wick into melted tallow. After this was allowed to cool it was again dipped into the hot tallow and the process continued until the candle had reached the required size. Later, candle moulds were made prior to the time when kerosene came into use. Ofttimes candles were fastened to the bushes in the forest and around these the early settlers gathered for the purpose of worshipping God, for religious services were held in the groves before churches were erected. Later a log building was used both for church and school purposes and about 1840 a frame house of worship was erected in this neighborhood. The girls would carry their shoes to church, putting them on just before entering the building and removing them immediately after the service, thus practicing economy. The church was a united one, all denominations worshipping there, but to some extent the people were bothered by the Mormons, for Joseph Smith with his band of followers had not then left this state for Utah. Azariah Hoskins was a prominent and influential man in his community and took an active part in the pioneer development of the state. He died in his seventy-fifth year and his wife passed away in her ninety-first year. In the family were eight children, of whom six sons reached manhood and five are yet living between the ages of sixty-two and seventy-two years. All have reared large families

and there are thirty-six grandchildren and eighty-three great-grandchildren.

George Washington Hoskins was educated in a log schoolhouse with slab benches and a huge fireplace. Upon the home farm he was reared and assisted largely in the work of developing and cultivating the place. The first plow which he used had a wooden mold board and when he was eighteen years of age he used a plow with a single shovel made by the blacksmith of the community. When he became a factor in the fields reap hooks were just being done away with and the cradle just coming into use and he has cradled grain many a time for a dollar per day. He has also split two hundred rails in a single day receiving fifty cents for his work. He can also remember distinctly the old crane which hung over the fireplace and from it was suspended the iron kettles in which the dinner was prepared. This was, however, a great improvement upon the old method of cooking in the ashes and when the cook stoves were introduced it was regarded as a most wonderful thing. Hospitality in those days reigned supreme and whole families would go on a visit to one of the neighbors. On the 7th of June, 1867, George W. Hoskins purchased his father's farm and has remained here continuously since. He has also added to his landed possessions and he now owns three hundred and forty acres of the best improved land of the county, all fenced and supplied with modern equipments. He broke one hundred and twenty-three acres of prairie and made the rails with which to fence his place, going from eight to ten miles in order to secure the timber and then hauling the rails to his home.

Mr. Hoskins was married April 2, 1854, to Mary E. Gritton, who was born in Parke

county, Indiana, January 29, 1831, and came to this county when ten years of age. Her parents were Amos and Elizabeth (Holt) Gritton, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of North Carolina. After his marriage Mr. Hoskins settled upon a farm in Ross township for which he paid six dollars per acre, there remaining until he purchased his father's old homestead. When he began housekeeping his uncle vouched for the payment of a set of chairs and a breakfast table to furnish the little log cabin. The first cupboard was made by boring holes into the wall with an auger and then upon wooden pins placing boards which would hold the dishes. Later he secured two boxes and, putting them on a block, a curtain was hung in front and thus a cupboard was made.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hoskins have been born nine children, one being still born while another died at the age of seven months and a third died at the age of thirteen years. They reared and educated six of their children, all of whom married and settled within six miles of the old homestead. These are: George R., who wedded Alice Fairchild; William C., who wedded Mary Hall; Theodore A., who married Carrie Huffman; John W., who married Mary E. Huffman; Sarah E., the deceased wife of Elijah Potter; and Harriet B., who became the wife of Henry Potter. Both of these men were sons of William H. Potter, an honored pioneer of Vermilion county now in his eighty-seventh year. Mr. and Mrs. Hoskins have twenty-five grandchildren and there were five great-grandchildren, four of whom are yet living.

Mr. Hoskins has served as tax collector and as school director and has been identified with the building of the schools and churches of this locality. Since 1876 he has been closely identified with the Church of Christ and has served as an elder for many

years, while formerly he was a trustee. In politics he has always been a Democrat, earnest in his advocacy of the party. Both he and his wife belong to the Old Settlers Association of Potomac and have attended many reunions. In every sense of the word he has been one of the upbuilders of the county which he has seen developed from a wilderness to a district of highly cultivated farms and thriving towns and cities. Few of the native sons of the county have so long resided within its borders as Mr. Hoskins and his life has ever been exemplary and may well serve as a source of inspiration and encouragement to others.

JOHN MAYHUGH.

John Mayhugh is living on section 10, Butler township, and is a representative of the farming and stock-raising interests of this portion of Vermilion county and he is well known. His farm here comprises one hundred and sixty acres of rich land near East Lynn. He was born in Mason county, Kentucky, near the Ohio river, December 23, 1833. His father, Fielding Mayhugh, was a native of Virginia, where the family had been established at an early day. When a young man Fielding Mayhugh removed to Kentucky, where he was married to Jane Dixon, a native of Mason county. He then devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits and it was upon the home farm there that the subject of this review was reared to manhood, early becoming familiar with the work of field and meadow, as he assisted his father in the cultivation of the home place. After his father's death he and his elder brothers carried on the farm for a number of years and subsequently John Mayhugh pur-

chased a farm in Fleming county, Kentucky, continuing its development and improvement for some time.

It was in the month of October, 1867, in Mason county, Kentucky, that Mr. Mayhugh was united in marriage to Miss Alice Dye, who was born and reared in that state. He carried on his farming interests in Fleming county until 1877, in which year he removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, purchasing a farm upon which he now resides. This place was fairly well improved, but he has since laid many rods of tiling and has further cultivated his land until it is now very rich and productive, being a pleasing feature in the agricultural landscape. He has since bought one hundred and sixty acres on section 4, an improved farm which he owns in addition to the home place on section 10, Butler township.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Mayhugh was blessed with five children: Edwin, who is operating his father's land on section 4, Butler township; Isaac, who is a graduate of the Philadelphia Medical College and is now engaged in the practice of medicine in Indianapolis, Indiana; Thomas G., who has recently completed a course of study in the Michigan University at Ann Arbor, having graduated in the class of 1902; Mary and Martha, who are at home and are graduates of the high school at Indianapolis.

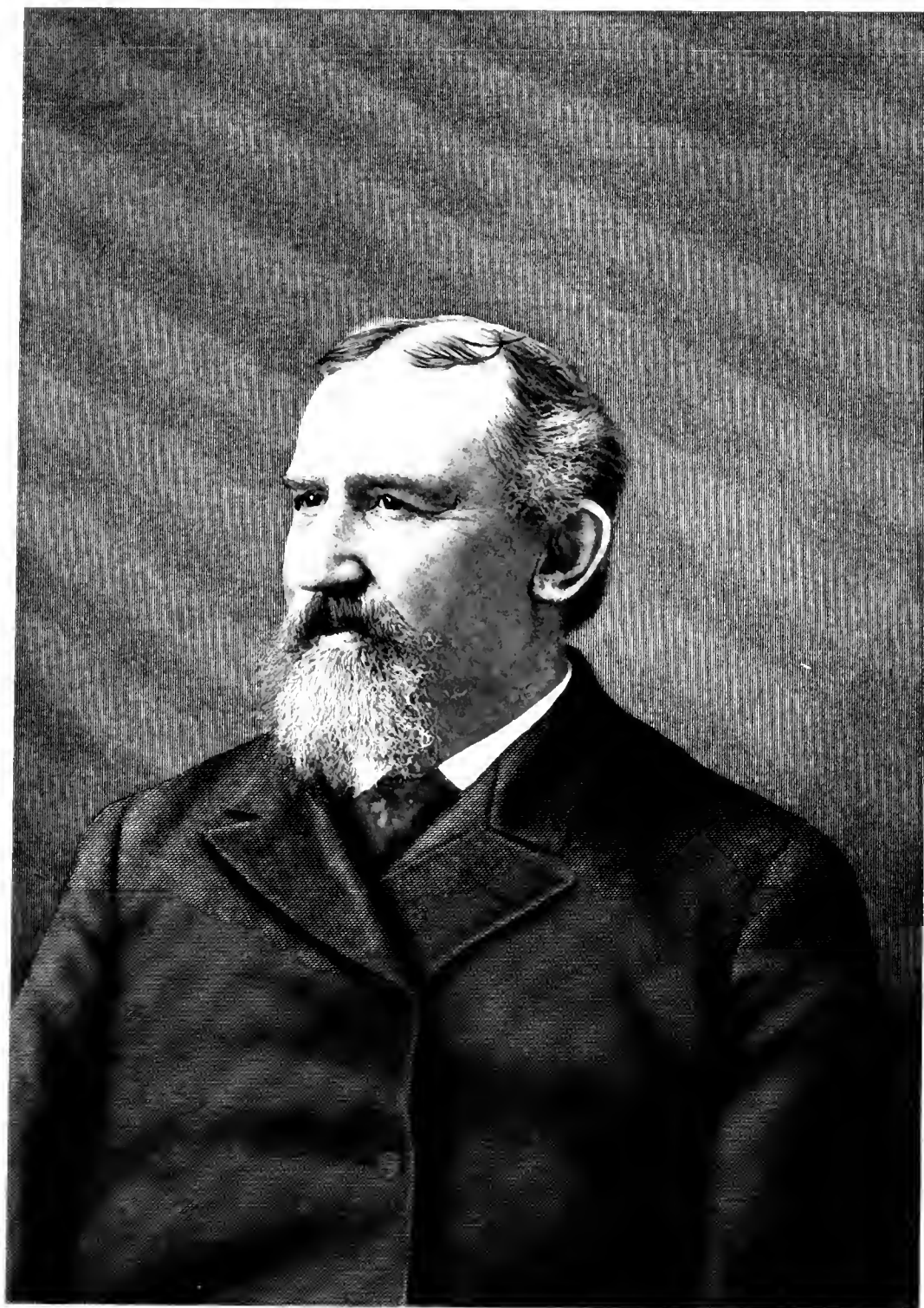
In his political affiliations Mr. Mayhugh is independent. His first vote was cast for James Buchanan in 1856, his last for William McKinley in 1900, but he does not consider himself bound by party ties. He has been elected and served for one year as township collector of Butler township, but the honors and emoluments of public office have had no attraction for him. A friend of education he stands as an earnest advocate of good schools and for years he capably served

as a school director. He has for about thirty years been a devoted and loyal member of the Christian church and his aid and influence are given in support of every measure which he believes will contribute to the general good and to the uplifting of his fellow men. Mrs. Mayhugh, who was also a faithful member of that church, died on the 1st of February, 1903, and was laid to rest in East Lynn cemetery. Mr. Mayhugh has led a life of industry and enterprise and since coming to Vermilion county he has been connected with the work of development and improvement here, a work that has wrought a wonderful transformation evolving the county from a district of swamps and sloughs into a splendid agricultural community.



A. G. PHELPS DODGE.

A capitalist, now living a retired life in Danville, A. G. Phelps Dodge is an honored resident of the city and one who has deep interest in her welfare and progress. Since attaining his majority his active cooperation has been a helpful factor along lines of advancement in every portion of the country in which he has lived. His name figured very prominently also in business circles through a considerable period and his influence has been felt in political circles, and yet Mr. Dodge has never sought to figure conspicuously before the public in any light, content to devote his time to the supervision of his invested interests and to give his attention to a consideration of the momentous questions which are shaping the trend of American history. He is, however, a man of broad humanitarian principles and of deep human sympathy and those who have had occasion to gain an in-



A. C. P. Dodge.

sight into this side of his nature speak of him in terms of highest praise.

Mr. Dodge was born in New York city, August 25, 1834. His ancestral history is one of close and long connection with the early annals of America and back through several centuries in England can the records be found which tell of the connection of his ancestry with affairs of importance on the "merrie isle." A patent, bearing date of April 8, 1306, states that "Peter Dodge, gentleman of the town of Stopworth, county of Chester, England," did such loyal and valiant service for his sovereign, Edward I, that he and his heirs forever were entitled to "have, enjoy and use" a coat-of-arms. Cheshire was the original English home of the family. The first ancestor in America was William Dodge, who arrived in Salem, Massachusetts, July 10, 1629, and he was known by the title of "Mr." which was conferred only upon persons of prominence and moral worth. From William Dodge and his brother Richard have sprung families to be found in almost every state of the Union, and the representatives of the name have won honor in the various wars of the country, have gained distinction in various walks of life and have recorded their opinion upon the legislative history of the states and the congressional records of the nation. It would be to intrench upon the pages of history to give a detailed account of the public service of the distinguished members of the family. One of the most eminent men of the nation, however, was the father of Anson G. Phelps Dodge, who was a well known philanthropist and merchant of New York city; also member of congress for a number of years from that state.

A. G. Phelps Dodge came to Danville in 1886 and was married to Miss Rose

Voorhees, a daughter of Peter and Mary Voorhees. He is now living a retired business man, but has contributed to the real estate interests of Danville and to the improvement of the city. In former years he was largely interested in the lumber business, both in Canada and the United States. For nine years he was a resident of Canada and during that time served as a member of parliament in 1872 and 1873. He is a man of considerable wealth—large-hearted and generous. Of broad education and extensive knowledge, of innate culture and breadth of view, his personality has gained him friends wherever he has gone. He occupies an attractive home in Danville and from this point supervises his invested interests, while enjoying with his wife the companionship of a large social acquaintance.

AMOS SMITH WILLIAMS.

So prominently and actively was Amos Smith Williams connected with the business activity and substantial development of Danville that no history of the state would be complete without mention of his career. He was born here, August 22, 1831, a son of Amos Williams, who was of German ancestry and who came to Vermilion county at an early date. The father was one of a family of five children. He came to Vermilion county at an early date in its upbuilding and development and, settling in the village of Danville, took an active and helpful part in the work of early improvement. He was also prominent as a leader in political affairs, held almost every office within the gift of the people of the county, was one of the early surveyors, also served as county clerk and was the first postmaster of Danville.

In his family were six children: Maria Louise, born at Butler Point, Vermilion county, February 22, 1827; Benjamin Franklin, born in Danville, April 19, 1820; Amos S., who was the third in order of birth; Charlotte E., born in Danville, December 30, 1833; Mary Julie, born in this city, January 12, 1836; and Enoch A., born here July 15, 1838.

Amos S. Williams of this review acquired early education in the schools of Vermilion county and continued his studies in Paris, Illinois. At an early age he became interested in business as a hardware merchant. He spent seven years in California and upon his return to Illinois opened a hardware store. He was afterward engaged in the queensware and coal business extensively for a number of years, but his last years were spent in honorable retirement from labor. His carefully managed mercantile interests had brought to him a handsome competence. He was also associated with many other important business affairs of the city—enterprises, which not only promoted his individual success but also contributed to the general prosperity. He possessed keen discernment and was quick to recognize business opportunities and whatever he undertook he carried forward to successful completion. He was instrumental in establishing and conducting the Iron Wagon Works, one of the early factories of the city, also the Starch Works and a box factory, and he was the vice-president of the first street car company organized in Danville. All his efforts thus led to the substantial upbuilding and improvement of the city. He possessed indomitable enterprise, marked sagacity and reliable business judgment and these qualities proved of great benefit in carrying on enterprises of general worth. At the same time his carefully conducted affairs brought

to him a splendid financial return and in the closing years of his life he was enabled to enjoy a well merited rest, surrounded by all of the comforts and many of the luxuries which go to make life worth the living.

On the 15th of February, 1860, Mr. Williams was married to Miss Sarah Jane, a daughter of George Greyson, and a native of Danville, born October 19, 1835. Her father came to Vermilion county as one of its early pioneer settlers and died when his daughter was only seven weeks old. He was of English birth and in early life crossed the Atlantic to America. A gentleman of sterling worth, of strong individuality and marked strength of character, he commanded the regard and confidence of all with whom he was associated. In his family were five children, but only two are now living. Both Mr. and Mrs. Greyson were devoted members of the Methodist church.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Williams was blessed with five children, of whom one died in infancy. The others are: Lennie, born April 25, 1862; Ernest, who was born November 5, 1864, and died July 18, 1873; Victor, born May 20, 1868; and Carroll, born April 27, 1871.

Mr. Williams was a member of the Methodist church in early years and in later life became an active member of the Episcopalian church, contributing liberally to its support and doing all in his power to advance its growth and upbuilding. In politics he was a Democrat, never faltering in his allegiance to the party. He was one of the promoters of business interests, of educational and religious work in Danville and thus contributed in a very large measure to the improvement and progress of the city. He wrought along lines of the greatest good to the greatest number and his life was so honorable and upright that it commanded for him the

unqualified confidence and respect of all with whom he was brought in contact. He died one the 14th of February, 1891, and Danville mourned the loss of one of its valued citizens. His career was a long, busy and useful one and although he was earnest and active in business he never allowed the pursuit of wealth to warp his kindly nature, being to the end of his life a genial friend, one whom it was a pleasure to know and meet under any circumstance. By his usefulness and general benevolence he created a memory whose perpetuation does not depend upon brick or stone but upon the spontaneous and freewill offering of the grateful and enlightened people.

EDWARD C. ABDILL.

Edward C. Abdill was born May 14, 1840, a son of Irad and Rebecca Ann (Watson) Abdill, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Kentucky. In their family were four sons who reached maturity. The father was a hardware merchant, carrying on business along that line in Indiana for a number of years.

Edward C. Abdill was reared under the parental roof, pursuing his education in the public schools. He was a young man of only twenty-one years, when the Civil war broke out, but he had watched with interest the progress of events in the south, noted the dissatisfaction in the southern states on account of the growing opposition to the slavery system and he resolved that if an attempt was made to overthrow the Union he would strike a blow in its defense. The war cloud gathered over the land and on the 15th of August, 1861, Mr. Abdill carried out his determination to become a soldier, join-

ing the boys in blue of Company B, Eleventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under the command of Colonel Lew (afterward General) Wallace. With his regiment he participated in a number of important engagements, including the battles of Fort Henry and Fort Donelson, two of the most hotly contested engagements in the early part of the war. He was detailed for special mail service, having charge of the mails and dispatches at General Grant's headquarters. This service he rendered so efficiently that in December, 1863, he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant and adjutant of the One Hundred and Twentieth Indiana Infantry. After the fall of Vicksburg he was designated by General Grant to bear to the north the official dispatches announcing the great victory. Not long after this Mr. Abdill was assigned to duty as assistant adjutant general of the First Brigade, First Division, Twenty-third Army Corps. He took part in the battle of Vicksburg and the Atlanta campaign and at length was discharged on account of disability, in August, 1864. His was a most creditable and honorable military record, in which he won continuous promotion by meritorious conduct upon the field of battle.

Mr. Abdill came to Illinois at the close of the war in 1865 and located in Fairmount, where he established a hardware business, conducting it for three years. In 1868 he removed to Danville and entered into partnership with his older brother under the firm name of Abdill Brothers, dealers in hardware. This enterprise was continued successfully up to the time of his death. His business career was a creditable one, because of his fidelity to correct business principles, his unquestioned honesty and his earnest desire to please his patrons. These qualities also contributed to his success, winning for him a handsome competence.

During the period of the war Mr. Abdill was married on the 13th of August, 1863, to Anna, daughter of Joseph Peters, one of the honored pioneers of Danville, who came to this city in 1833. He made his way here an entire stranger. He had no capital and was without influential friends or acquaintances at this place, and from an obscure position he arose to one of eminence, leaving the ranks of the many to stand among the successful few. Soon after his arrival he took up the study of law and in order to support himself while pursuing his law studies he engaged in driving a team and followed other occupations that would yield him an honest living. During this time he devoted all of his leisure to the mastery of jurisprudence and eventually was admitted to the bar. He then entered upon the practice of his profession and soon gave proof of his marked ability as a lawyer. He was strong in argument, logical in his deductions and prosecuted his cases with great clearness. His devotion to his clients' interests was proverbial and he prepared his cases with great thoroughness. At an early age, such was his marked ability in his profession that he was elected county judge of Vermilion county and served two terms. Other public honors were conferred upon him, including election to the office of state senator, and he left the impress of his individuality upon the legislation enacted during his membership in the upper house. While serving in the senate he contracted a cold which greatly undermined his health. He went to Denver, Colorado, hoping that he would be benefited by the change but it was of no avail and he died at the comparatively early age of forty-seven years. In his political affiliations he was a Republican. He studied closely the questions and issues of the day and had a statesman's grasp of public affairs. Christi-

amty was also one of the motive powers of his life and he was known as a consistent and faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Henrietta Blakely, was a native of Kentucky and died in Danville at the age of fifty-six years. In their family were four children, who reached adult age.

The marriage of our subject and his wife was blessed with four children, all of whom are yet living: Charles P., who is now the senior member of the hardware firm, controlling the business which was established by his father; Mrs. Bertha English, who is a resident of Memphis, Tennessee; Catherine; and Henry B.

Mr. Abdill was very prominent in public affairs, being well fitted for leadership, because of his strong individuality, his marked patriotism and his desire for the good of the county rather than for self-aggrandizement. In politics he was a strong Republican. He was officially connected with the Spring Hill Cemetery Association as its secretary and treasurer. He was a member of the Loyal Legion and was largely interested in locating the Soldiers' monument at this place, contributing generously to the work, as well as becoming a champion of the cause. He was largely instrumental in building the Vermilion County Hospital, served as one of its trustees, also as president of the board of directors, was likewise overseer of the building, and served on various committees connected with its successful conduct. He held membership in the Kimber Methodist Episcopal church and to his efforts was largely due the erection of the present house of worship. A deep feeling of sadness spread throughout Danville when it was announced that Edward C. Abdill had passed from this life, but while those who knew him remain his memory will be cherished, not

so much on account of the splendid success which he achieved in business, not because he contributed to the improvement of the city and promoted the commercial activity, although these would make him worthy to be long remembered, but because of his life of helpfulness and good cheer, of broad sympathy and his deep interest in and labors for the benefit of his fellow men. His nature was so kindly and genial that he won not merely regard but that deeper feeling which, call it friendship or love, binds man in close relations to his fellow men in ties which naught can sever. Thus it was that Danville has seldom so widely and sincerely mourned the loss of one of her residents. For thirty-six years he was closely associated with her history and many of his friends, in thought at least, have breathed the sentiment

"He was a man, take him for all in all,
I shall not look upon his like again."

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L. C. NORRIS.

Since the year 1872, L. C. Norris has been a resident of Vermilion county and today is numbered among the leading and influential men of Hoopston. He was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, on the 8th of May, 1846, his parents being Eden and Eliza (Cress) Norris, both of whom are natives of the Keystone state, the father of English descent while the mother was of German lineage. Our subject comes of good old Revolutionary stock, his great-grandfather, Colonel Upton, having commanded a regiment in the war for independence. The father of our subject was quite prominent in political affairs, exerted a strong influence in behalf of what he be-

lieved to be for the welfare of his community and for two terms he served as clerk of the court. In the family were ten children, seven sons and three daughters, those still living being Basil H., a resident of Canton, Ohio; Mary E., who is living in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and L. C.

At the age of seventeen years L. C. Norris began to earn his own livelihood. He had pursued a common school education and it was his intention to gain a collegiate education, but events forced him to give up this plan. At the outbreak of the Civil war two of his brothers, Thomas C. and Wesley, enlisted for service in the United States Army and each remained at the front for three years. L. C. Norris was the only son who remained at home and there he did patriotic service, acting as fifer for three different companies that were raised in Gettysburg. It was this which rendered his collegiate course impossible, but he put aside his own interests in behalf of his country and his martial music awakened the echoes among the mountains which were the witnesses of one of the most sanguinary conflicts which as ever occurred in the history of the world. At the age of nineteen Mr. Norris learned the carpenter's trade. Later he followed farming for two years and then resumed carpentering which he has carried on continuously since, and today he is one of the leading contractors and builders of Hoopston. In the year 1872 he moved from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, to this town, which has been his home continuously since. He has been constantly associated with building interests in Hoopston and in the vicinity, and has erected as many as two hundred buildings in this place, including the homes of A. C. Sibbett, A. Honeywell, Mrs. Thomas Kite, George Clark, John Leod, Mrs. A. C. Sibbett, and Jacob Decker.

In the country he also erected the residences of Henry Fritz, Mr. Ripley, and of Messrs. Thurman and Simon Graves, Miles Odle, Jack Holmes, Hanson Leod, and John Harmon. He has also taken and executed the contracts for several schoolhouses and churches, including the Christian Science church, which he erected at a cost of seven thousand dollars. He has done considerable contract work outside of the county and he employs from two to fifteen men during the season.

In Littlestown, Pennsylvania, in October, 1868, Mr. Norris was united in marriage to Miss Amanda Lightner, who was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, March 22, 1847. In her parents' family were five children: Ed, Calvin, Newton, William, and Amanda. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Norris have been born the following children: Harry L., who wedded Mary Fellows and is engaged in general merchandising in Burlington, Indiana; Maude B., the wife of A. C. Sibbett, an extensive land owner of Hoopeston who has eleven hundred and forty-six acres of land in Illinois and Missouri; Mabel C., the wife of William Ferguson, who is manager of the branch board of trade of Hoopeston; Ernest E., who holds a good position with the Southern Railroad at Washington, D. C.; Ethel L. and Zoe Juanita, at home. Mr. Norris has provided all the children with good educational privileges and with the exception of the youngest two all are graduates of the high school. In his political affiliations our subject is a Republican and socially is connected with the Knights of Pythias. The family stands very high in Hoopeston and our subject and his wife hold membership in the Christian church, while Mrs. Norris also belongs to the Ladies Aid Society. The true western spirit of progress and enterprise are mani-

fest in the career of our subject whose progress from a humble financial position to one of affluence is marked. Viewed from any standpoint his life may be said to be a success—and it is the success not merely of the man who prosecutes a prosperous industrial life intent only upon winning wealth, but that of a man who advances public good in promoting individual prosperity. The insight into the character of a representative American never fails to offer much of pleasing interest and valuable instruction, and the life of Mr. Norris certainly furnishes food for deep and profitable thought.

ANDREW SCHARIO.

This gentleman was for several years a well known and highly respected citizen of Danville, holding the position of chief engineer in Wright's Flouring Mill. He was a native of New York, his birth having occurred in Dansville, Livingston county, that state, on the 6th of May, 1841. His father, Peter Schario, was born in Germany, where he followed the occupation of a stationary engineer until his emigration to America. After spending some time in Canada, he removed to Buffalo, New York, and later to Dansville, that state, where he continued to make his home until called to his final rest. He did not follow his trade after coming to this country.

While young Andrew Schario learned the business of a stationary engineer under his father's direction, and obtained a good practical education in the schools of Buffalo, New York. Later he followed his chosen occupation in Waterloo, Canada, and St. Louis, Missouri, remaining at the latter place only a short time, however. He next

went to Perrysville, Indiana, where he worked at the same occupation, being employed as engineer in a flouring mill there for nine years.

In the meantime Mr. Schario was married at that place to Miss Catherine Manges, who was born in Dayton, Ohio, in 1848, and is a daughter of Charles Manges, a native of Pennsylvania. At an early day her father removed to Eugene, Indiana where he worked at the carpenter's trade for some time and then came to Vermilion county, Illinois, settling near the village of Humrick, where he purchased a small farm. In connection with the operation of his land he continued to work at his trade throughout the remainder of his life. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Schario was born but one child, John F., who married Miss Annie Kumpt and resides in St. Louis, Missouri. While living in Danville he was employed as fireman on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad for several years, but is now round house foreman for the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company at St. Louis. Mrs. Schario also has a son, Leo Schario, who was born January 7, 1888, and is a son of her husband's deceased brother, John Schario.

The subject of this review continued to reside in Eugene, Indiana, until 1873, when he came to Danville, Illinois, and entered the Wright's Flouring Mill as engineer. He was soon afterward promoted to chief engineer and Mr. Wright gave him full charge of his department. He put in a new Corliss engine and made many needed improvements in the plant, continuing to hold that responsible position until his death, which occurred on the 28th of March, 1887.

In his political views Mr. Schario was a stalwart Democrat. He was an active and prominent member of St. Patrick's Catholic church of Danville and of the Catholic

Knights of America, being president of the society in Danville at the time of his death. He was always a hard working, energetic man, very devoted to his family, and true to every trust reposed in him. He left his widow in comfortable circumstances, she being the owner of a nice home at No. 701 Collett street and other property at the corner of North and Hayes streets and at the corner of Commercial and Buchanan streets. In the care of the estate Mrs. Schario has displayed good business and executive ability, and she is a lady who makes many warm friends, being held in high regard by all who know her.

WILLIAM T. HANSON.

Prominent among the leading and well known residents of Vermilion county is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch, now living on a neat and well cultivated farm of sixty acres one-half mile north of the old homestead on which his wife was reared. Mr. Hanson was born in Putnam county, West Virginia, October 9, 1852, and was reared and educated in that county. He is a son of James and Mary J. (Minos) Hanson, both natives of Virginia. In 1872 Mr. Hanson, being then twenty years of age, removed from Virginia to Indiana, working there by the month for four years. He then came to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1876, and for the first two years worked by the month for Edward Rouse.

On the 4th of July, 1878, Mr. Hanson was united in marriage to Mary Ann Rouse, a daughter of Edward Rouse, a prominent pioneer of Vermilion county, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Her mother

bore the maiden name of Minerva Martin. Mrs. Hanson was born on the old homestead, April 23, 1857. Mr. Hanson rented his present place of residence for four years after his marriage and then purchased the place. It comprised sixty acres and was all in timber land. This he has tilled, cleared and improved until it is one of the model farms of the county. He has also added to his landed possessions as his capital has increased until now he owns one hundred and fifty acres of improved land, nearly all of section 30, Newell township. He raises his own cattle and horses, which are of a good grade. He and his wife have been thrifty, ambitious and energetic and through their united efforts have acquired a very comfortable competence, which enables them to enjoy many of the comforts and luxuries of life. When they first settled on the farm they lived in a two-room house, but Mr. Hanson has since built a substantial home, which is pleasing to the eye and affords a place of rest and enjoyment to the owners. The hospitality of the home is extended to many friends, and Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are popular and honored residents of Newell township.

Their marriage has been blessed with five children: Virginia Agnes, born on the home farm, April 8, 1878, married William B. Canine, who was born in Indiana, July 6, 1873, their marriage being celebrated October 11, 1899. He is a son of Montgomery and Celia (Russell) Canine, natives of Montgomery and Parke counties, Indiana, respectively. Mr. Canine came to Vermilion county in 1899 and he and his wife reside about one mile from the old homestead on which the latter was reared. They are the parents of one daughter, Celia Hanson Canine, the only great-grandchild of Edward Rouse. Mr. and Mrs. Canine

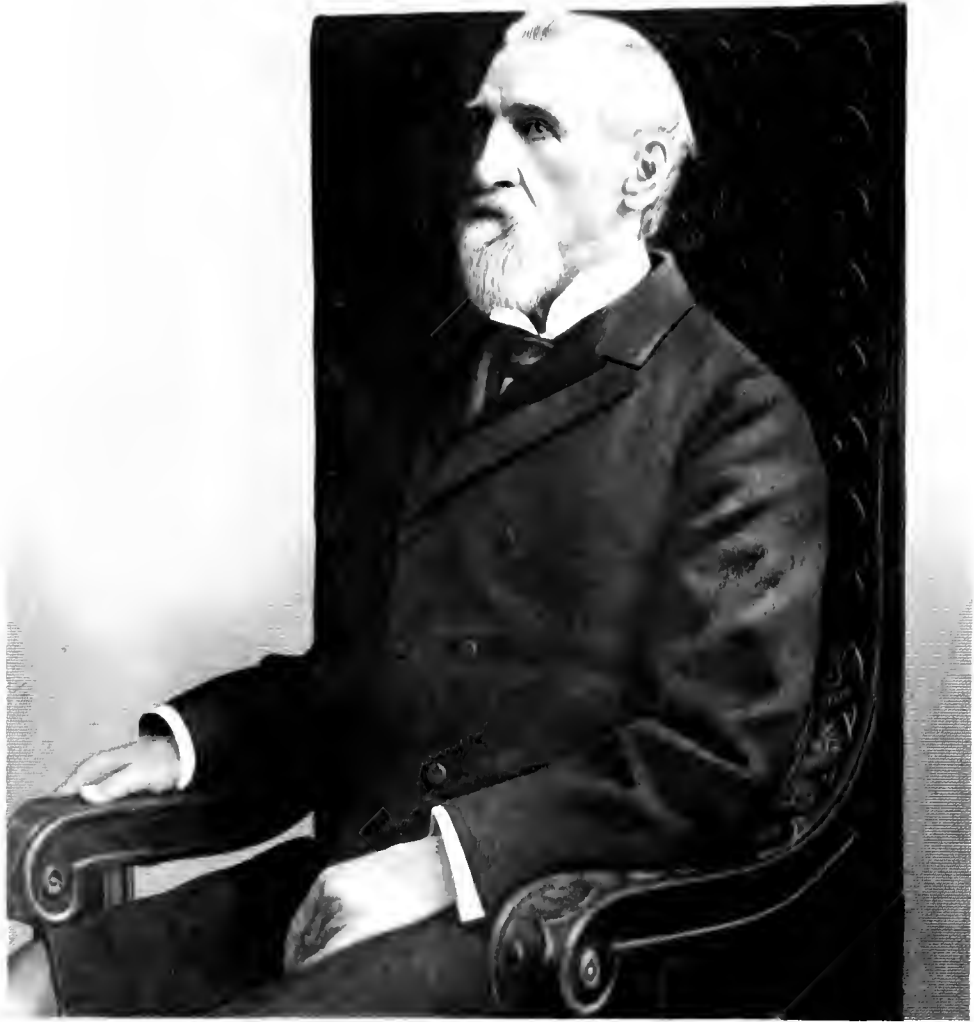
are members of the Primitive Baptist church and he is a Democrat in political views. The second child in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Hanson was Minerva Jane, who died April 4, 1885, aged two years, three months and seven days. Otto A. died February 24, 1880, at the age of two years, eleven months and twenty-seven days. Sylvia C. lives at home with her parents, as does also Ruth Valeria, the youngest of the family, now a bright little maiden of four summers.

In his political views Mr. Hanson is a Democrat, having firm faith in the principles of the party. He has served as school director in his township for nine years and the cause of education has in him a warm friend. At present he is serving as school trustee. He has lived in his present home for twenty-four years. When he came to Vermilion county it was not in the state of progress, improvement and prosperity that it is to-day, and Mr. Hanson has taken an active and helpful interest in its growth and upbuilding. Every movement and measure intended for the betterment of his community has received his able support and endorsement, and he is to-day numbered among the substantial citizens of Vermilion county.

PETER VOORHEES.

In pioneer times the Voorhees family was established in Vermilion county and through the many years which elapsed from that period up to the time of his death Peter Voorhees was an active and honored citizen. His business interests became extensive and yet he did not allow the accumulation of wealth to mar his kindly nature.

He was known as one of the wealthy farmers of the county—at one time the



Peter Verhoeve

largest land owner in Newell township—but he was not interested in the accumulation of wealth beyond what would bring the comforts of life. He was never known to take advantage of the necessities of his fellow man in any business transaction. He was always ready to make a bargain as much for “the other fellow” as for himself. Social and genial, he loved mankind. He had a quick and responsive sympathy for those in distress or trouble, and was often in his helpfulness more generous than wise. Possessed of an ever ready sense of humor and love of pleasure, he was an attractive man to his friends, whom he found in all classes. He saw people as they were aside from their belongings and place. The prince and the beggar were the same to him; the trappings of this world did not matter much to him; he had a philosophical indifference to the benefits that can come from worldly advancement, and deliberately chose the line of life he lived, and never tired of its rural compensations. Reared in the same household and the same environment as the brother who served for forty years in the house and senate of the United States, he preferred his own choice, and regarded with affectionate commiseration that brother’s arduous responsibilities and small reward.

Few lives in so large a degree exemplified the Golden Rule as did that of Peter Voorhees. He never let pass an opportunity to aid a friend in need, regardless of his own interest in so doing. His religion was the religion of love and mercy—believing that the Creator would eventually care for and save all his creatures. He was charitable in his judgment of others. “Judge not, lest ye be judged” was his favorite admonition. He was for many years the people’s chosen “Overseer of the Poor” (an office

now abolished), a place he filled with *pleasure to himself* and at times perhaps undeserved benefit to the indigent.

Peter Voorhees was born in Butler county, Ohio, June 28, 1825. Since the beginning of the world the laws of heredity have been held in respect by mankind. Christ said to the young man who came seeking him, “Young man, whose son art thou?” and the same question is still being asked of any one in whom we are interested to-day. The Voorhees family were among the early Dutch settlers of New York. Peter Voorhees came of a long line of creditable ancestors. The name may be found in places of trust and responsibility since the days when New York was called New Amsterdam.

The first emigrants in America were Stevense and Peter Van Voorhees, emigrants from Holland, who crossed the Atlantic in the year 1660. The “coat-of-arms,” or armorial bearings of the old Holland family, indicate (according to the St. James Heraldry office of London) considerable antiquity. The motto is “Virtus Castellum Meum.” They brought with them land grants, patents or charters whereby they obtained real estate at Flatlands, Long Island, and in New Jersey. Although the spelling of the sir name has been changed by some of their descendants the original form is also retained by some who trace their lineage back to the same common ancestors. As the years passed and the tide of emigration began flowing from the Atlantic coast inland members of the Voorhees family came to the west. The grandfather of Peter Voorhees settled in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, when that place was but an Indian fort. Stephen Voorhees, the father of Peter, removed to Ohio and it was in the latter state that Peter Voorhees was born.

He was but two years of age when his parents again removed westward, this time locating in Fountain county, Indiana, where he was reared amid the wild scenes of pioneer life. In 1848 he was married to Mary J. Button, who was born in Oldham county, Kentucky, November 25, 1828. She was also of Holland ancestry. Her parents emigrated from Kentucky to Indiana, parting with their slaves because of their disbelief in slavery. The same year of their marriage they came to Vermilion county, Illinois, and settled at the Voorhees homestead, which was purchased from a heritage from the grandfather, Peter Voorhees, of Kentucky. Mrs. Voorhees was as bright and beautiful as Kentucky's women are famed for being, and she was a woman of unusual character. Philosophic, patient and enduring, as one of the local papers said at the time of her death: "She was one of the most lovable of women, being possessed of those womanly characteristics that attract and cement friendships in bonds that time cannot break or even lessen. That she was generous many can bear witness and that she was one of the most hospitable of the matrons of this city is known to every person who has been so fortunate as to pass the threshold of her door. She was of a most pleasing disposition and had that open-heartedness so characteristic of the early settlers of this county, of whom she was one. She was one of the most devoted of mothers and to her children she was the one whom there was none who could give better advice. Her words were words of wisdom and many times they had proven to them that she knoweth best who doeth best.

"Coming to Illinois at an early day, her genial nature and well known hospitality soon made her acquainted with the early set-

tlers of the county and the home of herself and husband was the mecca for all the pioneers of that day. They were sure of a hearty welcome whenever they visited their home and her cheerfulness and sunny disposition always gladdened and enriched those with whom she came in contact. It ever left its impress with them after they had gone away and caused her name to be mentioned time and again in the homes of the other pioneers. She was generous to a fault and never missed an opportunity of extending help to those who in an early day had many trials and misfortunes. It was a pleasure to her to help lift the burdens of others and to make joy and gladness rest where sorrow had taken hold. She could feel for others and was not content unless by some manner she could show it in a substantial degree. She did it without show and in a way that it was appreciated by the recipients. She did not leave the impression that in her doing there was an indebtedness to be paid, but that it was a ministering such as would have been received from them had the conditions been reversed and she the receiver instead of the giver. She was a woman of splendid attainments in all the walks of life and in her social nature she was the embodiment of the best, treating all, whether high or low, rich or poor, with the same kindness and consideration that so surely marks the character of a good Christian woman and a consistent servant of the Master."

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Voorhees were born five children, four of whom still survive them. These are: Mrs. A. G. P. Dodge, of Danville; Daniel Voorhees, of Peoria; Philip B. Voorhees, of Danville; and Arthur Voorhees, of Danville. One daughter, Mrs. Benjamin Crawford, died but a year prior to her

mother's demise. Peter Voorhees passed away in 1901 and Mrs. Voorhees died April 7, 1902. While memory lasts to those who knew them this worthy couple will be remembered in Vermilion county and among their many friends. Their lives exemplified their Christian faith and they were worthy and consistent followers of the teachings of the Master. Peter Voorhees is most remembered because of his many kind deeds and his helpful spirit. An old German saying has come down to us: "That a man makes three kinds of friends in this world—gains he accumulates, the hearts whom he loves and his good works. The wealth is the first to leave him when death lays its hands upon the form; the loved ones go to the tomb, turn from it and pass to their homes; but his good works follow him through all the years, praising his name and making hallow his memory." So let it be with Peter Voorhees.



CORNELIUS POWERS JONES.

Upon a farm on section 22, Elwood township, resides Cornelius Powers Jones, a native son of Vermilion county, who was born near his present home, January 23, 1869. His parents were John and Sarah (Powers) Jones, both of whom were natives of Fayette county, Pennsylvania, in which state they were reared, educated and married. They lived upon a farm in Pennsylvania until after the birth of two of their children and then, emigrating westward, took up their abode in Elwood township, Vermilion county, in 1867. Here they also settled upon a farm, the father devoting his energies to its care and cultivation. Their family numbered altogether four sons and

three daughters, of whom three of the sons are yet living: Joseph, a resident of Ridgefarm, Cornelius P. and W. A., who is living at Ridgefarm. The father has also passed away, having departed this life in February, 1899, but the mother is still living and makes her home with her son Cornelius.

In the usual manner of farmer lads Mr. Jones spent his early youth, becoming familiar with the task of developing the fields and caring for stock. He obtained a common-school education and as a companion and helpmate for life's journey he wedded Angie Buell, their marriage being celebrated on the 23d of April, 1896. The lady is a daughter of Hiram and Elizabeth Buell, of Elwood township, and is one of a family of eight sons and six daughters, all of whom are living with the exception of three daughters and one son. Mr. and Mrs. Jones now have an interesting child, John Orville, who is two years of age.

After his marriage our subject located upon his present farm where he has lived continuously since, his aged mother making her home with him. He is a progressive agriculturist and his rich lands are under a high state of cultivation. Upon his place he has a substantial farm residence, good barn and other necessary outbuildings, and all of the latest improvements in farm machinery. He votes with the Republican party and socially he is identified with the Knights of Pythias fraternity and with the Royal Circle.



C. V. McCLENATHAN.

Throughout his business connection with Danville, C. V. McClenathan has been identified with banking interests and at the present time he is one of the directors

and the cashier of the Danville National Bank. He is honored and respected in the county of his nativity because of what he has accomplished and yet the high regard in which he is held is not the less the result of the honorable methods he has followed than the prosperity which he has achieved. He is one of the native sons of this locality, his birth having occurred upon a farm near Catlin, on the 3d of October, 1864, his parents being George S. and Sarah (Remley) McClenathan, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, coming westward to Vermilion county, Illinois, shortly after their marriage. The McClenathan family is of Scotch lineage and of Quaker belief. The great-grandfather of our subject was a native of the land of hills and heather and at an early period in the settlement of Pennsylvania he crossed the Atlantic in one of the old time sailing vessels, taking up his abode near Philadelphia. The Remley family is of English lineage and dates its origin in America to the time of William Penn. The grandmother of our subject in the maternal line bore the maiden name of Margaret Penn and was a relative of the celebrated family to which the celebrated philanthropist and pioneer, William Penn, belonged. On removing to Illinois George McClenathan settled in Catlin township where he purchased land and engaged in farming, being one of the successful agriculturists of his community. He died in October, 1896, and his wife passed away on the 22d of April, 1900, both being buried in Oak Ridge cemetery, near Catlin. In their family were twelve children, eight of whom are now living.

C. V. McClenathan, the eleventh in order of birth, attended the common schools in his early youth and afterward pursued his studies in a college in the west. On attain-

ing his majority he went to the Sunflower state, locating in Wichita, where he remained for eight years. There he entered the Kansas National Bank, in the mortgage and loan department, and afterward was placed in charge of the loan business of that institution. When he had spent eight years in the west he returned to Danville and here he became cashier of the State Bank of this city, acting in that capacity until the institution was converted into the Danville National Bank, on the 1st of June, 1901. He has since been cashier of the new enterprise and one of the directors, and not a little of the success of the business is due to his thorough understanding of banking and his capable control of the affairs of the institution.

On the 30th of July, 1895, Mr. McClenathan was united in marriage to Alice McIntosh, of Louisville, Kentucky, a daughter of Thomas McIntosh, who is now living in this city. Their home has been blessed with one child, Margaret Penn. Mr. McClenathan is a member of the Presbyterian church. Fraternally he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. In political circles he is an earnest supporter of the Democracy, and in 1900 he was the only candidate on the Democratic ticket who won election, he being chosen by popular suffrage to represent his district in the state legislature. He was re-elected in 1902 and was made chairman of the joint committee on penal and reformatory institutions and labor and industrial affairs, being the only Democratic chairman in the house. He also served on the committee on banks and banking, was the father of the kidnap bill, and was a very active member of the house. He has made a close study of all questions which are to the statesman and man of affairs of vital interest to the state and nation, and he gives his conscientious support to the

principles for which he labors. He stands to-day one of the respected and highly esteemed residents of the county of his nativity. His friends are legion, as his genial courtesy and kindly bearing are calculated to win confidence which his sterling integrity and unquestioned candor serve to maintain.

SIMON CALLAHAN.

In 1852 there came to Vermilion county Simeon Callahan and throughout his long residence here, covering a period of almost half a century, he was numbered among the active business men of Danville, as well as one of its honored and highly esteemed citizens. A native of Ohio, he was born near Dayton, that state, on the 11th of February, 1827, his parents being William and Rachel (Voris) Callahan, who were natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, respectively. For a few years the father made his home near Circleville, Ohio, and from there removed to Perrysville, Indiana, where he worked at the potter's trade for several years. He next came to Vermilion county, Illinois, and settled in Georgetown township, where he continued to follow the same occupation for some years. He next ran a dray line in Danville and continued that business until old age compelled his retirement. The last twenty-six years of his life were spent in the home of our subject and although well advanced in years he was still a hale and hearty man, never missing a meal during that entire time. He died in 1885 having passed the ninetieth milestone on life's journey. He was the father of four children, namely: Elizabeth, who married Rufus Havens, and both are now deceased; Manuel, also deceased; Simeon, our subject;

and Charlotte, wife of Alexander Havens, a resident of Bloomington, Illinois.

During his boyhood and youth Simeon Callahan obtained but a limited education as his mother died when he was only twelve years old and he then began to assist his father in the support of the family. At first he worked in the woolen mills of Coles county, Indiana, for several years and then learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked in both Perrysville and Lebanon, Indiana.

While at the latter place Mr. Callahan was united in marriage to Miss Rachel Piles, of Lebanon, who died a year later, and the only child born of this union died in infancy unnamed. In 1852 he came to Danville, where he continued to work at the carpenter's trade for some years, and on the 9th of May, 1854, he was again married, his second union being with Miss Mitty A. Morgan, who was born in Georgetown township, this county, February 17, 1831. Her parents, John H. and Catherine (Morgan) Morgan, were both natives of Virginia, but were married in Kentucky, and from that state came to Illinois in 1830, being numbered among the pioneer settlers of Vermilion county, where they located when the Indians were still numerous in this region and most of the land was still in its primitive condition. Settling in Georgetown township, Mr. Morgan there worked at the blacksmith's trade for a few years, and then removed to Danville, being the first and only blacksmith in the city at that time. Thoroughly upright and reliable, he was known to everyone as "Honest John." He continued to work at his trade here until the death of his wife in 1864, and at the close of the Civil war he went to Oregon with a son, remaining on the Pacific coast three years. He then spent a short time in Dan-

ville, after which he returned to Salem, Oregon, where he died in 1874 at the age of seventy-five years, honored and respected by all who knew him. His son, William O. Morgan, served for five years in the Union army during the war of the Rebellion and is now living retired with Mrs. Callahan in Danville. Another son and two daughters make their home in Oregon. There are probably no families better known to the early settlers of Vermilion county than the Callahans and Morgans, or are held in higher esteem.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Callahan were born three children: John William, the oldest, resides at home with his mother and is a prominent citizen of Danville, where he is connected with the fire department; Thomas died at the age of one year and nine months; and Charlie died at the age of six months.

After working at the carpenter's trade for several years in partnership with a Mr. Jones, Mr. Callahan retired from that business and like his father embarked in the draying business, buying the Danville dray line which he conducted until life's labors were ended in death. On Christmas day of 1893 he contracted a severe cold which finally resulted in his death on the 30th of April, 1894. Throughout life he supported the Republican party, but never cared for public office. During his younger years he was connected with the Masonic fraternity but afterward withdrew from that organization and joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being a member of the lodge at Danville when called to the world beyond. He was an earnest and consistent member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, to which his wife also belongs and he had the confidence and high regard of all with whom he came in contact, either in business or social life. In business affairs he met with a

well merited success and was able to leave his family in comfortable circumstances. Besides her pleasant home at No. 5 East Madison street, Mrs. Callahan owns a fine residence at the corner of Madison and North Hazel streets, which was erected by her husband in 1884. He also assisted in building many other of the early residences of the city, and was long numbered among the representative business men of Danville.

B. F. LEONARD.

B. F. Leonard, who is now living a retired life in Potomac, was throughout his active business career connected with agricultural pursuits. Agriculture is the foundation of all prosperity and more than a century ago George Washington said it was the most useful and honorable occupation to which man can devote his energies. Mr. Leonard, long connected with farming interests, has been a resident of Vermilion county since October 10, 1855. In fact, that was his natal day and he is a representative of one of the old families here. His father, William J. Leonard, was born in Marion county, Kentucky, in 1823, and was a son of James Leonard. The family is of German origin and was founded in Kentucky at an early day. James Leonard removed with his family to Illinois and became one of the early pioneer settlers of Vermilion county. Here William J. Leonard was reared and educated and was trained to methods of industry and economy upon the home farm. He was married in Fountain county, Indiana, to Sarah Cronkhite, who was born in Ohio, but was reared in the Hoosier state. Mr. Leonard had entered one hundred and sixty acres of land in Middlefork township and this he

broke and fenced, developing an excellent farm whose well tilled fields returned to him an excellent income. He afterward traded that for another farm in Ross township and spent his last days there, dying about 1866. His wife survived him for a few years and was called to her final rest in the autumn of 1872.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of farm life for B. F. Leonard in his youth. The common schools afforded him his educational privileges and when sixteen years of age he started out in life, working in a wagon shop. He learned the trade in Rossville and followed that pursuit for several years. An important event in his life occurred on the 14th of March, 1878, when, in Middlefork township, he was joined in wedlock to Emma J. Swisher, a native of that township and a daughter of Harrison Swisher, one of the early settlers of the county. They began their domestic routine upon a rented farm which Mr. Leonard cultivated for a few years and then bought eighty acres of land which he began to further improve. He built a house and barn there and later he extended the boundaries of his place by the additional purchase of eighty acres. On that tract he carried on general farming until 1900, when he rented his land and in the month of December took up his abode in Potomac, where he purchased a lot and erected a residence.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard have four children: Zetta Ann, the wife of Charles Villers, a farmer of Ross township; Rosella, Cora B. and Alva, who are still with their parents. The family is one of prominence in the community, enjoying the high regard of many friends here. In his political views Mr. Leonard was formerly a Democrat, but he now supports the men and measures of the Prohibition party. He and his family

are identified with the United Brethren church and his wife is a member of the Christian church. No other home has he known than Vermilion county and the locality may be glad to number him among its native sons because he has always been loyal to its interests, has been in touch with the work of progress and improvement and has been identified with development and up-building. His friends esteem him for the possession of those qualities of upright manhood which in every land and in every clime command respect and confidence.

T. HOWARD SPANG.

T. Howard Spang is proprietor of the Westfield Roller Mills and of the lumberyard in this place. Here he has carried on business for two years and has already gained a creditable position in public regard as a reliable and enterprising business man. He is a native of Butler county, Pennsylvania, born January 10, 1874, and is a son of J. R. and Margaret Spang. The family history is mentioned in connection with the sketch of his brother, C. B. Spang, on another page of this work.

After coming to this county the subject of this review began working in a flourmill in Georgetown and in 1870 he went to North Towanda, New York, where he engaged in milling for six months. He then returned to Georgetown and subsequently he went to Allerton, Illinois, where he conducted a grain elevator for four years. On the expiration of that period he again went to Georgetown, where he worked with his brother in a flourmill for a year. In July, 1900, he came to Westville and erected the Westville Roller Mills, which he has since

operated. He also buys and ships grain and both branches of his business are proving profitable. His mill is equipped with the latest roller process machinery and the flour which he manufactures is of a high grade, therefore finding a ready sale on the market. Mr. Spang also is a carpenter and contractor and does some business in that line. In connection with his mother and brother, in Georgetown, he is also carrying on the lumberyard at Westville, having charge of the business.

Mr. Spang was united in marriage to Miss Lula Kilgore, a native of Vermilion county and a daughter of Robert Kilgore, a retired farmer now living in Georgetown. One child graces this marriage to whom they have given the name of Kenneth. Mr. Spang is a Republican in his political views but the honors and emoluments of office have no attraction for him. Socially he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Georgetown. Mr. Spang is a young man possessed of energy, enterprise and laudable ambition and, brooking no obstacles which can be overcome by determined purpose and honorable effort, he is steadily working his way upward to a very creditable and gratifying position in the business world, having already attained success which many an older man might well envy.

H. S. BABCOCK, M. D.

Among the practitioners of medicine in Danville worthy of public patronage by reason of thorough understanding of the science of medicine and devotion to the pro-

feSSION, is Dr. H. S. Babcock, a native of Pennsylvania, born in Warren county, August 26, 1860. His father, Joseph E. Babcock, was also born in that county and after arriving at years of maturity was married there to Jennie Gibson, likewise born in that locality. He was a farmer and lumber merchant, but for some time lived in the city of Warren and at the present time is filling the office of chief of police. In his political views he is a stalwart Republican, while socially he is connected with the Knights of the Maccabees, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Grand Army of the Republic. He is entitled to membership in the last named organization through service in the Civil war, for in 1864 he responded to the country's call for aid and enlisted in defense of the Union. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church of which his wife is also a member and they are highly esteemed people of the community in which they make their home. In their family were but two children, the Doctor's sister being Dr. Margaret Maloy, the wife of Dr. Earl Maloy, of Lincoln, Illinois. She is a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Chicago, and is engaged in practice.

In the district schools of Conewanago township, Warren county, Pennsylvania, Dr. Babcock pursued his preliminary education and later studied in the grade schools and in the academy of Warren, Pennsylvania. Subsequently he matriculated in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, where he was graduated in the medical department with the class of 1891. Since that time he has been a practitioner of Vermilion county, locating first in Higginsville. When the railroad was built through the locality, the town of Jamesburg was established and Dr. Babcock opened his office at

that place, where he remained for ten and a half years. Then, seeking a wider field of labor, he came to Danville, where he has since remained, enjoying a growing practice which has demonstrated his skill in the successful handling of many important cases.

On the 24th of December, 1891, in Chicago, Illinois, the Doctor was united in marriage to Mabel Buck, who was born in Cheboygan, Michigan, on Christmas day of 1873, a daughter of Moses and Borredell (Greenwood) Buck, both of whom were natives of Maine, the mother having been born in Abbott. They were married in the Pine Tree state and the father engaged in the lumber business there, subsequently removing to Michigan, where he continued in the same line of business activity. A Democrat in his political views, he was recognized as a prominent member of the party in his community, held a number of political offices and wrote many articles for the press setting forth his views upon political questions. He had decided opinions and a forcible way of expressing them and his influence in behalf of the Democracy was far-reaching. His death occurred in Cheboygan, in February, 1898, and his widow is still living there. In their family were eight children, all of whom survive, namely: Ainsley, who when last heard from was in South Africa; Edward, who follows farming in Cheboygan, Michigan; Horace, who resides in St. Johnsville, New York; Lucy, the wife of Collins Cameron, of Lewiston, Michigan; Mabel, the wife of Dr. Babcock; Charles, who is engaged in the publishing business in Chicago; Samuel, who is connected with a newspaper agency of Chicago; and Mary, who formerly taught in the public schools at Allerton, Illinois, but is now in Cheboygan, Michigan. The home of the Doctor and his wife has been

blessed with two interesting children: Jennie May, who was born December 8, 1893; and Joseph Henry, born June 10, 1896.

Dr. Babcock was made a member of the Masonic fraternity in Potomac, Illinois, about 1897, and is a valued representative of the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Court of Honor, the Royal Circle and the Fraternal Tribune. He has been examiner for a number of insurance companies and he has been county physician and surgeon for Blount township for nine years. He belongs to the Vermilion County Medical Society, the State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and thus he keeps in touch with the advanced thought which marks the progress of the medical fraternity toward perfection. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and exercises the right of franchise in support of the Republican party. Having a wide acquaintance in Vermilion county the friendship of many has been freely accorded him in recognition of a genial manner and kindly disposition.

LUDVIG ERIKSON.

Ludvig Erikson, who is one of the energetic and thrifty farmers of Butler township, has a valuable property of one hundred and fifty acres on section 9. This is well improved and equipped with all modern accessories and conveniences. From the spring of 1869 to the present time Mr. Erikson has been a resident of Vermilion county and the kingdom of Sweden has furnished no better citizen in the new world. He was born on the 8th of July, 1851, in Sweden, a son of Gustaf Erikson, who was born in the same country and was a soldier there being con-

nected with the standing army for some time. In 1869, accompanied by his family, he bade adieu to his friends and native land and sailed for the new world, settling in Paxton, Illinois, where he died about 1889. His wife passed away in 1900. In their family were three sons and three daughters: Alfred, who is a resident of Sweden; Ludvig, of this review; Otto, a resident of Rankin; Fredricka, who is also living in Sweden; Johanna, the wife of Fred Johnson, of that country; and Ida, who died at the age of eight years.

The subject of this review spent the first eighteen years of his life in the land of his nativity and acquired a fair common-school education in his native tongue, but his knowledge of the English language has been acquired without the aid of teachers since his arrival in Illinois. He crossed the briny deep in 1869 and came direct to this state, locating in Paxton. He was first employed in the town of Rankin, in Vermilion county, and for a time he worked for W. A. Rankin, now a prominent and influential citizen of Onarga, Illinois, continuing in his employ for four years. He then rented two hundred acres of land, which he continued to cultivate for a number of years, and in 1882, having acquired sufficient capital through his earnest labor and careful management, he purchased the farm upon which he is now residing. At that time but few improvements had been made upon the place, but now after twenty years he has a very valuable property supplied with all modern equipments and accessories. He has erected a nice frame residence, a large barn, granary and other outbuildings. He has a fine orchard, including a great variety of fruits and he has planted shade and ornamental trees around his home, giving it a most attractive and pleasing appearance. Tiling has added to

the productiveness of his fields and the fences thereon and everything about the place are kept in good repair. He raises the cereals best adapted to the soil and climate and in connection with his work has been engaged in the raising and feeding of cattle, feeding about a car-load of cattle each year and also selling a large number of hogs annually. In connection with nine others he formed a company for the importation and breeding of thoroughbred Percheron and Shire horses and he now owns two valuable imported stallions, which he keeps for breeding purposes.

Mr. Erikson was married in Vermilion county in February, 1879, to Matilda Gustafson, a native of Sweden, who came to the new world when a maiden of twelve summers and located in Vermilion county. Six children have blessed this union: Edward, Alice, Oscar and Esther, all of whom are yet under the parental roof; Alma, who died at one year; and Annie, at the age of eight years and three months.

In his political views Mr. Erikson is a staunch and earnest Republican and in 1876 cast his first presidential ballot for Rutherford B. Hayes, while for each presidential nominee of the Republican party since that time he has deposited his ballot. He was elected and served for nine consecutive years as commissioner of highways and for six years previous to that time was overseer of the roads, proving a competent officer. Both he and his wife hold membership relations with the Swedish Lutheran church at Rankin, Illinois, and were reared in that faith. The hope that led Mr. Erikson to seek a home in the new world has been more than realized. He found the business opportunities he sought here and through the exercise of marked industry and enterprise he has steadily worked his way upward.

He has been a witness of much of the growth and improvement of the county, which he has seen transformed from a swampy district into a richly cultivated region. In early days he saw herds of, as many as twenty-five deer in this part of the state and many wolves were killed, while wild game of various kinds furnished the pioneer table with meat and frontier conditions were prevalent and made the task of developing a farm somewhat arduous, but with characteristic energies and determination Mr. Erikson continued his work and as the years have passed he has won a most creditable position among the successful farmers of Butler township.

LYCURGUS BALDWIN.

Lycurgus Baldwin, who follows farming, was born in Dallas county, Iowa, on the 1st of May, 1859, and is a son of Thomas and Lucinda (Standfield) Baldwin. The father was a native of Brown county, Ohio, and was one of a large family of children all of whom are now deceased with the exception of one brother and one sister. He was born May 10, 1830, and is still living, his home being in Ridgefarm. When eight years of age he accompanied his parents on their removal from Ohio to Indiana, and a year or two later he came to Illinois. In 1848 he was united in marriage to Lucinda Standfield, a daughter of Samuel Standfield, of Elwood township, and in 1857 they removed to Dallas county, Iowa, where Mr. Baldwin engaged in farming until 1864. He then returned to Illinois, settling at Ridgefarm, where both he and his wife are still living. The Standfields also had a large family, and two of the sons, brothers of Mrs.

Baldwin, were veterans of the Civil war. Unto the parents of our subject were born six children: James R., a resident farmer of Georgetown, who has five children; Darius T., deceased; Lycurgus, of this review; George, an agriculturist of Ridgefarm, who has one child; Mary, who is living with her parents; and Elmer, who lives at Ridgefarm and has seven children.

Lycurgus Baldwin was early trained to the work of field and meadow in his youth assisting his father in the cultivation of the old homestead. He was educated in the common schools and on the 30th of August, 1882, he made preparation for having a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Florence M. Rardin, a daughter of Nelson and Elizabeth (Petit) Rardin, of Edgar county, Illinois. The father was a farmer by occupation and had a large family, having four sons and five daughters, all of whom are living with the exception of one. Mrs. Baldwin was born in January, 1861, and was educated in the common schools. By her marriage she has become the mother of four children: Mabel E., now nineteen years of age, was married August 10, 1902, to Alfonso Wright, a teacher of Ridgefarm. Frederick, eighteen years of age, Nelson, a youth of thirteen, and Russell, a little lad of three summers, are with their parents.

Mr. Baldwin is a devoted member of the Presbyterian church and is also connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is an earnest Republican, doing all in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. He has three times served as commissioner of his township and is now holding that office, the duties of which he discharges with promptness and fidelity. He is a temperate, honorable gentleman, a loyal citizen, and enjoys a high reputation in all the walks of life.

JAMES GEORGE SHEDD.

James George Shedd, now deceased, was born in Morrow county, Ohio, on the 23d of June, 1842, his parents being Henry and Letitia Shedd, who were New England people. In their family were five children and like the other members of the household the subject of this review acquired his early education in the schools of his native county. He afterward continued his studies in the Western Reserve College where he was graduated and thus well equipped by thorough mental training for life's responsible duties he entered upon a work which made him a valuable factor in society.

In early manhood Mr. Shedd was united in marriage to Miss Helen Leseure, the wedding being celebrated on the 27th of June, 1872. The lady is a daughter of Prosper and Elizabeth Leseure, who were prominent and influential citizens of Danville. Her father was a native of Nancy, France, born on the 26th of May, 1820, and when a lad of ten years he came to America. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Shedd was born one son, George Carroll, whose birth occurred in Danville on the 9th of December, 1880, and who died on the 10th of November, 1885.

Shortly before his marriage Mr. Shedd became a resident of Danville, accepting a position as superintendent of the schools of this place. Under his direction education made marked advances here. Hitherto the schools had not been graded, but he accomplished this important work and made many marked improvements in the system of teaching,—improvements which formed a solid basis for further development and progress in this line. He also spent two years in Macomb, Illinois, as superintendent of the schools there. For nine years he was superintendent in Danville and then putting

aside his work in connection with educational interests he turned his attention to the lumber business, forming a partnership with George B. Yeomans, under the firm name of Yeomans & Shedd. With this enterprise he was connected up to the time of his death. The new firm prospered in their undertakings, the business growing until it reached extensive proportions and the sales annually returned a good profit to the owners. Mr. Shedd had purchased his father-in-law's interest in the lumber business and in the control of his new affairs he displayed marked energy, capable management and keen discernment.

In his political views Mr. Shedd was a stalwart Republican and took a deep and active interest in the success and welfare of the party. He was a member of the American Sons of the Revolution and was a man of marked literary tastes and scholarly attainments, whose broad reading and wide investigation gained him a knowledge seldom seen in men devoted to commercial interests. Many of his most pleasant hours were spent in the companionship of his books and he regarded as among his dearest friends the master minds of present and past ages. He held membership in the Presbyterian church, to which his wife also belongs, taking an active part in its work. On the 5th of November, 1896, Mr. Shedd was called to his final rest and was buried in Spring Hill cemetery. For many years he was regarded as a prominent and influential resident of Danville. He left the impress of his individuality upon its intellectual development as well as upon its commercial history. His was an irreproachable life and one whose influence was ever for good and for progress. He drew to himself many friends whose regard was strengthened as their acquaintance increased and the years

passed by. His loss was therefore widely and deeply felt and his memory is still enshrined in the hearts of many who knew him.

GEORGE W. HENRY.

George W. Henry, familiarly known as "Uncle George," is among the honored and prominent settlers of Vermilion county. He was born in Ohio, May 8, 1827, and is a son of Michael and Margaret (Pinker-son) Henry. His father went to Warren county, Indiana, when George was a year old, making the journey in a covered wagon drawn by three yoke of oxen. He died when George was seven years of age. When the family went to Indiana it was wild and unimproved and they were in the midst of the Indians, three hundred of them being encamped in front of the log cabin home. His father traded with the Indians for coats and other articles. At this time in the early frontier days there were more deer than sheep to be seen in the locality, and wild hogs and prairie and timber wolves were very plentiful. George W. Henry is one of a family of nine children. He was early left without a father and lived for a short time with his brother David. After that he went to reside with a Mr. Dawson. He began life without any capital, and worked with diligence. He worked by the month until his twenty-third year, receiving at an early day eight dollars per month. He has a mowing machine which he has operated for forty-two years and during this time has cut five thousand acres of grain. In Indiana he worked for Ebenezer Lucas.

In Indiana Mr. Henry married Sarah Ann Spickard. They had one child, Hester, who died at the age of two weeks, and

the wife and mother also passed away. Mr. Henry was again married, his second union being with Emmrilla Taylor, who was born in Warren county, Indiana, October 29, 1832. She is a daughter of George and Matilda (Leonard) Taylor, the latter a native of Kentucky and the former of Virginia. This marriage took place on the 2d of December, 1852, and the union was blessed with eight children: George M. married Eliza Watson and they had seven children, six of whom are yet living. Their home is in Lyon county, Iowa. E. L. married M. A. Bird, and lives near Marshfield, Indiana. They are the parents of thirteen children, eight of whom are yet living. Sarah is the wife of James Allison, of Danville, and has eight children. Ira M., now deceased, married Minerva Watson, and they had seven children, five of whom still survive. His home was near Marshfield, Indiana. Polly Amanda died at the age of three years. James William died at the age of thirteen months. Jennie Belle is the wife of Fred Starr and had six children, four of whom still survive. Mrs. Henry was reared on the Illinois side at Stateline, coming from Indiana with her parents when about a year old. She has seen the wolves so thick that she feared they would come into her father's home, which was a log cabin with no glass in the windows and a stick chimney. She is the oldest of a family of eleven children. She has many times been to her neighbors to borrow fire with which to start their fire. She remembers many incidents of pioneer days which would be of interest to our readers, would space permit. She would ride on horseback to the town, for at those times buggies were not in use. Her father would shear the sheep, then wash the wool, have it carded and mother and daughters would spin it and weave it, making their homespun clothing.

Mr. Henry is the only surviving member of a family of nine children. He also has one half brother, Alex Henry, of Ambia, Indiana. The family record is as follows: Margaret, who was the wife of William McGahon; Christian, whom Mr. Henry has not seen since he was six years of age; David, who died in Dakota; Michael; Mrs. Ann Lemminy; Robert Henry; George W.; and William P.

Mr. Henry began farming in Warren county, Indiana. The first plowing which he did was with the wooden mold board and strap plow. He next plowed with a single shovel and cut his grain with a reap hook sickle and now owns a reap hook of pioneer days, or a sickle mowing scythe. He came Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1853, and settled on his present farm, which he purchased at seven dollars per acre. When his father's estate was settled he received four hundred and fifty dollars. With this and what he had accumulated he paid for his present farm, which was fenced and partly under cultivation, a portion being plowed, but all around was wild prairie. On this land the Peacock plow was at first the only kind with which he scoured the prairies. Then he had a shovel plow, and also the Springfield plow. In this primitive period there was no kerosene and he has read by the light of the prairie fires. They burned hickory bark and dip candles for lighting, and used a crane over the fire place before stoves came into existence. When Mr. Henry and his wife settled on their present place wild game of all kinds was very plentiful. Deer, turkeys, cranes, ducks, geese and prairie chickens were to be had in abundance, and the tables of the pioneers were loaded with delectable food, such as would delight the epicure of the present day. Many a time Mr. Henry assisted his mother to spin the wool, and all

of the wool so spun was woven at home into clothing for the family. The nearest trading point to their home was Danville. In the early days the produce from his farm Mr. Henry hauled to Covington, Indiana. He made one trip to Chicago when a boy, with his brother David, in a wagon drawn by oxen and loaded with eight barrels of pork. They had to pass over many sloughs and camped out at night on the prairies, surrounded by howling wolves. Mr. Henry's present farm comprises three hundred acres on section 28, Newell township. Here he has for years carried on general farming and stock-raising and through his industry has acquired a comfortable competence, his well tilled fields and substantial home and buildings indicating the enterprises and thrift of the owner.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry are members of the United Brethren church. Mrs. Henry is an earnest worker therein and Mr. Henry has been a member since he was fifteen years of age, joining the church in Newell township. He has been class leader, steward and Sunday-school superintendent and at present is acting as trustee. He has been identified with the erection of nearly all the churches of Newell township, and the first one built at Myersville. Church service was held at his home before the church was built, and later at the schoolhouse, and they had to use the wood thrown into the fireplace as a light. Since his arrival in this community Mr. Henry has taken a deep and active interest in Christian work and advancement, manifesting his love for the Master, and many a one has been helped and inspired to better deeds through his influence. He has ever been interested in the cause of education. He helped to build the first school in his neighborhood and many other schools. He is now living a retired life, having rented

nearly all his land, and he well merits the enjoyment of his present peaceful life. In politics Mr. Henry is a Democrat, believing firmly in the principles of the party to which he lends his support.

We trust that in the lines of this sketch we have plainly set forth the beautiful spirit which has ever permeated the life of Mr. Henry and which has made him honored and revered in the community where he makes his home. From the efforts of such worthy pioneers has resulted the prosperity which Vermilion county enjoys and Mr. and Mrs. Henry are citizens well worthy of mention in this history. At a funeral service held at State Line City, a certain song was requested, and the only one who remembered the song was "Uncle George." He sang it over the phone, at a distance of nine miles, to the satisfaction and comfort of the friends and relatives. By such acts as these he has endeared himself to a large circle of friends. Just before their return to Kansas Uncle Aaron Taylor and his family were at Mr. Henry's on Thanksgiving day and requested him to sing the song once more which he obligingly did.

WILLIAM J. ANKER.

When sixteen years of age William J. Anker began business in the line to which he yet devotes his energies. He is now a well known and successful florist of Danville, carrying on a retail business at 314 North Jackson street, which is bringing to him gratifying success. He was born about a mile east of the city on the 23d of January, 1872, and is a son of John F. and Sophia (Kanock) Anker, both of whom were natives of Germany. They were married, however, in

Danville. The father made a specialty of market gardening and from the time when he took up his abode here he remained continuously a resident of Vermilion county until his death. This covered a period of thirty-four years, for he arrived here in 1863 and it was in 1897 that he passed away. His wife departed this life June 18, 1893. In their family were seven children, of whom four are living—Martha, Albert, Charles and William J. Charles is conducting a bakery and confectionery establishment at Catlin, Illinois, and Albert is connected with the Kellyville Coal Company.

In the common schools of this city William J. Anker acquired his preliminary education and later he pursued a business course in the Van Buskirk Commercial College. At the age of sixteen he became connected with the work of cultivating flowers. He built a greenhouse and thus opened the establishment which he has since conducted with increasing success, his trade continually growing as the years pass. He has made a close and thorough study of the best methods of cultivating fancy flowers and has a comprehensive and accurate knowledge of this branch of industry. For fifteen years he has now carried on business. His greenhouses are well equipped with all modern accessories needed in this line and he produces some of the finest floral specimens ever seen in Danville or the surrounding country. He largely sells to the local trade yet his shipments are quite extensive and this branch of his business is constantly increasing in volume.

On the 16th of July, 1893, Mr. Anker was married in Danville to Martha Pries, who was born on the state line, March 25, 1873, and is an adopted daughter of Christ Pries. Her father's name was Henry Schauburger. Her mother died during her infancy and the little daughter was then adopted by

Mr. Pries. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children, but Helena, born March 15, 1895, died September 1, 1896, at the age of four years and six months. The living daughter, Esther, was born March 11, 1900. Mr. Anker owns his home in Danville and also some business property in this city. He belongs to the Danville Local Musicians Association, No. 90, and was formerly connected with the Danville Odd Fellows Band. He is also a member of the German Lutheran church. His entire life has been passed in this city or its immediate vicinity and he is very widely known to many residents of Vermilion county with whom he has had either social or business relations. He has won due recognition of labor in trade circles and has gained many friends in social life by reason of the sterling traits of his character, which commend him to the regard and good will of all with whom he has been associated.

LEWIS C. MESSNER.

Though the life of Lewis C. Messner has been one rather of modest reserve than of ambitious self-seeking, he has shown himself the peer of the leading men of Vermilion county whose efforts and mental talents have won for them success and who have pushed forward the wheels of progress and have contributed to the upbuilding of their respective communities. Mr. Messner has not sought to figure prominently before his fellow men in a political way but has so directed his energies in the private walks of life that his labors have been of benefit to his fellow men, while bringing to him his individual success. For many years he practiced medicine, was also connected with

mercantile enterprises in Potomac and is now a representative of its banking interests.

Dr. Messner was born in Darke county, Ohio, December 15, 1844, a son of William and Anna (Hagerty) Messner. The Messner family is of German origin but was founded in America at an early day. William Messner was born in Pennsylvania and when a young man went to Darke county, Ohio, whence he afterward removed to Muncie, Indiana. For many years he was a resident of Jo Daviess county, Illinois, but eventually returned to Warren county, Indiana, where his last years were passed, but he died in Potomac, Illinois, while visiting in the home of our subject. A physician by profession, he practiced successfully both in Illinois and Indiana, doing much for the alleviation of human suffering in the communities in which he lived. His wife has also departed this life. They were the parents of ten children, of whom three are living.

Lewis C. Messner accompanied his parents on their various removals and acquired the greater part of his literary education in the schools of Jo Daviess county, Illinois. At the age of fourteen he left school and began clerking in a store in Elizabeth, Illinois, being thus employed for five years, during which time he earned the money necessary for a college course. Determining to engage in the practice of medicine, he pursued his first course of lectures in the winter of 1865-6 and in the latter year came to Potomac, where he practiced until 1871. He then became a student in the Rush Medical College of Chicago and graduated in the class of 1872. Returning to Potomac he practiced successfully for seventeen years, enjoying a large patronage indicative of the confidence reposed in his skill and ability. On retiring from the pro-



J. C. Messner

profession Dr. Messner devoted his attention to his mercantile interests, which he had previously established. He was the owner of a general merchantile store which he began to enlarge and extend in scope after ceasing his professional labors and later he associated his son with him under the firm name of L. C. Messner & Son, this relationship being maintained until 1901, when the Doctor disposed of his mercantile interests. In 1882, in connection with John Smith, he established the Bank of Marysville, at Potomac, and for fifteen years these gentlemen were in partnership, since which time Dr. Messner has been alone in the banking business, which he has conducted successfully, this being one of the strong financial institutions in this part of the county. He has made a close and thorough study of whatever work has claimed his attention. While practicing his profession he kept in touch with the advancement continually being made by the medical fraternity and in his mercantile and banking methods he is systematic and progressive. In addition to his other interests he is the owner of two hundred acres of land in Vermilion county, and associated with L. D. Lane he established the Messner & Lane Bank of Henning.

In 1866 Lewis C. Messner was married to Mary Drummond and unto them were born two children: William C., who is engaged in banking and merchandising in Jamaica, Vermilion county; and Nellie M., wife of C. G. Layton, of Potomac. In 1873 Dr. Messner wedded Maria J. Clarke and their only child died in infancy. In June, 1890, occurred the marriage of Dr. Messner and Jennie Johnston, who died March 27, 1903, leaving a baby boy, Lewis Clifton, Jr., born February 6, 1903.

Fraternally Mr. Messner is a member of

the Masonic lodge of Potomac and he is a member and trustee of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics a Republican, he has long been an active worker in the ranks of the party and in 1875 he was appointed school treasurer of township 21, range 13, and has held the office continuously since. Plans conducive to the general good receive his endorsement, measures for the public benefit are given his hearty aid. At the same time he has carried on his private business interests with such energy that he has attained a place among the most successful men of his adopted city.



J. M. WRAY.

J. M. Wray was born in Oakwood township, October 14, 1856, and is a son of Andrew J. and Ellen (Smith) Wray, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Kentucky. The father was born in 1825 and was a son of William and Abigail (Passmore) Wray, who were natives of Ohio. The Smith family was early established in Covington, Indiana, and on the 24th of December, 1848, Ellen Smith gave her hand in marriage to Andrew J. Wray, with whom she removed from Indiana to Illinois in 1853. In their family were nine children five of whom reached years of maturity. The three eldest were born in Fountain county, Indiana, but Mary, the first born, died in infancy. The others are: Mrs. Letitia Barnhart, of this county, and William, a butcher of Fithian township. In their family were also twins who died in infancy and the others were: J. M.; Mrs. Eliza Wray and Andrew of Oakwood township; and Abigail, who died in infancy.

Andrew J. Wray is a blacksmith by occu-

pation, following that pursuit in Fountain county, Indiana, in early life. In 1853 he came to Vermilion county and here preempted land, purchasing his first quarter section for one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. He afterward bought a forty acre tract at twelve and one-half cents per acre, it being entered as swamp land. It is situated on section 26, Oakwood township, and is now under cultivation being the property of the subject of this review. Its value has greatly increased, for it is to-day worth one hundred and twenty-five dollars per acre. When Andrew J. Wray arrived in Vermilion county, Danville, then a little village, was surrounded by tracts of unbroken prairie and the work of progress and improvement had scarcely been begun here. He drove his stock to market at Chicago and prices were very low compared to those paid at the present time. The country was full of wild game, including deer, and wolves were frequently killed. Mr. Wray was a great hunter and often returned to his home with his horse covered with furs and pelts of animals he had captured, many of which were mink. The first home of the family was a one-story log house containing two rooms and it was in this pioneer cabin that all of the children were born except the first three. Mr. Wray lived upon the home farm until 1898 and during that time placed it under a high state of cultivation, planted an orchard and added all modern improvements and accessories. He put in the first tiling used in the neighborhood and thus reclaimed land that had hitherto been uncultivable. He also built a good two-story residence upon his farm. At the time of the breaking out of the Civil war he offered his services to the government but was not accepted because of his eyesight. Later, however, he was drafted but not desiring to go at that time he paid one hundred

dollars to a substitute. He was one of the standard bearers of the Republican party and a member of the Methodist church.

While her husband was engaged in the work of field and meadow Mrs. Wray performed the duties of the household and the equipments of the home were equally primitive with those of the field. She remembers to have seen the fires built with flint and tow and she often spun and wove the materials used for clothing by the family. She was born April 16, 1826, and was a daughter of Asa and Jane (Finkland) Smith, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. In their family were seven children but Mrs. Wray was the only child at the time of the removal of the parents from Kentucky to Indiana. She can remember when corn sold for twelve and one-half cents per bushel and when other farm produce brought equally low prices. In order to assist in securing a comfortable competence she spun and wove cloth used in making the garments for the family. Mr. Wray hauled the timber from Covington, Indiana, to build his first house, oxen being used in the place of horses. Frequently the family made their way to church in a wagon drawn by oxen, Mrs. Wray driving a yoke herself. She is a most estimable lady, a worthy representative of a high type of pioneer women, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

J. M. Wray, whose name introduces this review, had but limited educational privileges. In the summer months he had to herd cattle upon the prairie and in the winter season cared for the stock in the field, being thus engaged between the ages of seven and sixteen years. He then learned the trade of a carpenter and was engaged in contracting and building for twenty years, or until July, 1902, when he returned to the old homestead farm and is now actively engaged in agri-

cultural work upon the land which he plowed when but eight years of age. He first used an old twelve-inch plow and cut his grain with a cradle. Later the rake was brought into use and in course of time improved machinery was secured and greatly facilitated the work of the farm. He has witnessed the entire development and growth of the county from an uncultivated prairie to its splendid condition of the present time. He lived here at a period when it was necessary to go five miles in order to enjoy educational privileges, but his father was a friend of the schools and aided in building four different school-houses and now within a half-mile of the old homestead is a substantial brick school building, which was erected at a cost of twenty-five hundred dollars, and the new Methodist Episcopal church, built at a cost of twenty-six hundred dollars, is within a quarter of a mile of Mr. Wray's home.

On the 12th of July, 1874, before he was nineteen years of age, Mr. Wray was united in marriage to Emma Brunner, who was born June 17, 1859, and is a daughter of David and Matilda (Dephendahl) Brunner. She obtained good educational privileges and taught her husband how to read and write, for he had not learned to do those things when he was married. Seven children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Wray: Anna, now deceased; Elizabeth J., of Oklahoma; Andrew D. and Sarah L., who have passed away; Lettie and Rettie, twins who are at home; and Emil, deceased. Mrs. Wray died at the birth of this child who lived to be but five months old. Elizabeth, the second member of the family, is the wife of Andrew Rookstod, who is living in Cleveland, Oklahoma. They have one child, Arthus.

In his political views Mr. Wray is a Republican. He owns forty acres of the old home tract and is now successfully engaged

in farming, having a good home, supplied with all modern equipments and in keeping with the advanced ideas of farming of the present day.

W. C. JOHNSON.

With a clear conception of both the difficulties and possibilities for the development and improvement of the city through the medium of real-estate transactions, W. C. Johnson, a practical business man with keen foresight and executive ability, has laid out the Oak Lawn addition to Danville and is today the manager of the Danville Improvement Association. Through his operations in real estate he has not only promoted his own success but has done much for the growth and development of the city, controlling improvements in the Oak Lawn addition in a way to make it a valuable extension to the city's borders.

Mr. Johnson was born in Richmond, Kentucky, December 28, 1858, and is a son of R. H. and Susan (Goodloe) Johnson, the former a native of Covington, Indiana, and the latter of Frankfort, Kentucky. They were married in Richmond of the latter state and the father engaged in editing and publishing the Richmond Messenger. At the time of the Civil war he enlisted for service and after the close of hostilities he came to Danville, Illinois, in 1866. Here he became editor of the Danville Plaindealer, continuing his connection with that paper for a number of years, after which he became a representative of the Danville Times. He next was one of the founders of the Danville News, owning a part of that paper, but after nine years he sold his interest and became a partner in the Danville Commercial, continuing the publication of that journal until

he retired permanently from the newspaper field. About 1868 he was elected coroner of Vermilion county and is filling that office at the present time. An active worker in the ranks of the Republican party he puts forth every effort to promote its growth and insure its success. At one time he was a prominent member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows Societies, but takes no active part in lodge work at the present time. Both he and his wife hold membership in the First Christian church.

W. C. Johnson pursued his education in the schools of Richmond and afterward of Danville, but has been largely self-educated in the school of experience, for at the early age of thirteen years he began earning his own living as "devil" in the News printing office. For eight years he was employed in different departments of that printing office, serving his apprenticeship as a compositor, and at the end of that time he entered the government service as assistant postmaster of Danville, in which capacity he served acceptably for eight and one-half years. His next step in the business world was as a merchant and until 1869 he continued his connection with trade, but since that time has operated in real estate and loans. As stated above, in conjunction with the Hon. George T. Buckingham, he laid out Oak Lawn addition to the city, containing one hundred and seventy-six acres, and this he has rapidly platted, it proving one of the valuable additions to Danville. Aside from being manager of the Danville Improvement Association he has other business interests, being the secretary and treasurer of the Western Silica Company.

On the 28th of October, 1882, in this city, occurred the marriage of Mr. Johnson and Ida Myers, who was born in Carey, Ohio, in November, 1859, a daughter of Leonard

and Susan (Greenwalt) Myers. In 1869 Mr. Johnson was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 7th of February of that year, and was laid to rest in Spring Hill cemetery. Four children have been born to them: Meta, Helen and Philip and Clinton, twins.

Fraternally connected with the Masons, Mr. Johnson was raised in Danville Lodge in 1882, and he is also a member of Athelstan Commandery, K. T. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, to the Modern Woodmen of America, and is exalted ruler in the Elks Lodge of this place. A strong advocate of the political principles constituting the platform of the Republican party, his influence is given for its support and he is now serving as assessor and collector of Danville township, yet he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to give his time and energies to his business affairs which capably controlled have brought to him creditable success.

JOSEPH WERNER.

Joseph Werner is well known in Danville, where he is now serving as alderman, and as a representative of the business interests of the city he is engaged in the manufacture of cigars. Throughout his entire life he has resided in Danville, his birth having here occurred February 17, 1863. He is a son of Leopold and Johanna (Myers) Werner, both of whom were natives of Germany and came to America in the year of 1856, settling first in Stamford, Connecticut, where the father was employed in a foundry for a few years. He then came west, establishing his home in Covington, Indiana, where he devoted his energies to the pork-packing busi-

ness for several years. His next removal brought him to Danville and here he continued pork-packing until a few years had gone by, when he purchased a tract of land in Newell township and turned his attention to farming, that business claiming his attention until his demise, which occurred in September, 1898. His widow still survives him and resides on the old family homestead in Newell township. This worthy couple were the parents of five children: Teresa, the wife of John M. Conlin, who is foreman of the Commercial office, of Danville; August, who operates the home farm in Newell township; Catherine, who resides with her mother; Adolph, who is employed by the Consolidated Ice Company of Chicago; and Joseph, of this review.

Like the other members of the family Joseph Werner pursued his education in the school near his home and then began working for Joseph McAuliffe in a cigar factory of Danville. For fourteen years he was employed in different cigar factories, and in 1889 he embarked in business on his own account, establishing a manufactory at No. 305 South street, where he has since remained. He employs a number of experienced workmen and manufactures several kinds of high grade cigars, selling mostly to the local trade. His business has reached profitable proportions and in the enterprise which he established thirteen years ago he is finding a good source of income.

Mr. Werner was married to Miss Mary Carey, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of Patrick and Mary Carey, both of whom are deceased. Four children have been born unto our subject and his wife: Carl, Margaret, Catherine and Elizabeth.

In his political views Mr. Werner has always been an earnest Democrat, keeping well informed on the issues of the day and

taking an active part in the work of the Democracy. He has served as an alderman of Danville for the past ten years and at the present time is holding the office. Progress, reform and improvement have been the causes for which he has labored in his official position and his efforts in behalf of the city have not been without desirable result. Socially he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of Danville, with the Catholic Order of Foresters, and with the Cigarmakers' Union No. 80. Both he and his wife are members of St. Patrick's Catholic church of Danville, and they reside at No. 419 Commercial street, where the hospitality of their home is greatly enjoyed by their many friends.

JOSEPH BAIRD.

More than one-third of a century ago Joseph Baird became a resident of Vermilion county and has since been a representative of its agricultural interests. He has witnessed much of the growth and development of the county within this period and has ever manifested a deep and active interest in measures pertaining to the general good. His life, though quietly passed, has been characterized by all that is honorable and straightforward in his dealings with his fellow men and he therefore commands the respect and confidence of those with whom he has been associated.

Mr. Baird was born in Adams county, Ohio, November 15, 1825, and comes of a family of Irish lineage, his paternal grandfather, John Baird, having been born on the Emerald isle, whence he crossed the Atlantic to the new world. Thomas Baird, the father, was a native of Ohio and after arriving at years of maturity he wedded Sus-

an Hughes, whose birth occurred in Pennsylvania. She was a daughter of Joseph Hughes, for whom our subject was named, and who was a stonemason by trade. The wedding of Thomas Baird and Susan Hughes was celebrated in Adams county, Ohio, where they began domestic life, the father devoting his energies to agricultural pursuits. Subsequently he removed with his family to Brown county, Ohio, where he remained until his death, which occurred about 1860. His wife survived him for only a brief period, passing away in 1862, at which time she was laid to rest by his side in Railroad cemetery, of Brown county. In his political views Thomas Baird was a staunch Democrat, unfaltering in his support of the principles in which he believed and both he and his wife were loyal and devoted members of the Christian church. In their family were eight children: John, who died at the age of twenty-one years; Mary Jane, who wedded J. Runalds, a resident of Nebraska; Joseph; Frank, who married Agnes Jordan and after her death wedded Sallie Ann Baldwin, but both he and his second wife died in Champaign, Illinois; George, who was a soldier of the Union army in the Civil war and died from the effects of his military service; Thomas, who died at the age of eighteen years; Katie Ann, who died at the age of ten years; and J. S., who wedded Julia Sparks and after her death married Rella Neville. His second wife died and he then married Mrs. Smith, making his home near Indianapolis, Indiana.

Joseph Baird pursued his education in subscription schools. He was first a student at Briar Red school in Adams county, Ohio, the little temple of learning being built of hewed logs and supplied with slab seats which rested upon wooden pegs. He became an expert at making goose quill pens

and he mastered the elementary branches of learning there taught. Later he continued his education in the Koppel school, which was also conducted on the subscription plan. Through the winter months he there pursued his studies while in the summer months he aided in the labors of the home farm. At the age of fifteen, however, he put aside his text-books altogether and thereafter his knowledge was broadened through reading, experience and observation. Learning the blacksmith's trade he followed that pursuit in Brown county, Ohio, for a time and subsequently removed to Ripley in Union township near Cincinnati, Ohio, where he secured employment at his trade.

While residing in that locality Mr. Baird sought a companion and helpmate for life's journey and wedded Miss Elizabeth Ann Baldwin, a native of Kentucky, but she survived for only a few years, passing away in 1857. In 1859 Mr. Baird was again married, his second union being with Lucinda Wyckoff, who died in 1860. In 1863 he was joined in wedlock to Mary Neal, who is now living with him in this county. In the year 1865 Joseph Baird came to Vermilion county, Illinois, establishing his home upon a farm which he cultivated for some time. He then sold that property and removed to Fairmount. Later, however, he rented a farm and is now living in Catlin township, superintending his agricultural interests. His sons, George, Frank and Smiley, had all come to Vermilion county several years before the arrival of the father and, purchasing land here, had become well-to-do.

By his first marriage Mr. Baird had six children: Thomas, now deceased, married Martha Jones and his widow resides with her two sons in Fairmount. George, the second of the family, is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Sarah Jane is the deceased

wife of Henry Browning who married again and lived in Vance township, Vermilion county, but both he and his second wife have also passed away. Frank is also mentioned elsewhere in this work. Smiley married Hattie Browning by whom he has five children and they reside upon a farm at Homer. Charles, the youngest child of this marriage, died at the age of four years. The children born unto Mr. Baird and his present wife were two in number, but only one is now living, Samuel J., who married Etta Allison and resides with his father upon the farm in Catlin township. He has two daughters.

In his political views Joseph Baird is independent. He keeps well informed on the questions and issues of the day, but gives his vote in support of men and measures rather than of party. While living in Ohio he served as supervisor for four terms, but he has never been an office seeker, preferring that his time and attention should be given to his business interests. His life record now covers seventy-seven years and there is much in his career that is worthy of emulation. Industrious and energetic he has labored earnestly for the welfare of his family and in all business relations has been found honorable and trustworthy. In matters of citizenship he is public-spirited and progressive, withholding his support from no measure which he has believed would prove of general good. During his residence in Vermilion county he has become widely known and all with whom he has been brought in contact entertain for him high regard.

BYRON E. CRONKHITE.

Byron E. Cronkhite is a well known manufacturer of Rossville and for forty years he was enrolled among the wide-awake and progressive farmers of Vermilion county, still

owning six hundred and forty acres of valuable land which lies in Ross and Grant townships. From the spring of 1860 he has made his home in this county and his fidelity to the duties of a public and private life has been the salient element in winning for him the respect and confidence of his fellow men.

Mr. Cronkhite was born in Warren county, Indiana, a son of Sidney Cronkhite, whose birth occurred in New York, in 1808. Levi Cronkhite, the grandfather of our subject, was also a native of the Empire state and was of German descent, the family having been established in New York at a very early day by emigrants from the fatherland. About 1813 he removed to Ohio and was one of the first settlers in that state, where he continued to make his home until about 1828. He then went to Warren county, Indiana, settling near the present town of Marshfield, where he purchased land and developed an extensive farm in connection with his brothers. Sidney Cronkhite was a tall young man of eighteen years when the family located in the Hoosier state. As a companion and helpmate for life journey he later chose Cornelia Tillotson, who was born in New York and was a daughter of Luther Tillotson, another early settler of Warren county, Indiana. Sidney Cronkhite became an extensive farmer there. He worked early and late in order to improve the fields and raise good crops and in course of time became the owner of a valuable farm, upon which he reared his family. There he also spent his last years, passing away in 1875. His wife had died about 1845 and he had afterward married again. By the first marriage there were four children: Priscilla, the wife of Mansfield Reece, a farmer of Rice county, Kansas; John W., who died in 1872; Byron E., of this review; and Levi M., who resides in Grant township.

In Warren county, Indiana, Byron E. Cronkhite spent the days of his childhood upon his father's farm and at the usual age he entered the common schools, there pursuing his studies. He remained on the home place until he had attained his majority and in the fall of 1859 he came to Vermillion county, Illinois. Here he spent a short time but did not locate permanently until the spring of 1860. He first leased a tract of land, broke the fields and further improved the property. Later he purchased land and added to his original purchase from time to time as his financial resources increased, so that he now owns six hundred and forty acres, the greater part of which is contained in one tract. He has erected two good houses and two sets of farm buildings, has planted orchards, has laid many rods of tiling and has thus made substantial improvements upon his land, which he has converted into valuable farms. He also engaged successfully in raising and feeding stock, but for several years he has rented his land, while he makes his home in Rossville. He came to the town in the winter of 1902 and is now engaged in the manufacture of novelties. He has gotten out several important patents on devices of his own invention, including a plasterer's trestle and also a grain separator. Both are valuable pieces of mechanism and are destined to have a large sale in the business world. He established a tile factory in Grant township in 1883 and was engaged in its operation until 1888, making tile in order to transform the swampy land into productive fields. Mr. Cronkhite is one of the directors and stockholders in The Fairweight Scale Company, of Danville. He has twenty-seven acres just outside the corporate limits of that city, of which he has set off nine acres on which the company is going to erect a factory, the rest being laid off in town lots.

Mr. Cronkhite is a prominent Mason, belonging to the blue lodge and chapter. He votes independently at local elections, regarding only the capability of the candidates. His first presidential ballot was cast for Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and for some years thereafter he was identified with the Republican party. A self-made man, he deserves much credit for what he has accomplished. As the years passed he prospered in his work of improving his farm and his extensive landed possessions are the visible evidence of his life of industry, thrift and enterprise.

W. W. DULEY.

W. W. Duley, a real-estate and collecting agent of Hoopeston, who is also filling the position of justice of the peace, was born in Fleming county, Kentucky, on the 22d of May, 1837, and is a son of Hiram Duley who was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church and an enterprising farmer. The subject of this review comes of Irish lineage. His great-grandfather in the paternal line was a native of the Emerald isle, spelled his name Dooley, and became the founder of the family in the new world. Hiram Duley was the owner of considerable land in Kentucky and successfully carried on farming throughout the years of his business career. He died, however, in 1842, when the subject of this review was but five years of age. His wife bore the maiden name of Sophia Northcott, and was of English lineage. She is still living in Kentucky at the old home place, at the age of ninety-two years. After the death of Rev. Hiram Duley she married his brother, Charles Z. Duley, who died several years ago. Our subject had two brothers and one sister and

one of the brothers and the sister are yet living, namely: Benjamin Z., who resides in Cato, Arkansas, and Mrs. Martha Shields, whose home is in Ludlow, Missouri.

Upon the home farm W. W. Duley was reared. He received but limited educational privileges in the schools of Kentucky and at the age of twenty-one years he left home, after which he conducted a steam sawmill in the mountains. He thus made a fair start in life, successfully conducting this enterprise for three years. In 1860 he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, where he was engaged in farming and worked until the time of his enlistment for service as a defender of the Union in the Civil war. It was on the 1st of September, 1861, that he was enrolled among the boys in blue of Company C, Thirty-seventh Illinois Infantry, under the command of Captain E. B. Payne and Colonel Charles Black. He served under Generals Fremont, Curtis, Schofield and Herron, with the Army of the Frontier, being engaged in duty in Arkansas, Missouri and Indian Territory. He assisted in the capture of a part of Quantrell's band at Silver Creek, Missouri, and was in the battles of Pea Ridge and Sugar Creek, Arkansas, and Newtonia and Neosha, Missouri. At the battle of Pea Ridge he was wounded in the knee, and still carries the bullet there, but has suffered no inconvenience from his wound. At the battle of Prairie Grove, Arkansas, however, he was shot in the thigh and this to some extent has interfered in the use of the limb. The government now gives him a pension of eight dollars per month. He served as a private and on account of his wound was honorably discharged at Springfield, Missouri, returning to his home in Vermilion county about the 1st of April, 1863.

Through the following year Mr. Duley engaged in no work, recuperating from his

wounds and his army experience. He then began handling horses, buying and selling a number of stallions, and a year later he returned his attention to farming, which he continued until 1891. In 1872 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land seven miles southeast of Hoopeston, there making his home until 1883, when he went west to South Dakota and secured a claim of government land. He had three rights under the law and thus obtained four hundred acres. For six years he remained in that state, after which he sold a part of his land and mortgaged part, and returned to Grant township, Vermilion county. He lost everything he had in South Dakota because of three successive failures of crops, having undertaken to farm in the new country when the land was not adapted for that purpose. For two years after his return Mr. Duley engaged in farming the land of C. A. Allen. In 1891 he came to Hoopeston, entering the employ of the Illinois Can Company, where he remained for five years in the yard and on the farm during the summer seasons. He was then elected justice of the peace in 1897, and in 1901 he was re-elected, so that he is now serving a second term. His decisions are fair and impartial, being based upon legal principles and the equity of the case. He is also engaged in real-estate operations and in making collections.

In Bath county, Kentucky, in 1864, Mr. Duley was united in marriage to Letitia Wilson, who was born in Indiana. She had one brother who is yet living, George T. Wilson, a farmer of Grant township. For about fifteen years he was foreman of the Illinois Can Company, being the field manager during the crop season and also acting as overseer for the delivery of the corn to the factory during the canning season. In 1902 Mr. Duley was called upon to

mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 7th of July of that year, her demise greatly regretted, because she possessed many excellent qualities which endeared her to a large circle of friends. She left three children: Ina M., the wife of J. W. Ogden, who is a mail agent on the Wabash Railroad; George, who is with his father in business; and John, who married Frances Fernald, of Hoopston. He is a traveling salesman representing a Louisville house, and makes his home in Hoopston.

In his political views Mr. Duley is a stalwart Republican and for five years was township constable. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic and for nearly forty years has been a member of the Christian church. Having long resided in this locality, his acquaintance is very wide and he enjoys the favorable regard of many with whom he has been brought in contact.

FRANK A. GIDDINGS.

Frank A. Giddings was born in Danville May 6, 1868. His paternal grandfather was William Giddings, a native of Bedfordshire, England, in which place he was reared and married. He learned the trade of wagon-making in that country and in 1837 sailed from London to the new world, coming direct to Danville by way of the lakes, the canal and thence by team to his destination. He first worked at his trade as a journeyman, but as soon as he had saved enough he purchased his employers business and engaged in the manufacture of wagons and plows, constructing the latter with wooden mold boards, but later manufacturing steel plows. He also continued the manufacture of wagons and carriages, building up an extensive business, which he continued up to the time

of his death in 1875. He married Miss Caroline Kitchener, who died in 1874. Their son, John W. Giddings, became the father of our subject. He was born in Danville and became associated in business with his father and for many years continued in the manufacture of wagons and plows. He also established a heavy hardware business now conducted by his son, Frank, entering into partnership with James A. Patterson, under the firm name of Giddings & Patterson in 1879. The firm of J. W. Giddings & Son became successors to the original firm in 1894 and in 1900 the father sold his interest to his son. J. W. Giddings has since been engaged in agricultural implement business at No. 11 Hazel street and thus for many year he has continued an active factor in commercial life in Danville and his business affairs have contributed largely to the commercial upbuilding of the city. In 1867 he was united in marriage to Miss Samantha McKee, who was born in Georgetown, Illinois, and they have two children, Frank A. and William E., the latter connected with the Danville fire department.

In his youth Frank A. Giddings attended the schools of Danville and at the age of eighteen entered his father's establishment, becoming thoroughly familiar with the heavy hardware business in every detail. He continued as an employe until 1890, when he went west to Washington, there remaining until the fall of 1891, when he returned to this city and again entered his father's store. In 1894 he purchased a partial interest in the business which was conducted under the firm name of J. W. Giddings & Son until 1900, when Frank A. Giddings became sole proprietor. He has since conducted the enterprise with constantly increasing success. He handles everything in the line of blacksmith's and wagon-maker's supplies,

doing both a wholesale and retail business, covering eastern Illinois and western Indiana. His house sustains an excellent reputation because of its conformity to commercial ethics and its proprietor is widely and favorably known in business circles.

On the 1st of December, 1891, Frank A. Giddings was married to Miss Mary F. DuBois, of State Line, Indiana, a daughter of Frank G. DuBois, one of the early settlers of Warren county, Indiana. Her father died in 1901 and his widow, who bore the maiden name of Caroline L. H. Kent, is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Giddings. A son, Frank J., born September 24, 1892, adds life and light to the Giddings household.

Fraternally Mr. Giddings is connected with the Damascus Lodge, No. 84, K. P., and politically he is a Republican. Success and failure lie equi-distant from every individual at the outset of his career and it depends upon the man in what direction his progress shall be made. Biography has proven again and again that success is not a matter of genius or of circumstance, but the outcome of clear judgment, experience and close application and, realizing this fact, Frank A. Giddings has so directed his energies that to-day he is in control of the business enterprise of importance that classes him among the substantial residents of his native city.

JOHN A. LITTLER.

John A. Littler is an honored veteran of the Civil war and one who has been active in public affairs in Potomac and Vermilion county. He has resided in this town twenty-three years and is numbered among the old settlers of the county, where he has

made his home since 1840. He was born near London, Ohio, April 22, 1838, and is a son of John Littler, who was married in that state to Cordelia Radcliffe. The father of our subject was a mechanic, a carpenter and joiner by trade, engaging in building operations during his early life. In 1840 he removed to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county, and from the government he entered land which he broke and cultivated, developing there a good farm near Muncie. Upon that place he reared his family and spent his last years, his death occurring in 1864. His wife survived him for a few years, passing away in 1868. To this worthy couple were born five sons and two daughters, all of whom reached years of maturity, although John A. and Cyrus R. are now the only ones living.

John A. Littler spent his boyhood days upon the old home farm. No event of special importance occurred to vary for him the routine of farm life during his youth. The common schools afforded him his educational privileges and his training in the work of field and meadow was received under his father, with whom he remained until he had reached man's estate. He afterward worked at the trade of carpentering and building, doing business as a contractor for a few years. When the country became involved in Civil war and it was seen that hostilities would probably continue for a long period he resolved to aid in the preservation of the Union and enlisted in August, 1862, as a member of Company B, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, with which he went to the south. The regiment was attached to the Western Army and he participated in the siege of Vicksburg and the capture of that city. Later he was in the battle of Black River Bridge and Jackson and was on detailed service for six months. He

then rejoined his regiment at New Orleans and was afterward in the engagement at Mobile and at Fort Blakely. Later he was sent to Texas and was mustered out at Galveston, that state, after which he returned to the north and was honorably discharged in Chicago in 1865.

Immediately afterward Mr. Littler returned to his home and when he had somewhat recuperated from the ill effects occasioned by the hardships of war he engaged again in constructing and building for a few years, after which he turned his attention to the grain business in Fithian, being one of the first to locate in that town. There he carried on business for about six years, after which he established his home in Muncie, where he was connected with the grain trade for two years. In 1879 he came to Potomac and here entered the railroad employ as a station agent, acting in that capacity for eighteen years, during which time he had charge of the business of the Illinois Central Railroad.

Mr. Littler was married in this county about 1868 to Mary A. Copeland, a native of Illinois, reared and educated in this county, and a daughter of Hamilton Copeland, who was one of the first settlers here. They now have two children, Fanny and Lulu L. The former is the wife of Charles E. Judy, a farmer of Vermilion county, by whom she has three children. The latter is the wife of Elmer R. Kirkhart, now of Asheville, North Carolina. The family has long been a prominent one in the community, the members of the household occupying an enviable position in the regard of their friends and acquaintances.

A staunch Democrat in his political views, Mr. Littler cast his first presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas, the "little giant" of Illinois, in 1860. In 1864 he voted

for Abraham Lincoln, being then home on a furlough, and since that time has given his loyalty to the presidential nominees of the Democracy. While a resident of Fithian he was elected assessor of Oakwood township and later justice of the peace, serving in the latter position for three years, when he resigned preparatory to removing to Potomac. Here he has also served for one term as justice of the peace and is now serving his second year as police magistrate. He has likewise been a member of the school board of Potomac, serving in that capacity at the time the present school building was erected.

A member of the Masonic fraternity, he was made a Mason in Olive Branch Lodge at Danville, and later became a charter member of Potomac Lodge, in which he has filled all the offices. He is a past master and is likewise the present master, having served in the position for a number of terms. He has also represented the lodge in the grand lodge of the state on several occasions. His name is likewise on the membership roll of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has filled all the chairs and is a past grand, while for three terms he has represented the subordinate lodge and the grand lodge at Springfield. He and his wife became members of the Order of the Eastern Star, but she is now demitted. Mr. Littler is likewise connected with the Rebekah degree of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Grand Army Post, in which he was a commander. Many of the residents of Vermilion county have long remained within its borders, but among those who have had their residence here from an early day, none have been more loyal to its interests or taken a more active part in its progress. Sixty-two years have passed since his arrival and he is justly regarded

as one of the public-spirited citizens whose worth is widely known and acknowledged. On the field of battle he was a valorous soldier and in times of peace he is equally faithful to his country.

JOHN McFARLAND.

John McFarland is the owner and operator of a valuable farm of three hundred and eighty acres, situated on section 11, Oakwood township. He was born in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, July 15th 1818, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Layton) McFarland. His father was a native of Scotland and his mother of Pennsylvania. They were married in the Keystone state and there the father followed farming. From there they removed to Belmont county, Ohio, settling near Henrysburg, where they resided for twenty years. They came to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1859, their son John having located here on the farm he now owns, in 1856. The father and mother made their home with their son John until their death. The father died in 1862, at the age of eighty-four years and the mother died in Ohio, in 1854. John McFarland, Sr., was a member of the Presbyterian church and in politics was a Whig. He served in the war of 1812 and fought at Fort Meigs, with Generals Harrison and Johnson. He shot Tecumseh, the Indian chief, at the same time General Johnson's fatal shot was fired. Johnson always divided the honor of killing the Indian chief with Mr. McFarland. The grandfather of our subject lived and died in Scotland, whence his four sons, John and three brothers, came to America.

John McFarland of this review was one

of a family of seven boys and five girls, only one now living, Jane, the widow of Charles Turner, who makes her home with Mr. McFarland. In the district schools of Bedford county, Pennsylvania, Mr. McFarland received his early education. The "temple of learning" was a log cabin, without any floor, with poles for seats and with holes cut for windows which were covered with oiled paper and fastened by pegs. His training in educational work would continue through three months in the winter season. The remainder of his time was spent in work on the farm, where he labored with his father and brothers, and their labors resulted in making the frontier home a pleasant and comfortable one. Mr. McFarland only received three terms of schooling. The fireplace of the school was eight feet across, was made of rock and mud and would burn logs eight feet in length. As soon as he was old enough to reach the plow handles he plowed in the fields. He also chopped timber and remained with his father until after he was old enough to vote. He then came to Sandusky, Ohio, and hired out to Mr. Holderman, receiving a salary of six dollars per month. He next went to Warren county, Pennsylvania, and from there went to Indiana, working for a Mr. Johnson. He then purchased three boats, which he loaded with corn, but as the river was very high all three of the boats were lost.

About 1847, in Warren county, Indiana, Mr. McFarland was married to Miss Elizabeth Oxford, who was born near Perrysville, Warren county, Indiana. She was a daughter of Abraham Oxford. Her mother was a Miss Davidson, and they were married in Ohio. The father followed farming throughout his active career and in politics was a Republican. Mrs. McFarland

was a member of a family of three boys and four girls. She died in 1854, and in 1857 Mr. McFarland was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Henrietta (Catlin) Dalby, who was born near Chillicothe, Ohio, November 15, 1821. She was reared in Vincennes, Indiana. Her mother had two brothers, Aaron and Arnold, who were soldiers in the Revolutionary war. Her father was Daniel Catlin, a native of New York, who married Annie Brown, a native of Connecticut. They were married near Chillicothe, Ohio, where they lived for a time, and then settled on a farm at Evansville, Indiana. Later they went to Princeton, Indiana. From there they removed to Illinois, where they remained for two years. They then returned to Princeton, Indiana, where they remained for fifteen years, removing thence to Springfield, Illinois, where they made their home until their death. The father died about 1850, and the mother about 1848. They were both members of the Baptist church and he was a Republican. They were parents of nine children.

By his first marriage Mr. McFarland had six children, four of whom reached years of maturity. Elijah, now deceased, married Lena Chester. His widow resides in Oakwood township, with her six children. Newton, also deceased, married Alice Mead, who resides in Oakwood township and has one child. Rachel is the wife of Asa Knox, of Danville, and they have one child. Martha is the wife of Orin Stoker, of Pittsburg, Kansas, and they have three children. Unto Mr. McFarland and his second wife were born two children who are now living. Elmira is the wife of Zeno Stylings. They have two daughters and reside in Fairmount, Illinois. Emma became the wife of John Littler. After his death she married

William Weaver. By the first marriage she has one son, and by the second marriage has three daughters, living. Mrs. McFarland by her first marriage with Mr. Dalby, became the mother of four children who are living. Elizabeth is the wife of Vincent Hayes, resides in Champaign county, Illinois, and has five children. William married Alice Smith. After her death he married Ella Whitiker. He had two children by his first union and four by his second, and is now a resident of Oakwood township. Mary Eliza is the wife of John T. Ellis and resides near Vandalia, Illinois. They have three sons. Julia Frances is the widow of Edward Littler, residing in Muncie, Illinois, and has two children.

After his first marriage Mr. McFarland remained in Indiana until about 1855, when he came to Vermilion county and bought his present farm from the heirs who owned it. He has resided here continuously since and his large farm is a model one of neatness and thrift. He has a large and comfortable residence and good barns and leads a quiet, pleasant life surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. When he came to Vermilion county, land was worth ten dollars per acre. He paid fifteen dollars per acre for his farm, which had been partly cultivated, but he has tilled and improved it until it does not seem the same place. At that early day Danville had a population of twelve hundred. He and his partner, Mr. Perbaseo, bought all the hogs on the Wyandotte preserves and drove them from Sandusky, Ohio, to Baltimore, over the mountains, a distance of five hundred miles, and sold the twenty-five hundred hogs in a bunch. Sometimes they had to sew moccasins on the feet of the hogs so they could travel, as their feet would be completely worn out. This was before Mr.

McFarland came to Illinois. Mrs. McFarland has also many interesting reminiscences to tell of former days—the days of the cotton gin, spinning wheels and primitive times when there were no matches. She says in those early days they could not buy a sifter to sift their meal. This difficulty was obviated by punching holes in a piece of calf-skin and spreading or stretching it on a hickory hoop. The pioneers of those days knew what it was to be deprived of necessities which are so common to our advanced state of civilization of to-day that we scarcely notice them. Mr. McFarland is a hale and hearty old gentleman of eighty-four years, and his wife is also a genial and kindly lady who has had many interesting experiences of frontier life. Mr. McFarland has held all the offices of his township. He and his wife are devoted members of the Baptist church and in politics he is a Republican. Honored and highly respected people of the community, they enjoy the regard of many friends and acquaintances.

ALPHEUS CRUZAN.

Alpheus Cruzan is a well known contractor in street paving, concrete construction and cement walks at Danville. He deserves mention as one of the leading representatives of industrial interests here, and although yet a young man, his knowledge and enterprise have already brought him a comfortable competence.

Mr. Cruzan was born in Manchester, Ohio, in 1866. His father, R. S. Cruzan, was a native of Indiana, and in early life followed farming, in the vicinity of Manchester, Ohio, where he owned considerable land. In 1867 he left that place and re-

moved to Cynthiana, Kentucky, where he continued to make his home until 1880, which was the year of his arrival in Lexington, Kentucky. Throughout his business career he carried on agricultural pursuits. His wife bore the maiden name of Eliza Jane Conner, and was a native of the Blue Grass state. They became the parents of three children, but the two sisters of our subject are now deceased.

Alpheus Cruzan, having acquired his early education in the common schools, later continued his studies in the Central University, at Richmond, where he pursued a general course. He afterward engaged in bookkeeping for several years, in Cincinnati, Ohio, and followed the same profession subsequent to his removal to Danville, in 1889, being for three years connected with the Golden Rule store in that capacity. In 1892 he left Danville and went to Lexington, Kentucky, where he was engaged in the lumber business with his father under the firm style of the Cruzan Lumber Company, being a third owner in the enterprise. For three years he was associated with that business and then again came to Danville, where he aided in organizing and putting in operation the Danville Telephone Company. It was a stock company, incorporated, and Mr. Cruzan was chosen treasurer and director, serving in those capacities for about five years. At one time he owned a controlling interest but disposed of his telephone business in 1900. He then took up contracting in street paving and cement construction, the business being now carried on under the name of Alpheus Cruzan. He is engaged in concrete construction in paving, grading, excavating and in constructing sewers, and his annual business amounts to about seventy-five thousand dollars. He employs on an average of fifty

people during the busy season, working five crews in his concrete construction. His patronage comes from a wide territory including Chicago, Clinton, Lafayette, Indiana, Detroit and Adrian Michigan, and Danville. The paving is done in brick, granitoid and concrete. The work is of an enduring quality and has therefore given general satisfaction.

In this city, in 1802, Mr. Cruzan wedded Georgiana Forbes, of Danville, and unto them have been born four children: Georgiana, Margaret Mansfield, Elizabeth and Roberta Simpson. Mrs. Cruzan's parents are both deceased but her stepmother, Mrs. Catherine S. Forbes, makes her home with our subject and his wife. Mrs. Cruzan has a half-brother, C. W. Forbes, of Danville.

In his social affiliations Alphens Cruzan is connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Court of Honor. In politics he is a Republican, but has never sought or desired office, serving only for one term as city alderman. His home is at No. 107 West North street. He has made good use of his opportunities, and has prospered from year to year, has conducted all business matters carefully and successfully and in all his acts displays an aptitude for successful management. His manner is kindly and genial and to this perhaps, as well as to his business ability is due his creditable standing in the social and business world.

SAMUEL WATERS ALLERTON.

One of the largest landowners in Vermilion county and founder of the town bearing his name, but who makes his home in Chicago, is Samuel W. Allerton, who traces

his ancestry to Isaac Allerton, who came over in the Mayflower in 1620. Isaac Allerton was a native of England and was born between the years 1583 and 1585, the exact date being unknown. He resided in London for some time prior to his removal to Holland in 1600. It is generally admitted that he was the wealthiest of all the Pilgrims and was one of the few among them to whose names Bradford and other contemporaneous writers always gave the prefix "Mr." which in those days was used as an index of superior family or respectability. He was also one of the three upon whom the privilege of citizenship was conferred by the city of Leyden, his associates in this honor being William Bradford, afterward governor of the Plymouth colony, and Degory Priest, his brother-in-law. He was first married in the city of Leyden, November 4, 1611, to Mary Norris, of Newbury, England, and at the time of the sailing of the Mayflower he had four children. His wife died February 25, 1621. In 1626 he married Fear Brewster, daughter of Elder William Brewster. She was a woman of pleasing appearance and of pious disposition and was the mother of Isaac Allerton, the second of that name, from whom the Allerton family is descended. She died in 1634, while his death occurred in 1659.

Samuel W. Allerton is of the ninth generation from Isaac Allerton, of whom mention has just been made. He was born at Amenia, Dutchess county, New York, and is a son of Samuel W. and Hannah (Hurd) Allerton, the former also being a native of Amenia, born December 5, 1775. He was united in marriage to Hannah Hurd March 26, 1808. She was born in South Dover, Dutchess county, New York, and was the eldest daughter of Ebenezer and Rebecca (Phillips) Hurd, her father being an exten-



Samuel W. H. Coontz

sive farmer and stock-dealer in Amenia. By this union there were nine children, eight of whom were living in January, 1899, at a combined age of over six hundred and thirty years. In his early life the father of our subject studied for the medical profession but changing his mind he learned the tailor's trade and became a merchant tailor, while at the same time he carried on a country store. In 1828 he was one of the promoters in building a woolen mill and establishing a factory. In consequence of the reduction of the tariff in 1833 nearly all the manufactories in New England were ruined, and Mr. Allerton lost nearly all his fortune. In 1837 he went west to Iowa with the hope of building up his fortune but was taken sick and returned to his eastern home. In 1842 he removed to Yates county, New York, where he rented a farm, and in 1848 he bought a farm in Wayne county, in the same state, where he lived the remainder of his life. He was a man of sterling integrity, was a Universalist in religious belief, and lived to the ripe old age of ninety-nine years and eight months.

Samuel Waters Allerton, our subject, was but seven years of age when his father failed in business, at which time he received an impression which has influenced his noble life. While the sheriff was selling his father's property, his mother shed tears when two horses which had been highly prized were sold. Putting his arms around his mother's neck he told her that he would be a man and provide for her. In after life he kept his promise. He was the youngest of the nine children and lived in Amenia until he was fourteen years of age, but commenced to work for himself when he was twelve years old. In 1842 he went to Yates county with his parents and remained with them until they had saved enough money

to buy a farm in Wayne county. With his brother Henry, he then rented a farm and made fifteen hundred dollars, which they invested in a farm in Wayne county, leaving still three thousand dollars unpaid.

Renting another farm Mr. Allerton began its cultivation and at the end of three years had saved thirty-two hundred dollars. He then went to Newark where he worked with his brothers on their farm and traded in a small way in livestock in Wayne county. On his return from Albany and New York, where he had gone with some stock, he said to his brother Henry: "I believe I know as much as the dealers I met and as we now have the farm paid for and three thousand dollars in money, I will settle with you, you taking the farm and I taking the money." His brother replied: "If you continue as you are in a few years you will own the best farm in the country, but if you wish to try the livestock business, all right, we will settle on this basis. This is all the advice I have to give you. You will run across smart and tricky men, but they always die poor. Make a name and character for yourself and you are sure to win."

The first hundred cattle Samuel bought after dissolving partnership with his brother, he sold in New York at a loss of seven hundred dollars. This made him sick but calling on an elderly uncle who had made a success in life, he was told by his uncle, "My boy, you are pretty sick, but don't lose your courage. I never found but one dead sure thing, and that was hoeing corn at fifty cents per day. If you make money you must sometimes lose it. Try it over."

About this time women had burned a number of bridges on the Erie Railroad because the trains would not stop for dinner. Going to Erie, Mr. Allerton purchased one hundred head of cattle which he shipped to

New York over the Erie Railroad, and which on account of the burned bridges had to be unloaded and driven to Dunkirk, where they were reshipped. On his arrival he found the market short on cattle, and his venture netted him three thousand dollars, which gave him new courage. He then drifted west and for one year fed and raised cattle in Fulton county, Illinois. The financial panic which swept over the country at that time wiped out all the capital he had, and becoming ill he concluded that he could not stand the western climate. Returning east, he bought an interest in a store with his brother in Newark, New York, and for a short time engaged in mercantile business. Selling goods, however, was not agreeable to him, as he desired to deal on a larger scale.

While residing in Illinois he had met a daughter of Astor C. Thompson, of Fulton county, that state. Having regained his health, he sold his interest in the store and, gathering the money he had left and borrowing five thousand dollars, he came west, the young lady in Fulton county being the principal attraction. On his arrival there he traded a little, but in March, 1860, he returned to Chicago, which has since continued to be his home. On the 1st of July, 1860, he was united in marriage to Miss Pamilla M. Thompson, at Peoria, Illinois, and with his young bride returned to Chicago, "where the world turned around every twenty-four hours," and which was the proper place in which to trade.

On going to Chicago, Mr. Allerton commenced to buy and sell livestock in a small way, there being then no general market in the city except for a short time during the winter. Shippers generally took their livestock to the eastern markets. About this time there was a decided break in the Chi-

ago market, and Mr. Allerton desired to buy, but having formed no connection with any bank there, the question was how to get money. Among his few acquaintances in Chicago was a man by the name of Tobey, whom he asked to take him to a bank and identify him. Mr. Tobey was willing to do this but he said that he could not guarantee anything. He was assured by Mr. Allerton that he only wished to be identified and that he would arrange the balance. He was taken to the bank of George Smith and, on being introduced, said to Mr. Willard, "If I pay for three telegrams, one to Halstead, Chamberlain & Company, asking if they will pay my draft; one to your own correspondent, to ascertain if Halstead, Chamberlain & Company are all right; and one to my own bank to assure you that I am all right, can I come down to-morrow and sell you a sight draft?" He replied "Yes." Mr. Allerton went back to the stockyards and bought all the hogs in the market and went down with a draft for eighty thousand dollars, asking Mr. Willard if he had received replies to his telegrams. His answer was that he had and that the replies were favorable. Mr. Allerton handed him the draft and was told that he could not discount so large a draft on telegrams and that he had supposed that he would not want more than five thousand dollars. Mr. Allerton said, "You know Mr. Tobey and you certainly do not think that he would introduce a thief to you."

Mr. Willard, however, would not discount the draft and Mr. Allerton found himself in a position where he must have the money but what to do he did not know. Leaving the bank, he accidentally met a man from Syracuse, New York, and asked him if he was acquainted with any banks in Chicago, and was told that he knew Aikens & Norton. He was taken to them and intro-

duced Mr. Aikens looked over the telegrams and signified his willingness to comply with Mr. Allerton's request, but that he would have to charge one per cent. for the use of the money. In this way Mr. Allerton became a customer of Aikens & Norton. The Civil war broke out and the nation needed money. Congress passed the national bank act, issuing bonds to secure the circulation. This was regarded by Mr. Allerton as a step in the right direction toward a national currency, as the nation had never had anything but "red dog" and "bob-tailed" currency. To start a national bank would aid the government and give the people uniform currency, but for some reason the people seemed slow to start national banks. Mr. Allerton asked Mr. Aikens why he did not start one and was answered, "because he feared he could not get the stock taken." Mr. Allerton said that he, with five other men, would take ten thousand dollars each. In this way the First National Bank of Chicago, one of the strongest financial institutions in the country, was started.

By his union with Pamilla Thompson two children were born. Kate Bennett, born June 10, 1863, married Dr. Francis Sydney Papin, October 14, 1885, and after his death married Hugo R. Johnson. Robert Henry was born March 20, 1873. The mother of these children died and Mr. Allerton later married her sister, Agnes C. Thompson, the marriage ceremony being solemnized March 15, 1882. They now reside in a beautiful home on Prairie avenue, Chicago.

Mr. Allerton has been a very successful business man and is well known throughout the state and nation. He wrote the first letter published in the Chicago Tribune in favor of organizing the Union Stockyards, so as to bring all buyers and sellers together,

which has made it the greatest livestock market in the world and also made Chicago a money center. He always had the desire to own a farm when he succeeded in accumulating enough money. His desire has certainly been gratified, and he is to-day one of the largest farmers in the country who cultivates his own land, cultivating about forty thousand acres in the very best manner. He is said to have a hobby for purchasing poorly productive lands and by cultivation "makes them blossom as a rose." He has large interests in ranches and gold mines and has lands in Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York, and has always been interested in the livestock trade and continues to ship livestock to New York and England.

Mr. Allerton received his early political education from Henry Clay and Horace Greeley, and has always been a strong believer in a protective tariff and free schools. He remembers that in the campaign of 1844, when Henry Clay was a candidate for the presidency, the issue was "Shall we put a tariff on iron and inaugurate free schools?" The Democrats said that "a tariff would build up home monopolies and free schools would be a burden and a tax on the people." Clay replied "Give the people free schools so as to increase their intelligence, their energy and industry, and home competition would reduce the price of iron." It was then one hundred dollars a ton. Remembering the words of Henry Clay and believing the free school system has made this great nation, Mr. Allerton by giving the land, has had school houses built on each of his farms. Since the organization of the party he has been a stalwart Republican and has been mentioned and his election advocated by some of the best newspapers and best citizens of the state for the high office

of United States senator. That he would honor the office and people of the state goes without question. He once ran for mayor of Chicago in the interests of civil service with no pledges to any one. His desire was to give the city an honest, clean administration. The office would have been no honor to him but he would have honored the office. It was his intention to employ the best engineers in the country to settle the vexed question of engineering and in all departments of the city government to put the right man in the right place, irrespective of politics. He carried the north division of the city and the other intelligent wards but was beaten by a sharp political trick of his opponent.

Mr. Allerton believes that all men should try to lead a successful life; this he owes to himself, his friends and his people. He believes that young men to-day have better opportunities for advancement than when he was a boy, and that they have better teachers and better schools. Labor is higher and the necessities of life are cheaper, and therefore the opportunities are much greater for success. His life is certainly an object lesson for the young men of to-day, and he certainly deserves all the honor which he receives.

JOHN W. CLINGAN.

Among the best, most energetic and enterprising farmers and stock-raisers of Georgetown township, is John W. Clingan, whose landed possessions also extend into Catlin township and his property interests comprise several business houses in the village of Georgetown. He is widely recognized as one of the leading citizens of the

southern part of the county. His birth occurred in Danville township, November 16, 1855, his parents being James S. and Elvira (Olehy) Clingan, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Vermilion county, Illinois. William Clingan, the grandfather of our subject, was also born in the Buckeye state and in the year 1844 emigrated westward to this county, settling in Danville township, where he cleared a tract of land, making it cultivable. He there carried on the work of general farming for two years, when his life's labors were ended in death in 1846. The father of our subject also engaged in farming in Danville township, being thus interested in business affairs here until 1867, when he removed to Catlin township. There he secured a farm which he owned and operated for several years and on the expiration of that period he removed to the village of Westville, there living retired until he too was called to his final home in August, 1898. His wife still survives him and yet resides in Westville. They were the parents of four children, namely: John W.; Dennis R., a farmer who resides on the old home place in Catlin township; Mary E., who died at the age of three years; and Luther A., who married Etta Graves and is a farmer of Georgetown township.

At the usual age Mr. Clingan entered the common schools, where he gained a good knowledge of the branches of learning usually taught in such institutions. Subsequently he entered a commercial school at Danville, Illinois, and was thus prepared for the duties of business life, being graduated in that institution with the class of 1876. He wedded Miss Mary E. Nesbitt, also a native of this county and a daughter of William R. Nesbitt, who was an early settler here and is now deceased. The home

of Mr. and Mrs. Clingan has been blessed with two children: D. Albert and Edna E.

When our subject had completed his education he began teaching school, being employed in the vicinity of Danville and of Westville for sixteen years. His educational work was acceptable in the districts where his services were secured for he had marked ability in imparting to others the knowledge which he had acquired. He also maintained discipline and thus became widely known as a capable and successful teacher. When sixteen years had passed he settled upon his present farm which is known as the old Hiram Gibson place, located on section 24, Georgetown township. He likewise owns a good farm in Catlin township, having altogether two hundred and ten acres of well improved land. Here he carries on general farming and stock-raising and the fields annually return to him good harvests, while in his pasture or feed-lots are found some of the most fashionable Poland China hogs. If one would examine into his life record to learn the secret of his success it will be found that he has prospered because he has worked unremittingly, paying close attention to his farm duties and giving careful thought to the management of his fields. Thus he has prospered and as his financial resources have increased he has made judicious investments in town as well as farm property. He now owns three good business houses in Georgetown, which are now occupied by a grocery, a meat market and a drug store. Mr. Clingan has never been an office seeker nor has he held office. He has, however, always voted with the Democratic party. He and his wife and children are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Fairview and they have warm friends in the county. Reading, experience and investigation have made Mr.

Clingan a well informed man and his mentality and genuineness, combined with his social nature, render him a popular and companionable gentleman. So well has he prospered in his work that he expects soon to put aside his farming interests and live retired.

JOSEPH SMITH.

Joseph Smith, deceased, was numbered among the honored pioneers of Vermilion county, having located here in 1831, and for many years he was prominently identified with the business interests of Danville. His early home was on the other side of the Atlantic, for he was born in Worcestershire, England, August 1, 1819, his parents being also natives of that country. In 1831 the father brought the family to the United States and after spending a short time in Elmira, New York, they came west, stopping first at what is now Chicago, but there was no city there at that time. Later in the same year he proceeded to Vermilion county and purchased a small farm near Potomac, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for a few years, and then removed to Myersville, this county, and took charge of the Myersville flour mill, which was an old water mill. After running the same for several years Mr. Smith became a resident of Danville and forming a partnership with a Mr. Tincher they purchased a flour and hominy mill, which they at once commenced to operate, but Mr. Tincher soon sold his interest to Mr. Smith and a Mr. Giddings and the business was afterward conducted under the firm name of Smith & Giddings for several years or until the death of Mr. Smith.

Joseph Smith was about twelve years of age when he accompanied his parents on

their emigration to America, and he had only the advantages of a common school education. He was first married in Southport, New York, to Miss Julia Warnley, who died in Myersville, Illinois, and of the three children born of that union only one is living: Frank, a prominent florist of Danville. In 1862 Mr. Smith wedded Mrs. Susan J. (Kuykendall) Fox, a native of Virginia, born February 14, 1833. Her father, Luke Kuykendall, removed from the Old Dominion to Illinois in 1854 and settled on a farm in Vermilion county, where he followed farming throughout the remainder of his life. By his second marriage Mr. Smith had four children, as follows: Bertha J. is now the widow of Jesse L. Holloway of this county, who was a passenger conductor on the Missouri Pacific Railroad and later on the Monon route, running between Lafayette, Indiana, and Chicago, and he was found dead beside the track August 21, 1901, probably the result of an accident. Mrs. Holloway is now living with her mother in Danville. Katherine engaged in teaching in the public schools of Danville for several years and is now the wife of C. L. Thompson of Lamar, Colorado. Clinton is a traveling salesman for the Rumford Baking Powder Company. Willie died at the age of thirteen years.

Like his father Mr. Smith of this review learned the milling business in his youth, and after coming to Danville he purchased a flour mill which he continued to operate throughout the remainder of his life. He also dealt some in real estate and at the time of his death owned considerable property in Danville, but his widow has lately disposed of the last of the estate with the exception of the beautiful home at No. 412 West North street, where she and her daughter now reside. At one time Mr. Smith owned the

property which has since been converted into the Danville Public Library. During his active business career he attended strictly to his own affairs and became a very successful man. After a useful and well spent life he passed away on the 8th of March, 1894, honored and respected by all who knew him. Politically he was a pronounced Republican, but was never an office seeker though he took a commendable interest in the success of his party. 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.



FRED L. DAVIS.

The agricultural interests of Vermilion county are well represented by Fred L. Davis, a prominent young farmer of Vance township. He is a son of Henry Davis, whose name appears elsewhere in this volume. He was born May 24, 1876, in Vance township, and from childhood became familiar with the work of the farm. He attended the district schools of the township and later in Fairmount, Illinois. After putting aside his text-books he assisted his father on the home farm where he has since remained. He is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land on sections 7 and 18, which is all well improved and valuable land. He has a good, comfortable home, and all the conveniences of a model farm are his. On the 15th of February, 1899, in Fairmount, Illinois, Mr. Davis was united in marriage to Miss Essie Carrington, who was born near Jamaica, Illinois, September 6, 1879. She is a daughter of William and

Mary L. (Busby) Carrington, the latter a daughter of I. N. Busby, who is now living in Fairmount. William Carrington was a native of Indiana and was married in Vermilion county, Illinois. After his marriage he located in Indianola, now Jamaica, township. Here he purchased land and remained until 1890, when he retired from active life and removed to Fairmount, Illinois. In that town he purchased city property. During the summer of 1902, he visited in Colorado. He is a wealthy man having extensive landed interests. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in his political views is a Republican, but has never sought or desired office. Mrs. Davis is one of a family of three children. Edward is engaged in the furniture business in Fairmount, Illinois. He married Stella Davis. Harvey is married and resides on a farm in Vance township. He has one child, Grace. Essie is the wife of the subject of this review.

Mr. Davis is one of the energetic and ambitious agriculturists of Vance township. He gives careful attention to the management of his farm and his well tilled fields are the result of his labor. He is public spirited and interested in the welfare of his community. He and his wife are members of the Court of Honor and they attend the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he supports the Democratic party and he is well and favorably known in Vermilion county.

R. A. SHORT.

R. A. Short is engaged in the real-estate and loan business controlling extensive operations in this line. He was born in Vermilion county, September 14, 1836, but during much of his life has made his home in

the city of Danville. He is a son of Thomas and Nancy Ann (Lanham) Short, both of whom were natives of Virginia. The father was born in Loudoun county and in 1830 came to Illinois settling in Vermilion county. His wife came about the same time, traveling with a colony that established homes in the west. Mr. Short was a well educated man and engaged in teaching school near Maneleys Mill, and in public office he rendered to his fellow citizens efficient and valued service. In his political affiliations he was first a Whig and after the dissolution of that party he joined the new Republican party, on which ticket he was elected the second county clerk of Vermilion county. For twelve years he continued to fill that position in a most creditable and acceptable manner and then turned his attention to farming which he followed for a few years, when he was struck by lightning and thus disabled for further business cares he retired to private life, spending his last days in Fairmount, where he died about 1877. The mother of our subject had passed away in 1840 and Mr. Short had married Virginia Lanham, who though of the same name was not a relative of his first wife. She died in 1870. With the Methodist Episcopal church Mr. Short held membership and was actively identified with the organization. The subject of this review was one of a family of six sons and three daughters. James, one of the sons, was killed at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain while serving with the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, and the other brother who has passed away was Colmore, who was killed by the same lightning bolt that injured the father. The surviving members of the family are John C., who resides in New York; R. A.; Alexander C., who makes his home in Los Gatos, California; Thomas, of Danville; and Clara,

the wife of Elias Holiday, a resident of Los Gatos, California, at the present time although their marriage was celebrated in Fairmount, Illinois.

In the public schools of Vermilion county R. A. Short began his education which was completed by his graduation in the Danville Seminary with the class of 1858. From that time forward he has been a factor in business life in this city. He first engaged in the drug business with which he was connected for twelve years and then entered the dry-goods trade as the senior member of the firm of R. A. Short & Company, their store being conducted with profit until 1893, when Mr. Short retired. Indolence and idleness, however, are utterly foreign to his nature and he could not long content himself without business cares, so that he soon began operating in real estate and has since carried on business as a real-estate, insurance, investment and loan agent. During this period he has controlled many important negotiations along those lines and has bought and sold much valuable property—in fact his business is to-day very extensive and, being capably controlled, brings to him a very gratifying income.

On the 30th of September, 1859, in this city, Mr. Short was married to Emily W. Murdock, whose birth occurred near Lafayette, Indiana, January 25, 1838, her parents being John and Jane (Sterling) Murdock, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania and were there reared and married. The father, a farmer by occupation, took up his abode in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, upon his removal to the west and there remained until his death. He voted with the Democracy and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Short was one of a family of two sons and eight daughters, but of this number only five are now living:

Mary, the widow of Asa Partlow and a resident of Danville; Ann, who is the widow of Henry Olds and makes her home in Detroit, Michigan; Mrs. Lizzie Scott, who is also a widow and resides in Oxford, Indiana; Mrs. Short; and Ellen, the wife of Charles R. Vance, of Los Angeles, California. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Short has been blessed with six children, four of whom survive: Lewis, who married Laura Grant, of Danville, and is now a professor in the Illinois University at Champaign; Lillian, who is a teacher in the schools of Rogers Park, a suburb of Chicago; William M., a lawyer of Fort Worth, Texas; and Walter, who is teller in the Citizens National Bank, at Evanston, Illinois.

Study and investigation concerning the issues and questions of the day have led Mr. Short to give his approval and support to the measures of the Republican party, but he has never been an office seeker. Holding membership in the First Methodist Episcopal church he served for many years as one of its trustees and has always been deeply interested in whatever has tended to benefit his community, co-operating in a large measure in movements for general good and for progression.

B. F. McELHANEY.

B. F. McElhaney, who is engaged in blacksmithing and in dealing in fine horses, is a well known resident of Hoopston, but he has a wide acquaintance especially among the owners of fine trotting and pacing stock throughout Vermilion county. He was born in this county on the 2d of December, 1861, at his father's home in Ross township, his parents being Elijah and Matilda (Smith) McElhaney, both of whom were natives of

Kentucky and were of Scotch-Irish descent. The father died in 1896 and the mother is still living, her home being now in Jordan township, Warren county, Indiana, where she has lived since 1874. In the family were three sons and three daughters, namely: B. F., Charles L., Elizabeth, Joseph, Mrs. Nancy Harris and Mrs. Mary Cole.

Mr. McElhaney obtained his education in the old fashioned country schools and was reared upon his father's farm in Ross township, Vermilion county, until the removal of the family to Indiana. He herded cattle upon the prairies here when there were but few settlements, and can remember when the old city of Stateline was a better town than Danville is to-day. With the exception of about ten years he has resided continuously in Vermilion county. In 1879, and for one year, he engaged in farming, after which he entered a blacksmith shop in Stateline, there learning his trade. After four years spent at that place he removed to Marshfield, Indiana, where he remained for seven years and in 1888 took up his abode in Potomac, Illinois. In 1892 he located in Ambia, Indiana, and the following year he came to Hoopeston. The first year he worked in the machine shop of Thomas Woolverton. In Marshfield, Indiana, he owned and conducted a shop and in 1894 he built his present shop in Hoopeston where he has since been doing a general blacksmithing business, making a specialty of fancy horseshoeing. He does all the track shoeing for this part of the county and during the season of 1902 he shod about thirty track horses. He has an excellent reputation as a practical horse-shoer and he employs from one to three men in his shop. He oversees all of the work done therein and to some extent performs part of the labor. He has raised and bred fine horses for speed and is now preparing

for the track a grandson of Axtel, four years old. He also has three other speed horses and after training them for a time he sells them to well known buyers. He always does his own training and has been a hard working business man who well merits the success which has come to him.

On the 10th of February, 1880, in Jordan township, Warren county, Indiana, Mr. McElhaney was married to Ella Evans. Her parents were natives of Virginia and became early settlers of Warren county, her father, David Evans, taking up his abode on the wild prairie, where he owned about seven hundred acres of land at the time of his death, which occurred in 1882. In 1886 Mr. McElhaney was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife who died in June of that year in Marshfield, Indiana. They were the parents of three children, but two died in infancy. Amott Owen died August 16, 1898, at the age of fifteen years. Mr. McElhaney was again married on the 16th of December, 1888, in Potomac, Illinois, his second union being with Mrs. Dora Prettiman, who was born in Middlefork township, Vermilion county, in 1861, and was the widow of Neil Prettiman. In his political views Mr. McElhaney is a stalwart Republican, but has had neither time nor inclination to seek public office, his attention being devoted untiringly to his business affairs, in which he is meeting with creditable and signal success.

JOHN H. JOHNSON.

Farming and real estate interests claim the time and attention of John H. Johnson, who resides in Rankin and who owns and operates one hundred and sixty-eight acres of well improved land adjoining the town.

He is a native of Denmark, born on the 8th of September, 1844, and when a young man of eighteen years he came to the new world to seek in its broader opportunities the advancement which he desired to gain in business life. He had attended school in his native country, but here he found himself a stranger in a strange land unfamiliar with the language and customs of the people. He possessed, however, strong determination and upon this quality he has builded his prosperity. It was in the year 1862 that he sailed for New York but he did not tarry long in the eastern metropolis, making his way at once to Wisconsin. There he worked on a farm for about two years, after which he went to Michigan and was employed in the pineries of the latter state. After three or four years spent in Michigan he came to Illinois in 1868, locating in Vermilion county, but soon afterward he began work on a farm in Champaign county. His father and brother-in-law also became residents of Illinois in the same year, purchasing land and locating near Rankin in Butler township.

In 1870 John H. Johnson began to farm his father's property, which he continued to cultivate for a number of years, caring for his parents through their declining days. Both his father and mother died in Chicago, the former while visiting a daughter in that city in 1887, at the age of eighty years. His wife survived him and died in Chicago in 1895, at the age of eighty-two years. When they had passed away the estate was equally divided among the heirs. After the death of his parents John H. Johnson purchased a tract of land of eighty acres upon which he continues farming. Subsequently he bought other land and he now has five hundred and thirty-five acres, divided into three farms. Subsequently he became the owner of one hundred and sixty-eight acres, where he now

resides, adjoining the town of Rankin. For the past twelve or fourteen years he has rented most of his land, giving his attention to the home place and to the real estate business. For about eight years he has operated in land and is a well known real estate dealer of this section of the county, having negotiated some very important property transfers.

In 1870 in this county Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Mary Anderson, a native of Denmark, who was reared and educated there and when a young lady came to America. Their union has been blessed with four children: Charles W., Peter Elmer, Martin H. and Emma Linda.

Politically, Mr. Johnson is a staunch Republican, who believes in expansion, in sound money and the protection of American industries. No native son of this land is more loyal to its interests and welfare than is this adopted citizen of the new world. He cast his first presidential vote for James A. Garfield and has since supported each candidate of the party for the presidency. He has never desired nor would he hold office. He is deeply interested, however, in everything pertaining to the general good and co-operates in many measures for the benefit of the community. He was one of the promoters of the Vermilion county hospital, making a liberal subscription to the institution of which he is now serving as a director. He has every reason to be proud of his connection with the work for the hospital is a most commendable enterprise of the county and one which reflects credit upon the humane spirit of Vermilion's citizens. Both Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were reared in the Lutheran faith. They have worked together as the years have passed and their united efforts have resulted in bringing to them splendid and creditable success. Although he came to America a poor young man with

no means Mr. Johnson is now the owner of two large and valuable farms, aggregating six hundred and ninety-five acres and this is due to his marked industry and the assistance of his estimable wife. They have a large circle of friends in this locality and their pleasant home is noted for its hospitality.

AUGUSTUS S. ZERSE.

Augustus S. Zerse was well known to the citizens of Danville and to the county officials, for, for seven years, he was a clerk of the courthouse. A man of genuine worth and of many qualities which endeared him to his friends, his death was deeply mourned and his memory is yet cherished by those with whom he came in contact. A native of Germany, he was born on the 1st of August, 1841, his parents being Dr. William F. and Catherine Zerse, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father was a graduate of a medical college, completing his course in Heidelberg University and after coming to America he practiced in New York city for fourteen years with good success. He then went to Michigan, locating in Jackson, where he remained in practice for a short time and then removed to Lafayette, Indiana, where he also prosecuted his profession. Later he took up his abode in Centralia, Illinois, where he practiced with success and also engaged in farming at Johansburg, near Centralia. He practiced in the two towns and carried on his agricultural pursuits until his death. His widow now resides in Nashville, Illinois.

Augustus S. Zerse was the only member of the family that came to Vermilion county. In early life he was brought by his parents to America and was educated in the German and grammar schools of New York city.

He also attended school in Jackson, Michigan, and thus acquired a good education. Later he went to Attica, Indiana, where he was employed as a salesman in a dry-goods store for several years. While he was there located the war broke out and he offered his services to the government, enlisting as a member of Company H, Seventy-second Indiana Infantry, under the command of Captain Hanna and Colonel Miller. This company participated in a number of important engagements, but Mr. Zerse was never injured during the war. However, he was taken ill and was in the hospital at Gallatin, Tennessee, for some time. He was made a steward of the hospital there and acting in that capacity until his discharge he rendered faithful duty to his country in that manner as well as upon the field of battle. His widow now owns a Bible which was presented to her husband for good work while in the hospital and it is a cherished memento of his army experience.

After his discharge Mr. Zerse settled in Lafayette, Indiana, where he engaged in the jewelry and notion business for a short time, when his store was destroyed by fire on the 22d of February, 1864. He then went to Urbana, Illinois, where he entered into partnership with his brother and again began dealing in jewelry and notions, conducting the business with success for several years. During that time he also owned a store in Champaign, Illinois.

While in the latter city, in 1865, Mr. Zerse was united in marriage to Miss Ella M. Wilson, a native of Warrenville, Illinois, born in 1846, and a daughter of James M. and Anna M. (Lindsey) Wilson, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of New Jersey. During the greater part of their lives, however, they were residents of Illinois. In early life Mr. Wilson was a farm-

er, but later was an inventor and manufacturer. He built a large shop at Urbana Illinois and carried on business under the firm name of Wilson & Parks, manufacturers of all kinds of farm implements. He was also engaged in that line of business at Waukegan, Illinois. Both he and his wife, however, are now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Zerse were born eight children: Norman, who married Georgia Sheffieldham, is now a bookkeeper in Elkhart, Indiana. Clarence A. is a physician and druggist carrying on business in Danville, Illinois. Mabel is at home and is the money order clerk at the postoffice. Maude is a teacher in the public schools of this city. Pearl is occupying the position of registry clerk in the postoffice of Danville. Dorothy is the wife of F. F. Moresby, a receiving clerk for Armour & Company, at Kansas City, Missouri. Frederick M. is foreman in the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company at St. Elmo, Illinois. Florence Gertrude is still with her mother.

After his marriage Mr. Zerse removed from Champaign, Illinois, to Red Bud, this state, where for five years he occupied the position of agent for the Cairo & St. Louis—the Narrow Gauge—Railroad Company. On the expiration of that period he went to Attica, Indiana, where he was employed as a clerk for a time and then removed to Hedrick, Indiana, where he was engaged in general merchandising. He also bought and shipped grain at that place for several years. Subsequently he came to Danville and was almost continuously from that time forward connected with official service here. Immediately after his arrival he was made tax clerk at the courthouse, for a few years serving in that capacity, during which time he purchased a grocery store on North Vermilion street, in Danville, hiring some one to

take charge of it. For three years he held the position of truant officer, serving in that capacity at the time of his death. He was a prominent and successful business man of this city and a most loyal and capable official, so that over the record of his public life and his private career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. In his political affiliations he was a stalwart Republican and ever kept well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He belonged to Kenesaw Post, G. A. R., of Danville and to the Masonic Lodge. He held membership in the Baptist church and in that faith died on the 15th of April, 1891, leaving to his family an untarnished name. His life had been one of activity, characterized by a genial manner, a kindly disposition and earnest purpose. He was highly esteemed for his rectitude of character, and his probity was above question. There were in his life many characteristics worthy of emulation and he fully merited the confidence which was so uniformly given him by his fellow townsmen. Mrs. Zerse and her children are devoted members of the Baptist church, and with her two daughters she resides at her beautiful home at No. 408 Oak street.

W. VINTON LANE.

It is the purpose and has been of this work to record the history of the men who have been prominent in the development and progress of Vermilion county along lines of material, intellectual and moral upbuilding. W. Vinton Lane is a citizen whose influence has ever been for good along all of these lines. He is now living a retired life upon a farm of forty acres on section 20, Blount township, and well does he merit this rest for his has been an active and noble career

and he has borne no unimportant part in the work of improvement and advancement.

He was born in Athens county, Ohio, November 12, 1829, and is a son of Lemuel and Orpha (Gibbs) Lane, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Vermont. The father died in Ohio, while the mother spent her last day in Kansas. In the family were seventeen children, thirteen of whom reached years of maturity, the subject of this review being the twelfth in order of birth. He acquired his education partly in a subscription school held in a log building which was seated with slab benches and heated by an immense fireplace, the scholars furnishing the wood used for fuel. One of the logs from the side of the building had been torn out and the aperture covered with greased paper, through which the light was admitted into the room.

Mr. Lane of this review was reared upon the home farm and lived in Ohio until eighteen years of age, when he came to Vermilion county, Illinois, and began work by the month for ten dollars per month. The fare in the pioneer home was largely corn bread and mush for breakfast and dinner, with plenty of milk. He worked in this way for about eight months and afterward was employed by John Goodwin at eleven dollars per month. He then made a trip to Ohio, where he secured work for ten dollars per month. He made the journey on foot, taking with him a drove of cattle, and in his native state he was in his father's employ for about a year. He then returned to this county. His first trip to the west had been made on horseback, riding his brother's horse. After his return he worked for James Goodwin, of Warren county, Indiana, for thirteen dollars per month, continuing in his employ for two years, after which he spent some time in a sawmill. On leaving that

place he removed to Knox county, Illinois, remaining with his brother for a year and then returned. It was about this time that Mr. Lane was united in marriage to Sarah Jane Crawford, who was born in Athens county, Ohio, August 11, 1833, a daughter of Josiah and Hannah (Walters) Crawford, who were pioneer settlers of this county, coming here when Mrs. Lane was but five years of age.

Our subject and his wife began their domestic life with one hundred and ninety acres of prairie and timber land. He continued to engage in farming and with characteristic energy carried on the work of developing and improving his property. His first home was a little house fourteen by sixteen feet, and was located a quarter of a mile north of his present home. The first land which he purchased comprised one hundred and sixty acres, which he acquired by having bought an old land warrant. He afterward sold eighty acres of that and later he bought a tract of ninety acres and another of forty acres, some of which was fenced. For his first land he paid about one dollar per acre and for the remainder about six dollars per acre. Danville, which was then his trading point, was a mere village. He continued his farming and stock-raising in the early pioneer times, experiencing all the difficulties incident to the establishment of a home on the frontier. Nearly all of the clothing used in his father's family was home made, the cloth being spun from flax in the summer and woven in the winter. The shoes, too, were home made. Fire was started with flint and tow, or else a member of the family would go to a neighbor's home in order to get a little fire with which to light one in the family fireplace. The houses and churches were lighted by candles and Mrs. Lane was among the girls who, on attending

meeting would carry their shoes upon their arms, putting them on just before service and removing them after church was over, going home barefooted. Mr. Lane well remembers the first buggy that was introduced into the neighborhood, and the first cook-stove which he ever saw. His farm implements were crude compared with the highly improved ones of the present day. He used a single shovel plow, cut his grain with a sickle and afterward with a cradle.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Lane was blessed with six children: Lemuel married a Miss Wilson and after her death wedded Anna Goodwin, by whom he has two children. Josiah is the second in order of birth. A. W. wedded Mary Lewis and has six children. Benjamin, of California, married Catherine Young and has five children. Cooper married Ida Radebaugh and has one child. One member of the family died in infancy.

Mr. Lane served as road commissioner for two terms and as school director for many years. When fifty-two years of age he joined the Free Methodist church, with which he has since been closely identified, taking an active and helpful part in its work as classleader. He has served as trustee of the church located in Blount township and is filling that office at the present time. His wife is serving as steward and is greatly interested in Sunday-school work, and a life of industry and enterprise has brought to our subject success in his business affairs. He added to his possessions as the years passed until he became the owner of eight hundred acres, which he has since divided among his children retaining only one hundred and fifty acres. This is all pasture land with the exception of twenty acres. He has visited Danville when there was but one or two stores in the village and he has seen

all of the hardships of pioneer life. Mrs. Lane was one of a family of ten children, four of whom are yet living, of whom she is the eldest, while our subject and his brother R. H. Lane are now the only survivors of the large pioneer family of seventeen children. This worthy couple have long resided in Vermilion county, witnessing its development from pioneer times when the prairie was covered with wild grasses, and when there were also many prairie wolves, while the less harmful prairie chickens, cranes, turkeys, ducks and geese were to be had in abundance. It was necessary at night, however, to fasten all of their stock up for protection, and the young corn had to be guarded from the crows. There were many difficulties and hardships to be borne, yet there were many pleasures to be enjoyed and from pioneer time down to the present both Mr. and Mrs. Lane have been numbered among the valued citizens of this community. In politics he is a Prohibitionist, believing firmly in the cause of temperance and in every measure calculated to uplift humanity and advance morality among his fellow men.

R. H. Lane, the surviving brother of our subject, was born in Vinton county, Ohio, March 19, 1832, and in the year 1865 he came to this county in company with his wife, who bore the maiden name of Mary Bruner. Her parents were John and Nancy Bruner, natives of Ohio, and Mrs. Lane was born July 9, 1832. She was to her husband for many years a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey, but she died May 12, 1894. In the family were four children.

Before leaving Ohio R. H. Lane joined the Union soldiers that started out to check the advance of Morgan into Ohio. For almost forty years, however, he has been identified with Vermilion county and has de-

veloped a fine farm. He first lived in a log house, but as time has passed he has erected a substantial residence and many good buildings upon his farm and to-day he is the owner of eighty acres of valuable land across which there are fine driveways and all modern equipments. The place is nicely located and everything is neat and attractive in appearance. In politics R. H. Lane is a Democrat and is regarded as a substantial and representative pioneer citizen of Vermilion county.

B. S. RICE.

Sound judgment combined with fine ability in mechanical lines has enabled the subject of this biography, a well known resident of Hoopeston, Illinois, to obtain a substantial success in life. He is a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred near Decatur, that state, September 16, 1862, and he is a son of William and Melissa (Kennedy) Rice. His father was born in Indiana and is descended from an old Pennsylvania German family, but the mother was born in Ohio and on the maternal side is of Irish lineage. Since 1872 they have made their home in Goodland, Indiana, and are numbered among the highly respected citizens of that place. After following the wagon-maker's trade for a third of a century the father is now living a retired life, enjoying a well earned rest. In his family are seven children: S. T., a resident of Pittsburg, Kansas; B. S.; David, of Golden, Colorado; James W., of Hoopeston, Illinois; W. A., of Goodland, Indiana; Lulu, wife of Ira Rinker, principal of the schools of Paragon, Indiana; Myrtle, wife of Walter Peckham; and Ethel, wife of Leonard Tullis, of Rensslear, Indiana.

During his boyhood B. S. Rice accompanied his parents on their removal to Goodland, Indiana, and after completing his education in the schools of that place he learned the blacksmith's trade, serving a four years' apprenticeship. He continued to work at his trade in Goodland for eighteen months thereafter, or until 1890, when he went to Chicago and spent three years in that city at the same occupation. At the end of that period he removed to Danville, Illinois, where he was in the employ of William Ryan four years, and then came to Hoopeston, where he worked for Mr. McElhaney one year. In February, 1898, he purchased his present shop and has since engaged in business on his own account with marked success. He is an expert horse-shoer and up to the present year, 1903, he has always made a specialty of scientific horse-shoeing, having shod many fine race horses. He does much expert hand work in his line and has built up an excellent trade since becoming a factor in business circles of Hoopeston.

At Kentland, Indiana, January 7, 1886, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Rice and Miss Josephine Ginan, who was born near Lockport, Illinois, in 1864. Her parents, James and Mary Ginan, were both natives of Ireland, but were married in Lockport, Illinois, having come to America when young. The father died in the fall of 1900, but the mother is still living and now makes her home in Brook, Indiana. Their children were Maggie, Nellie, Josephine, Kate, Delia, Elizabeth, Florence, John and David, all of whom are still living. There was never a death in the family until the father passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Rice have three children, namely: Clarence, born in June, 1885; Esther, born March 21 1901; and Harry, born in December, 1902. The family have a pleasant home on Washington

avenue, where Mr. Rice erected a nice eight-room house with basement, in 1901, at a cost of two thousand dollars, and also built a barn. His political support is given the Republican party, and in religious faith he is a Catholic. He is the present venerable consul of Hoopston Camp, No. 257, M. W. A., and he is also an honored member of the Home Circle.

WILLIAM J. CALHOUN.

William J. Calhoun was born October 5, 1848, at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. He spent the early years of his life in what is known as the Mahoning valley on the border line of Pennsylvania and Ohio. His father was Robert Calhoun, who was of Scotch-Irish descent. He belonged by descent to the Scotch clan of Colquhoun, one branch of which emigrated to Ireland, from which the Calhouns of America descended. Robert Calhoun married Sarah Knox, who was also of the same racial descent. Her father was James Knox, who, for many years, was an officer in the English army, but emigrated to the United States and located at Pittsburg. His father, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was Captain John Knox, an officer in the English army, who participated in the French and English wars, and was the author of what is known as "Knox's Diary," which is a history of and narration of the author's experience in these wars, and is referred to frequently by Parkman and other students and writers upon that period.

Robert Calhoun was a merchant in his early life, but breaking down in health retired to a farm, near Youngstown, Ohio, where he died in March, 1866. His wife

previously died in 1858 at Mt. Jackson, Pennsylvania.

W. J. Calhoun in 1864, while the civil war was in progress, ran away from home, and after two rejections on account of his youth, finally succeeded in enlisting in the army and became a member of the Nineteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Colonel Manderson, lately United States senator from Nebraska.

On returning home after his discharge by reason of the termination of the war he entered the Union Seminary, at Poland, Mahoning county, Ohio, where he was a student for three years. This was the same institution at which President McKinley received most, if not all, of his education. It was there Mr. Calhoun became acquainted with the late president and the members of his family.

Mr. Calhoun came to Illinois in the spring of 1869. He first located in Arcola, Douglas county, where resided his mother's sister, the wife of Dr. F. B. Henry. He taught school, worked on the farm, and finally entered upon the study of law. He removed to Danville in March, 1874, and completed his studies under the tuition and direction of Hon. J. B. Mann. He was admitted to the bar in January, 1875, and immediately entered into partnership with Mr. Mann, forming the firm of Mann & Calhoun, which firm afterwards became Mann, Calhoun & Frazier, and, in its time was one of the best known law firms in Eastern Illinois.

Mr. Calhoun married Alice D. Harmon December 28, 1875. To them two children were born, Marian Calhoun and Corrinne Calhoun. The latter was married, October 7, 1902, to W. H. Gray, Jr., of Boston, and now resides in that city.



C. A. Calhoun

Mr. Calhoun was elected in the fall of 1882 to the general assembly of Illinois, and in the autumn of 1884 he was elected state's attorney of Vermilion county. In the fall of 1889 he entered into partnership with Judge M. W. Thompson, now circuit judge of Vermilion county, under the firm name of Calhoun & Thompson.

In 1892 he was appointed general attorney for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company, and had charge of that company's litigation along its entire line of road. His local office in Danville was maintained inconjunction with H. M. Steely, under the firm name of Calhoun & Steely.

For over eight years he took no part in politics, rarely attended a primary or convention, made no speeches, but gave up his whole time to the practice of his profession. In 1896 came on the campaign for the nomination of a candidate for president as the nominee of the Republican party. William McKinley was one of the leading candidates. He was a favorite with the great mass of the people, but the politicians for the most part were against him.

Mr. Calhoun's early acquaintance with Mr. McKinley aroused his interest in his behalf. With all his heart and soul he threw himself into that campaign. It was a terrific battle in Illinois, and the state convention of 1896 was one of the memorable conventions in the history of the state. It excited interest throughout the nation, for it was generally conceded that if Illinois went for McKinley, the latter's fight was won. Mr. Calhoun headed his delegation from Vermilion county, and was selected as the manager or leader of the McKinley forces on the floor of the convention. For three days the convention was in session, and resulted in a triumph for the McKinley forces.

Soon after the inauguration of President McKinley, the aggravated condition in Cuba threatened the relations between the United States and Spain. Among other incidents of that troublesome period was the arrest and imprisonment by the Spanish authorities of one Dr. Ruiz as an alleged revolutionist. He was imprisoned in one of the Guanabacoa near Havana. He was found one morning in a dying condition, with his head badly bruised. General Fitzhugh Lee was consul general at Havana. He complained to the government of the United States that Dr. Ruiz was a naturalized American citizen, and that he had been foully dealt with. Communications concerning the circumstances attending the death of Ruiz were had between the United States and Spanish governments. It resulted in an agreement between the two governments that a commission should be appointed to investigate the circumstances attending Dr. Ruiz death. The Spanish government appointed as its commissioner Senor Congosta, and the United States, General Fitzhugh Lee. The president appointed Mr. Calhoun as special counsel to the American commission, and went to Havana in the latter part of May, 1897, and was there for several weeks attending the commission and assisting in the investigation. The Spanish authorities claimed that Ruiz committed suicide by butting his head against the iron door which inclosed his cell, causing congestion of the brain, from which he died. The commission made its report to both governments. An award was allowed by the Spanish government in favor of the widow and children of the deceased because personally, whatever might have been the cause of his death, he had been committed and held in prison contrary to the terms of the existing treaty between the

Spanish government and the United States. But before the award was paid, the Main was blown up, the war with Spain ensued, and the unfortunate family of Ruiz never recovered anything.

Mr. Calhoun upon his return from Cuba was tendered the position of comptroller of the treasury by the president, but he declined it, and returned to the practice of his profession. In May, 1808, he was appointed a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission to succeed Colonel William R. Morrison, whose term had expired. He remained on the commission until October, 1809, when he resigned to move to Chicago and enter the law firm of Pam, Calhoun & Glennon. He has resided in Chicago ever since. His wife died August 27, 1808. He is actively engaged in the practice of law, and he and the firm with which he is connected, is associated with many of the large commercial interests of the country.

STACEY MILLER.

Stacey Miller was a successful business man who started out in life for himself without capital, but who, through perseverance, determination and energy, accumulated a handsome competence and was numbered among the prosperous residents of Danville. Born in the fatherland, his birth occurred in Duenneger, on the 6th of January, 1837. His parents were Stacey and Susanna (Meyer) Miller, also natives of Germany, and bidding adieu to that country and to their friends there they sailed for America, taking up their abode in Montezuma, Illinois. There the father first worked as a laborer and afterward he engaged in the meat busi-

ness, being employed in the butcher's trade in Montezuma until he was called to his final rest. His widow afterward lived with her children and died at the home of her daughter in Terre Haute, Indiana. Five of the children are yet living, being residents of Indiana and Kentucky and Illinois.

To the public school system of his native land Stacey Miller was indebted for the educational privileges which he enjoyed. A year after the emigration of his father to the new world he, too, bade adieu to friends in his native country and sailed for the United States, joining his parents in Montezuma, where he remained until he was eighteen years of age. He was then married in that place to Miss Louise Blakely, a native of Wittenburg, Germany, born on the 27th of September, 1838. She is a daughter of Jacob and Louise (Scheifely) Blakely, who were born in the fatherland and came to America during the early girlhood of Mrs. Miller. They first settled in Erie, Pennsylvania, where the father was employed as a laborer for a few years. He then removed with his family to Covington, Indiana, where he engaged in farming until his death. His wife also passed away in that place. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Miller was blessed with seven children: Catherine, who died at the age of three years; Joseph, a bartender residing in Danville; Louise, the wife of Charles Hildebresh, who is proprietor of a saloon in Danville; Odelia, who died in infancy; Sophia, the wife of Gus Flick, who is foreman of the Danville Brewery, of this city; Stacey, who is a bartender and also lives in Danville; and Clarence, who is at home with his mother.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stacey Miller took up their abode in Covington, Indiana, where he was engaged in team-

ing until 1870. He then came to this city and purchased a saloon and restaurant on Main street, conducting the dual business for three years. At the end of that time he sold his restaurant and purchased another saloon on Main street, being thus engaged in the retail liquor business throughout the remainder of his life. He was accorded a liberal patronage and his annual sales returned to him an excellent income. He always attended strictly to business and his close application and energy brought to him a gratifying degree of success. He passed away May 11, 1898, his death being widely mourned because he had won many friends in the city.

In his political views he was a Democrat and fraternally he was connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Improved Order of Foresters, both of Danville. In his religious faith he was a Catholic, while his wife is a member of the German Lutheran church of this city. Mrs. Miller was left in very comfortable circumstances by her husband, and she now owns a beautiful residence at 612 Wayne street, where she and her youngest son now live. She also owns two nice store buildings on Main street, which are rented, and her property interests likewise include an addition to Danville of five acres on Perryville avenue, which is becoming valuable property and will doubtless bring to her a good financial return when she desires to sell.

ELLIS ADAMS.

Ellis Adams was born in Sussex county, New Jersey, September 25, 1817. His father was Joseph Adams, at one time county judge of Sussex county, and his mother was

Margaret Post of the same county. He worked on a farm and helped in the mill during the summer, getting some schooling during the winter, until he was fourteen years of age. He then clerked in a country store for one year. At the age of fifteen he accepted a clerkship in Newburg on the Hudson river, sixty miles from New York city, remaining with the firm of William O. Mailler & Company for four years.

At this time he began to feel the need of a better education, so resigning his clerkship, he began attending an academy at Florida, Orange county, New York. After six months of academy work the principal told him if he was still sure he was going to be a merchant that the academy work was not suited to his needs. Acting on the advice, he reported to the firm for whom he formerly clerked at Newburg, New York. One of the firm took him to New York city and introduced and gave him a recommendation to the firm of C. W. & I. T. Moore & Company, wholesale dry goods. He was soon considered one of the best clerks and was getting on nicely with the work for which he seemed to have a natural aptitude, when he received word from home that his father had sold his farm, stock etc., with the avowed intention of moving to the Rock river country in Illinois, and wished him to go with them, to the then (so called) far west. His mother's entreaties, added to the rest of the families' wishes, finally led him to make the promise they wished, though to give up a fine position that was suited to him in every way, was a very hard thing to do. His employers were very kind to him and, although they were sure the change was a bad one for his future, they would not advise him against what they knew would be against the wishes of his parents. He had made a very short visit home and had re-

turned to fill his position until everything was ready for the moving of the family, when he received a message from his father to meet him at once at the merchant's house in the city. On going to the hotel his father met him and told him all of the plans were changed. He had just returned from the south and while there had purchased a plantation near Spottsylvania Court House. He told his father he did not wish to go south, had never made any promise to go south and he felt fully assured the move was a very bad one for all of them. He also pleaded against the giving up of a lucrative position with every chance for promotion, to go and live on that poor Virginia land, with no show for more than a bare living. But his father's persuasions and his mother finally saying she would not go unless he did caused him to yield and he reluctantly consented. At the appointed time he took a steamer on the Hudson river for Newburg, a distance of sixty miles, then a stage for forty miles southwest for home. Here he found all hurry and preparation for the move. Part went in wagons and part in public conveyance on account of there being no railroad to Washington city. At Washington, they took a steamer on the Potomac to Acqua creek, a distance of forty miles. From there they took a stage for all of them who were not driving wagons, to Fredericksburg, Virginia. They were then fifteen miles from the plantation which had been bought. Here they found a very pleasant and well located plantation. There was a number of good cabins, a nice house, with plenty of room, large stables and abundance of fruit. But in the fall the whole family were taken down with bilious fever and had a very serious time, but all finally recovered excepting Mr. Howell, his sister Ann's husband, who was buried under the shade of two persimmon

trees, where afterward were buried our subject's father, mother and sister. Twenty-six years afterward he was there and had a new fence built around the graves.

Mr. Adams' experience on a Virginia farm was not a satisfactory one. The soil was too poor for anything but fruit and of this there was always an abundance. He found that it was impossible to keep up the fertility of the land and make it pay the expense. Knowing Virginia was no place for him, he planned to go away from home again but finally yielding to the wishes of his mother, he made her a final promise not to leave home until after her death. She died at the age of fifty-nine years. In speaking of this period of his life, he always said he had never felt sorry he had remained at home to please his mother and sisters, although from a financial view it was five years of wasted time. During the time he made his home in Virginia, his sister Sarah married James W. Howard, who is well and favorably known to many of the people of Fairmount. His sister Eleanor married Robert Chewning. She died three years later. His sister Ann, during the same period became engaged to Samuel King, his future wife's brother. Ellis Adams was married to Amanda R. King, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 5, 1844. His father's family moved to the north again in 1845, having lost about all they had.

After his marriage Mr. Adams went to work for a Mr. Reeves of Goshen, Orange county, New York, with whom he remained two years. Mr. Reeves did a general business in almost every line: dry goods, groceries, iron, western flour, bought and sold grain and liquor. He told Mr. Reeves he would handle anything he had except liquor and he was never asked to touch that while he was there. Before his first year's work

was over he was often sent to New York to buy goods for the firm. His son, Frank K. Adams, was born in Goshen, Orange county, New York, July 3, 1846. He remained with Mr. Reeves for two years and then went in the general merchandise business for himself at Unionville, Orange county, New York, fifteen miles from Goshen, and was in business there for fifteen years. At the end of that time he sold off everything and prepared to go west. At this time his old employer, Mr. Reeves, went to Unionville and made him an offer of one-half his large business and place him in charge of it, but as he had made all his arrangements to go west he refused the offer in spite of its being a fine business opening. He had always done a big and lucrative business in Unionville and had become tired of so much confinement and concluded to go west and buy a farm. In the fall of 1856, he packed his valise and paid a short visit to his brother-in-law, P. R. Davis who lived in Fairmount, Illinois. He was much pleased with the country and bought a piece of land of Samuel Daugherty, and went home again by way of Chicago and Niagara Falls. He wrote his wife what he had done and when he was coming home, etc. He then went on home, made a short stay, went on to New York city attended to some business and was back home again before the letter reached his home.

In 1857 he closed out everything and came west with his family, J. W. Howard and family coming with him. His family at this time consisted of his daughter, Anna M., and son G. Clarence Adams. His oldest son, Frank K. was in Connecticut attending school and did not come west until the next year. Himself and family boarded for the summer at the home of P. R. Davis, and in the fall went back to their eastern home

again to spend the winter. He found the goods at the home as they had left them, all in good order. But all the family were in bad condition physically from the effects of chills and fever. All had yellow skin and fever blisters all over their mouths. There were many of his friends who were anxious to hear what he thought of that part of the west but when they saw his condition not one of them cared to hear about it. At first none of the family wanted to go back west but as soon as they were well they all changed their minds and were anxious to return. He sold everything off he could not take with him and moved to Fairmount, Illinois. On reaching there he bought the house built by John Harvey, on the corner of Court and High streets. Two years afterward he built the house in which he lived for so many years. The house was later cut in two parts by George Junkerman and moved on two lots he owned in the east part of town. Ed. Carrington now owns the lots and has built upon them and lives there.

At about this time Dr. Cou, of Homer, brought a stock of dry goods to Fairmount and Mr. Adams bought a half interest in them in order to give his son Frank something to do. Making this purchase it kept him in the trade for a number of years but he found he was not suited for a western merchant, and turned the business over to his son Frank, who had charge of the business for many years. He came west to get a farm and always kept that end in view. He kept buying land until he had four hundred and eighty acres in one body.

Mr. Adams sent his daughter Anna to school at Portsmouth, Ohio, for a year and then for a year to a female boarding school at Indianapolis, Indiana, where she completed her education. In 1870 he sent his

son Clarence to the State University at Champaign, he being then fifteen years of age. He passed a very creditable examination and was admitted to the freshman year. He had attended for three years and a term when he died. A peculiar chain of circumstances prevented his son Clarence from completing his course. Soon after this Mr. Adams rented or sold his property in Fairmount and removed to Champaign, Illinois, where he remained for twelve years. His daughter Anna was married in Champaign to Stanley L. Conklin, of that place. This was in 1874. While in Champaign his wife, Amanda R., became helpless from the effects of rheumatism and had to be moved by the aid of a wheel chair. The rheumatism also settled in her eyes and defied the skill of the best oculists and on the return of the family to Fairmount in 1887 she became entirely blind. When she found she was certainly going blind she wished to return to Fairmount and it was done. Mr. Adams lived in Fairmount from 1882 to 1886. Then himself and wife went to live with his daughter Anna, in Columbus, Kansas. His daughter's husband was in the banking business at that place. They lived there one year, Mr. Adams having spent four months of that time with his son Clarence at his home in Fairmount, Illinois. At the end of the year his son-in-law sold out his banking business and made preparations to move to Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Adams then concluded he was as far west as he wanted to be and came back to Fairmount and moved into the house now occupied by George Junkerman. His son Clarence was now living on the farm. His wife, Amanda R., died in Fairmount, Illinois, September 3, 1880. After her death he divided his time between his daughter and son, being with his daughter during the winters at

Kansas City, Missouri, and his summers with his son Clarence at Fairmount. He died at Kansas City, on November 11, 1891.

HENRY DAVIS.

Henry Davis, a farmer of Vance township, Vermilion county, was born in this county May 5, 1841, a son of William Davis, one of the pioneer settlers of Vermilion county. The latter was a native of Ohio and descended from Scotch-Irish ancestry. He became a large landowner of Vermilion county, having two thousand acres. He married Elizabeth Hayes, a native of Ohio and to them were born ten children, Henry being the fourth in order of birth.

Henry Davis received his education in an old log schoolhouse and remained at home until twenty-two years of age. He was married on the 24th of December, 1863, to Miss Nancy Cox, who died October 24, 1874. He was married a second time to Rebecca E. Baird, on the 7th of September, 1875. Three children were born to them: Fred L., Grace Elizabeth and Sarah Mabel. Mrs. Rebecca E. (Baird) Davis died July 18, 1883. Mr. Davis was again married April 5, 1881, to Miss M. Belle Pemberton.

Mr. Davis has always engaged in farming with exception of one year spent in the grocery trade at Fairmount and has always taken an active interest in stock-raising in connection with general farming. Politically he is a Democrat and has served as highway commissioner many years and as school director. For several years he was president of the Vermilion County Agricultural and Mechanical Association. He also served as a member of the board of directors of the Fair Association and as crop reporter

for the agricultural department at Springfield. He was a member of the Democratic Central Committee for years and active in church work, both he and his wife being members of the Baptist church.

MURRY J. BUTTERFIELD.

Since 1880 Mr. Butterfield has been identified with industrial interests of Danville. Many important contracts have been awarded him and his skill and enterprise have gained for him a leading position among representative and successful business men of this place.

Mr. Butterfield was born in Saltsburg, Pennsylvania, April 12, 1850, a son of Clarke and Elizabeth (Caldwell) Butterfield. The father died in 1877 at the age of sixty-eight years and the mother died when our subject was only nine months old, leaving three children: Margaret, the wife of W. S. Ray, of Iowa; Rebecca, the wife of Nesbett Gallagher, of Delphi, Indiana; and Murry J., of this review.

No event of special importance occurred to vary the routine of life for Murry J. Butterfield through his early youth, which was spent in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. His time was passed in the usual manner of lads of that period. He enjoyed the pleasures of the play ground and performed the duties of the school room, pursuing his education in Greensburg. When yet a boy he went to Oil City, Venango county, Pennsylvania. His parents objected to his leaving home at so early an age and therefore to provide for his own support he secured work at tamping ties on the railroad and thus he gained the money with which to make his present business venture. After leaving the parental

roof in 1865 he began learning the carpenter's trade and went to Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania, and thence to Pittsburg, remaining in the last place from the fall of 1869 to 1875, at which time he removed to Osceola, Pennsylvania, and took charge of the planing mill for the firm of Walker Brothers, being associated with that enterprise for two years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Altoona, Pennsylvania, and was employed in the railway shops until the spring of 1880, when he came to Danville, Illinois, and worked for Moore & Coy. At a later day he became a partner of David Lichliter, as a member of the firm of Butterfield & Lichliter, contractors and builders. This connection was maintained until 1886, when the firm dissolved partnership and Mr. Butterfield carried on the business for himself in the same line. In that year, however, he went to Los Angeles, California, where he remained for a time, working at his trade, but he concluded to locate permanently in Danville and returned to this city in 1888. In the intervening period he has prospered in his business undertakings. He has secured and executed some large contracts for building coal mines, elevator machines, the Gregg elevator, the DeLong grain elevator and also one at Perrysville, Indiana. He built the Catlin mines, the Hammond mines and has also erected many of the leading and fine buildings of Danville. He has a thorough knowledge of the builder's art in all its departments, his skill arising from practical experience and from a thorough understanding of the great mechanical principles which are closely connected with this industry.

In 1877 occurred the marriage of Mr. Butterfield and Miss Lydia M. Hugus, who was born in Delmont, Pennsylvania, August 4, 1846, her parents being Henry and Sarah

(Wagaman) Hugus, one of the representative families of that place. Her mother died in 1891, at the age of seventy-one years, and she recently received the sad news of her father's death, he having passed away at his home at Delmont, March 18, 1902, at the ripe old age of eighty-three years and ten months. Of his six children those who survive him are Mrs. Butterfield, who is the eldest of the family; Clara J., wife of Joseph Wolf, of Carlisle, Pennsylvania; Ella, a prominent school teacher of Greensburg, Pennsylvania; and George, who has been twice married. He is one of the prominent citizens of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, where he served as county superintendent of schools for eight years, having five hundred schools under his supervision. He finished the common-school course when only twelve years of age, and began teaching when quite young, soon becoming a most proficient and successful educator. Mrs. Butterfield completed her education in the public schools of Delmont, Pennsylvania, and to-day presides with gracious dignity over her pleasant home at 1121 Oak street, Danville.

Mr. and Mrs. Butterfield have four children: Ella Myrtle, Henry Hugus, Sarah Elizabeth and Murry Clarke. Ella M. married O. R. Gray, a telegraph operator for the Big Four Railroad, and they have one child, Warren Murry Gray, named for his grandfather. Sarah E. is now the wife of William Meyers and has one child, Charles Meyers. Richard married Minnie Zimmerman and has three children. In 1901 Mr. Butterfield erected in one of the best residence districts of Danville—a recent addition on Oak street—a very handsome and attractive home in which the family now reside. They have many friends in the city and are highly esteemed in the social circles

in which they move. Merit and ability have gained for Mr. Butterfield a creditable position and his influence is broadly felt in industrial circles. His life has been open to his fellow citizens and his business methods and career will bear the closest investigation.

ELI S. SPERRY.

The Sperry family was established in New England at an early day. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Wallace Sperry, who was born in Connecticut. He wedded Sarah Watkins, who came of an old family of Maryland. In an early day the grandparents of our subject removed to Warren county, Ohio, and there Orrin Sperry, the father, was born September 4, 1828, being the sixth in order of birth in the family of nine children. He was but two years of age when his parents came to Vermilion county, Illinois, arriving in 1830 the family settling near Higginsville. He obtained a practical education in the district schools and after reaching man's estate he purchased a Mexican land warrant for which he paid one hundred and fifty dollars. Through this means he acquired one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 20, and by thrift and good management he acquired five hundred and nine acres of valuable land which through his untiring industry became a most excellent farm well tiled and improved, with good substantial buildings, although the county was a veritable wilderness when he arrived here. The surface of the land was cut up with sloughs and ponds. He lived to see a wonderful transformation. The prairie wolves, wild turkeys, geese, cranes and prairie chickens as well as deer were all driven westward, to be replaced by

the domestic animals of the farm. Orrin Sperry passed through all of the hardships and trials of pioneer life and always bore his part in the upbuilding and development of this section of the state. He was a respected and worthy citizen whose name is inscribed upon the roll of honored pioneers. He was twice married. On the 23d of September, 1852, he wedded Mary Stewart, a native of Scotland and a daughter of William and Charlotte Stewart, who with their family emigrated to this county. Nine children were born unto Mr. and Mrs. Sperry, of whom four reached maturity, namely: Eli; Emma, who became the wife of Wesley Smith, a son of George G. Smith; Asa, deceased; and Eben. The last named married Libbie Sutton and after her death married Julia Slaughter. The others of the family who have passed away were quite young at the time of their death, being named: William A., Charles F., Clarissa J., George M. and Jessie G. On the the 30th of August, 1883, the father wedded Ellen Cosat, a daughter of Henry and Nancy Wood, and the widow of Perry C. Cosat. Mr. Sperry was a man of excellent qualities and genuine worth, a good manager in business, thrifty and enterprising, and ever honorable and straightforward. He was a devoted member of the United Brethren church and in politics an earnest Republican. He passed from this life in August, 1893, leaving an untarnished name to his family.

Eli S. Sperry was born in Blount township, August 14, 1853, and was here reared upon the home farm. His primary education, acquired in the district schools, was supplemented by several terms of study in Green Hill Seminary of Warren county, Indiana. In the meantime he engaged in teaching in the district schools for two terms

and has since taught for several terms, holding high grade certificates. He was married December 23, 1879, to Serelda L. Johnson, who was born in Iroquois county, Illinois, December 15, 1855, the fourth in order of birth of the children of Alfred C. and Mary A. (Bodda) Johnson. Her father was born in Columbus, Ohio, her mother in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Sperry was also educated in the district schools and in Green Hill Seminary and taught school for several terms in her native county. By her marriage she has become the mother of two daughters, Maude C. and Mary Ethel, who are young ladies of superior culture and intelligence. Having completed the common-school course they are now students in Westfield College of Clark county, Illinois, both pursuing philosophical and Biblical normal courses. They are able writers and both have acted as president of the literary society of the college and have had the honor of addressing the college at the time of its closing exercises, Maude having written and delivered a paper on "Devotion to purpose," and Ethel upon "The power of sympathy," both addresses being eloquently rendered. Mrs. Sperry has also reared her nephew, Palmer A. Rush, whose mother died when he was but two weeks old, giving the baby to her sister. Although he has never been legally adopted he has been reared as a member of the family and is now sixteen years of age. He completed the district school course and, leaving the high school of Westfield in his senior year, he is now in the freshman class in the Westfield College. Mr. Sperry is acting as guardian for the Chapman heirs, grandchildren of John W. Goodwine.

Throughout his business career Mr. Sperry has been engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and carries a good grade of registered shorthorns and other high grades

of various kinds of stock. He sells quite extensively to shippers, disposing of about two carloads per year. When he located on his present farm on section 29, Blount township, it was little cultivated. He has tilled the place, comprising two hundred and forty acres, and has made it a very rich and productive tract, being now regarded as one of the leading, progressive and practical agriculturists of his community. Both he and his wife have assisted materially in the upbuilding of the community and also have taken active parts in promoting the cause of the United Brethren church. Mr. Sperry erected a house of worship, but it was blown away in a tornado. His wife has been very zealous in Sunday-school work and both are known as earnest Christian people, commanding uniform confidence and respect. Mr. Sperry votes the Republican ticket, but has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to give his time and attention to his business affairs which have been honorably and creditably conducted and have been the means of gaining for him desirable prosperity.

DAVID BEARD.

The name of David Beard is one which was familiar to early pioneer settlers as well as to later day residents of Danville, because he became a resident of this city in 1855. Great changes have been wrought by time and man since then. There was but one brick house in the city, and but few frame dwellings, the majority of the homes being log structures, at the time of his arrival.

Mr. Beard was a native of Ireland, born in 1821. His parents, John and Ellen Beard, were likewise natives of the Emerald Isle, where they spent their entire lives, the father

devoting his energies to agricultural pursuits. A common-school education was afforded to our subject in the land of his birth, and under the parental roof he was reared. In 1847 he was united in marriage, in Ireland, to Miss Mary Graham, a native of County Fermanagh, Ireland, born on the 26th of August, 1826. Her parents were John and Ann (McGee) Graham, both born in Ireland where they lived until called to the home beyond. Her father devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits and to the milling business, and had valuable business interests there, owning a very large farm and operating two gristmills. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Beard was blessed with two children: Maggie, who was born in Brooklyn, New York, and is now the wife of Mr. Geeler, a resident of Danville; and John, who is also a native of Brooklyn and was married in this city to Miss Hattie Myers. They have a beautiful home at No. 415 South street in Danville and Mr. Beard is one of the leading contractors and builders of this city, and a very prominent and influential man. He has been mayor of Danville for two terms and has taken an active part in public affairs, which have had marked influence upon the development and progress of this city. Honored and respected by all, he well deserves public recognition which has come to him in an official way.

David Beard of this review was the only member of the father's family that ever came to America. In 1848, accompanied by his young wife, he sailed for the new world, the vessel on which they took passage dropping anchor in the harbor of New York city after a voyage of five weeks. He sailed March 25, and landed May 2. There he was employed as a laborer for a time and he afterward acted as a clerk in stores in New York and in Brooklyn, being thus engaged for six

years. On the expiration of that period he came direct to Danville and was among its first settlers. Here he secured work as a laborer in the stone quarry and soon afterward he purchased a half interest in the business, and it was not long before he owned the whole plant. He furnished the stone and assisted in the erection of many of the principal stone business blocks and residences here, building many of the fine homes which now belong to the bankers and other men of wealth of Danville. His business was prosecuted energetically and successfully until 1864, when his health began to fail and with the handsome competence that he had acquired through his enterprising efforts he retired from business life and during the last twenty years of his earthly existence he was not associated with any business undertaking save the supervision of his investments.

Mr. Beard was never an office seeker, but was a stanch Democrat in politics and always cast his ballot for the men and measures of that party. He held membership in the Catholic church, to which is wife also belongs, and was very generous in support of the cause. He gained a wide acquaintance in Danville, where he was highly esteemed because of his straightforwardness in business, his reliability in citizenship and his devotion to his family and friends. He departed this life July 7, 1883, respected by all who knew him. He had been connected with the city from pioneer times and as Danville grew and expanded he ever maintained his place in the ranks of the leading men who were devoted to the general good and who awaken uniform esteem and confidence by lives of uprightness and honesty. Like her husband Mrs. Beard is a devoted Catholic. She finds a pleasant home with her son at No. 415 South street and she is the owner of

considerable valuable property in Danville, including a general mercantile store, a butcher shop on South street, two residences on Jackson street, a residence on Green street and also other valuable realty which returns to her a good income and supplies her with all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

J. W. MILLER.

J. W. Miller, who is serving as mayor of Sidell and is a business man of prominence, has through almost one-third of a century lived in this portion of Illinois. He is a native of the neighboring state of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Montgomery county, on the 13th of April, 1848. His father, Abraham Miller, was born in 1799, in Kentucky, and was a son of Joseph Miller, an early settler of that state. Reared to manhood there, Abraham Miller was married in Kentucky and later removed to Indiana, settling in Montgomery county among its early settlers, who laid the foundation for its later development and progress. He cleared a tract of land and opened up a farm, making it a good property. There he lost his first wife and later he married Miss Mary Jane Briggs, a native of the Hoosier state. Subsequently he removed to Tippecanoe county, Indiana, and afterward to Warren county, that state, where he remained for some years. He next came to Illinois in company with his son, J. W. Miller of this review, arriving in the year 1872. Here he spent his remaining days, but he was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death occurring in 1873, when he was seventy-four years of age. His son, J. W. Miller, cared for him throughout his declining years, thus repaying him for the parental

attention which he had received in his youth. The mother of our subject died in Indiana, when the son was a child of two years, passing away in 1850.

J. W. Miller was reared to manhood in Warren county, Indiana, enjoying but few privileges in his youth for his boyhood was a period of toil. His educational privileges were meager and when a mere lad of thirteen years he began labor as a farm hand by the month, giving his earnings for the support of his father and the family. He was employed by the month for about fourteen years in Warren and Tippecanoe counties, remaining in the service of one man on the old Cherry farm in Tippecanoe county seven years. This fact certainly indicates how faithful he was to duty and that he enjoyed the confidence of his employer to an unusual degree.

In 1870 Mr. Miller came to Illinois, locating in Vermilion county and here through the succeeding fall and winter he worked upon a farm. He was married here on the 10th of December, 1871, to Miss Rebecca Marsh, who was born and reared in this county, a daughter of Joseph Marsh, one of the first settlers here. Her father was a most loyal and patriotic citizen and served his country faithfully in the Mexican war and also in the war of the Rebellion.

After his marriage Mr. Miller returned to Indiana, working a farm on shares in Warren county for one year. In February, 1872, however, he again came to Illinois and rented a farm near Fairmount. For five years he continued to operate this land and then made his first purchase, becoming the owner of forty-three acres near Georgetown. No improvements had been made upon that place, but he built a small house and began to farm his property. He also rented other land adjacent to his own home and subsequently he sold his first farm and bought a

tract of eighty acres on which some improvements had been made. Taking up his abode there he continued its cultivation for seven years. This he sold and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Sidell township, six miles from the town of Sidell. On this place were but very few improvements. He built a good house and fenced and tiled the farm. He also erected a substantial barn and outbuildings and for six years successfully carried on farming at that place. He afterward purchased one hundred and fifty-eight acres adjoining Sidell on the south and there he erected an attractive residence and commodious barns and made other substantial improvements, which constitute this a valuable farm. The year after locating on this property he sold the old home place and continued to cultivate and improve his place adjoining Sidell until 1900, when he disposed of this, although he maintained possession for another year. He then bought a residence in the village, where he has since made his home. Not only has he successfully carried on cultivation of crops but since 1875 he has made a business of buying, selling and shipping horses and mules, following that for twenty years. He afterward begun breeding and dealing in standard bred horses and he has shipped many fine horses and made extensive sales. Some years ago he established a grocery business in Sidell, carrying on that enterprise with success for five years. In 1888 he began dealing in farm implements and machines and in connection with this line he also handles buggies and wagons. He has built up a good trade and has gained an excellent reputation for fair dealing. His sales are now quite extensive and as an enterprising merchant Mr. Miller is well known. He was also one of the promoters of the Sidell Building and Loan Association, served as its president for nine

years and is now its vice president. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Miller was blessed with six children, four of whom are yet living: Eddie L., Claude T., Clemma and Ada May. Mr. Miller lost his first wife in September, 1890, and she was laid to rest in Indianola cemetery amid the deep regret of her many friends. In October, 1891, Mr. Miller was joined in wedlock to Fannie M. Michener, who was born in this county and is a daughter of W. W. Michener, one of the early settlers here. There are three children by this union: Mildred, Russell and Genevieve.

Politically Mr. Miller was formerly identified with the Democratic party, but for some years has given his support to the Prohibition party and cast the first Prohibition vote in Sidell township. He is the first Prohibition mayor ever in the town and is proving a most capable officer, although he has never been an office seeker, content to do his duty as a private citizen. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and one of its earnest and effective workers, while for some years he served as superintendent of the Sunday-school. Socially he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America and was chairman of the building committee under whose direction the Odd Fellows hall was erected. He built the second house in Sidell, and has labored effectively for the material upbuilding and improvement of this place and for the entire county. He aided in developing three farms here and his work has been effective and far-reaching. He is indeed a public spirited and progressive citizen and his name is now on the roll of those who have been foremost in promoting the public activity of this section of the state. He owns three brick houses in Sidell, has built two good business blocks there. A man

of tried integrity and worth his word is as good as any bond and he is most faithful in meeting any obligation or fulfilling the terms of a contract. It is said that if J. W. Miller enters into an agreement he never fails in the fulfillment of his part of it, but always stands honorably by his position. He is a representative man of strong purpose, known and honored by all with whom he comes in contact.

MASON M. WRIGHT.

Mason M. Wright was born December 15, 1832, in Wilmington, Ohio, a son of Potter and Teresa Wright. His father, a native of Rhode Island, went to Ohio at an early day. By trade he was a millwright and followed that business throughout his entire career. There the greater part of his family remained, living in that locality for years, as prominent and influential members of the community. There were five brothers and one sister in the family, including George Wright, of Chicago. Those deceased are: Horatio, Mason M., Horace, James, Henry and Cynthia. The family were of the Episcopalian faith. The father died before the marriage of our subject, and his mother, surviving her husband for a number of years, has also passed away, both departing this life in Worthington, Ohio, where they were married.

Mason M. Wright remained upon the home farm until twenty-one or twenty-two years of age and then went to Noblesville. Here he engaged in merchandising for a few years and from Noblesville he went to Marysville, Illinois, continuing there for some years. His next place of residence was Higginsville, where he remained for some time and then selling his property and the dry-goods busi-

ness which he had there conducted he came to Danville in 1868. Here Mr. Wright became connected with a private banking business in partnership with John C. Short. When two or three years had passed he purchased a mill owned by Mr. Henderson and at this time gave the plant the name of the Danville Mills. Under his supervision this industry became an important factor of the city. He continually enlarged it, increasing his facilities from time to time in order to meet the growing demands of his trade. He also built a hominy mill and to this business he devoted his energies until his death. He furnished employment to a number of workmen, so that the enterprise was of value to the community as well as to himself. The product of the mill was shipped as well as sold to the home market, and annually the enterprise returned to him a good income. Mr. Wright was likewise interested in the real-estate business to some extent.

On the 10th of September, 1869, was celebrated the marriage of our subject and Mrs. Anna E. Forbes, a native of Newark, Ohio, and a daughter of William and Margaret (Davis) Robinson, both of whom were natives of Ohio. The father was a merchant, following that pursuit until called to his final rest, his death occurring during the early girlhood of Mrs. Wright. In the family were four daughters and one son: Mrs. John T. Short, Mrs. W. H. Webster, Mrs. V. L. Hawes and Mrs. Wright, all of whom are living, and Edward who has passed away. The year 1852 witnessed the arrival of the family in Danville, and the following year the father's death occurred. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wright has been blessed with the following children: George M., a resident of Danville, who is conducting a milling business, Genevieve M. and Judson M., all of Danville.

In his political views Mr. Wright was a Republican and while he kept well informed on the issues of the day, he never took an active part in political work or sought office. He was of a most retiring disposition and of a most earnest nature, strong, self-reliant and helpful. He was devoted to his family and his business,—these largely claiming his attention. He held friendship inviolable and home ties sacred, and thus he endeared himself to all with whom he had social relations. Coming to the west with little capital, he sought in the broad business opportunities of the developing state of Illinois room for his business affairs he won a high measure of success. His name, too, was synonymous with honorable dealing and his integrity stood as an unquestioned fact in his career.

JACKSON CROMWELL.

For a half century Jackson Cromwell has been a resident of Vermilion county, and he is numbered among the honored pioneers who have laid the foundation for the present progress and prosperity which it enjoys. He was born in Union county, Indiana, December 13, 1833. His parents were John and Rachel Cromwell, natives of Maryland and Kentucky, respectively. They were married in Union county, Indiana, where the father carried on farming until his death, which occurred in 1835. The mother then became the wife of Solomon Harness, a native of Ohio and a farmer by occupation. They removed to Carroll county, Indiana, where Mr. Harness died in 1852. In politics he was a Whig. The mother then removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, where she resided for four years, after which she removed to Polk county, Missouri, and there

her death occurred on her ninetieth birthday, December 7, 1901. By her first marriage she became the mother of two children, the subject of this sketch and a daughter, now deceased. By her second marriage five children were born, but only one, George, survives. He is a resident of Polk county, Missouri.

Jackson Cromwell attended school in Union county, Indiana, in a log schoolhouse with slab benches fastened on pegs, oiled paper windows, and with a fireplace made of sticks and mud, in which were burned logs about four feet in length. He was only able to attend three months during the winter, and in the summer he spent part of his time working in a mill. He was reared by his grandfather until he was thirteen years of age, when he began working on a farm. Later he followed clerking and also hauled logs and worked on a plank road, in Carroll county, Indiana. On the 9th of September, 1852, he came to Vance township, Vermilion county, Illinois. This township at that time also included Oakwood township. Land was then worth from one dollar and a quarter to eight dollars per acre. Mr. Cromwell traded a horse for forty acres which was situated two miles south of where Fairmount now stands. The land is now worth one hundred and thirty-five dollars per acre. The nearest trading point was Danville, which was then a town of three or four stores. Hazel-brush grew where the Aetna House now stands and the jail was an old log structure. Homer was a village comprising a mill and one store besides a hotel. Corn was worth six and one-quarter cents per bushel. Wheat was high and scarce, being worth about one dollar per bushel. There were no oats. The prairies were wild and uncultivated and sloughs abounded, requiring much draining of the land before it

would yield returns to those who labored on it. The pioneers were industrious, determined and energetic and through their efforts this land has now become among the most valuable in the state. In those early days hogs and cattle were raised and driven to Chicago and even over the mountains to Pennsylvania. The womenfolk of the community were not idle while their husbands were working in the fields. They spun the flax and wool and made cloth for the household. A calico dress was then in the height of fashion and a "linsey" dress was considered the same as we now regard silk.

On the 21st of September, 1854, in Vance township, Mr. Cromwell was united in marriage to Miss Mary Jane Mead, who was born in Vermilion county, August 5, 1838, a daughter of Nathaniel and Anna (Crane) Mead, both of whom were natives of Maryland, but were married in Ohio. Mr. Mead engaged in farming in Ohio, for a time and then removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1834, locating in Vance township where he carried on farming until his death which occurred September 20, 1889, at the age of ninety years. His first wife died in 1854, at the age of fifty-four years. Both were born in 1800. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics was a Whig. In 1856 Mr. Mead married Mrs. Mary (Crane) Boggart, a native of Indiana. The marriage took place at Covington, Indiana. By his first marriage there were seven children born, six of whom are now living, as follows: Sallie A., widow of Benjamin Coddington, residing in Lafayette; William, a resident of Oakwood township; David, deceased; George, of Fithian, Illinois; Marie, wife of John Bales, of Momence, Illinois; James, of Washington; and Mrs. Jackson Cromwell.

After their marriage Mr. Cromwell and

his wife located on a farm three miles north of Fithian, in Oakwood township. Here he purchased eighty acres of land, having sold his first forty acres. Later he sold the eighty-acre farm and purchased one hundred and fifty-four acres which comprises his present farm, on section 28, Vance township. He has improved his farm until it is now one of the model farms of the township. He has a substantial and comfortable residence and good barns and his fields yield to him a good return for the labor bestowed upon them. He began life for himself when but a boy, and by persistent effort and strong determination he has won success. Although he has almost reached three score and ten, he is yet a hale and hearty man, and his interesting reminiscences of former days make a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Cromwell was blessed with four children who are now living. One died in infancy. John married Mary E. Long and resides three miles north of Fithian, Illinois. They have four living children and also lost three. Marie became the wife of John Goings. After his death she married Edward T. Henderson and they reside in Fithian, Illinois. By the first union she has two children, and by the second marriage she has three children. Joshua first wedded Laura Firebaugh, by whom he had three children. After her death he married Emma Underwood by whom he has two children, and their home is northeast of Georgetown. Cora is the widow of Marcus Yoeloe, resides in Fithian, Illinois, and has one daughter.

Fraternally Mr. Cromwell is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Morning Star Lodge, No. 489 of Fithian, Illinois. In politics he is a Republican, but has always refused to accept

office, preferring to live the quiet and unassuming life of a private citizen. Mr. Cromwell has ever been found ready to bear his share in the development of his community and he has the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens.

JOHN R. THOMPSON.

Chicago—the city marvelous—is continually attracting men of marked business ability, who find in its broad and varied fields of activity scope for their growing powers. The day of small undertakings, especially in cities, seems to have passed and the era of gigantic enterprises is upon us. In control of mammoth concerns are men of master minds, of almost limitless ability to guide, of sound judgment and keen discrimination. Their progressiveness must not only reach the bounds that others have gained, but must even pass beyond into new and broader, untried fields of operation. Thus continually growing a business takes leadership in its special line and the men who are at its head are deservedly eminent in the business world, occupying a position that commands the respect while it excites the admiration of all.

Twelve years ago there came to Chicago a young man whose youth had been spent upon a farm. He was then but twenty-five years of age, with a capital of a few hundred dollars. He had determination, energy and moreover he possessed the instincts of the pioneer—the man who can adapt himself to circumstances and shape opportunities to his own end. Such was John R. Thompson when he arrived in the metropolis of the west, where to-day he is rated among the millionaires and



John R. Thompson

is recognized as a controlling force in business, political and social life. His birth occurred on his father's farm near Danville, Illinois, November 13, 1865, and he yet retains a deep interest in the county of his nativity and has many friends there who rejoice in his advancement. It is therefore meet that mention of one of her eminent sons should be made in this volume.

At the usual age Mr. Thompson entered the common country schools and until he was sixteen years of age he lived the life of the ordinary country boy, occupied with the duties of the fields through the summer months and continuing his studies in the winter seasons. During his last winter upon the farm, in connection with an older brother, he hauled logs with an ox-team. Not wishing to follow an agricultural life, however, he went to Danville and entered the Eastern Illinois College. His older brother was then in law school and as the father could not afford to send both of his sons to school John R. paid for his tuition by clerking in the store of Charles H. Hacker on Saturdays and caring for his employer's horses during the week. For two years he remained a student in the Danville Normal school and after his graduation in the class of 1883, he obtained a teacher's certificate and for three years taught in the country schools. He also engaged in clerking for two years in Danville, but was gradually advancing and making for himself a record in the business world and his next step was to open a little general mercantile establishment of his own in the village of Fithian. He was likewise appointed postmaster at that place and continued to make his home there until the fall of 1891, when he came to Chicago.

Since his arrival in this city his success in business has been uniform and rapid, and

to-day there are few names more widely known in the business circles of Chicago than that of John R. Thompson. He first opened a small restaurant at No. 397 State street and from this nucleus has grown his present extensive business. The financial panic of 1893 followed, but he managed to so conduct his affairs that he weathered the storm and soon found favorable opportunity for increasing his enterprise. In 1896-7-8 he opened three new restaurants, and now in 1903 he has ten restaurants, advantageously situated in the down town district, where daily meals are furnished to thousands of people, and in return he receives a splendid annual income. In addition to his restaurants he has a wholesale house at No. 38 and 40 State street, occupying the entire four floors and basement. This has a supply department from which he daily sends out supplies of every description to his restaurants, including meats, groceries, vegetables, silver ware, linen and table utensils. He also does a wholesale business in supplying other restaurants, hotels and dining cars. He likewise owns and operates his ice plant, and it will thus be seen is managing a business of great magnitude. His employes now number five hundred. Such in brief is the history of his business career, but he who reads between the lines will have learned of the executive force, keen foresight, marked energy and indefatigable industry upon which his success is based.

Before removing to Chicago Mr. Thompson was married, on the 5th of August, 1891, to Miss Rose Holloway, of Georgetown, Illinois, a daughter of Captain G. W. Holloway, a pioneer resident of Vermillion county, and they have two children—John R., Jr., and Ruth E. Theirs is a beautiful home at 4415 Grand Boulevard. Both

the house and barn are built of blue Bedford rock. There is an extensive lawn around the house, which in its furnishings is supplied with all that wealth can secure and refined taste suggest, while bowlings alleys, billiard rooms and shooting gallery afford many pleasureable hours to the guests of the household. Mr. Thompson finds one of his chief sources of recreation and pleasure in driving and is the owner of some of the finest specimens of the noble steed to be found in the country. He has a real love for his horses and in driving them over the speedways of the city for the pleasure of testing their powers, he always prefers to handle the reins himself rather than to trust his horses to the care of a paid driver. Racing for pleasure upon the snow courses of Chicago has won him many notable victories. He has reason to be very proud of his pacer Van Duzen and of his horse Saul, who have won in many heats and are well known to all frequenters of the boulevard and park speedways of Chicago. Mr. Thompson is secretary and treasurer of the Gentlemen's Driving Club and is a member of most all of the leading social clubs of the city, including the Union League, the Washington Park, the Colonial, and the Woodlawn Park Club. He is also a thirty-second degree Mason, belonging to Hesperia Lodge, St. Bernard Commandery and Oriental Consistory. He is a member of the board of directors of the Christendom, a magazine edited by Dr. Harper of the Chicago University, and is deeply interested in many measures for the welfare of the city, being a co-operant factor along various lines for the public good. He holds decided opinion, which he expresses fearlessly but never aggressively. In 1902, associated with other prominent men, he took a firm stand in continuing the public schools through a ten

months' term, and his influence is ever on the side of progress and upbuilding. A leading Republican, his opinions carry weight in the councils of his party in Chicago and in 1903 he was prominently spoken of as the candidate for mayor, receiving the endorsement of his own ward and of many political and personal friends throughout the city. He has however never been a politician in the usual sense of the term, nor has he sought office. His friends, knowing that his political record was clear and that his business ability was of the highest order, believed that he would show the same capability in managing the affairs of the city, but his aspirations were not in that direction and he became a supporter of John M. Harlan. There arose during the campaign a movement which originated in a joke, but which became a potent element in the canvass. Some prominent men met in a downtown office and in a spirit of fun organized with fifteen members what they called the Strap-Hangers League. This came about through a discussion of the overcrowded condition of the street cars, necessitating standing in the aisles, hanging on to straps. "A seat for every strap hanger—at least occasionally" was adopted as the platform of the league. To carry out the joke fifty thousand buttons were ordered, on which were the words: "Strap-Hangers League. More Seats. Harlan," and these were given to all who applied. The original number was soon exhausted and fifty thousand more were ordered, and the "joke" became an influence in the politics of the campaign, the influence of which is incalculable, showing public feeling upon the question.

Mr. Thompson is yet a young man, with much of his history yet to be written, but he has already made for himself a place in the political, social and business world that

entitles him to prominence among the leading men of Chicago. Vermilion county has reason to be proud of this, her native son, and it is with pleasure we present his history to our readers. In manner he is genial and unostentatious and the accumulation of wealth has never affected his treatment of the less fortunate friends of his earlier years. Standing to-day at the head of one of the leading business enterprises of its kind in the country, exerting an influence in public affairs in Chicago of marked force, it is not difficult to prophesy that Mr. Thompson might attain to almost any position that he might desire, but his ambition seems to be in the line of business and he regards his other interests as side issues, without which no life can be well rounded, no character well balanced and yet they have never drawn his attention from the chief aim of his life. He has found that success is ambition's answer.

G. B. JONES, D. V. S.

Dr. G. B. Jones, of Sidell, is the assistant state veterinary and during the past seven years he has practiced his profession in Vermilion county with marked success. He started out in life a poor man without capital, and the rounds of the ladder on which he has climbed have been determination, industry, close application and ability. He is a native son of Illinois, his birth having occurred near Paris, in Edgar county, October 28, 1864. His father, Lewis Jones, was born and reared in Green county, Kentucky, his natal day being in September, 1834. Judge George Jones, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Virginia, but became one of the early settlers of the Blue Grass state and served his country as a sol-

dier in the Black Hawk war. Lewis Jones, the Doctor's father, was reared in Kentucky, and when a young man came to Illinois, settling on Big creek in Edgar county where he was united in marriage to Miss Eliza Shields, a daughter of the Hon. William Shields, a prominent and influential resident of that county who served for a number of years in the state legislature and left the deep impress of his individuality upon many of the laws enacted during that period. He was also a minister of the Baptist church and a man of marked influence whose labors proved of benefit to his fellow men along many lines of progress and improvement as well as of moral development. After his marriage Mr. Jones turned his attention to farming in Edgar county and to-day he owns and operates a valuable farm of three hundred and twenty acres there, which is well improved, being equipped with all modern accessories and conveniences. In connection with the cultivation of the fields he is also successfully engaged in stock-raising, and both branches of his business return to him a good income. In the family were twelve children, ten of whom reached mature years while nine are yet living, including four sons. The eldest son is Dr. W. S. Jones, a medical practitioner residing in Redmon, Illinois. George B. is the second son of the family. Ira L. grew to mature years, married, and at his death left a widow and child. The younger sons of the Jones family were James and Frank. All of the children were well educated and three daughters and two sons were teachers at one time.

Dr. G. B. Jones, of this review, entered the common schools at the age of six years, and after completing his preliminary course there, became a student in the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, Indiana, from which he was graduated with the class

of 1888. Later, he engaged in teaching for several years, and for four terms was principal of the high school at Pleasant Hill, Illinois. In the practice of the profession he met with success, imparting readily and clearly to others the knowledge he had acquired, proving a competent educator. Later he took up the study of veterinary surgery, being a student in Toronto, Canada, where is located the most complete and best equipped school of the kind on the continent. He completed his course there in the spring of 1894, after which he came to Sidell, permanently locating here. He took up his abode among strangers and it was necessary for him to win public confidence as well as to establish his reputation for capability in his chosen field of endeavor. He not only began life for himself empty-handed, but he was several hundred dollars in debt when he entered upon the practice of his present profession. He has, however, worked up an excellent business, extending for miles in every direction, and in the spring of 1901 he was appointed assistant state veterinary, which is a life appointment and is conferred only in recognition of superior merit and ability. By reading and investigation the Doctor has continually broadened his knowledge concerning veterinary surgery, and his efforts have been attended with a marked degree of success.

On the 6th of March, 1895, in Terre Haute, Indiana, the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Etta Mapes, whose birth occurred in Edgar county, Illinois. At an early age, however, she was left an orphan, and found a home in Terre Haute, Indiana, where she lived for a number of years. She is a daughter of Cyrus Mapes, who was an early settler of Edgar county, and there spent much of his life, dying during the early girlhood of Mrs. Jones. By their marriage our

subject and his wife have become the parents of two children, Howard L., born December 1, 1897, and George C., born November 11, 1899.

Socially the Doctor is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having been made a member in Paris Lodge. In politics he is an earnest Democrat and cast his first presidential ballot for Grover Cleveland. In local elections, however, he votes independently. He was elected and served for two terms as president of the board of aldermen and for two years was president of the school board, at the end of which time he resigned. He has frequently been a delegate to numerous congressional and county conventions and was elected a delegate to the state convention. He purchased ten acres of land adjoining the corporate limits of Sidell and built thereon a veterinary hospital for the care of sick horses. He also has a residence block in the city and has a neat and attractive home. The Doctor is a man of strong mentality, firm purpose and marked enterprise—qualities which have been essential elements in winning him success. As a citizen he is public-spirited, and local advancement and national progress are both causes dear to his heart. He certainly deserves great credit for what he has accomplished, both in a financial and professional way, and among the representative men of Vermilion county, he is numbered.

THOMAS PERRY.

Thomas Perry, who is well known in Vermilion county as a representative of its agricultural interests, was born in Bedfordshire, England, May 30, 1832, a son of Thomas and Sarah Perry. When a young

man of eighteen years he emigrated to the United States with Abraham Mann, Sr., and worked for that gentleman for eight dollars per month through the succeeding six years. He afterward followed various occupations, including brick-making and farm work, commanding higher wages as his efficiency increased with his growing years. When he arrived in this county all was new and wild, much of the prairie being still unsettled, not a furrow having been turned upon many an acre. He first assisted in breaking the prairie and cutting down the forest trees, clearing the land for cultivation. He first took up his abode near the present site of Rossville, although the town had not been established at that time. He was employed by others for about six years and then, in partnership with a Mr. Purser, he engaged in brick-making, carrying on that business for two years. He next purchased his present farm when it was covered with timber and hazel-brush. He cleared this, placing it under a high state of cultivation, and about 1887 he erected thereon a very substantial and attractive frame residence. Here he is living with his niece, Miss Sarah Perry, who is acting as his housekeeper. He had one brother, Joseph Perry, who was drafted near the close of the Civil war, but he had proceeded no further than Springfield when his death occurred. The father of our subject died in Vermilion county and both he and his son Henry were buried in the cemetery at Rossville. The mother afterward returned to England, where she died, leaving our subject the only survivor of the family. The year of his parents' emigration to this county was in the '50s.

At one time Thomas Perry visited California for his health, and has twice visited England but returning he settled on his present homestead farm, on section 31, Newell

township. He has made many rails used in fences here and has steadily worked his way upward in business, acquiring a competence through his own energy. He has used the single shovel plow and the single line harness. Many a time has he dropped corn by hand and bound wheat by hand. He can remember the times when goods were hauled from Attica, Covington and Perrysville, because there were no markets of any consequence in this portion of the state. Mr. Perry has seen and heard much of the pioneer life. He can remember the days when fires were made by striking flint and thus lighting tow, also when two or three people would ride on the back of one horse to church. He has been in the county for fifty years and has therefore lived to see it developed from primitive conditions to its present prosperity, has seen the wild lands transformed into splendid farms, while good homes have been built and all the evidences of a modern civilization have been introduced.

VICTOR LESEURE.

For many years a leading and influential business man of Danville, Victor Leseure contributed to the material upbuilding of the city and his influence was ever for good along other lines of progress and improvement. He took up his abode here in the year 1851 and through thirty-one years he was identified with the city's growth and welfare. A native of Nancy, France, his birth occurred in 1813. His parents were Pierre and Anne (Desiree) Leseure, both of whom were natives of France, where the father engaged in manufacturing. He resided in that country until 1833, when he brought his family to the new world, making a settle-

ment near Covington, Kentucky, where he lived for a number of years. He then removed to Clark county, Illinois, where he remained for several years, and on the expiration of that period he came to Vermilion county, settling upon a farm south of Danville, in Danville township. There both he and his wife spent their remaining days. Of their children some died in France and Edward is now the only one living. He resides in Danville and is represented elsewhere in this work.

Victor Leseure was about twenty years of age when he came to the new world with his parents. He had acquired his education in the schools of his native country. Here he was married to Miss Caroline B. McDonald, of Vermilion county, who died in the year 1872. Five children were born unto them: Catherine, now the wife of Charles T. Yoemans, of Danville; C. Frank, who married Jennie Sidell, of the same city, and is now deceased; Louise, the wife of W. K. Palmer, of New Rochelle, New York; Minnette, the wife of Thomas Elliott, of Danville; and Caroline, who died in childhood. In 1879 Mr. Leseure was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Mary J. (Smith) McDonald, a sister-in-law of his first wife. She is a native of Virginia, and a daughter of David and Susan (Hunsicker) Smith, who were also natives of the Old Dominion and became early settlers of Vermilion county, Indiana, taking up their abode upon a farm near Perrysville where they remained until called to their final rest.

After coming to Vermilion county Mr. Leseure of this review established a dry-goods store in Danville and conducted a retail business for several years with success. He then became a partner in the Danville Gas Works, continuing in that business until

his demise. He was a man of energy, keen foresight and reliability, and his sound judgment and perseverance enabled him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertook. He never sought or desired office, but was staunch Republican in politics and believed firmly in the principles of the party. He died August 9, 1882, and thus passed away a business man of worth whose name had become a synonym for integrity and probity of character. Mrs. Leseure is a member of the Presbyterian church of Danville and the family is a prominent one in this city, its members occupying a very enviable position in social circles. Mrs. Leseure now owns a nice home at No. 220 North street and her property interest also includes a business block on Main street.

F. M. GUSTIN.

F. M. Gustin, who is proprietor of a boarding and livery stable in Danville, was born in Butler county, Ohio, August 22, 1849, and is a son of J. B. and Elizabeth (Dearth) Gustin, both of whom were natives of Ohio, the father's birth occurring in Warren county, that state. He died in Miami county, Indiana, in 1884, while the mother is living in Peru, that state, with her children: William H., Elbert Rush, and Edward C. The other member of the family and the eldest is Mr. Gustin of this review. The fourth child, Cassius O., who was also a resident of Peru, Indiana, died December 13, 1902.

F. M. Gustin pursued his education in the district schools of Miami county, Indiana, to which place his parents removed during his early youth. He engaged in farm work upon the old family homestead and

after starting out in life on his own account devoted his energies to the same pursuit, being a well known agriculturist of Miami county for twenty-one years. He owned one hundred and eighty acres of rich land in Miami and Howard counties and its cultivation resulted in bringing to him rich harvests. In 1889 he purchased a half interest in a livery barn here and in 1892 became sole proprietor. In 1900 he erected a new addition to his barn. His lot has a frontage of seventy-four and a half feet. He removed to the city in 1891 and has resided here continuously since. His home is at No. 15 Franklin street and he also has property at No. 915 Vermilion street.

Mr. Gustin was married in Peru, Indiana, in 1873, to Miss Alice C. Ausfahl, who was born in Miami county, Indiana, in 1852, a daughter of Joseph Ausfahl, a retired farmer of Howard county, Indiana, now deceased, who was born in Germany and came to America when thirteen years of age. He received an excellent education in his native land and took up the study of English in the United States, acquiring an excellent education. He settled in northern Ohio and about 1845 removed to Miami county, Indiana, where he turned his attention to farming, becoming one of the large landowners of that part of the state. He was quite prominent in public affairs, was progressive and enterprising and his labors proved of value in promoting the general welfare. In his political support he was a stalwart Democrat, deeply interested in the success of his party. He died March 13, 1903, and he and his wife are both interred in the Paw Paw cemetery, Miami county, Indiana. Mrs. Gustin has three sisters and one brother, namely: Joseph R., Mrs. Addie Mattox, Mrs. Emma Woodworth and Mrs. Mary Main. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gustin have been

born three children: Louis V., who married Dorothy Hanna, is now connected with an undertaking firm of Chicago. Ralph E., who is engaged in a similar business, married Myrtle Clapp of Chicago, in which city they reside. Clarence M. is his father's assistant in business.

In his political affiliations Mr. Gustin is a Republican and in 1880 he served as assessor of Richland township, Miami county, Indiana. In 1884 he was re-elected to that office, the first time in the history of the state that any one was ever chosen to that position for four years, the law just having been passed giving the assessors a four years' term. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has filled all the chairs in the local lodge; belongs to Marsh Encampment; to the Militant Rank, Canton No. 11, and to Mercy Lodge, No. 72, Order of Rebekahs. His name is also on the membership roll of the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 254; Protective League, No. 147; Loyal American League, No. 144; and his wife is identified with the Royal Neighbors, the Protective League and the Rebekahs. He also belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, and is a citizen who manifests a deep interest in everything pertaining to public progress and the general good.



H. C. POWELL, M. D.

Fortunate is the man who has back of him an ancestry honorable and distinguished and happy is he if his lines of life are cast in harmony therewith. In appearance, in talents and in character Dr. H. C. Powell is a worthy scion of his race. He comes of a family that, long established in America, has been prominent in affairs effecting the

welfare of the nation—a family noted, also, for intellectual strength, for keen research and investigation and in connection with the medical fraternity representatives of the name have done important work.

Dr. Powell was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, near Crawfordsville, June 10, 1840, and is a son of Hiram and Ann (Kreylich) Powell. The Powells come of English ancestry. Omer R. Powell, the grandfather of our subject, was born May 17, 1771, amid the Saddleback Mountains of Orange county, Virginia, and because of his great fleetness of foot he was chosen to act as a spy during the Revolutionary war. One of the representatives of the name, Professor W. Byrd Powell, M. D., has attained distinction as a prominent physician and is a writer upon topics of great interest to the medical science. In our subject's library is a work from his pen called *The Natural History of the Human Temperaments; their laws in relation to marriage and fatal consequences of their violation to progeny*. Hiram Powell, the father of the Doctor, was born in Kenton county, Kentucky, in 1800, and after arriving at years of maturity was married in that state to Ann Kreylich, who was also born in Kentucky. Her father was a native of England, who, on emigrating to America, settled first in Orange county, Virginia. After his marriage in Kenton county, Kentucky, Hiram Powell turned his attention to farming and, removing to Montgomery county, Indiana, he there carried on the same pursuit, yet his attention was not given entirely to the work of tilling the soil. He was a man of excellent intellectual endowments, a scholarly man and of broad reading. He practiced law successfully to some extent, was a splendid mathematician and a successful educator. From 1828 until 1864 he remain-

ed in Montgomery county, Indiana, and then removed to Boone county, where he was prominent in public affairs, serving as president of the school board of Thorntown, Indiana, and also as city alderman. His labors in business life brought to him a comfortable competence so that in his later years he was enabled to live in retirement and yet enjoy all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. A faithful member of the Odd Fellows society, he took a very deep interest in its work and held many of its offices, while in the Republican party he was politically known as an earnest advocate of the principles in which he believed. He passed away in 1880, in the eightieth year of his age, and the mother of our subject died in 1833. The father was again married. By the first union there were eleven children, eight of whom reached years of maturity, while those still living are: Jacob, a resident of Waynetown, Indiana; Mary, the widow of J. T. Blackburn and a resident of Danville; Lucinda, the wife of H. Pottinger, of Danville; H. C.; and Adaline, the widow of Talbin Fletcher and a resident of Indianapolis. Milton B. served for three years in the Tenth Kentucky Infantry during the Civil war, holding the rank of corporal. He returned home in a crippled condition and finally succumbed to his injuries, dying at Thorntown, Indiana.

Dr. Powell began his education in the subscription schools of Montgomery county, Indiana, and later attended the public schools and the Wesleyan Academy of his native county, where he was prepared for more advanced educational work. He then entered Bloomingdale College and subsequently came to Illinois as a student in the State University at Champaign. Having determined to make the practice of medicine his life work, he matriculated in the Eclectic

Medical Institute, in which he was graduated in January, 1874, after which he practiced for a short time in both Indiana and Kentucky, but in 1875 located in Danville, where he has since remained with the exception of six years spent in Paris, Illinois, and a short period in Thorntown, Indiana. Nature endowed him with strong intellectual force, which he has utilized in a careful preparation for his chosen calling. He is continually broadening his knowledge by research and investigation and his efforts have been of value in the community in which he has lived as a representative of the healing art.

On the 22d of October, 1878, in Kenton county, Kentucky, Dr. Powell was married to Miss Rosa Rich, who was born in that county, a representative of one of the old families of the state. Her paternal grandfather died at the advanced age of eighty-nine years and his wife at the age of eighty-eight years. The parents of Mrs. Powell were Samuel and R. (Kreylich) Rich, both of whom were natives of Kentucky, where they were reared, educated and married, and resided there until called to the home beyond. The father was a farmer by occupation, was a Republican in political belief, and a Baptist in religious faith. In 1852 he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died leaving two daughters, Mrs. Powell and Catherine, the latter the wife of John Leathers, who is sheriff of Kenton county, Kentucky, residing in Covington. Mr. Rich married Miss Ashbrook, of Covington, and his death occurred in the year 1895.

Dr. Powell is a firm believer in the principles of the Republican party, but has never been a politician in the sense of being an active worker as a seeker of political preferment. He was made a Mason at Waynetown, Indiana, and has since affiliated with the craft. He was a member of the

state board of health while residing in Paris, Illinois, and has ever made a close and careful study of his profession, having broad human sympathy and a love of scientific research without which a physician can never attain the highest success. For a number of years he has enjoyed a high reputation as a leading member of the profession in Danville and a liberal patronage has been accorded him.

FRED H. JOHNSON.

Fred H. Johnson, a leading clothier of Westville, has been a resident of this county for six years and in that time he has built up a lucrative business, resulting in his individual success and also promoting the general advancement of the town by contributing to its mercantile interests. Mr. Johnson was born in Quebec, Canada, May 23, 1864, and is a son of Christopher and Minnie C. (Coulby) Johnson, the former born in Christiana, Norway, in 1835, while the mother's birth occurred in Quebec in 1838. They became the parents of eight children, of whom four died in infancy. Those still surviving are: William H., who is the proprietor of drug stores in Kennedy and Hallock, Minnesota; Christopher J., Jr., who is connected with Dodson, Fisher & Company, who conduct a wholesale harness and saddlery business in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Fred H., of this review; and Hilda, who resides with her parents in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The parents of this family removed to Minneapolis from Montreal, Canada, in November, 1884. The father has filled the office of consul for the Netherlands and vice-consul for Norway and Sweden. He is now acting in the capacity of traveling inspector for the

Duluth Inspection Bureau, of Duluth and Minneapolis, and resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

At the age of fifteen, Fred H. Johnson became a clerk for Hood, Mackenroe & Company, of Montreal, Canada, where he continued for two years and was then promoted to a position as salesman on the road, becoming the youngest salesman traveling in their employ. He followed this occupation for five years, when the firm with whom he was employed went out of business and Johnson therefore went to Minneapolis, there entering the employ of the Palace Clothiers. With this firm he remained for a period of two and one-half years. He then went to Chicago, accepting a position with Joseph Fels Company, in the capacity of traveling salesman. He continued in this position for about two years, when he made the acquaintance of Mr. Cline, of Danville, Illinois, who was anxious to secure the services of another French salesman who could also speak good English and Dutch. These qualifications Mr. Johnson possessed and he entered into an agreement with Mr. Cline which he continued for four years. He then decided that Westville offered good business opportunities where a wide-awake, ambitious and enterprising business man could open an up-to-date establishment in the clothing line with good success. He resigned his position with Mr. Cline and soon afterward established a business of his own in the Odd Fellows Building in Westville, fitting it up with a large and complete line of clothing and gent's furnishing goods. Here he conducted his business successfully for some time, but he is now located in more commodious quarters on North State street. He enjoys a liberal patronage, because his goods are neat, stylish and well and durably made. He is a popular merchant, as he

always desires to please his customers and treat them with strict fairness and honesty.

On January 12, 1895, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Miss Nellie F. Shane, a daughter of George and Mary (Sheffer) Shane, the father born in Switzerland in 1836 and the mother born in Alsace Lorraine, Germany, in 1835. This couple came to America in 1850 and located first in Rochester, New York, where he was engaged in the lumber business. On the breaking out of the Civil war he enlisted in the Ninth Heavy Artillery and served throughout the war. Three of his brothers and two sons also enlisted at the same time and also served throughout the war, thus nobly defending the cause of the Union at the time when its preservation was threatened. Only nine men of Mr. Shane's company returned. After the war was ended Mr. Shane with his family removed to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he engaged in the lumber business and is now living a retired life, honored and respected by all with whom he is associated in the relations of life. He and his wife were the parents of thirteen children, six of whom have gone to the home beyond, while seven survive as follows: George, Will John and Leo, all residents of Kalamazoo, Michigan; Lewis, a policeman of Chicago; Ed. of Lyons, New York, where he is engaged in farming, stock-raising and fruit growing; and Mrs. Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are both active members of the Catholic church, Mrs. Johnson having charge of the Sunday-school with an attendance of about two hundred and sixty children. When she first came to Westville there was no Sunday-school and in a short time by making a canvass she secured an attendance at first of sixty, who met at her home, but the number grew very rapidly and they were obliged

to hold the Sunday-school in the basement of the church. Mrs. Johnson also has charge of attending to the altar. She and her husband are earnest Christians and do all in their power to promote the cause of the church. In his political affiliations Mr. Johnson is a staunch Republican, but has never sought or desired office, preferring to devote his attention to his business affairs. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Westville, to the Foresters, of Toronto, Canada, and to the Modern Woodmen of America, of Westville. He and his wife are numbered among the leading and influential residents of Westville, where they are valued for their excellent traits of character and their genuine worth.

J. A. COX.

J. A. Cox is a progressive and enterprising merchant of Fairmount, Illinois, and is one of Indiana's native sons, his birth having occurred in Parke county, that state, December 18, 1851. He is a son of Alfred and Elizabeth (Hockett) Cox, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of North Carolina. His mother came to Indiana when two years of age and was there reared and married. The father engaged in farming and was also a carpenter and contractor. After their marriage they located in Parke county, Indiana, and in 1875 removed from there to Vermilion county, Illinois, where they are now living, Mr. Cox being retired from active life. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics is a Republican. The Cox family are of English extraction, while the maternal ancestors were of Scotch lineage. All were Quakers, and Allen Cox, the grand-

father of our subject, was an elder of the Quaker church.

J. A. Cox was one of a family of five children, three girls and two boys, three of whom are now living, the subject of this review being the eldest. Jennie resides with her parents and C. W. is engaged in business in Fairmount. Mr. Cox attended school at Annapolis, Indiana. The family then removed to Fountain county, that state, and there he continued his studies. On the removal of his parents to Vermilion county, Illinois, he accompanied them and later engaged in farming for two years, after which he began clerking for S. W. Cox, at Fairmount, in whose employ he remained for two years. He then worked for Charles Tilton, on a salary, later having a one-third interest in the business, and in 1891 he and his brother purchased the interest of Mr. Tilton. In August, 1900, Mr. Cox became sole owner of the business, buying out his brother's interest, and he is now conducting it alone. He has a double department store. He carries a large stock of well selected goods and receives a liberal patronage on account of the grade of goods carried and the fair dealing of the owner.

On the 27th of January, 1886, at Fairmount, Illinois, Mr. Cox was united in marriage to Sarah Bradway, who was born in Georgetown, Illinois, December 8, 1856. She was a daughter of James and Elizabeth Bradway, both natives of New Jersey. They were married in that state and came west, settling in Georgetown, Illinois. The father died in 1876 and the mother in August, 1900. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics he was a Republican. Mr. Cox's first wife was a member of a family of five children, three of whom are now living: Dr. C. F.,

of Abingdon, Illinois; James, of Poplar Bluff, Missouri; and Alice, the wife of Dr. O. F. Odibert, of Indianola, Illinois. Mrs. Cox died at San Antonio, Texas, April 17, 1899. She was the mother of five children: Ethel E., Edna M., Frank A., Sarah Hazel and Gordon D., who is now attending school at Fairmount.

At Indianapolis, Indiana, February 14, 1900, Mr. Cox was again married, his second union being with Nettie B. Green, who was born in Rising Sun, Indiana, November 11, 1850. She was a daughter of Benjamin and Jane (Garrett) Green, who were married and resided in Indiana. The father died at Zionsville, that state, in 1892. The mother and family then removed to Indianapolis, where the mother died in January, 1901. Mr. Green was a member of the Christian church, was connected fraternally with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and in politics was a Republican. In his family were five children, three of whom are now living: Nettie B., now Mrs. Cox; Annie, of Indianapolis; and Charles, of Oxford, Indiana.

Mr. Cox is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, being one of the trustees, also recording steward, which positions he has filled for many years. He is a member of Fairmount Lodge, No. 590, A. E. & A. M.; Damascus Lodge, No. 84, K. P.; the Knights of the Globe; the Modern Woodmen of America; and the Ben Hur Lodge. In politics he is a staunch Republican and has held all the township offices. He was supervisor for four years, township clerk for seven years and for a number of years was an alderman in Fairmount. For over a quarter of a century he has been identified with the interests of Fairmount and he is to-day one of its most highly respected citizens. In the mercantile business he has

met with success and has incidentally contributed to the development and prosperity of the city.

JAMES JUVINALL.

James Juvinal is one of the native sons of Vermilion county, who through many years has been a witness of progress and improvement here. He was born in Pilot township in 1835, a son of Andrew and Mary (James) Juvinal, who were born, reared and married in Ohio. In 1827 they emigrated westward to Vermilion county, traveling in a prairie schooner, a big covered wagon in which the family and the household goods were carried. Andrew Juvinal became well known in this portion of the state. He went with breaking teams for three successive years to Wisconsin and after breaking prairie through the summer months would return home in the fall. He was thus identified with the growth and pioneer development of that state as well as of Illinois. Although he came to this county empty handed he was in comfortable circumstances at the time of his death. By his marriage to Mary James were born seven children, the eldest being the subject of this review. The others are: Austin, Mrs. D. M. Wyman, and Andrew. Those who have passed away are: John, Amy and David, all of whom reached mature years, were married and reared families of their own.

James Juvinal, whose name introduces this record, obtained his education in a subscription school which convened in a log building, supplied with slab benches and an immense fire place. There was a long writing desk made by laying a plank upon wooden pins driven into the wall. Light was ad-

mitted into the room through greased paper which covered an aperture made by removing one of the logs from the side of the building. Mr. Juvinall remembers how the Indians held meetings at the foot of the hill upon which they lived. His father had entered land from the government at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. He felled the forest trees and broke the prairie. Our subject also assisted in breaking prairie until he reached his twenty-third year. There were many prairie wolves in the county in these early days and they would often come into the very door-yard of the pioneer homes and their howling would scare the dogs away. Mr. Juvinall frequently set traps to catch these wolves. Deer roamed over the prairies while turkeys and other game were very plentiful, furnishing many a meal for the early settlers. Mr. Juvinall's father aided in hauling the first goods from the boat to the first plank store erected in Chicago. He forded rivers with his ox teams and often journeyed to Chicago, when that was the trading point for the early settlers, Danville at that time being but a village and furnishing little opportunities for trade. Upon the home farm James Juvinall spent the days of his boyhood and youth and assisted in its cultivation and development. He was married March 6, 1858, to Eliza J. Abbott, whose birth occurred in Ohio, November 22, 1839, a daughter of James and Nancy (Ogden) Abbott, who became pioneer settlers of Vermilion county. Ten children were born unto our subject and his wife of whom six are living: Henry, who married Esther Conley of this county; Mrs. J. H. Smalley, of Danville; Ed, who wedded Mattie Goodwin, a daughter of John Goodwin of Vermilion county; D. M., who married Helen Goodwin, a sister of his brother's wife; Mrs. Robert Rodgers, of Collison, Illinois; and

Mrs. Maude Smith of Jamesburg. The deceased are: Matthew, Andrew and Mary Belle, all of whom died in childhood.

Mr. Juvinall began farming with one hundred and thirty acres of land in Pilot township and later he purchased one hundred and twenty acres in Blount township. He has owned about three hundred acres at one time but has met some reverses in life. Renting his farm in Blount township he removed to Danville about 1892 and there formed partnership in the implement business which he conducted for a few years. Later he took up his abode in Denmark, where he resided for a year and then purchased his present home in Blount township, where he is now living retired. The history of pioneer life in Vermilion county is familiar to him. He can relate many interesting incidents concerning the early days and the customs of the settlers. It seems hardly possible to realize now that within his memory the old flint and tow were used in building fires and if these materials were not to be had they would go to a neighbors and borrow fire, for matches had not then been placed upon the market. Mr. Juvinall at one time knew nearly every one living upon the main road between Danville and Chicago outside the villages. He has often plowed with a wooden mold board and cut grain with a sickle, planted corn by hand and bound his wheat by hand, but as the years have progressed he has kept abreast with modern progress and improvement. Driving an ox team in an early day he frequently visited Chicago with a load of apples and returned with provisions, camping along the wayside at night—such a trip often required ten days. He has sold corn at eight cents per bushel in the market of Danville. No man has taken a deeper interest in progress and improvement and his

efforts have been beneficial in behalf of the general good along many lines. He has long been active in missionary work and for forty years he has served as a class leader in the Methodist church of which he is a devoted and consistent member.

JAMES DAVISON.

James Davison is one of Hoopeston's highly respected citizens, whose useful and well spent life has not only gained for him the confidence of his fellow men but has 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.

A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Davison was born in Pittsburg, Allegheny county, March 10, 1815, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Cunningham) Davison, in whose family were four children, our subject being the youngest of the family and only one now living. He was only six months old at the death of his father. He was a native of Ireland and the mother was born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, of Irish parentage. After the death of her first husband she married a Mr. Love and both are now deceased.

When about six years of age Mr. Davison went to live with an uncle in the country and remained with him until he was seventeen, his education being acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood. He then returned to Pittsburg, where he learned the carpenter's trade and attended night school, and on leaving there in 1841 he went to Cincinnati, where he continued to work at his trade for about sixteen years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Ann Arbor, Michigan, that his children

might attend the State University there, five of them being students in that institution. During the five years of his residence there Mr. Davison was associated with another gentleman in the manufacture of falling soap. The following three years were spent in Utica, Ohio, and in 1881 he came to Hoopeston, Illinois, and purchased a ten acre tract of land just east of the corporation limits, which he later platted, half of the amount being laid out in town lots. Twenty-four of these he has since sold and still owns three and a half acres, on which is a nice home, orchard and grove. During his residence here he has lived in honorable retirement from business cares and now lives with his son-in-law, T. G. Adams, who owns the old home place.

At Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1844, Mr. Davison was united in marriage to Miss Mary Crary, a native of that city, who died on the 26th of August, 1893, leaving six children, all of whom were married with the exception of George M., an Episcopal minister of New Orleans. The eldest, James Edward, is now deceased, having died at the age of fifty-two years. Although quite young during the Civil war he entered the one hundred day service as a private and served the term of his enlistment. He was afterward engaged in the practice of medicine in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. The other members of the family are: C. Francis, who is engaged in business at Bluffton, Indiana, as a shipper of hay and grain; Delbert L., who is a graduate of the Chicago Law school and is now engaged in farming at Rolla, Missouri; Elizabeth, wife of E. T. Hastings, a shoe dealer of Fort Recovery, Ohio; and Ida Florence, wife of T. G. Adams, a lumber dealer of Hoopeston. Mr. Davison also has twelve grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

In 1898 he visited Pittsburg, and again in 1902, he spent two months in the east where his boyhood and youth were passed. He has been an active and earnest member of the United Presbyterian church since 1844 and served as an elder for nearly forty years. His wife was also connected with the same church and was a most estimable lady. His life has been manly, his actions sincere and his example is well worthy of emulation.



MRS. MARY J. BLAIR.

Mrs. Mary J. Blair, who is now residing in Danville, is the widow of William G. Blair, who belonged to one of the early families of Vermilion county. He was a native of Newell township, born on the 24th of December, 1855. His parents were Josephus and Juda (Clapp) Blair, the former a native of Vermilion county, Illinois, and the latter of North Carolina. The grandfather of Mr. Blair removed to this county at a very early epoch in its development, settling in Newell township when the work of progress and improvement seemed scarcely begun in this part of the state. There he engaged in farming, also devoting a part of his time to surveying. Josephus Blair was a farmer by occupation and established his home in Newell township, where he engaged in the tilling of the soil for many years, being recognized as a leading agriculturist of his community. He died upon the old homestead farm and his wife in Blount township.

William G. Blair acquired a common school education in Newell township and was early trained to habits of industry and economy upon his father's farm, thus gaining practical experience in a work which he followed throughout his own business career.

He was married in his native township to Miss Mary J. McMillin, whose birth occurred in the same township, February 26, 1853, her parents being Harvey and Catherine (Guthrie) McMillin, both of whom were natives of Ohio, but came to Illinois in 1827. They settled in Newell township, Vermilion county, casting in their lot with its early pioneers when much of the land was still in the possession of the government, when the Indians were yet frequent visitors of the neighborhood and when deer and other kinds of wild game abounded. They went through all the experiences and hardships of pioneer life and assisted in the primitive development of the county. Mr. McMillin devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits and developed a farm upon which he and his wife remained until called to the home beyond. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Blair was blessed with two children, Homer H. and Ora M., both of whom are with their mother.

After their marriage Mr. Blair began farming upon the old homestead in Newell township, where he remained for several years. He then removed to a farm in Blount township, where he continued the cultivation of the soil until his life's labors were ended in death. He placed his land in a rich and arable condition and added to his place modern improvements and substantial and convenient equipments. He was for thirteen years school treasurer and for four years he served as tax collector in Blount township, discharging his duties with marked fidelity and promptness. In his political views he was an earnest Republican.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Blair has removed to Danville and purchased property where she now resides at No. 1502 North Vermilion street. She also owns a farm of one hundred and five acres in Blount

township which she rents, and a tract of forty acres in Newell township. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Danville and a lady whose many excellent traits of heart and mind have endeared her to a large circle of friends.

NEVILLE A. COLLINS.

Among the progressive and enterprising young business men of Vermilion county is Neville A. Collins who is now conducting the Fulton meat market in Danville. He was born in Elk Grove, Kansas, near Independence, May 12, 1871. His grandparents were George W. and Jane (Todd) Collins, both natives of Maryland, in which state they were reared and married. They became the parents of nine children, of whom six are yet living, as follows: Henry T., of Catlin; William F., of Oklahoma; John W., of Potomac, Illinois; Mrs. J. C. Selby, of Catlin; Mrs. I. B. Pulliam, whose husband is a Methodist minister of Chanute, Kansas; and George E., of Catlin. It was in the '50s that the grandfather of our subject came to Vermilion county settling two and one-half miles northeast of Fairmount on a farm amid pioneer surroundings. He engaged in general mercantile pursuits dealing quite largely in stock and feeding and shipping on a scale that brought to him a good financial return.

Henry T. Collins, the father of our subject, acquired his education in the primitive schools of Indiana and in DePauw University of Greencastle, Indiana. He was ambitious to advance and his earnest labor and sterling purpose were the foundation upon which he builded his success. He followed various occupations in order to obtain his

college education and thus showed forth the elemental strength of his character. After a seven years' course he was graduated as a minister of the gospel with high honors, in 1881. His first charge was on the Tuscola circuit. He preached continuously at various points from 1881 until 1900 when, because of failing health, he was obliged to retire and is now on the supernumerary list. He was married in Vance township, Vermilion county, Illinois, to Miss Mary E. Neville, a native of Virginia and a daughter of G. N. and Mary S. (Throckmorton) Neville, of West Virginia. Mrs. Collins was born in that state and by her marriage became the mother of but one child, Neville A., of this review.

Our subject obtained his early education in the common schools of Illinois and completed his course of study in the college at Carlinville, this state. He then entered the employ of the Jacksonville & St. Louis Railroad Company under E. W. Clifford, who was general agent, and began learning telegraphy as well as the other business connected with the management of the railroad office. In seven months he was given a night position at Virden, Illinois, as telegraph operator and served continuously in that capacity in this state for five years. He then entered the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company and spent four years in the northwest at different points in Montana and on the Pacific coast. He continued business as a telegraph operator until 1894, when he went to Perkins county, in southwestern Nebraska, and there became connected with ranch life. He took into the county the first bunch of cattle that was ever wintered there on buffalo grass. For seven years he lived the life of a cowboy, being thus engaged until 1901, when he sold his stock at public sale and with the good sum

of money which he had won through his labors here and with the excellent knowledge of the good points of stock obtained through his efforts as a ranchman, he came to Vermilion county arriving on the 9th of July, 1901. He removed his family to Catlin and there opened an excellent meat market which he conducted until 1903, when he purchased the Fulton market in Danville, where he now makes his home. He was also engaged in buying and dealing in livestock. In his new enterprises he prospered to a very gratifying degree and extended the field of his labors by purchasing another meat market in Fairmount which he sold on his removal to Danville.

One of the pleasant events of Mr. Collins' sojourn in the west was his marriage on the 6th of September, 1892, to Miss Olive M. Leney, who was born in Ogden, Illinois, April 22, 1873, and is the seventh in a family of ten children whose parents were John W. and Margaret (Poage) Leney, the former a native of Glasgow, Scotland, and the latter of Champaign county, Illinois. Mrs. Collins was educated in Champaign University which she left during her senior year. She is an accomplished elocutionist and musician and her reputation as a reader extends beyond the county in which she makes her home. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Collins have been born four children: Paul, Esther M., Jewel McCabe and Olive M. The last named died in infancy. The others are aged nine, seven, and five years, respectively. Our subject and his wife hold membership in the Methodist church, and Mrs. Collins takes a very active interest in the work of the church and is a woman who is greatly valued because of her many good deeds and her kindness of heart. She presides with gracious hospitality over a pleasant home and her ability as a musician and reader

make her a favorite in social circles. Mr. Collins is well known as a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp, at Catlin, and in politics he is a Republican. In addition to his two places of business he owned his residence property in the northeastern part of Catlin. Although a young man he has accomplished much in his business career, being quick to note opportunity and to utilize it. He is always discriminating in judgment and he carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

AMBROSE B. JUDY.

Fifty-one years have come and gone since Ambrose B. Judy took up his abode in Vermilion county and through all this long period he has not only been an eye-witness of the development and improvement here but has assisted in advancing many measures for the general good. A farm of six hundred acres of valuable land is proof that his life has been an industrious and enterprising one. His valuable farming interests are located in Middlefork township, his home being on section 21.

A native of Virginia Mr. Judy was born in Hardy county, July 31, 1842, and is of Swiss descent, tracing his ancestry back to Martin Judy, who came from Basel, Switzerland. The family name was evidently changed after coming to this country as on investigation it has been found that there are no Swiss of that name in the cantons of Basel and Zurich, and the name is undoubtedly derived from the Swiss Tschudi of Tschudy, which are different spellings of the same name. It is believed that the people in Basel who spell their name Tschudi are descended from the same stock as the Glarus

Tschudis, there being a close similarity in the Christian names in each section and also in America. A genealogical record published in 1854 traces several branches of the Glarus Tschudi to Basel, where many of their descendants are still living. The family is of great antiquity and according to this genealogy the descent is traced back to John or Johann Schudi or Tschudi, who was knighted by Ludwig III in the year 906. He was at that time mayor or governor of the little canton of Glarus, which office continued to be held in unbroken succession by the family until 1256. After the canton gained its political freedom and its chief magistracy became elective, a Tschudi was often chosen to this office. The family played an important part when Swiss freedom was won, its members being particularly active and influential on the side of freedom. During the Reformation they were divided, some going over to the Protestants, while others remained Catholics. In a worldly way the Catholic branch seemed to prosper more than the other. In Spain, Italy, Austria and France there are branches which attained to considerable eminence, some being members of the lesser nobility in their respective countries. During the many years of its existence in Switzerland the family spread throughout the various cantons and some of its members attained to considerable prominence. At various times when Switzerland was furnishing soldiers to other European countries, many Tschudis took service in these foreign armies and in some cases they arose to high if not the highest rank as generals. The family also attained distinction in the field of letters as well as of arms. Aegidius or Gales Tschudi in the sixteenth century wrote the *Chronicles of Switzerland*, which work is of so great a value that it has won for him the title of "Father of Swiss

History." In 1838 John Jacob Tschudi started with his ship on a voyage of scientific exploration, intending to go around the world, but the vessel was wrecked on the coast of Peru, and he remained quite awhile there, writing a book of much value on its natural history. "Animal Life in the Alps" is a much prized book which was written by another member of the family, Friedrich Tschudi. The catalogue of the library of Glarus contains entries under the names of eighteen different members of the family and in the same library may be found the manuscripts of many unpublished books and sketches which were written by Aegidius or other Tschudis. One of these is a three volume history of the Tschudi family from 900 to 1501. Many of the Tschudis have been clergymen, some ranking well in the Catholic hierarchy and others distinguishing themselves as Protestant pastors. Among the latter was Valentine Tschudi, at whose ordination the reformer Swingle preached the sermon, which is sometimes accounted the beginning of the reformation in Switzerland. Others of the name made places for themselves outside of Switzerland, one being vice ruler of Sicily for a short time; another a general at Naples, who suffered severe imprisonment under Napoleon rather than betray his trust; yet another a celebrated manufacturer of harpsichords, who in the eighteenth century supplied royal mansions with musical instruments from his London shops; and one who was for some time secretary of the Academy of Science at St. Peterburg. Whether the members of the family are found in the high or low walks of life there are certain characteristics which appear frequently enough to constitute a type. Pre-eminent among these are kindness and service to others; gentleness in the home; fidelity to principles; a

tendency to religion; fair-mindedness in judgment; a gift for peace making; and as a rule, alertness and breadth of view. The family since coming to America has held an honorable if not a foremost place among the plain people. Its members as a rule have been well-to-do farmers, with an occasional merchant or tradesman, and there have also been a few teachers, lawyers, clergymen and officers of lower rank in the army. The American Judys are generally sober, honest, industrious, kind-hearted, peaceable and religious, and are also strikingly free from insanity, consumption, etc.

Martin Judy came to this country from Basel, Switzerland, landing in Philadelphia in 1769 and settled on the south branch of the Potomac river in Virginia. In his family were ten children who reached maturity, namely: Martin, John, Jacob, Samuel, Winepark, David, Henry, Elizabeth, Katharine and Nancy. Most of these removed from Virginia to Kentucky, but the branch to which Ambrose B. Judy belongs remained in the Old Dominion.

Nicholas Judy, the father of our subject, was born, reared and educated in Hardy county, Virginia, and when he had arrived at years of maturity he wedded Mary A. Skidmore, who was also a native of that state and a daughter of Andrew Skidmore, another pioneer settler of the Old Dominion. Nicholas Judy followed farming in the county of his nativity for many years after his marriage. All of his seventeen children were born there and all but four of this number grew to mature years. In 1851 the father came west to Illinois, driving across the country with teams. He purchased land in Middlefork township, Vermilion county, owning nearly three hundred acres of land which he cultivated until his death in 1853. His wife survived him for more than four

decades, passing away in this county in 1897, at the ripe old age of more than ninety-one years. They had ten sons and four daughters who reached years of maturity: Jehu, of Iroquois county, Illinois; Andrew, who came to Illinois about 1848 and died in 1850; Isaac, of Vermilion county; William, who is living a retired life in Potomac; Gabriel, a farmer of Middlefork township; Ambrose B., of this review; John W., who was a soldier of the Civil war and gave his life in defense of the old flag, being killed at the battle of Franklin, Tennessee, November 30, 1864; Edward, who is living in the state of Washington; Samuel, a resident of Jefferson, Greene county, Iowa; George A., who was killed by a runaway team when a young man; Rebecca, who died in early womanhood; Elizabeth, who became the wife of Eli Hornbeck, of Middlefork township and died here, leaving a daughter, now the wife of Scott Johnson, a lumber merchant of Rankin, Illinois; Eve Maude, who married Wallace Bodley and like her husband is deceased; and Nancy Margaret, the wife of Howell Davis, of Urbana, Illinois.

Ambrose B. Judy was only nine years of age when he removed to Vermilion county. He was educated in the common schools and in the Danville high school, which he attended for two or three terms. In February, 1864, he responded to his country's call for aid and joined Company E, of the Fifty-first Illinois Infantry, going to the south with the Army of the Cumberland. He was in many important engagements, including the battles of Rocky Face Ridge, at Buzzard's Roost, Resaca and the Atlanta campaign, in which he was under fire almost every day for nearly four months. He was also in the battles of New Hope Church and Kenesaw Mountain, the battles of Atlanta and Jones-

boro. Subsequently he returned to Chattanooga, marching thence into Alabama and spending several weeks in Tennessee. With his command he met the forces of General Hood in battle at Columbia and at Spring Hill. He then went to Franklin, Tennessee, while on the 15th and 16th of December he was a participant in the capture of Nashville, which practically destroyed Hood's army. Mr. Judy followed his command into Alabama and later was sent into eastern Tennessee to Blue Springs, near Greenville. After the surrender of General Lee's army he returned to Nashville, where he remained until about the middle of June, when he proceeded by train to Johnsonville, Tennessee, thence by boat to Cairo, Illinois, and down the river to New Orleans, being encamped at that place for over a month, spending the 4th of July, 1865, there. Later the regiment was sent across the Gulf into Texas and did guard and camp duty in that state until ordered to return to the north, where the troops were mustered out, Mr. Judy being honorably discharged in Springfield, Illinois, in October, 1865. He was never ill or wounded during the service and was always found at his post of duty, whether on the firing line or on the picket line.

After receiving an honorable discharge Mr. Judy returned home and the following winter engaged in teaching—a profession which he had followed for a few terms prior to the war. Altogether he devoted the winter months during twenty years to that work and in the summer seasons carried on farming. In 1868 he made his first purchase of land, becoming the owner of one hundred acres where he now resides. This was partially broken and fenced and he continued the work of improvement and from time to time extended the boundaries of his farm. He now owns six hundred and sixty acres

in one tract. This is a very valuable property and upon it are found all modern equipments and accessories. He has remodeled his residence and in the rear of his home are good outbuildings and upon his place is an excellent orchard. The farm is indeed well equipped and each year Mr. Judy harvests good crops and at the same time he sends to the city markets about two carloads of cattle annually and seventy-five head of hogs. He is quite successful as a stock-raiser and feeder and this branch of his business has materially increased his income.

On the 19th of January, 1870, in Vermilion county, occurred the marriage of our subject and Miss Mary E. Sterling, a native of Connecticut, who spent her girlhood days in that state and is indebted to its public school system for her educational privileges. Her father, Samuel B. Sterling, was likewise born and reared there and married Minerva Beard, also a native of that state. He devoted his attention to farming in order to provide for his family and always lived in Connecticut. Mrs. Judy was a successful teacher prior to her marriage and she is now a faithful and devoted member of Wallace Chapel Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Judy holds membership relations with the Grand Army of the Republic and was formerly identified with the Republican party on national questions, but in recent years has given his support to the Prohibition party. At local elections, however, he votes independently of party ties. He has been elected and served as a member of the board of county supervisors, representing Middlefork township in that way in 1887-8. He was a member of some important committees and introduced a number of resolutions of value which have been adopted and have saved to the county sums of money. He has, however, never been a politician in

the sense of office seeking. For twenty-seven years he was school treasurer of his township and is filling the position at the present time. In numerous conventions of his party his opinions have carried weight. He has ever been known and honored for his loyalty to his honest convictions and for his prominence and fidelity in executing any trust reposed in him. His life has been well spent and to-day he enjoys the regard and friendship of many of his acquaintances.

J. M. DOUGHERTY.

J. M. Dougherty has long and actively been connected with business affairs in Vermilion county and is now engaged in dealing in lumber and in the manufacture and sale of native timber. He is well known as a reliable business man and is also one of the honored early settlers of the county, dating his residence here since 1856. He now lives in the city of Danville and is familiarly called Joe by his numerous friends.

Mr. Dougherty is a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred in Ohio county, that state, September 16, 1843. His father, William Dougherty, was born in Dearborn, Indiana, August 11, 1825, while the grandfather, Joseph Dougherty, was a native of Virginia. The family comes of Irish lineage, the first representative of the name in America, having emigrated from the northern part of Ireland to Virginia at an early epoch in the history of this country. Joseph Dougherty served as a soldier of the Mexican war. Emigrating westward he became one of the first settlers of Indiana and in the midst of the dense forest there he hewed out a farm. So wild was the country that he always kept his gun by his side even while

working in order to protect himself from any attack from Indians. William Dougherty was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of pioneer life and in Indiana was united in marriage to Miss Mary Myers, who was born in Ohio. For some years thereafter he followed farming in Indiana and in 1856 he came to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county among the first settlers of Catlin township. There he opened up a farm and carried on agricultural pursuits for many years. He lost his wife in April, 1899, when she had attained the age of eighty-two years, and since that time Mr. Dougherty has resided with his children.

Joseph M. Dougherty of this review was a lad of thirteen years when he came with his parents to Vermilion county and upon the old home farm here he was reared to manhood, remaining under the parental roof until twenty years of age, when he began work for himself. His attention was given to agricultural pursuits and to the lumber business. He purchased one hundred and twenty acres of timber land near Danville, cleared this, built upon it a good residence and opened up an excellent farm, upon which he lived for sixteen years. On the expiration of that period he took up his abode in Danville, building a home there and has since continuously engaged in dealing in lumber. Other departments of business activity have also claimed his attention. He has engaged in the manufacture and burning of brick and has further contributed to the improvement of the city by erecting a number of business houses and residences here, employing a large number of workmen. He has always continued his operations in timber and in the manufacture of native lumber, this proving to him a good source of income throughout all the years. He is a man of sound business judgment, of

unflagging enterprise and stalwart purpose and his efforts have brought to him splendid success, placing him among the substantial residents of Danville.

In August, 1867, in this county, Mr. Dougherty was united in marriage to Callie McCollister, who died three years and nine months later, leaving a daughter who died when about four years of age. In 1872 in Danville, Mr. Dougherty was again married, his second union being with Emily McCollister, a cousin of his first wife. Unto them have been born three children: M. M., who is now in the hospital service in the Philippine Islands, having been connected with the military interests of his country since the outbreak of the war with Spain; Callie, at home; and Belle, who is a teacher in the schools of Danville. The mother of these children passed away November 12, 1895.

Politically Mr. Dougherty is a Jeffersonian Democrat who takes an active and helpful interest in the work of the party. He has served as a member of the county central committee for a number of years, was chairman for two or three years and was elected and served for eight consecutive years as assessor and collector of Danville township, being elected in a district which usually gives a strong Republican majority. This fact was a tribute to his personal worth and to his high standing among his fellow men, who recognized his ability and his loyalty to public duty. He has many times been chosen as a delegate to county and state conventions. Socially he is a Master Mason. For forty-eight years he has been a resident of Vermilion county and has witnessed much of its growth and development. He has seen the prairies broken and fenced, the timber and brush cleared away, roads constructed and towns and cities built. He farmed land upon which a part of the city of Danville now

stands. In all the work of improvement he has borne an active part and has lived a life of integrity and activity, which has classed him among the honored residents of his community. He is a modest, unassuming man, caring not for notoriety, yet he deserves the praise that is usually given a self-made man and the high regard which is accorded him by his friends.

ALBERT WOLCOTT.

Albert Wolcott was for many years a representative and prominent agriculturist of Vermilion county and a man of sterling worth, whose many excellent qualities endeared him to his friends so that when he was called to his final rest his death was deeply and widely regretted. He was born on the 4th of April, 1830, in Chenango county, New York. His father died when the subject of this review was only seven years of age and his mother passed away several years later. Albert Wolcott was the youngest of nine children, eight brothers and a sister. He remained in the Empire state until about nineteen years of age, when he sought a home in the west, locating first in Logan county, Illinois. There he remained for eleven years and during that time he went to the front as a defender of the Union cause in the Civil war, enlisting in 1862 as a member of Company C, One Hundred and Sixth Illinois Infantry. He participated in a number of important engagements and was always found at his post of duty, faithfully upholding the honor of the old flag. When the war was over and the country no longer needed his services he was mustered out on the 12th of July, 1865, and immediately returned to his home.

Mr. Wolcott had become actively en-

gaged in farming in Logan county, Illinois, and resuming his agricultural labor there he continued his farm work until February, 1876, when he removed to Vermilion county, settling in Grant township. Here he purchased a tract of raw prairie land and with characteristic energy began its cultivation and improvement. The work of developing his farm he carried on vigorously and untiringly until he had made his fields rich and productive.

In Logan county, Illinois, on the 17th of December, 1867, Mr. Wolcott was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary Parker, who was born in Pennsylvania and was taken to Ohio in her infancy. She is a daughter of John and Ellen (Schuff) Clouse, also natives of the Keystone state. Mrs. Wolcott was reared in Ohio until thirteen years of age, at which time she accompanied her parents on their removal to Jasper county, Indiana. At the age of seventeen she gave her hand in marriage to Ezra Parker, who died in Logan county, Illinois, and subsequently she became the wife of Mr. Wolcott. Her first husband was a farmer by occupation, following agricultural pursuits until his death. Her father, who was an invalid for some years, followed saddle-making but later returned to the farm where the sons of the family lived and where he spent his remaining days. In his family were eight children, four of whom are still living, namely: William C., Andrew J., Mrs. Esther A. Lakins and Mrs. Ann Wolcott. The marriage of our subject and his wife was blessed with four children, of whom three are living: Mrs. Emma Ranson, a resident of Danville; Mrs. Viola McCoy, a resident of Hoopeston; and Ernest, who married Minnie Mahoney and is living on a farm.

Mr. Wolcott was a member of the Grand

Army of the Republic and also of the Modern Woodmen Camp. He attended the Baptist church and took a very deep and active interest in church work, although he was never a member, but regularly attended the services and labored earnestly in the Sunday-school, while to the support of the cause of Christianity he was a liberal contributor. His wife holds membership in the Baptist church and is a zealous Christian woman. Mr. Wolcott continued his farming operations until March, 1896, when he removed to Hoopeston but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home for there he died on the 30th of October, 1897. Because of his progressive citizenship and active aid in measures for the general good, because of his trustworthiness in business and his fidelity in private life Albert Wolcott was numbered among the leading and valued residents of his portion of the county and his loss was deeply mourned not only by his immediate family, but by a very large circle of friends.

Mrs. Wolcott had a farm of eighty acres in Logan county left her by her first husband. She sold this on removing to Vermilion county and purchased eighty acres three and one-half miles from Hoopeston, property which she still owns and which is now very valuable. At the present time she resides on East Honeywell avenue, in the home purchased in 1896. With her lives her daughter, Mrs. Viola McCoy, and her husband, together with their four children, Charles A., Fay, Ernest and Edna. Mrs. Wolcott is widely known in Hoopeston and the surrounding portions of Vermilion county as a lady of many excellent qualities of heart and mind and the circles of her friends is almost co-extensive with the circle of her acquaintances.

BENJAMIN PETERSON.

Benjamin Peterson, who is engaged in general farming on section 7, Butler township, near the village of Potomac, has to-day valuable and extensive landed possessions, his home farm aggregating four hundred acres. During the sixty years he has lived in the state of Illinois wonderful indeed have been the changes that have occurred and the progress that has been made, for through these six decades this great commonwealth has emerged to take its place as the leader in many industrial and commercial lines in the nation.

Mr. Peterson is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Vinton county, on the 1st of May, 1830. His father, Cornelius Peterson, was born in Maine, where his people located at a very early day and there he was reared. When a young man he went westward, locating first in Ohio, his home being in Vinton county. There he was married to Selinda Lane, whose birth occurred in that county. There Mr. Peterson cleared and developed a tract of land, opening up a good farm, but in 1840 he sought a home in Illinois, settling in Vermilion county, near Higginsville. Here he again broke a tract of land, building upon it a good house and barn and developing his farm until it was a rich and productive tract. Subsequently, however, he sold that land and purchased a farm in Butler township. In 1850 again he turned the first furrows in his fields, carrying on the work of improvement and cultivation until his land was made to yield golden harvests for the labor he bestowed upon it. It was upon his farm that he spent his last days. In his family were three sons and seven daughters, all of whom reached mature years, but only three

of the number, our subject and two sisters, are now living.

Benjamin Peterson, whose name introduces this review, was reared to manhood upon the old family homestead in Vermilion county. His school privileges were very limited because, owing to the unsettled condition of this portion of the state, a public school system had not been established. He remained with his father throughout the period of his manhood and after arriving at years of maturity he carried on the home farm. In 1860 he purchased forty acres of land where he now resides. This was raw and unimproved but the breaking plow had soon turned the surface and in course of time the land was placed under a high state of cultivation. Subsequently he purchased eighty acres additional, upon which his buildings are now located. This was also destitute of improvements when it came into his possession, being still in its primitive condition. He has erected a good residence, built substantial barns and other necessary outbuildings for the shelter of grain and stock and has planted an orchard and shade trees. He has tiled and fenced his land and all modern equipments are found on this valuable farm. To his property he has added again and again until now he has four hundred and nine acres in one body. It is very valuable and each year a splendid harvest adds materially to the capital which he has already acquired.

In Blount township, Vermilion county, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage, on the 29th of October, 1860, to Lydia Pilkington, who was born in Indiana, but was reared in this county. She died in May, 1886, leaving six children: Clara, now the wife of W. J. Buchanan of Butler township; William E., who is a farmer of North Dakota; Flora,

the wife of Morton P. Ferr, of Hoopeston; John F., a resident of Kankakee; Myrtle, the wife of John McGinness of Iowa; Lillie, the wife of Oscar Anderson, a farmer of Butler township. On the 1st of August, 1889, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage to Mrs. Margaret Henderson, a widow, who, by her former marriage, had three sons and three daughters.

Politically Mr. Peterson is a staunch Republican and his first vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He has never wavered in his allegiance to the party since that time, but has never desired office as the reward for his party fealty, content to do his duty as a private citizen. While serving as a member of the school board he has done effective service in behalf of education. He has also filled the position of overseer of highways. Both he and his wife are earnest and zealous members of the United Brethern church, in which he has long held offices, being one of the trustees at the present time. A self-made man, his life record speaks clearly of industry, perseverance, economy and honesty. He started out in the business world with no capital yet he has steadily worked his way upward and is to-day the owner of a very valuable farm in the county of his adoption. Throughout almost his entire life Mr. Peterson has resided in this portion of the state. The people of the twentieth century can scarcely realize what privations and hardships were endured by the early settlers. It was not uncommon to see a herd of deer making their way over the prairies and wolves were frequently shot and many kinds of wild game were here in great numbers, but all have disappeared before the approach of the white men, who have claimed the land for the purpose of cultivation and have made the district to bloom and blossom as the rose. Mr. Peter-

son has turned many acres of sod and has seen the farmer improve his lands while the townsman has built up enterprises and industries in village and city until Vermilion county has become a rich agricultural and commercial center. He himself worked upon three farms in order to make them cultivable and for his life of industry and enterprise he deserves credit. His mind is stored with many interesting reminiscences of pioneer times, when the homes of the settlers were widely scattered but when hospitality reigned supreme and many pleasures were enjoyed that are not known at the present day. He can tell the tale of Danville's development and he rejoices in what has been accomplished in that town and city. He has ever borne his part in the work of progress and as an honored pioneer he deserves prominent mention in this volume.

JUDGE JACOB W. WILKIN.

The name of Judge Jacob W. Wilkin is inseparably associated with the history of jurisprudence in Illinois and no man has been more respected in the state and none more highly deserve the honor that has been bestowed upon him. He is now serving as one of the supreme judges of the commonwealth and his ability makes him one of the most capable jurists that has ever graced the court of last resort. The Judge was born in Licking county, Ohio, in June, 1837, and is a son of Isaac and Sarah (Burner) Wilkin, natives of Virginia. Soon after their marriage they removed to Ohio, settling in Licking county and in 1845 they became residents of Crawford county, Illinois, where the father engaged in farming. Prior to his arrival in this state, however,

he had followed contracting and building. His life record covered eighty-one years, while his wife passed away at the advanced age of eighty-five, both dying in Marshall, Clark county, where they were living retired. In their family were nine children, six sons and three daughters, of whom four are yet living, but the Judge is the only one who resides in Danville. One brother and a sister are living in Robinson, Crawford county, the brother, H. O. Wilkin, is filling the position of circuit clerk there. The sister, Mrs. Mary M. Coulter, is a widow. The other brother, Rev. M. T. Wilkin, is a minister of the Methodist church, now preaching in Urbana, Illinois.

When a lad of eight years Judge Wilkin was brought to Illinois by his parents and attended school in Crawford county. He afterward became a student in McKendree College in St. Clair county, Illinois, and was thus pursuing his literary education when the Civil war broke out. Deeply interested in the questions which involved the country in the struggle and most loyal to the Union cause, he offered his services to the government, enlisting in Marshall, Clark county, as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel Nathaniel P. Miles, the regiment being assigned to the Thirteenth Army Corps. With his command the Judge participated in the battles preceding the siege of Vicksburg and in the campaign which was followed by the surrender of that southern stronghold. He was on detached service at General Grant's headquarters during the siege and he was also in the Red River campaign, during which he participated in the battle of Sabine Cross Roads and other engagements. He also aided in the siege of Spanish Fort, in the campaign against Fort Blakely and in other movements of the

army in that district of the south. He had enlisted in the spring of 1862, was mustered in in August of the same year and in the fall of 1865 he received an honorable discharge, having been in the army for more than three years. He joined his company as a private but was soon afterward commissioned its captain and when mustered out held the rank of major of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Regiment, which had previously been consolidated with the Seventy-seventh Regiment. With his command he was mustered out at Mobile and received his discharge at Springfield, Illinois.

Following his return to civil life Judge Wilkin resumed the study of law under the direction of Judge Schofield, a distinguished member of the Illinois bar and for many years a member of the supreme court of the state. In 1866 he was admitted to the bar and he began practice in Marshall, Clark county. As a partner of his former preceptor he practiced from 1867 until 1873, and in the latter year the dissolution of the business relationship was brought about by the election of Judge Schofield to the supreme bench. Judge Wilkin was then alone in practice until 1879, when he was elected circuit judge of the fourth circuit, comprising the counties of Clark, Edgar, Coles, Vermilion, Douglas, Moultrie, Macon, Piatt and Champaign. He continued to reside in Marshall, Illinois, until 1885, when he was re-elected circuit judge and was assigned to the appellate court of the fourth district, at which time he removed to Danville. In June, 1888, he was elected to the supreme bench succeeding Judge John M. Scott, of McLean county and in 1897 was re-elected so that he is now serving as a member of that body a second term. When first elected he became an associate of his former

preceptor, Judge Schofield, who was also upon the bench and continued a member of the supreme court until his death, which occurred in February, 1893. A man of unimpeachable character, of unusual intellectual endowments, with a thorough understanding of the law, patience, urbanity and industry, Judge Wilkin took to the bench the very highest qualifications for this most responsible office in the system of the state government; and his record as a judge has been in harmony with his record as a man and lawyer, distinguished by unswerving integrity and a masterful grasp of every problem that has presented itself for solution. The Judge has great respect for the dignity of judicial place and power, and no man ever presided in a court with more respect for his environments than does Judge Wilkin. As a result of that personal characteristic the proceedings are always orderly upon the part of every one—audience, bar and the officers from the highest to the lowest. His opinions are fine specimens of judicial thought, always clear, logical, and as brief as the character of the case will permit. He never enlarges beyond the necessities of the legal thought in order to indulge in the drapery of literature. His mind, during the entire period of his course at the bar and on the bench has been directed in the line of his profession and his duty.

In September, 1865, was celebrated the marriage of Judge Wilkin and Miss Alice E. Constable, a daughter of Judge Charles H. Constable and unto them were born four children, of whom one died in infancy. The others are: Harry O., John Schofield and Jessie B. The sons are both in Oregon. In the early spring of 1883 Mrs. Wilkin died, her remains being interred in Marshall cemetery. In the fall of 1885 the Judge was again married, his second union being with

Sarah E. Archer, a daughter of Judge William C. Whitlock, of Marshall, Illinois. By her first marriage she had one son, William W. Archer, who is now a practicing attorney of Chicago.

The Judge is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Danville and is serving as one of its trustees. In politics he is a Republican and served as a Grant elector in 1872. To a man of broad mind who has made a close study of social and economic questions as well as of the political history of his country, the subject of education is always a matter of interest and for many years Judge Wilkin served as a trustee of the Southern Illinois Normal School. Fraternally he is a prominent Mason, belonging to the lodge, chapter and commandery of Danville and of the consistory of Chicago. He is also identified with the Grand Army of the Republic and with the Loyal Legion of Chicago. A gentleman of pleasing and courteous manner he is not less esteemed for his social worth than his professional ability and he is to-day numbered among the distinguished residents of the state because of his well rounded character, his evenly balanced mind and splendid intellectual attainments.

GEORGE S. COLE.

At the time of the Civil war George S. Cole wore the blue uniform of the nation and valiantly fought on southern battle-fields for the preservation of the Union. He was for many years one of the thrifty and active business men of Danville, but is now living a retired life, enjoying a well earned rest. He is one of the oldest living native sons of this city, his birth having occurred here

January 25, 1830. His father, Peleg Cole, was born in North Bennington, Vermont, January 9, 1804, and prior to his marriage came to the west settling in Vermilion county in 1831. Here he was married to Eliza Glusha, who was also born in North Bennington, her natal day being September 11, 1811. Peleg Cole was one of the first business men of this city and his energy and activity contributed in no small degree to the business upbuilding of this place. He also entered some land from the government and engaged in farming for a few years. He died in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, November 6, 1855, when in the prime of life, having gone to that place on a business trip. His wife survived him until March 1, 1869, when she, too, was called away. There were but two children in the family who grew to mature years, the sister being Mary E., now the wife of J. D. Kilpatrick, of Danville.

In this city George S. Cole was reared and educated and in September, 1862, he responded to his country's call for aid to crush out the rebellion in the south, enlisting in Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry. He was in the army of the Cumberland and was first under fire at the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, having been a soldier at that time for over three weeks. Later he took part in the engagements at Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Chattanooga and the Atlanta campaign, in which he fought almost continuously for sixty days. He also aided in the capture of Jonesboro and of Atlanta and was with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea. Later he took part in the battle of Bentonville and subsequently marched through Richmond to Washington, where he participated in the grand review, which was the most noted military pageant ever

known on the American continent, thousands of the soldiers marching by the grand stand upon which stood the president to review the victorious army. Mr. Cole then returned to Chicago and was mustered out and honorably discharged on the 9th of June, 1865.

Immediately afterward our subject joined his family in Danville. He had been married here on the 26th of April, 1860, to Elizabeth Waples, who was born in Vermillion county, a daughter of William Waples, one of the first settlers of this locality, having come to Illinois from the vicinity of Zanesville, Muskingum county, Ohio. Mrs. Cole was reared and educated in this state and by her marriage she has become the mother of four children: Charles P. and W. W., who are living in Omaha, Nebraska; Ralph, a business man of Danville; and Nellie A., at home.

Mr. Cole had become identified with business interests of Danville prior to the Civil war and has been connected with various lines. At different times he has been engaged in the livery business and in dealing in saddlery, harness and hardware. For a quarter of a century he was an active representative of trade interests here, but for some years he has lived retired, enjoying a well merited rest. He has bought lots and built three good residences in Danville and has thus helped to improve the town. In politics Mr. Cole is known as an earnest and stalwart Democrat, following the political footsteps of his father, while his sons have also followed the example of their father in this respect. He has voted for each presidential nominee of the Democratic party with the exception of the time when he was in the army and gave his support to Abraham Lincoln. When a young man he was elected and served as constable and was assistant

United States assessor of internal revenue during the administration of Andrew Johnson. He never was, however, a politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to give his attention to his business interests. He and his wife are members of the First Presbyterian church of Danville. His entire life has been passed in this city which has since developed almost from a country cross-roads village until it has become one of the leading metropolitan centers of this great commonwealth. In its improvements and progress he has manifested a deep interest and has given hearty co-operation to many measures for the general good.

PERRY FRAZIER,

Throughout the greater part of his business career Perry Frazier has been identified with the agricultural and commercial interests of Vermilion county, but at the present time is practically living a retired life in the city of Georgetown, where he was born November 13, 1838. His parents were Abner and Mary (Millican) Frazier, of whom more extended mention is made in the sketch of John Frazier on another page of this volume.

During his boyhood and youth our subject became thoroughly familiar with agricultural pursuits, and at an early age took charge of his father's farm. During the first year it was under his management he raised fifty head of fine hogs, which was a very unusual number for that time, and he continued to operate the farm with good success until his marriage. At the age of twenty-one he wedded Miss Eliza J. Patty, a daughter of Eli and Catherine (Hoover) Patty, natives of Indiana. Mr. Frazier then

rented the home place for several years, when on account of his wife's failing health he removed to Butler, Bates county, Missouri, where he conducted a meat market for two years. His wife gradually declined instead of recovering as they had hoped, and soon after selling his market she died and he brought her remains back to Georgetown for interment. She left two sons: Norman W., now a resident of Cayuga, Indiana; and Jay M., who is mentioned below. The wife of the former is now deceased and his children, Lucile, Lester and Rose, now make their home with his parents and brother.

On his return to Vermilion county, Mr. Frazier again rented his father's farm, remaining there for fourteen years. In the meantime he was united in marriage to Miss Mary J. Moore, a daughter of John and Hannah Moore, who lived near Georgetown. Mrs. Frazier died on June 24, 1901, and our subject now makes his home in Georgetown, occupying a pleasant residence only a half mile north of the square on the Danville & Georgetown electric line. Upon the place is a large barn, office and considerable fruit of all kinds. Besides his home Mr. Frazier owns considerable other property, including thirteen acres in the Heights of Georgetown, east of the trolley line, which is not yet platted. He has eighteen acres west of the line, which has been laid off in town lots, averaging sixty by one hundred and twenty feet, with a street in front forty feet wide and an alley in the rear ten feet wide. He also has forty-one and a half acres on section 30, Georgetown township.

Mr. Frazier has always been a hard working man and in his undertakings has met with a fair degree of success, which now enables him to lay aside active labor and spend the remainder of his life in ease and quiet, enjoying the comforts which former

toil has brought to him. He holds membership in the Friends church at Georgetown and is held in the highest respect and esteem by all who know them.

F. C. V. FARES.

F. C. V. Fares is one of the popular and well known residents of Danville, where he has resided for twenty-two years. He is engaged in business as a traveling salesman, representing a flour house in this city. He was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on the 8th of November, 1850, and is a son of Frank V. and Kate (Waggoner) Fares, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ohio. On coming to the new world the father settled in Cincinnati and subsequently he removed with his family to Evansville, Indiana, where he conducted a bottling factory, bottling pop, soda water and other soft drinks. There he resided until his death. His wife also passed away in Evansville.

Mr. Fares of this review pursued his education in the schools of Cincinnati and Evansville, acquiring a good knowledge of the branches of English and German learning, which fit one for the duties of business life. He afterward turned his attention to merchandising, being connected with the dry-goods trade in Cincinnati for several years. Subsequently he went to Evansville, Indiana, and there he conducted a dry-goods store until his removal to Danville. On locating in this city he accepted a position as salesman in a well known dry-goods house, remaining in that employ for six years, after which he accepted the position of manager of the firm of Abdilla & Brown, acting in that capacity for four years. He was next assistant secretary

and physical director for the Young Men's Christian Association of Danville for a short period and in 1893 he went upon the road as a traveling salesman for the flour house. In this business he has since continued and is very popular among the many customers whom he has secured because of his obliging manner, unflinching courtesy and reliable business methods. His business allows him to make a visit to his home once a month.

Mr. Fares' family reside at No. 611 Douglas avenue. He was married in Terre Haute, Indiana, in 1885, to Miss Mary Purdy, a native of that city, born in 1856, and a daughter of Major George H. and Rachel B. (Soule) Purdy, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Terre Haute. During the early part of their married life they resided near Rochester, New York, and then removed to Terre Haute, Indiana, where Major Purdy secured a position as manager in a packing house, being thus employed until after the inauguration of the Civil war. He then enlisted in the Union army with the rank of captain, served for three years as a major and was mustered out with the rank of lieutenant colonel. After the war he returned to his home in Terre Haute, where he engaged in the commission business until his retirement from business life. Both he and his wife still reside in that city, where he is widely known as a pioneer settler and an honorable man, prominent in public affairs and exerting considerable influence in behalf of the city's welfare. The Soule family was also established in Terre Haute at an early day and is well known in that city.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Fares has been blessed with two children, Robert P., born December 2, 1886, and Helen, born June 28, 1888. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fares hold membership in the Baptist church of

Danville, taking an active part in its work, contributing liberally to its support, and at the present time Mr. Fares is serving as one of its trustees. In politics he is a staunch Republican, never faltering in his allegiance to the party. Socially he is identified with the Knights of Pythias, the Royal Circle, of Danville, and with the Traveling Men's Protective Association. His deference for the opinion of others, his kindness, his geniality and his genuine personal worth have made him a favorite with a large circle of friends and his wife, too, enjoys the esteem of all who know her.

JAY M. FRAZIER.

Jay M. Frazier is one of the leading young business men of Georgetown, where he is now engaged in the real estate business, meeting with excellent success. He has recently purchased fifty-two acres of land, a part of which lies within the corporate limits of the town, paying for this one hundred and fifty dollars per acre. The tract is one of the finest adjoining the village and it has already doubled in value since it came into the possession of Mr. Frazier. He gave the right of way along this tract to the Danville and Paxton electric line, believing it would greatly aid in the upbuilding and advancement of the city. He expects to plat and build upon a part of his late purchase. He has erected many houses, which he subsequently sold on payments, and at the present writing, in 1902, has several in course of construction. He is also erecting a large and well appointed greenhouse near his residence and will soon be ready to furnish all kinds of flowers and shrubs to order. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man, thoroughly progressive and up-to-

date, and well deserves the success that is attending his efforts.

In 1892 Mr. Frazier married Miss Grace Parker of Georgetown, and they reside on the home place with his father. She is a member of the Friends church. In politics Mr. Frazier is a Republican and is now serving as a member of the village board with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents.

JAMES M. GARNER.

James M. Garner, who for a third of a century was an active and enterprising farmer in Illinois but is now living retired in Sidell, was born in Clinton county, Ohio, on the 10th of August, 1818. The family is of English ancestry, having been established in North Carolina at an early day. Captain James Garner, the great-grandfather of our subject, was born in England and determining to become a resident of the new world crossed the Atlantic upon one of the old time sailing vessels and became a resident of North Carolina when the work of improvement and progress in that state was in its infancy. He became the owner of an extensive plantation and a large number of slaves, and was a prominent man of his locality. The grandfather of our subject was John Fushe Garner, a native of North Carolina, and James Garner, the father of our subject, was also born in that state. There he was reared and as a companion and helpmate on life's journey he chose Mary Moon, a native of North Carolina and a daughter of Joseph Moon, who was likewise born in the same state, also of English lineage. James Garner emigrated from North Carolina to Tennessee, and about 1811 became a resident of Ohio, settling in Clinton county, which was

then a vast wilderness. The entire journey was made by wagon and he took with him eight head of horses and eleven cattle, but all of his cattle were stolen while in Kentucky. His horses died soon after reaching Ohio and he then traded his wagon for another horse. For some years he found it very difficult to provide for his family in the new home, for pioneer conditions existed and many hardships and trials were to be borne. He had only one neighbor living within ten miles of him. After reaching Clinton county he purchased some land from which he cleared away the trees and thus in the midst of the forest he hewed out a farm. After gaining a start he returned to Tennessee, made some collections upon old debts and disposed of some property there. He thus secured about four hundred dollars in silver. With this amount he returned to Ohio and it was probably his great size and strength that prevented him being robbed or murdered for his money. He was more than six feet in height and weighed over two hundred and fifty pounds. Mr. Garner spent his remaining days in Clinton county and as the years passed he was enabled to add more and more of the comforts of the older east to his pioneer home and in course of time became well-to-do. Both he and his wife died in Clinton county, but he survived her for a number of years. In their family were seven sons and seven daughters, and with one exception all reached adult age, although James M. and a sister are the only ones now living.

James M. Garner grew to manhood in Clinton county upon the old family homestead, remaining with his father until his death, when he purchased the interest of the other heirs in the old home place and succeeded to the ownership of the property. There he carried on agricultural pursuits un-

til 1869 when he came to the west. He was married in Clinton county in 1840, to Miss Martha A. Seal, a native of Ohio, born in Highland county. Her father, Robert Seal, was an early settler of the Buckeye state, removing to Ohio from Virginia.

In 1869 Mr. Garner sold his farm in Clinton county and came to Illinois, settling first in Douglas county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw land. This he broke and fenced, placed many rods of tiling upon the farm, built good barns and a comfortable residence, planted an orchard and a grove of forest trees, and in fact continued the work of improvement until his property had greatly risen in value and formed one of the attractive features of the landscape. He also engaged in raising, feeding and fattening stock for the market, and was classed among the successful farmers and stock-raisers of his community. There he continued his work until 1897 when he sold his farm and purchased residence property in Sidell, where he has since lived in the enjoyment of a well earned rest.

In 1863, while still in Ohio, Mr. Garner was called upon to mourn the loss of his first wife. By that marriage nine children had been born, of whom five are yet living: John, a resident of South Dakota; William Eldridge, who is also living in that state; Thomas Jefferson, of California; Romeo, who resides in Tuscola, Illinois; and Elizabeth, the wife of O. D. Loomis, of Champaign county, Illinois. Of the four who passed away two had reached mature years. Rachel Ellen was married and left three children, while Mary Emma died when a young lady. Mr. Garner was married a second time in Indiana, in the town of Galveston, Mrs. Rebecca Lightfoot, nee Walker, becoming his wife. She was born in Ohio, but was reared in the Hoosier state and for a

number of years she traveled life's journey with Mr. Garner, but in the fall of 1897 she was called to her final rest. There were four children by this union: Etta, the wife of J. R. Neece, of Tolona, Illinois; Cora, the wife of L. C. Benefiel, of Sidell; Effie, the wife of F. S. Smithson, of Broadlands, Illinois; and Iva, a young lady at home.

Mr. Garner probably cast his first vote for a presidential candidate for William Henry Harrison in the year 1840, and was an old line Whig until the dissolution of the party, when he joined the ranks of the new Republican party. He voted for Fremont in 1856 and for each presidential nominee of the Republican party since that time. He was reared in the faith of the Society of Friends and still adheres to that religious belief. He has known what it is to live upon the frontier both in Ohio and in Illinois, and has assisted in the arduous task of improving the wild land in both states. Through a third of a century he has made his home in Vermilion county, during which time he has formed an extensive acquaintance and all who have been brought in contact with him recognize in him traits of character which are worthy of commendation and emulation.

D. M. SHANKLAND.

D. M. Shankland, who is now serving as one of the aldermen of Hoopeston, was born in Warren county, Indiana, in 1853. He is a son of J. C. Shankland, who died when our subject was fifteen years of age. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Nancy Stone, passed away in 1877. In their family were seven children, but only three are now living, namely: Samuel V.; Ada

J., the wife of Curtis Franks; and D. M.

In 1863 Mr. Shankland of this sketch accompanied his parents on their removal to Iroquois county, a settlement being made along its southern border. There he was reared, living in that locality when it was still a pioneer district and when deer roamed over the prairies. He remembers seeing as many as thirty-two head in a single drove cross his father's farm. He attended the public schools for several terms, walking a distance of four miles to and from school. As a companion and helpmate for life's journey Mr. Shankland chose Eva Foxworthy, a most estimable lady who has been a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey. Their marriage was celebrated in Iroquois county, in 1880, and the lady was born in Vermilion county in 1861. Her mother, Mrs. Martha Foxworthy, is still living in Hoopeston. In her family were the following children: Wallace, Addison, Reed, George, Ross, Dale and Eva, the last named being the only daughter.

Two years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Shankland removed to northwestern Nebraska, taking with them about twenty-five hundred dollars, but they made a mistake in going too far west, where little rain fell and their attempt to establish a home in that country and gain prosperity proved unsuccessful. Mr. Shankland homesteaded some tracts of a half section and remained in the west for seven years, but finding that he could not gain prosperity there he returned to Hoopeston in 1888 and has since been engaged in the work of drilling wells, putting in tubular wells, windmills, tanks and piping. He now has a two-horse power well driller for his drill wells and employs usually about four men. His work extends to Tippecanoe and Benton counties, Indiana, and his services are in demand during the

greater part of the time. He is now receiving a liberal patronage and his business is gaining greatly both in volume and importance. He thoroughly understands the work in principle and in detail, and there is no one more competent in his line than is Mr. Shankland.

The home of our subject and his wife was blessed with two children, but they lost one child, Merle, at the age of seven years. Their daughter Della is now employed in the telephone exchange. Both our subject and his wife hold membership in the American Home Circle, of which he is a guardian. In politics he is a Republican and he is now serving for the fourth term as a member of the board of aldermen of Hoopston. While in Nebraska he was assessor for three terms. He and his wife have a pleasant home on Thompson avenue where they also own three lots. All that Mr. Shankland possesses has been acquired through his enterprise and well directed labor and he deserves much credit for what he has accomplished. He is quite widely known throughout the county, and especially in Hoopston he has many friends.

WILLIAM REILLY.

William Reilly, a native of the Emerald isle, has resided in various portions of America as well, not only in the United States but also in Nova Scotia, but since 1800 he has made his home in Danville, where he is now living a retired life. He was born on the Emerald isle, a son of Edward Reilly, who was a farmer of Ireland and spent his entire life there. The subject of this review was but fourteen years of age when with his six brothers he sailed for the new world, first locating in Worcester, Massachusetts, where for a short time he was employed at

the blacksmith's trade. He afterward went to Boston, where he followed blacksmithing for four years and then removed to White Fountain, New Hampshire, where he worked at his trade for two years. Removing then to Maine he was for a year employed on a rock ledge and on the expiration of that period he made his way to St. John's, Nova Scotia, where for three years he was employed as foreman of a stone quarry and for four years was engaged in stone work near St. John's when he left the northeast, seeking a home in Illinois, locating in Danville where he resided for three years, devoting his attention to his old trade of blacksmithing. Attracted by the discovery of gold in California he then went to the Pacific coast and for a year worked in the mines, but again he returned to Danville and was employed as a coal miner in this locality and in the Grape creek mines near Danville for several years. With the money he had acquired through his own labors he then purchased coal mines near Danville, operating these for several years, when he entered into a contract with the Chicago Coal & Coke Company to take charge of its mines at Grape Creek, acting as foreman there for five years, when, on account of illness, he retired from the position. He then purchased coal land at Grape Creek in order that his sons might continue in the mining business and this property Mr. Reilly still owns, although he is now living retired from business cares.

In Chester county, Pennsylvania, Mr. Reilly was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Sweeney, a native of County Donegal, Ireland. Five children have been born unto them. Edward, who married Minnie McReynolds, is residing in Danville and is manager of Kelly Mine No. 2. Annie is the wife of Thomas Sherr, a machinist of Danville. Cornelius is a miner of this city. Will

P. has been employed as a mail carrier of this city for more than thirteen years. George is a molder in the machine shops of this city. They have also reared two adopted daughters, Lizzie and May, both of whom are residents of Danville.

When Mr. Reilly arrived in this city he boarded at what was known as the old McCormick House, but finally erected a home on Elizabeth street, in which he lived for several years, removing thence to his present home at No. 410 Buchanan street, where he is now living in honorable retirement from business. He owns one quarter of a block on this street and is also the owner of a fruit orchard of two acres at the edge of Danville and one and one-half acres of land near there, together with four building lots in the same district of the city and other property here. Mr. Reilly is one who from a humble financial position has steadily worked his way upward until he is now numbered among the men of affluence of his adopted county. Since 1856 he has earnestly and unflinchingly supported the Republican party and he and his family are members of the Catholic church of Danville. The hope that led him to leave his native land when a boy of fourteen years that he might enjoy the better business opportunities of the new world has been more than realized, for here he has prospered until to-day he may well be classed among the substantial citizens of Vermilion county.

JABEL B. TRENT.

Jabel B. Trent, now deceased, was one of the first settlers of Danville. A native of Virginia, he pursued his education in the schools of the Old Dominion and at the age

of nineteen years came to the west settling in Danville where he began working at the builders' trade. He also learned and followed the brick mason's trade and assisted in building and plastering some of the first brick buildings in this city. He was also employed by the government as a land agent. He afterward worked at his trade again and when he had accumulated a comfortable competence in that way he turned his attention to real-estate business which he followed during the latter part of his business career, handling considerable property much of which he owned. He continued to reside in Danville until his demise and was accounted a worthy and representative citizen.

Mr. Trent was united in marriage to Miss Wealthy A. Rogers, of Vermilion county, and they became the parents of seven children. Samuel, who married Ellen Hannas, is now deceased. Annis is the wife of F. M. Preston, of Hoopston. James is living on a farm in Vermilion county. John is a physician residing in Indiana. Susan A. is the deceased wife of Edwin Fox. Josephine is the wife of William U. Burgett and is mentioned later on. Jabel carries on agricultural pursuits in this county. The father died May 27, 1857, and the mother, surviving him for about twenty years, passed away January 1, 1877. Mr. Trent was always actively interested in politics and voted with the Democratic party. He held membership in the Masonic Lodge of Danville and both he and his wife were consistent and devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Actively identified with the up-building of the city in the years of its early development, he took a helpful interest in everything pertaining to the general good and was numbered among the prominent and influential men here.

Josephine Trent, the youngest daughter

of our subject, was married to William Cave and they became the parents of one son, James, who married Miss Alesia Bloble and now resides near his mother. He is a mail carrier of this city. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Cave became the wife of William U. Burgett, a native of Ohio and a son of George Washington Burgett, of Wabash, Indiana. In the year 1875 he came to Danville where he began working at the carpenter's trade, which he has followed continuously since, also devoting a portion of his time to blacksmithing. He now resides at No. 521 Bowman avenue, and Mrs. Burgett is also the owner of other property near her residence.

JOHN H. DUKES.

A prominent and influential resident of Westville, where he has taken an important part in the public policy of the town and in movements and measures for the general welfare, John H. Dukes commands the respect and confidence of the community. He was born in Georgetown township, August 7, 1856. His grandparents were Stephen and Rachel (Lewis) Dukes, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Tennessee. They came to this county in 1822 and settled at Brooks Point, just east of Westville. Their eldest son, Ellis Dukes, was born January 25, 1828. He married Nancy F. Bowen, who was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, August 7, 1826. Throughout his entire active business career he followed farming and was a Republican in politics, holding the office of justice of the peace and also serving as school treasurer for twenty years. He was a man of strong character, ever fulfilling his duties in strict

accord to what he thought was right and winning the respect of his fellow townsmen by his upright conduct. He died March 6, 1879. His wife in early life held membership in the New Light church and afterward in the Methodist church, dying in that faith on September 27th, 1875. They were the parents of seven children: Asa, who was born September 26, 1853, and died January 8, 1859; Mary C., who became the wife of Henry Robinson and died November 30, 1878, leaving her husband and one child to mourn her loss; Dolly May, now living at Coyville, Kansas; Robert N., born July 10, 1854, who is a farmer residing near Custer, Wood county, Ohio; John H.; W. C., a resident of Georgetown, this county; and Rachel Frances, the widow of Henry Gilbert, who was a prosperous farmer.

At the age of twenty-one John H. Dukes was united in marriage to Lizzie, daughter of Mahlon and Margaret (Falls) Finley, both natives of Virginia. They were married there and at first removed to Indiana, and then in 1824 to Vermilion county. They were the parents of fourteen children, as follows: Amos William, who was killed by lightning near Westville; Catherine, the wife of John Hogan, of Indianapolis, Indiana; America, the wife of Thomas Brady, of Catlin; David A., who lived in Westville and died October 8, 1860; Eliza Ann, the widow of Daniel Sycott, a merchant tailor of Rossville; Charlotte, the wife of G. W. Hooten, a lumberman of Danville, Illinois; Arminta, the widow of Peter S. Burke, a lawyer of Yakima, Washington; E. G. Finley, of Catlin, one of the most extensive stock raisers of this county; Mary E., the widow of John B. Cooley, a farmer of Martinsville, Clark county, Illinois; H. C. Finley, a farmer residing near Mount Carmel, Illinois; Henrietta, wife of Frank White, a

farmer of Catlin; H. C., the twin brother of Henrietta; Margaret, wife of Gus Samuelson, a farmer of Oakwood township; and Mrs. Lizzie Dukes, who is the youngest of the fourteen children. The children all had good common-school educations. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Dukes has been blessed with two children: America B., born February 22, 1879, is well educated and refined, being a graduate of music. Alfred Lewis, born March 17, 1881, has also received a good education in many branches including music.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Dukes at first located in Wood county, Ohio, where he rented land for three years and engaged in farming and stock-raising. He then came back to Vermilion county and rented his father's farm for two years, when he purchased a farm adjoining Westville and there carried on agricultural pursuits until 1892. On this farm he opened the first tile manufactory in Vermilion county, which he operated for two years and then sold to his uncle, John Dukes. That year he was elected commissioner of highways of Georgetown township, on the hard road issue. He held the office until 1899, when he was defeated by a Democrat, Luther A. Clingan. During the time of the coal boom in this locality he sold his farm to the Kelly Coal Company and has since been engaged in trading. He was among the first trustees who organized the village of Westville. He has always been a stalwart Republican and is now representing his township as a member of the Republican central committee. He enjoys a wide acquaintance throughout the state, and none know him but to respect and honor him. He is a member of Mitchellson Lodge, No. 573, K. P., of Westville. Mrs. Dukes is a member of the Methodist church. Their daughter is a member of the

Rathbone Sisters and the son is president of the Teamster's Union, No. 114, of Westville. Mr. Dukes owns his present residence which is situated on a lot one hundred and thirty-two feet. The house is an eight-room residence, only two blocks from the post-office. Mr. Dukes also has five dwellings in Westville which he rents, and a business corner opposite the Big Four depot which rents for sixty dollars a month, also two houses and lots in Georgetown and some vacant lots. He has two houses and lots in Danville and four hundred and eighty acres of land in Texas county, Missouri. A self-made man, Mr. Dukes has been very successful in his business ventures. This is due to his keen discrimination and his ability to make judicious investments of his capital. He has a fine library valued at several hundred dollars, and his home life is pleasantly passed with his family and friends. He is a substantial business man of his community and much of the improvement and development of the town is due to his efforts toward promoting its moral, intellectual and material welfare.

REV. W. L. CAMPBELL.

Rev. W. L. Campbell, who makes his home in Georgetown, and is now pastor of the Cumberland Presbyterian churches in Liberty, Illinois, and Cayuga, Indiana, is a native of Vermilion county, his birth having occurred in Elwood township, July 30, 1842. His parents were Enos and Jenny Barr (Cloyd) Campbell, the former born August 12, 1800, and the latter in 1805. Their early home was near Jonesboro in Washington county, Tennessee, whence they removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, set-

ting in Elwood township in 1833. In their family were twelve children, four born in Tennessee and the others in this county. Nine of the number are still living. James, the eldest, died in infancy prior to the removal of the family to Illinois. Catherine first married John Patterson, a farmer of Flwood township, who died in 1857, leaving one child, William P., and about four years later his widow became the wife of Jacob M. Kendall, who lived on a farm in Elwood township until 1893 and then removed to Ridgefarm, where he lived retired until his death in 1900. Mrs. Kendall is still living there. E. C. Kendall, the eldest son, engaged in farming until twenty-eight years of age, was next interested in mercantile business, and was subsequently a railway mail clerk, after which he went upon the road as a traveling salesman for the Webster Grocery Company of Danville. He married Jennie Cooper and died in Danville in January, 1902. John M. married Ollie Harvey, a daughter of William Harvey, then of Ridgefarm but now in Mississippi, and he is successfully engaged in general merchandising at Ridgefarm. Joseph, who married Kate Foster, followed farming for several years but for the past ten years has engaged in the grain business at Ridgefarm. Jacob M., a general merchant of Dana, Indiana, married Zula Southern, a daughter of John Southern of Ridgefarm. Alexander, a resident of Georgetown, married Elizabeth Patterson of Flwood township and now owns property in both Farmridge and Georgetown. James P. Campbell, who died in Georgetown in January, 1895, married Sarah Patterson and has five children, of whom Jacob died at the age of sixteen years; and Florence died at the age of nineteen. His second daughter married Nelson Moore, of Georgetown and ten years later died, leaving four

children. His youngest son, Enos, is a blacksmith of Georgetown. His other daughter, Elizabeth, married Josiah Thompson, of Chicago, who is head clerk for a large steel manufacturing company, at a salary of twelve hundred dollars per year. Mary Campbell wedded Hiram Patrick, whose home is near Cayuga, Indiana, and to them were born ten children, of whom six are still living, two sons being married, while two other sons and two daughters are at home with their parents. Elizabeth Campbell became the wife of William Patrick, now a resident of Denver, Colorado, and seven children blessed their union, the surviving members of the family being Mrs. Charles Cook, whose husband is now living retired in Ridgefarm, Illinois, having left his large farm some seven years ago; Enos, a leading member of the fire department of Denver; Nannie, wife of John McCarthy, a well-to-do hardware merchant of that city; Lou, a successful teacher in the schools of Denver; and Lene, wife of Frank James, a drug clerk of Chicago. Druzilla Campbell married Tilghman Van Duyn, a resident of Dana, Indiana, and they have four sons and two daughters. The father and three of the sons are blacksmiths and the other son is a tinner. One of the daughter is married and the other is single. W. L. Campbell, of this review, is the next of the family. A. C. Campbell lives in Fremont, Nebraska, with his wife and three daughters, all single. He and one daughter are engaged in selling musical instruments. The eldest is a trained nurse, commanding high wages, and the youngest is still in school. A. R. Campbell, who is a photographer by profession, now has charge of the Collett Home for orphans, situated two miles east of Cayuga, Indiana. He is married and has one son and one daughter. Lou Campbell, the

youngest of the family, married W. C. Cook, a farmer living near Quaker, Indiana, and they have two sons, one married and the other single. Mr. Cook is a very successful man, owning a large farm, and is engaged in raising standard bred stock.

W. L. Campbell, of this review, was reared and educated in this county, and in early life learned the carpenter's trade, which he has followed more or less throughout his entire business career, having built fourteen houses in Georgetown. Among them is a twelve room house for Mr. Pritchard, and one each for Mr. Robb and Mr. Kilgore.

On the 20th of November, 1866, Mr. Campbell was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Poole, whose parents were John T. and Mary (Newman) Poole, of Terre Haute, Indiana. Her father engaged in merchandising and also the cooperage business and was one of the first temperance organizers of his time. After the country became involved in Civil war he entered the service in 1862 as quartermaster sergeant and remained at the front until hostilities ceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Campbell were born five children, all of whom are now grown, namely: Oscar K. married Mabel Drury and resides in Gibbon, Nebraska, where he carries on business as a barber and dealer in grain. Fraternaly he is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at that place. C. A., the second son, is employed in a sugar factory in Loveland, Colorado. Minnie is the wife of E. L. Hiberly, a successful lawyer and real estate dealer of Tacoma, Washington. Gertrude is now with her parents. William Albert, a graduate of the Vermilion Academy, was studying law when he succumbed to consumption which followed a hemorrhage some eighteen months previous, and he passed away March 3, 1898.

In his social relations Mr. Campbell is a

member of Ridgefarm Lodge, No. 632, F. & A. M., of which order three of his brothers also belonged. His daughter, Mrs. Hiberly, is a member of Ben Hur Lodge of Tacoma, Washington, and is connected with the Friends church, as was also her brother William A., while another brother is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, and the third of the Methodist church. Miss Gertrude is a member of the Christian church and the Royal Circle of Georgetown. In politics Mr. Campbell is a Prohibitionist and takes a deep interest in the temperance cause. At five different times he held the office of assessor of Eugene township, Vermilion county, Indiana, serving with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. Being a good penman his books were always neatly kept.

At the age of forty-two years Mr. Campbell was converted and joined the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Three years later he became a candidate for the ministry and being licensed to preach the same year he at once entered upon his ministerial labors, taking a regular ecclesiastical course of study in the church of his denomination. At the age of fifty-three he was set apart and ordained and has since engaged in preaching within the bounds of the Foster Presbytery, delivering about two hundred sermons each year. He has also preached two hundred and forty funeral sermons, has married one hundred and eighty couples; taken about two hundred and sixty members into the church; ordained fourteen elders and twelve deacons. Between the 1st of April, 1901, and the 1st of April, 1902, he delivered forty-two funeral sermons and seven since that time. He now has charge of two congregations, one at Cayuga, Indiana and the other at Liberty, Illinois, and is an untiring worker in the Master's vineyard. His life is exem-

plary in all respects and he ever supports those interests which are calculated to uplift and benefit humanity, while his own high moral worth is deserving of the highest commendation. He and his family are among the most esteemed and influential citizens of the eastern part of Vermilion county.

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WILL H. YORK.

Will H. York has for some years past been a resident of Hoopeston, but recently was appointed to the position of turnkey in the county jail and therefore expects to make Danville his home, at least through the succeeding four years, which will cover his incumbency in that position. Mr. York was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, on the 26th of May, 1865, a son of Abraham and Isabel (Washburn) York. The father was a native of Ohio and for twenty-five years engaged in the livery business in Waynetown, Indiana, in which place our subject's birth occurred. He has a brother and two sisters: John, Mrs. Lizzie Knox, of Hoopeston, and Mrs. Lucy Brant, of Veedersburg, Indiana. In Waynetown, Indiana, Will H. York pursued his education and when about eighteen years of age he entered a drugstore in Waynetown as a clerk, being employed in that capacity for a number of years. Leaving his native city in 1891 he went to Chicago where for four months he was employed in the Lakeside restaurant. In the fall of 1891 he came to Hoopeston and for four years thereafter was employed in the Illinois Canning factory as a box-maker and at general work. In 1896 he was appointed night watch for the city, acting in that capacity until 1898 when he was put on the day force. In 1900 he was appointed deputy sheriff by

James Sloan, for Grant township, and in August, 1901, he captured a man who had escaped from the Fort Madison, Iowa, penitentiary, and for whom a reward of fifty dollars was offered. In 1902 he was appointed turnkey of the county jail under H. H. Whitlock, for a term of four years.

Mr. York was married in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1895, to Miss Maggie Hoffman, the wedding being celebrated on the 10th of June, of that year. She was born in New York city, May 6, 1870, and when nine years of age was adopted by R. T. Miskimens, of Hoopeston. She has one brother, Conrad Hoffman, of this city. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children: Richard, born April 25, 1896; Jean, who died at the age of twenty-two months; and Dorothy, born May 24, 1900. In his political views Mr. York has always been a staunch Republican, earnest and unfaltering in support of the party, and he is equally faithful and loyal in the performance of his duties as a public official.

He belongs to Hoopeston Lodge, No. 700, A. F. & A. M., the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Foresters, also of Hoopeston.

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J. S. CHRISTMAN.

J. S. Christman, vice-president of the Commercial Trust & Savings Bank of Danville, Illinois, was born in Warren county, Indiana, and in 1876 moved from Indianapolis, Indiana, to Illinois. He was employed by W. J. Henderson & Company, general merchants of Rossville, Illinois, for a period of three years; in 1879 began farming and stock-raising; later on began a banking business with W. T. Cunningham under the name

of the Citizens Bank at Rossville and has continued farming operations to the present time. In 1890 the Citizens Bank was re-organized as the First National Bank of Rossville, with Samuel Collison, president; T. Collison, vice-president; and George E. Crays, cashier; and Mr. Christman is serving on the board of directors.



THE COMMERCIAL TRUST & SAVINGS BANK.

The Commercial Trust & Savings Bank of Danville was organized December 27, 1902, with the following officers: W. T. Cunningham, president; J. S. Christman, vice-president; T. F. Christman, cashier; John L. Hamilton, vice-president; and S. G. Wilson, general counsel. The board of directors is composed of James A. Cunningham, F. M. Gundy, S. G. Wilson, J. S. Christman, O. P. Clark, Richard Clipson, J. W. Plasten, Ora Green, W. T. Cunningham, G. Maier, T. F. Christman and Charles A. Feor. The bank was capitalized for one hundred thousand dollars.

This institution was organized December 27, 1902, and took possession of its present quarters, January 22, 1903, in the building at No. 28 Vermilion street, which was remodeled for this purpose. The institution was organized with an independent and original idea of banking, making a specialty of of the savings and trust departments and paying three and a half per cent. interest on accounts. It is equipped with the latest improved burglar-proof Corless safe, unique in design and style; also equipped with a splendid burglar-proof safety deposit vault, containing four hundred private boxes. This is without doubt the only safety de-

posit vault in the county. The establishment of the institution, including the remodeling of the building, the installation of the safety vaults and the securing of the office fixtures, cost thirteen thousand six hundred and sixty-eight dollars, and is by far the best equipped bank in the county. Success has crowned the efforts of the concern since its opening, as its statement for the first five weeks was as follows:

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts.....	\$ 96,183.00
Overdrafts	115.00
Bonds and securities	15,000.00
Banking house furnishings.....	13,668.00
Due from banks	58,016.00
Cash and sight exchange.....	26,598.00
	<hr/>
	\$209,580.00

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock.....	\$100,000.00
Undivided profits.....	313.00
Time deposits.....	16,688.00
Demand deposits	92,579.00
	<hr/>
	\$209,580.00

This is a remarkable showing which argues well for the future. The trust department of this institution has been established for the purpose of handling estates, etc. There is also a burglar proof insurance.



CHARLES SNIDER.

Charles Snider, whose horticultural interests are bringing to him a creditable and gratifying competence, is a representative of one of the old and honored pioneer families of Vermilion county. More than seventy years ago his father, John Snider, built a

log cabin upon the farm where our subject now resides. It was in that pioneer home that Charles Snider was born on the 13th of December, 1843, his parents being John and Mary (Blount) Snider, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Muskingum county, Ohio, her father being Charles Blount, for whom the township in Vermilion county was named. The father of our subject removed from Pennsylvania to Ohio with his parents and then emigrated to this state, making the trip on horseback accompanied by his wife and three small children. He arrived here in 1824 and established his home in the midst of the forest. He entered a quarter section of land and built the log house which is still standing. The country was then the haunt of the Indians who held their meetings and also made sugar near the log cabin home of the Snider family. The entire district was scarcely fit for the habitation of white men, for the land was full of sloughs and ponds. There were large herds of deer and many kinds of smaller game which furnished the early settlers with meat. Mr. Snider lived to rear his family and see the country develop from the wild region of the frontier into a splendidly improved district. His life history, with all its pioneer experiences, if written in detail would fill a volume, and even then the younger generation could not fully realize what hardships and trials were endured by the pioneer settlers. To them they owe a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid, for they laid broad and deep the foundation for the present development and progress of the county. John Snider assisted in felling the trees, in clearing the land and aided in organizing the township. He was born in the year 1797 and passed away November 13, 1849. His wife survived him for several years and died in the '70s. Our subject was

the seventh of their nine children, only four of whom are now living: Mrs. Isaac Norman, a widow who resides in Livingston county, Illinois; John B., of Blount township; Charles, of this review; and Mrs. James H. Gilland, a resident of Kansas. The deceased are Asa, Ellen, Hannah, Samuel and Wesley. Samuel died during the war of the Rebellion.

Charles Snider pursued his education in a subscription school held in a log building, supplied with the usual slab benches and with greased paper windows. He assisted in clearing the home farm, performing the arduous labors of field and meadows through the summer months, while in the winter season he pursued his studies. He continued to work on the home farm until after the Civil war began. He was only about eighteen years of age when on the 10th of August, 1862, he offered his services to the government, enlisting as a member of Company D, Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry, under the command of Captain William Timmons and Colonel William P. Chandler. The regiment was sent to St. Louis and then to Kentucky, and he participated in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge and Peach Tree Creek. At the last named he was wounded, losing his left index finger. He also participated in a large number of skirmishes and served for three years. The regiment then returned to Springfield, Illinois, where he was honorably discharged and mustered out on the 20th of June, 1865. In the meantime he had participated in the grand review at Washington, D. C., the most celebrated military pageant ever seen on the western hemisphere.

At the close of the war Mr. Snider resumed farm work and stockraising, and in order to have a home of his own he was married on the 23d of October, 1865, the lady

of his choice being Miss Margaret Allhands, who was born in Catlin township, June 27, 1845, and is a daughter of Albert and Martha, (Willheight) Allhands, who were natives of Illinois, but both are now deceased. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Snider were born nine children: George W., who has departed this life; Nellie, who became the wife of Charles Bailey and died leaving three children: James, who is living on the home farm and married Emma Hilleary, by whom he had three children, Goldie, Otis and Glenn; John, deceased; Ollie, who became the wife of George Reeder and died leaving a daughter, Daisy; William, Charlie, Julia and Daniel all of whom have passed away. The third child, James, is the only surviving one of the nine children, and he rents his father's farm. All, however, reached adult age with the exception of the two youngest. Mrs. Snider departed this life March 11, 1894. She was a devoted and loving wife and mother and a most estimable lady.

Mr. Snider continued farming on the old homestead, but is now practically living retired. He helped to clear about one hundred acres of land here and has witnessed many changes in the county, in the modes of life and the methods of farming. His first plow was a single shovel, and a single line harness was used. He planted corn by hand was often assisted in this way, and he cut the grain with a cradle. The first trading point of the family was Chicago, and later they traded at Perrysville, Indiana, our subject hauling his grain to that place. There were few luxuries enjoyed by the early settlers, and sometimes they were denied the comforts of life, but as the years passed and the country became more thickly settled such comforts were more easily obtained and the hardships of the frontier were done away with. Mr. Snider never had a tailor-made

suit of clothes until after he was grown, the family doing all the spinning and weaving, after which the clothes were made by the mothers and daughters. The shoes were also made at home by a traveling shoemaker and each member of the family had but one pair a year. Johnnycake was one of the principal articles of diet, and was made by placing it upon a smooth board which was then set before the fire to bake. Other articles of food were cooked in the pots and kettles which hung from the crane over the fireplace. The first cookstove owned by the family was called a step-stove, the legs being eighteen inches high. Mr. Snider has also helped to dip candles before the time when candle molds came into use. He can also remember how punk was picked from the timber and how flint and tow were used in striking a fire. As the years have passed all of these pioneer conditions have given way before the advancement of civilization, and Mr. Snider has kept abreast with the progress of the times. He to-day owns forty-three and one-half acres of valuable land on which he is making a specialty of the raising of fruit, including peaches, apples and plums. He is practically retired from farm life, but yet lives upon the old home place where he was born. He has served as road supervisor for two terms and as school director for about three terms, and he belongs to the Modern Woodmen Camp at Snider. He is justly regarded as one of the substantial citizens of his township and well deserves honorable and prominent mention in the history of the Past and Present of Vermilion County.

ANDREW J. SIBREL.

Andrew J. Sibrel, one of the practical and thrifty farmers of Vermilion county, owning three valuable tracts of land, all in Butler

township, now makes his home on section 15, near the village of Rankin. In February, 1867, he arrived in Illinois and has since been a resident of this county. He was born in Brown county, Ohio, August 4, 1840. His father, Frederick Sibrel, was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, in 1791 and was a son of Nicholas Sibrel, who became one of the early settlers of that county. The grandfather of our subject was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, valiantly aiding in the struggle for American independence. Frederick Sibrel was reared in his native county and was there married to Miss Anna Pence a native of Adams county, Ohio. Throughout his active business life he carried on agricultural pursuits, save when he responded to his country's call for aid, having been a soldier of the war of 1812 and again in the wars with the Creek Indians. He resided for many years in Brown and Adams counties, Ohio, but in later life he became a resident of Illinois, settling here in 1873. He spent his last years among his children, dying in Vermilion county in 1881, at the ripe old age of nearly ninety years. His wife had passed away in Ohio in 1871. In their family were three children, all of whom are living, the subject of this review being the youngest. The father was twice married and by his first union he had seven children, but only one of that family survive.

In the state of his nativity A. J. Sibrel spent the days of his boyhood and youth, assisting in the work of the home farm. To some extent he attended the common schools but his education has largely been acquired through reading, observation and experience. He was married in Adams county, Ohio, October 31, 1861, to Miss Elizabeth Pence, a native of that county, reared and educated there. Her father, Benjamin Pence, was also born in Ohio, and his wife bore the

maiden name of Drucilla Brady. She was a relative of Captain Brady, the noted Indian fighter.

In 1862 Mr. Sibrel left his young wife and went to the field of battle, joining the Seventieth Ohio Infantry as a member of Company K. The regiment was attached to the army of the Tennessee and the first battle in which he participated was at Shiloh. He was also in the engagement at Corinth and in the Vicksburg campaign, including the siege and capture of the city. Later he was in the second battle of Jackson, Mississippi, where he narrowly escaped death. A six pound shot pierced his clothing and carried away the picture of his wife and child from the pocket of his blouse, but he was not wounded. Later he returned to Vicksburg and afterward went to Memphis and was in the battle of Chattanooga. From there the command was ordered to Knoxville to relieve Burnside's and later took part in the Atlanta campaign, including the battle of Resaca and other important engagements, ending with the capture of the city of Atlanta. With Sherman's celebrated army Mr. Sibrel marched to the sea and his division under General Hazen charged upon and captured Fort McAllister. After the capture of these places Mr. Sibrel's company presented him with a fine sword, which he still retains and prizes very highly. He aided in the capture of Savannah and subsequently marched through Richmond and on to Washington, where he participated in the grand review at the close of the war. The regiment was then ordered to Louisville, Kentucky, and from there to Little Rock, Arkansas, where after doing guard duty for a while Mr. Sibrel was mustered out on the 4th of August, 1865. Returning home he was honorably discharged at Camp Dennison, August 26, 1865. He joined the

army as a private, was promoted to the rank of first sergeant and later to that of first lieutenant, serving in that capacity until the close of the war. He was a member of the army for three years and eight months and was ever found at his post of duty. He spent no time in the hospital and during his furlough he veteranized, for he had resolved to see the close of the war and the final triumph of the union arms.

When this splendid result was accomplished Mr. Sibrel returned to his Ohio home, where he engaged in farming for a year and early in the spring of 1867 he came to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county. For a time he leased a tract of land, which he broke and fenced, opening up a good farm. Later he purchased a part of that place and also added other lands, until he had a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, upon which he made excellent improvements. Subsequently he sold a part of that and made other purchases and to-day he owns one hundred and twenty acres of the old home place, a second farm of eighty acres and the farm of forty acres upon which he resides, and all of this land is under a high state of cultivation and well improved with substantial buildings. He commenced life in Illinois a poor man, but he has worked earnestly and long and his labors have been the means of bringing to him splendid success. His property interests are now valuable and return to him a good income and he is accounted one of the substantial agriculturists of Butler township.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Sibrel has been blessed with six children: Minnie L., now the wife of Jacob Corbin of Oklahoma; Arthur F., who is married and follows farming on his father's land; Andrew J., who is married and operates the old home place; Charles E., who is married and lives

in Oklahoma; Etha L., who is the wife of Granville Martin, of Oklahoma; and Oscar W., who is married and resides with his parents. They also lost several children: Celia E., who died in Ohio at the age of four years; Sherman, who died at the age of two years; one that died in infancy; Cora, who died at the age of nineteen years; and Hallie Daisy, who died at the age of seventeen years.

Mr. Sibrel cast his first presidential vote for General George B. McClellan, while in the army in 1864 and has always been a stalwart Jackson Democrat, voting for each presidential nominee of the party. At local elections, however, he is independent, casting his ballot for the men and measures that he believes will best promote the general good. He was elected and served for six years as commissioner of highways, for three years as township collector, and for four years he was postmaster of Rankin under President Cleveland's second administration. He has served altogether for nine years as a member of the county board of supervisors, acting in that capacity during the last period for six consecutive years. He has frequently been a delegate to county, congressional and state conventions of his party and he has always been found a capable officer, prompt and loyal in the dispatch of his duties. Both he and his wife are members of the Free Methodist church at Sugar Grove. He is serving as one of its officers and has been a lay delegate to six or more of the annual conventions of the church and was sent to Chicago as a delegate during the convention from October 12 to 26, 1898. Mr. Sibrel has long witnessed the growth and progress of the county and at all times has been deeply interested in what it has accomplished along lines of improvement. The qualities which made him a good soldier have also made him

a good citizen and he is justly accounted one of the representative men of Butler township.

JOHN J. CAMPBELL.

John J. Campbell, a prominent and well known farmer and stock-raiser of Vermilion county, was born March 1, 1854, in Newell township and spent his boyhood days upon his father's farm. He is a son of Corydon H. Campbell, who was born in Seneca county, New York, December 19, 1825. The paternal grandparents of our subject were John and Elmira (Hewett) Campbell. Corydon Campbell in early life largely lived in the west where he was engaged in driving stock, and in 1840 he went to Missouri where he remained for seven years. In the meantime he bought and drove hogs to the Cherokee Nation of the Indian Territory and returned with cattle to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, taking herds through from the Nation to Milwaukee. For many years he devoted his attention largely to the breeding of blooded stock and he was regarded as one of the best judges of stock in his portion of the country, while his reputation as a breeder extended over hundreds of miles. He was particularly well known to the farming and stock-raising class and his business interests became extensive. A man of literary tastes he always read extensively and was well posted on general subjects as well as upon matters relating to his particular line of business. He had a great liking for and was a breeder of fine grades of shorthorn cattle and owned excellent herds of this stock during his pioneer residence in Vermilion county. While controlling and carrying on an extensive business he also found time and opportunity to

devote to the general good and was identified with the upbuilding of schools and churches here, in fact was ever ready to further any movement calculated to promote the general welfare. Corydon Campbell has been three times married. He first wedded Julia A. Howard, on the 11th of November, 1849, and on the 1st of August, 1850, he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. On the 22d of November, 1852, he wedded Mary A. Brittingham, who died March 13, 1869, and on the 1st of January, 1870, he wedded Sarah E. Currant. In his declining years Corydon Campbell has lived a retired life. There is probably no man in Vermilion county more widely known, for from pioneer times to the present he has taken an active and helpful interest in everything pertaining to its development and progress. Many men have called upon him for counsel and his advice has been freely given. He has been a faithful and helpful neighbor and citizen and the qualities of his manhood have been such as to commend him to the confidence and regard of all with whom he has been associated. His life history, if written in detail, would make a most readable chapter not free from exciting incidents for during his residence in the southwest he had many experiences beyond the ordinary ones.

John J. Campbell is the eldest of three sons, the others being Joseph B. and Benjamin. Having acquired a common school education, at the age of nineteen he entered college at Crawfordsville, Indiana, where he spent one year. He then engaged in farming on his own account for sixteen years, after which he removed to Danville and became connected with the grocery trade, in which he was very successful. For four years he conducted this business, after which he returned to his farm in Newell township,

residing for some time in his attractive home there, a well appointed brick residence in which he was surrounded with all the comforts of life. His farm consisted of four hundred and ninety-three acres of the best improved land in Vermilion county and on it are substantial and commodious buildings. Like his father Mr. Campbell is an excellent judge of stock and is well read on the subject. His opinions regarding stock are seldom if ever at fault and he has been extensively interested in dealing in shorthorn cattle of the Bates and Pomoto breeds. He is also very fond of fine horses and has some excellent specimens of the Cleveland Bays. In partnership with his brothers he conducts a large meat business in Danville, the only packing house. They are carrying on an extensive wholesale trade on West North street. Our subject is also interested in other enterprises in Danville, owning a fourth interest in the Danville Democrat, which is one of the popular and largest circulated newspapers of the county.

Mr. Campbell was united in marriage to Catherine Gernand, who was born October 17, 1856, a daughter of John H. and Lena (Homan) Gernand, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, and became pioneer settlers of Vermilion county, at which time they took up their abode on a farm a mile north of Danville, where the father is still living. The mother passed away October 16, 1863. Mrs. Campbell was educated in Danville and there reared to womanhood. She is the eldest in a family of three children and has become the mother of four children: Charles G., who married Miss Nellie Dale, a daughter of John W. Dale, of Danville; Stella E., the wife of J. E. Dick, of Crawfordsville, Indiana; and Nellie A. and Nettie at home.

Mr. Campbell is a member of the

Masonic fraternity and in his political views is a Democrat. He is pre-eminently a man of affairs and his life is typical of the progressive and growing spirit of the west. From his boyhood down to the present he has been active in business affairs, making the most of his opportunities, utilizing every advantage and thus progressing on the road to wealth and affluence.

ADDISON E. CODDINGTON.

The field of political and military life is limited. Its honors can be won by few, but the opportunities of business are limitless and the man of strong purpose and laudable ambition whose business methods are honorable and principles are correct can steadily advance until he finds himself among the leading representatives of trade interests in the community in which he makes his home. Such has been the course of Addison E. Coddington. He was born in Jeffersonville, Indiana, August 15, 1858, and comes of one of the early American families that was founded in the new world in colonial days. The ancestry can be traced back to William Coddington, who was governor of Rhode Island, and the descendants of his family are now very numerous.

Robert Coddington, the father of our subject, was born in Bath, Steuben county, New York, August 14, 1824, and at an early day went to Cleveland, Ohio, with his parents, who died in that city. At the age of fifteen he began earning his own livelihood and although his educational privileges were somewhat meager and his financial advantages were naught, he possessed ambition and industry and upon that foundation he builded his success. For a few years he was

employed in packing houses, living first in Cincinnati and afterward in St. Louis. In 1860 he became a representative of the retail grocery business, in which he continued until 1868, when he became a wholesale grocer and in 1875 established the first wholesale grocery house in Danville. As the years advanced he built up an extensive business which not only proved of value to himself, but greatly added to the progress and commercial prosperity of this city. The enterprise was conducted under the firm name of R. Coddington & Company until 1880, when, on account of failing health, Mr. Coddington went to the west, locating in Kearney, Nebraska, while his partners, Peyton & Palmer, succeeded in the business. Mr. Coddington, however, continued in the wholesale grocery trade in Kearney until his death in April, 1900. In early manhood Robert Coddington had married Miss Eliza Northan, a native of Jeffersonville, Indiana, and they became the parents of five children: Addison E.; Mrs. E. A. Barnett, of Chicago, Illinois; Robert, who married Ida Cummings and lives with his mother; Mrs. Hollingsworth, who is also with her mother; and Emma, who died at the age of seven years. Robert Coddington was a man of marked business ability and great personal worth. Along the lines of consecutive endeavor he won prosperity and his name was ever a synonym for straightforward dealing in all business transactions.

Addison E. Coddington obtained a common school education in Jeffersonville, Indiana, and completed the high school course there. When he put aside his text books he entered his father's wholesale grocery house and has since been identified with this line of commercial activity. He was with his father in Kearney but on account of failing health returned to Danville and with his

knowledge of the business he entered the present firm and now manages the extensive trade of the Danville Wholesale Grocery Company, of which he is the president. This firm is represented by four traveling salesmen upon the road and two men who look after the city trade. The building occupied by the company is located on the south side of the Wabash & Cairo division of the Big Four Railroad tracks and on the west is a side track from the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad so that excellent shipping facilities are afforded. There is also a frontage of one hundred and ninety-nine feet on North street. The favorable location of the house saves the company a large amount of drayage and the contents of a dozen cars can be handled in a few hours. The building is a modern structure, equipped throughout with every convenience for facilitating the work. The business has reached extensive and profitable proportions and the practical experience of Mr. Coddington and his marked business enterprise have been the controlling factors in the success of the house.

On the 17th of November, 1885, occurred the marriage of Addison E. Coddington and Miss Fannie Brown, of Crawfordsville, Indiana, a daughter of one of the prominent families of that place. Her father, John S. Brown, engaged in pork packing at an early day and later devoted his energies to general merchandising, in which he continued until 1880, since which time he has lived retired. He married Miss Anna Blair, also of Indiana and they became the parents of two children, but the son is deceased. Mrs. Coddington, who was the younger, was born November 6, 1850, and obtained her education in the home schools of Crawfordsville, Indiana. She is now the mother of four children: Helen

Blair, who is now a student in the Danville high school; Addison, Clara Brown and Mary Vance, all yet under the parental roof.

A prominent Mason, Mr. Coddington has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish rite, belonging to Oriental Consistory and he is also a member of the Mystic Shrine. He votes the Republican ticket and with his family attends the services of the Episcopalian church. Success is an innate attribute in the individual and no matter in how much fantastic theorizing one may indulge regarding success, the fact stated always stands unquestioned. It is true that Mr. Coddington entered upon a business in early life that was already established, but an understanding of business principles, a power of capable management and of keen discernment cannot be inherited. These must be developed through experience and labor and the effort which he put forth mastered business principles and to control capably the interests which he had charge resulted in making him one of the foremost representatives of trade circles now living in Danville. His worth in commercial life is widely acknowledged and the means which he employed in securing success are such as may profitably be followed by all who desire advancement in commercial lines.

DANIEL BROWN.

Among the men whose labor long continued and well applied has brought to them a competence sufficient to enable them to now rest from further toil is numbered Daniel Brown, of Hoopston. He was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in 1837. His father, George Brown, was like-

wise a native of that state and was of Irish descent. His birth occurred here in 1795 and he passed away in 1866. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Rachel Karr, was born in Pennsylvania in 1790 and she, too, was of Irish lineage. In the family of this worthy couple were originally eleven children, of whom our subject is the youngest. He now has but one surviving brother, George W. Brown, a resident of Indianapolis, and the sisters have all passed away.

Daniel Brown was quite young when he accompanied his parents on their removal from Pennsylvania to Clark county, Ohio. The father followed farming near Springfield and our subject provided for his own support during a part of his residence in that locality by chopping wood for twenty-five cents per cord. When he was nineteen years of age the family removed to McLean county, Illinois, arriving in April, 1856. Two years later Daniel Brown left home and made preparations for having a home of his own by his marriage to Sarah E. Tucker, whose people were Virginians. Her grandfather, Stephen Tucker, was a slaveholder of the Old Dominion, but in the '40s he freed his slaves and removed to Ohio. Some of the freedmen, however, accompanied him and remained with him in the free state. The family was a very prominent one in Virginia. The father was a stage driver in Ohio at an early day and later he came to Illinois, but after a few years he returned to Ohio where he died. His first wife passed away when Mrs. Brown was but two years of age. She was born in Zanesville, Ohio, in 1838. Her parents had but two children and the sister of Mrs. Brown is now deceased. After the death of his first wife her father married Miss Sarah Evert.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Brown

had but six dollars in money, and yet through the forty years of his married life he has never purchased a single article on credit. In the year 1870 he came to Vermilion county, before a railroad was built, and later he assisted in grading the Muncie & Bloomington road, now the Lake Erie & Western Railroad. In 1870 he purchased land near East Lynn for thirteen dollars per acre. It was covered with wild prairie grass and the unbroken prairie extended from his place to Hoopeston. He became the owner of eighty acres which he improved, developing a good farm four miles west of Hoopeston, and there he now has one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land. Removing to East Lynn he was engaged in the grain and stock business for twelve years, meeting with excellent success in his undertakings. He then worked at the carpenter's trade and was engaged in the construction of bridges throughout this part of the county. In the fall of 1894 he removed to Hoopeston, purchasing property on East Main street at the corner of Third street. Here he has done some carpentry work, but largely looks after his farming interests, his farm being rented and returning to him a fair income.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Brown was celebrated in Bloomington, Illinois, in 1858, and has been blessed with two daughters, Martha J. and Maggie. Both were well educated and successfully engaged in teaching prior to their marriage. The former is now the wife of Nicholas Dold, a tailor of Indianapolis, Indiana, and the latter is the wife of E. R. Cole, who is deputy clerk of the courts at Crown Point, Indiana.

For about thirty-five years Mr. Brown has been a member of the Baptist church and through a long period served as deacon

of the church at East Lynn. In politics he is a stalwart Prohibitionist, and he has served as assessor, collector and highway commissioner in Fountain Creek township, Troquois county. His life has been an honorable and upright one and in his history there are no chapters which he wishes to disguise. On account of his health he spent the winters of 1901-02 in Florida. He is now living retired in Hoopeston, where he and his wife occupy a very pleasant home in the midst of a large circle of friends.

WILLIAM M. McMILLIN.

William M. McMillin is a farmer and is a respected citizen of Blount township, where he has lived from early pioneer times, watching with interest the progress and development of the county as it has merged from frontier conditions to take its place among the leading counties of this great commonwealth. Mr. McMillin was born in Franklin county, Ohio, October 27, 1822, his parents being William and Elizabeth McMillin. They came to the west when our subject was twelve years of age, traveling overland in a covered wagon and arriving in 1831. Few roads had been made and the country was new and unbroken. The forests were still the haunt of deer and prairie wolves and there were many wild turkeys and prairie chickens. The father entered land in Vermilion county, securing one hundred and sixty acres on section 30, Blount township. He then began working and in course of time transformed the fields into productive tracts of land. Mr. McMillin of this review when but a boy ran barefooted over the prairies both in summer and winter. He assisted

in the arduous task of developing a new farm and shared with the family in all the hardships of life on the frontier. There were six children but only two are now living, the younger brother of our subject being Z. L. McMillin, a retired farmer. The father made the first plow used here, it having a wooden mold board. His next one had a single shovel, and the grain was cut with a sickle until the cradle came into use. Such were the crude farming implements with which the pioneers reclaimed the land and made it productive. Our subject many times assisted his mother in dipping candles, and flax furnished the garments for summer wear, while the sheep furnished the wool that was spun for the winter clothing. William McMillin in those early days hauled grain and apples to Chicago, camping out at night by the wayside. The present metropolitan city, now the second in size in the Union, was then but a village and Danville was a little hamlet, containing only a few buildings. The father furnished the timber that was used in constructing the first courthouse. He owned an old sawmill and gristmill in addition to his farm, operating these as well as cultivating the fields.

William McMillin attended school in an old log building, furnished with slab benches, and an immense fire place occupied one entire end of the building. The first house in which he lived was a log cabin. The first frame house which his father built stands on the east side of the bridge on the road leading to our subject's home and the old original roof is still there. The father was among the prominent and influential residents of Vermilion county at an early day and our subject assisted in the work of cultivating and improving the fields, while in the winter months he at-

tended school. In his twentieth year he started out in life for himself.

He has been three times married, his present wife having borne the maiden name of Nancy Snyder. His first wife was Catherine Swinford and his second wife bore the maiden name of Nancy Martin. By that marriage there were three children: James; Nora, now the wife of Johnson Knight; and Nancy, the wife of Orin Knight.

Throughout the greater part of his business career Mr. McMillin has carried on general agricultural pursuits and stock-raising but he has now deeded his land to his wife and children and he is largely living retired. He served as school director for a number of years and in his early life he gave his political support to the Whig party, while at the present time he votes with the Republican party. The farm upon which he is now living was purchased by his father for three dollars per acre. It is a valuable tract of land and is splendidly cultivated, being equipped with all modern accessories. Mr. McMillin had four hundred acres and his agricultural possessions were not only extensive but valuable. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Christian church and are people of sterling worth, ever loyal to the truth and to the right.

EDWARD McCUSKER.

Prominent among the energetic, enterprising and successful business men of Danville is Edward McCusker, member of the well known firm of King & McCusker, wholesale dealers in fruit, produce and fancy groceries. Mr. McCusker was born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, on the 29th

of January, 1855. His father and mother were born in Ireland and came to this country in childhood. "This remote connection with Ireland," says Mr. McCusker, "dates about half way back to the time of the Mayflower, and almost deprives me of any right to claim to be 'Irish,' though the Irish aggressive character is a thing which any man may rightfully be proud of possessing." When our subject was a small boy the family removed to Williamsport, Indiana, where his father engaged in draying for some time, and "Ed," as he is familiarly called, was one of the draymen, or rather a drayboy.

Edward McCusker acquired a good practical education in the schools of Williamsport, supplemented largely by night study and reading later on in life. Starting out in life for himself at the age of eighteen years, he came to Danville, Illinois, and entered the employ of Charles Moran as a clerk in the grocery store at No. 140 East Main street, remaining with him until the spring of 1881, when in partnership with M. E. King, he bought out his employer, each putting in one thousand dollars. Of this sum Mr. McCusker had to borrow the most part, but within a year the success of the firm enabled him to pay back the loan. The firm of King & McCusker changed the business from a grocery to a wholesale produce and commission house within the first year. But during the first ten years of its existence the firm carried on a retail as well as a wholesale business, and for the past decade have given their attention wholly to the wholesale trade, and their business now is second to few houses of the kind in the state.

In 1886 Mr. Cusker was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Maher, of Toledo, Ohio, and to them have been born five

children as follows: Leo, Robert, Helen, Paul and Herbert.

Politically Mr. McCusker is now a Democrat, though up to 1892 he supported the Republican party and for some years he served as secretary of the Republican county central committee, taking a very active and influential part in local politics. He is popular in social as well as political and business circles, being a prominent member of many fraternal societies. Religiously he is a member of St. Patrick's Catholic church of Danville. Mr. McCusker belongs to that class of men whom the world terms self-made, for he came to this county empty-handed, and has conquered all the obstacles in the path to success. He is to-day the owner of considerable real estate besides his business property, having purchased residence properties which he improves and then sells or rents, thus augmenting his income in no small degree. In business affairs he has steadily prospered and has not only secured for himself a handsome competence, but by his efforts has materially advanced the interests of the community with which he is associated. He, therefore, ranks among Danville's most valued and public spirited citizens.



L. A. CHESLEY.

Many there are who claim that the successful man is he who is favored by fortune or by friends, and to those who thus voice harping criticism and lack of appreciation be it said that history has again and again proven what the poet has expressed, "There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood leads on to fortune." Opportunity comes to all and it is the man

who recognizes that the present and not the future holds his opportunity, that advances in the world of industrial or commercial activity. At the age of fourteen L. A. Chesley started upon his business career empty-handed but with resolute purpose and strong determination. These qualities have been a foundation upon which he has builded his success, and Danville honors him as one of its native sons.

He was born in this city, March 2, 1863, the son of a distinguished father, Robert V. Chesley, who was very prominent here at an early day and who is represented elsewhere in this volume. The son attended the public schools until he had entered the high school, when he was obliged to put aside his text books. His father had intended that he should become a lawyer, but death changed his plans, and when left fatherless L. A. Chesley found it necessary to provide for his own support. He was then but fourteen years of age, at which time he entered upon an apprenticeship to his uncle, William Reynolds, who was engaged in the jewelry business. He found after a year that his work was too confining and he then entered the employ of Villers Brothers, proprietors of a large general store, acting as their bookkeeper. Two years later he took charge of the office of Owens & Pixley, clothiers, with whom he remained for three years and at the end of that time he became manager of the white goods department, for the firm of Carson, Pirie, Scott & Company, of Chicago, Illinois. He remained with that house for a year and a half and then returning to Danville he entered the employ of the Stewart Foundry & Machine Company, becoming bookkeeper. As time passed he acquired a thorough acquaintance with the business, and his ability being recognized

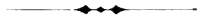
by Mr. Stewart, he was more and more largely trusted with the control of the enterprise until he practically had the entire management of the extensive plant and its operations. Since then the success of the business has been due in no small degree to his efforts and to-day he is the secretary and treasurer of the company which in 1891 was reorganized and incorporated. At that time Mr. Chesley became a part owner and has since been very active in control of the industry which in size and importance is second to none in Danville. During all the subsequent years the business has had a steady but marvelous growth, requiring annually the addition of shop-room, men and machinery. Its output has reached mammoth proportions and is sent to many parts of the world. Mr. Chesley has also made extensive real estate investments and has a splendid home and other valuable property in his native city.

On January 9, 1884, occurred the marriage of L. A. Chesley and Miss Helen Stewart, a daughter of William Stewart, the founder of the Stewart Foundry & Machine Company.

To Mr. Chesley and wife three children have been born: Frederick Goulding, William Stewart and Helen D., all attending the Danville high school.

Politically Mr. Chesley is a Republican and fraternally he is connected with the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks and also with the Modern Woodmen of America. He attends the Presbyterian church and is deeply interested in everything pertaining to general progress and improvement. A man of strong intellectuality, he seems to have inherited much of the oratorical power and ability of his honored father, who was many times associated in the conduct of some of the most

notable law cases for Vermilion county. Of Mr. Chesley it can truthfully be said that he is the architect of his own fortunes. His life has been guided and his wealth acquired by his individual efforts and industry. Upright and honorable, his faithful adherence to principle commands the respect of all. He is a man of broad views, is liberal and charitable, and accords to all the perfect right of freedom which he reserves for himself. He has proved himself in all life's relations, earnest, upright and honest, a good man and a citizen of whom any community might justly be proud.



THOMAS J. GEORGE.

Thomas J. George, who resides on section 5, Catlin township, was born in Bath county, Kentucky, October 18, 1837, a son of Henry George, who was born in Virginia and is of English descent, while the mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Ann Sharp and was a native of Kentucky. About 1850 they removed from Kentucky to Indiana and the father became a very prominent and influential citizen there, holding a number of official positions, including that of sheriff of Tipton county. He was likewise assessor and collector for a number of years and had considerable influence in public affairs in his locality. In the family were ten children, eight of whom reached years of maturity, while seven are now living, namely: Moses, of Vermilion county; Thomas J.; Millard; Ann, now Mrs. Kinneman of Indianapolis; Benjamin Franklin of Indianapolis; Mrs. Susan Jackson, of Tipton, Indiana; Joseph Marshall, also of Tipton; Persly, Mary

Ann, Elizabeth Dale and Henry, all of whom are deceased.

In the year 1856, when nineteen years of age, Thomas J. George walked from Tipton county, Indiana, to Vermilion county, Illinois, a distance of one hundred miles, which he covered in three days. Arriving here he found plenty of deer, turkeys and other wild game and there were also many prairie and timber wolves, which he would frequently chase down on horseback. He began working by the month and for two years was employed at farming and in a sawmill. He was afterward engaged in making slats and posts for a few years.

As a companion and helpmate for life's journey he chose Rebecca Durham, an orphan girl, their marriage occurring December 22, 1858. They began their domestic life upon rented land and later Mr. George purchased forty acres of timber land which he cleared but never lived upon that property. He added, however, to his landed possession from time to time and he now owns three hundred and seventy-two acres of well improved land all situated in Catlin township, his home being on section 5. In addition to this he has eight acres in Blount township. His first home was a plank house fifteen feet square, provided with one window and one door and an outside chimney made of mud and sticks. In that he lived for ten years and there he and his wife reared their family of four children. Later their home was a log cabin situated on the site of their present residence. In 1874 Mr. George built his substantial and attractive home and he is now living in practical retirement from labor, the active work of the farm being performed by others.

In 1891 Mr. George was called upon to

mourn the loss of his first wife who died on the 11th of May of that year, at the age of forty-nine years, nine months and nine days, her birth having occurred September 2, 1841. She had been to him a most faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey and had greatly assisted him in acquiring a competence. By that marriage there were the following children: Millard, the wife of John White of Vermilion county; Mrs. M. E. Amis; Charles, who married Elizabeth Hallat of Vermilion county; Thomas H., who married Rachel Sims and lives upon the home farm; Bertha, the wife of Oscar West of this county; Henry, Olive and Dora, all deceased; and one that died in infancy. For his second wife Mr. George chose Virginia Kestler, who was then a widow. They had four children of whom Grover and Cleveland, twins, and Helen are still living, but Nellie is deceased.

Mr. George served as school trustee for nine years and as school director for twenty-nine years. He assisted in erecting the schools of this district and also aided in building nearly all of the churches in this part of the county. From pioneer times he has resided here and his memory goes back to the day when the single shovel plow was used in the fields and when corn was planted by hand, while grain was cut with a reap-hook and afterward with a cradle. Mr. George owned the first drop rake in this county and the first self-binder in the neighborhood and people would come five miles to see the latter machine operated. For his first forty acres of land he paid two and one-half dollars per acre, but farm land in this section of the state is now very valuable. He raised much stock, including horses and cattle, making a specialty of the shorthorn and Durham cattle. He now has

forty head of horses and cattle and fifty head of hogs. His farm is splendidly equipped with all modern improvements and is very rich and productive. All that he possesses has been acquired through his own labors and not only have great changes occurred in the county but also in his financial condition for he came to this locality empty-handed and to-day he is numbered among its prosperous citizens.

SPENCER CLINE.

No history of Vermilion county would be complete without the record of Spencer Cline, who for many years assisted materially in the improvement and upbuilding of the county as a representative of its agricultural interests. He was born in Kentucky, August 13, 1812, and was of German and Scotch extraction. His parents, John D. C. and Catherine (Shumate) Cline, came to this county in 1829, when the work of progress and improvement had scarcely been begun and often would attend the Indian meetings here. The father was a potter by trade and frequently made trips as far north as Wisconsin in order to dispose of his wares. He also traveled along the Sangamon river, selling his goods.

Spencer Cline acquired his education in the schools of his native state and when a young man of seventeen accompanied his parents to Vermilion county, where he lived until called to his final rest. He assisted in the arduous task of developing a new farm and the hardships and trials incident to life on the frontier became familiar to him through actual experience. He was married in 1840 and then began farming and stock-raising on his own ac-

count, living on section 26, Blount township—the old homestead on which his parents had lived and died. The house which still stands here is now about seventy-two years old and in it the widow of our subject is yet living and expects to spend her remaining life here. After coming to Illinois Spencer Cline knew no other home. On the 8th of October, 1840, he wedded Rachel Shephard, who was of Scotch lineage and a daughter of Louis and Celia (McCreary) Shephard, both natives of Burke county, North Carolina. Mrs. Cline was born in the same state, December 24, 1819, and attended school there. Subsequently her parents removed to Terre Haute, Indiana, where she continued her education, remaining there until she reached womanhood. She was eighty-three years of age in December, 1902, and is one of the honored pioneer ladies, whose memory forms a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present.

Spencer Cline assisted in clearing the old home farm. The land here was entered by his father from the government and not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon the place. All of the pioneer conditions of Vermilion county were familiar to Mr. and Mrs. Cline.

Danville contained but two stores and a Baptist church when Mrs. Cline came to Vermilion county. The milling was done at Covington, Indiana, and the country was all covered with timber or stretched away as an unbroken prairie for miles. The meals were largely cooked in great iron pots or kettles which were hung from the crane that extended over the fire place. Bread and pies were baked in a skillet which was covered over and then coals placed upon it. The Johnny cake, a frequent article of food

at that time, was baked upon a board placed before the fire. Mrs. Cline still has in her possession an old timepiece called a spring clock, which is more than seventy years old.

Unto our subject and his wife were born ten children, seven of whom reached mature years, while three are now living: David C.; Lewis, who married Eliza Demoss and had five children, their home being in Blount township; and Margaret, the wife of John P. Stuckey, by whom she had nine children, seven of whom are yet living.

Mr. Cline was called to his final rest March 27, 1893, at the age of seventy-nine years and five months. He was long a consistent member of the Christian church and Mrs. Cline has been a member of the church for about forty years. She is still living in the old log-cabin home and has twenty acres of ground around her place. This is largely planted to blackberries, pears, peaches and apples and the sale of her fruit brings her a good income. In the early days she spun and wove her own clothing, spinning wheels being used extensively in the time of her girlhood, but as the years passed and cities grew and brought with them the ready made materials from the factories and looms of the east. Her husband, Mr. Cline, was at one time a member of a party that walked to Chicago to help dig the cellar for the first brick house erected in that city. He frequently made trips to Chicago with ox teams and returned with salt and provisions.

David C. Cline, who still lives upon the old homestead, where he was born September 12, 1851, in the log house in which his grandparents and his father lived and died, pursued his education in the district schools and from an early age he assisted in the

work of the home farm. He continued to attend the schools in the winter months until eighteen years of age, after which he was allowed the privilege of attending throughout the year until he attained his majority. Since that time he has given his attention exclusively to agricultural and horticultural pursuits and is now engaged in the raising of all kinds of fruit and vegetables for the city markets. In this he has been quite successful, establishing a large trade, and his business has brought to him a comfortable income. In politics he is independent, voting not for party but for men and measures, and for nine years he has served his district as school director.

HENRY S. FRANCE.

Henry S. France, who owns and operates a farm of about two hundred acres on section 7, Butler township, has a rich and valuable tract of land pleasantly located a mile and three-quarters from Rankin. He is numbered among the old settlers of the state, dating his residence in Illinois from 1861, while his home has been in Vermilion county since 1875. Mr. France is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred near Zanesville, Muskingum county, on the 25th of November, 1838. His father, Jacob France, was a son of John France, who was of German parentage and the family was established in Virginia at an early day in colonial history. Jacob France was born in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and was there reared. When a young man he went to Ohio and was one of the first settlers of Logan county. Later he became a resident of Muskingum county, where he was married to Phebe Slack, who

was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and was reared in Philadelphia. Her father, John Slack, was one of the first settlers of Pennsylvania and owned land which is now a part of the city of Philadelphia. After his marriage Jacob France carried on farming in Muskingum county, Ohio, and there reared his family and spent his last days.

In taking up the personal history of Henry S. France we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in Vermilion county. He was reared in Muskingum county, Ohio, where he attended the common schools, remaining with his father until he had attained his majority. In 1861 he started westward, thinking that he might have better business opportunities in Illinois, where settlements were not so thick. Accordingly he located in Marshall county, where he was employed as a farm hand by the month for about a year. He then rented a farm which he cultivated for a year, after which he went west to California and Nevada, spending some time in Virginia City, where he was engaged in searching for the precious metal. When about twelve months had passed, however, he returned to Ohio spending the winter of 1864-5 at his old home in that state. In the spring of the latter year he again took up his abode in Marshall county, Illinois, where he rented a farm for three years.

Mr. France also returned to Ohio for his bride and was married in Muskingum county on the 3d of January, 1867, to Miss Martha J. Dugan, a native of that state, reared and educated there. After their marriage the young couple returned to Illinois, beginning their domestic life upon a rented farm in Marshall county. After one year, however, they removed to La Salle county, where Mr. France again

leased a tract of land. Later he purchased eighty acres of raw prairie land, not a furrow having been turned or an improvement having been made on the property. This he broke and fenced, developing a good farm, upon which he lived for five years, when he sold that land at a substantial advance in price. He then came to Vermillion county and bought eighty acres where he now resides. There had been some improvements made upon the place and locating thereon he took up the work of further developing and improving his new property. The following year he purchased an adjoining tract of one hundred and eleven acres and he now has a farm of nearly two hundred acres. He has since erected a good neat residence and has recently completed a fine new barn. He has other substantial outbuildings upon his place, a good orchard and fine shade trees. His splendid orchard contains many varieties of fruits and is a material source of income to him. He has tiled and fenced his place and to-day the France farm is one of the valuable properties of Butler township and the owner is numbered among the substantial residents of the community. All this is due to his enterprise and strong determination, for when he came to the west he was a poor man with no capital and all that he now enjoys is the result of his enterprise and earnest labor.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. France has been blessed with four children: Marietta, the wife of George Sloan, a substantial farmer of Butler township, by whom she has two children, Gracie and Bessie; Elizabeth, the wife of John Brenner, who owns a farm in White county, Indiana, but is now living in Iroquois county, Illinois, and by whom she has two sons, Ray and Floyd; Cora, the wife of George Stormer, a resi-

dent farmer of Butler township, Vermillion county, by whom she has two children, Earl and Burgess; and Bertha, who is still with her parents.

Politically a Democrat where national issues are involved, Mr. France cast his first ballot for Stephen A. Douglas in 1860 and has since voted for each presidential nominee for the party. In local elections, however, he is independent and he has never been an office seeker, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his farm and his business interests. He is a friend of education, believing in good schools, and while serving on the school board he did effective service in behalf of the advancement of the educational standard of this locality. He and his wife are devoted and consistent members of the Presbyterian church and he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Rankin. For forty-one years he has been a resident of Illinois and for twenty-six years of Vermillion county and has been identified with the wonderful transformation which has occurred here, as the prairies have been broken and farms fenced, as towns have been built and as the work of improvement and development has been carried on.

FRANK H. VAN ETTEN.

Prominent in political circles Frank H. VanEtten has wielded a wide influence in Danville and his name is connected with the unwritten history which tells of the improvement and development of the city through legislation effected by the board of aldermen. He was born in Fort Plain, Montgomery county, New York, August 24, 1857. His father, Peter H. VanEtten,

was a native of Portlandville, New York, and wedded Mary Bush, who was also born in the Empire state. They were married at Fort Plain and there took up their abode, the father engaging in general contracting at that place until 1860, when he moved to Portlandville, and from there he removed to Schenevus, New York. He then became agent for the American Express Company and resided there until his death, which occurred in 1880. His political support was given to the Democracy. His first wife died in 1865, and in 1869 he wedded Catherine Seiver, also a native of the Empire state and now a resident of Troy, New York. By the first marriage there were four children, three of whom are now living, namely: George, who is agent for the Boston & Maine Railroad Company at Townsend, Massachusetts; Frank H.; and Charles, who is in business at Bucyrus, Ohio. By the second union there were three children: Minnie, who departed this life in March, 1903, in Troy, New York; Isaac, who is connected with the Wireless Telegraph Company, at Sagahonac, Long Island; and Nettie, who resides with her brother Isaac.

In the schools of Portlandville and Schenevus, New York, Frank H. VanEtten pursued his education and in the year 1875 began work in the employ of the Delaware & Hudson River Railroad Company, in the capacity of operator at Cooperstown Junction. He remained in the service of the company for four years. He next became connected with the Montreal Telegraph Company at Plattsburg, New York, where he resided for three years and then came to Decatur, Illinois, with the Wabash Railroad Company in the capacity of chief clerk in the employ of the master mechanic. For one year he filled that position and then

spent six months in the transportation department at that point. In 1884 he went to Chicago, where he was made train dispatcher for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company. In 1888 the train dispatcher's office was removed to Danville and from 1888 until 1892 he was chief dispatcher and superintendent of telegraph at Danville. Through the six succeeding years he was dispatcher and in 1890 was re-appointed superintendent of telegraph, a position which he has since retained. His capability and accuracy in business, systematic methods and dispatch winning for him the approval of those whom he represents.

On the 17th of February 1886, in Chicago, Mr. VanEtten was united in marriage to Miss Adah Zillah Chilton, who was born in Xenia, Ohio, September 13th 1865, a daughter of Thomas and Jane Anne Turner Chilton, both of whom were natives of England. Mr. Chilton was born and raised in Durham county, England, his home was Lady Close. He wedded Jane Anne Turner, of Sunderland, who was the only child of Stafford Turner, apothecary, and half-sister to Thomas Dixon, who had perhaps the widest circle of literary acquaintances of any man in the north of England, among them being Charles Kingsley, F. D. Maurice, Thomas Carlyle, Max Muller, John Stuart Mill, Joseph Mazini, Henry Lord Brougham, Bishop Colenso, Walt Whitman, George Long, J. Muir, W. R. Scott, W. M. Rossetti, Professor Legros, Tom Taylor, Francis P. Cobbe, Affram Black, J. G. Wilkensen, W. A. Alcott and other highly distinguished individuals. Mr. Dixon was one of the most philanthropic, liberal minded, genial and best known of his country, he took great interest in furthering local art and was conspicuous for the assistance he rendered free libraries and museums.

Among libraries assisted was the Chicago Free Library after the fire of 1871. After his death his bust was made and placed in the Athenaeum in Sunderland, England. Mr. and Mrs. Chilton were married in Sunderland, Durham county, in the Sunderland Street Episcopal Church in 1847 and came to the United States in 1851, locating in Cincinnati, Ohio. They later moved to Springfield and then to Xenia, Ohio. There they remained until 1871, when they went to Chicago, living there until Mr. Chilton's death, which occurred in 1898. Mrs. Chilton still resides in Chicago and in their family were eight children, six of whom are still living. Mr. Chilton was a Republican in his political affiliations. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Van Etten has been blessed with two sons: Frank C., born in Chicago, November 12, 1887; and Theodore C., born in Danville, August 23, 1892. Mrs. Van Etten takes great interest in music and art and is devoted to her church work and home.

A Republican with firm faith in the principles of the party, Mr. Van Etten is recognized as one of its leading members in Danville. In 1893 he was elected a member of the city council and served for three terms. He was chairman of the building committee when the city building was erected, and chairman of the committee on streets and alleys when the stone arch on East Main street was built. He favored every movement which he believed would promote the material advancement and substantial up-building of Danville. He has been a member of the Republican city central committee and his labors have been effective and beneficial in aiding party work here. In 1881 he was made a Mason in Afton, New York, and has since taken the Royal Arch degrees. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen and Court of Honor fraternities,

a member, trustee and one of the building committee of the Third Church of Christ now under construction. He owns realty in this city in addition to his own pleasant home at the corner of Seminary and Gilbert streets and is widely known here as a man whose personal worth and business ability commend him to the confidence and respect of those with whom he has been associated.

FRED BUY.

Fred Buy is an honored veteran of the Civil war, who, at the country's call for aid, offered his services to the Union and fought for its defense. He is now living on section 36, Blount township, where he owns and operates a farm of two hundred and twenty-nine acres—a splendidly improved property equipped with all modern accessories and conveniences. Mr. Buy is one of the citizens that Germany has furnished to the new world, his birth having occurred in the fatherland October 23, 1844. When he was eleven years of age his parents emigrated to the new world, crossing the Atlantic in 1857. They settled first in New York and the following year came to Vermillion county. The father was a farmer by occupation and both he and his wife are now deceased, the former having passed away September 7, 1870, while the latter died in December, 1885. They were the parents of eight children, of whom two are living, the sister of our subject being Mrs. Kroul, the wife of Herman Kroul, of Danville.

Under the parental roof our subject was reared to manhood and assisted in the development of his father's farm. He was thus engaged until 1863, when he offered his

services to the government as a defender of the Union and joined the boys in blue of Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry, under the command of Captain Laferty. This regiment was assigned to Missouri and after serving for one hundred days he was honorably discharged, but still the war continued and with patriotic spirit he once more enlisted, becoming a member of the One Hundred and Forty-ninth Infantry in Danville. He thus served for another year or until the cessation of hostilities. During most of the time he was on garrison duty in guarding bridges and in 1865 he was honorably discharged.

When the country no longer needed his services Mr. Buy returned to his home and was engaged in clerking in a grocery store for a time. In August, 1867, he wedded Mary Steube, who like her husband was educated in public schools of this county. After his marriage Mr. Buy engaged in the grocery business on his own account, successfully conducting his mercantile interests until 1881. The following year he purchased his present home on section 36, Blount township, and here he has engaged in farming and stock-raising. The land was all wild and unimproved at that time but he cleared the place, planted trees and has made it a valuable tract of land. He has tilled and drained it, erected good buildings and has secured all modern equipments until to-day everything about his place is neat and thrifty in appearance, indicating his careful supervision and his farm is regarded as one of the best of the locality. Whatever success Mr. Buy has achieved is due entirely to his own efforts. He began life by working by the month in a woolen factory for eight dollars per month and afterward

was employed as a clerk for one hundred dollars per year and his board. Through his energy and determination, however, he has acquired a competence and at the age of twenty-three years he began business on his own account. By the exchange, purchase and sale of land he has added materially to his income and during the past six years he has lived practically retired from farm work, most of his land being now rented.

Mrs. Buy has been to her husband a faithful companion and helpmate in life's journey. They were neighbors in the fatherland and emigrated to America in the same ship. They have become the parents of eight children: Ed, a grocery merchant of Danville, who married Lou White; Mrs. Jennie Kock, of Danville; Carl, at home; William, who married Gertie Grims and is conducting a meat market in Danville; Harry, who married Myrtle Walters; Lula, who married Carl Walker, of Danville; Mamie and Alice, both at home. The children have been provided with good educational privileges, thereby fitting them for life's practical duties. In his political views Mr. Buy is a Republican and both he and his wife are members of the United Brethren church. They are most highly esteemed people, well known in the community where they have long resided and Mr. Buy is as true and loyal to his duties of citizenship as he was when he followed the Nation's starry banner upon the battlefields of the south.

STEPHEN A. D. ROGERS.

Stephen A. D. Rogers, a retired farmer and a member of one of the oldest families of Danville township, is now living in the

city of Danville, his birth having occurred in the township on the 10th of November, 1858, a son of John B. and Malinda (Moss) Rogers, the former a native of New Hampshire and the latter of Illinois. Samuel Rogers, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was also born in the Old Granite state and on leaving New England he came with his family to the west, settling in Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1832. He took up his abode on a farm five miles southeast of Danville and there he engaged in the tilling of the soil throughout the remainder of his days. John B. Rogers was also a farmer of Danville township, following that pursuit throughout his entire life. He was quite prominent in local public affairs and his fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, called him to serve in the various township offices. He died September 7, 1900, having for a short time survived his wife, who passed away August 16, 1899.

Mr. Rogers of this review was their only child and in the district schools of Danville township he pursued his education, while through much of the period of his youth he assisted his father in the work of the home farm, being thus employed until he had saved enough to purchase a small farm of his own. He became the owner of a little tract of land on section 23, Danville township, and further completed his arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage in 1882 to Miss Katie E. Wait, who was born in this county, September 15, 1857. Her father, William Wait, was also born in this county and is a representative of one of its oldest families. He now resides on a farm in Danville township which has been his home throughout his entire life, covering a period of seventy years. He wedded Margaret Moudy. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rogers have

been born two children: Myrtle, born in December, 1882; and Grace, born in March, 1885.

Mr. Rogers continued to engage in farming through many years and as opportunity offered he added to his land from time to time until his farm now comprises over two hundred acres. It is a very rich and valuable tract and to its cultivation our subject devoted his energies until 1898, when he took up his abode in the city of Danville. Each day, however, he drives to his farm, but merely supervises it, taking no active part in its work. In politics he is a Democrat. He owns a nice home at No. 621 Wayne street and he well deserves mention as one of the representatives of a prominent pioneer family and as a citizen of worth in the county where his entire life has been passed.

WILLIAM WOLTER.

William Wolter is now practically living a retired life in Danville, but is still the owner of extensive business interests connected with a wholesale creamery enterprise. He was born on the 23d of April, 1856, in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, and is a son of Christopher and Elizabeth (Alpar) Wolter, both of whom were natives of Hanover, Germany, whence in the year 1853 they crossed the Atlantic to America, taking up their abode in Cleveland. The father was a tailor by trade and followed his chosen vocation in Ohio until 1865, when he again traveled westward and this time became a resident of Danville, but he had previously joined the Union army and for one year served as a defender of the stars and stripes. After coming to the west he carried on agricultural

pursuits in Danville township, purchasing a small tract of land after having purchased a house and lot in the city of Danville.

William Wolter, whose name introduces this review, was a lad of nine summers when he came with his parents to Vermilion county. He pursued his education in the schools of Danville and after he left the schoolroom he gave his attention to farming. He also drove a team for a few seasons on railroad grading, and subsequently he embarked in the dairy business for his father, conducting the enterprise for nine years with good success. On the expiration of that period he began business on his own account and has since been identified with this line of industrial activity, carrying on a wholesale trade. Throughout his entire business career Mr. Wolter has followed farming, first purchasing land in Danville township, east of Commercial street. He has bought and sold farms in different parts of the county and is now the owner of two hundred and twenty-two acres lying partly in Vermilion county and partly across the boundary line in Indiana. All this is under a high state of cultivation and devoted to pasturage purposes, and the property returns to him a good income, while his dairy business is also a source of profitable investment. His home in Danville is located at No. 614 Wayne street.

On the 12th of February, 1884, Mr. Wolter was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Hauswaldt, a native of Eugene, Indiana, and a daughter of Frederick and Caroline Hauswaldt, both of whom were natives of Germany, the father having been born in Saxony and the mother in Westphalia. The father came to America in 1853 landing in St. Louis, whence he removed to Eugene, Indiana. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Haus-

waldt were born four children, two of whom are now living, the sister of Mrs. Wolter being Mary, the wife of Fred Wolter, a brother of our subject. The father was a cabinet-maker by trade and in early life followed that pursuit but later devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits. Both he and his wife are now deceased. The marriage of William Wolter and Louisa Hauswaldt has been blessed with four children, namely, Frank, William, Nellie and Herbert.

The family attend the German Lutheran church and Mr. Wolter is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the American Home Circle, while in his political views he is a stalwart Republican, giving an earnest support to the party and its principles. He has served as a member of the school board and also as judge of elections. Well known in Vermilion county where he has resided from his early boyhood days his life record has demonstrated the power of industry, diligence and keen discrimination in the active affairs of life, for placing his dependence upon these qualities Mr. Wolter has steadily worked his way upward and is today the possessor of an excellent business and property interests as a result of his indefatigable enterprise.

PETER LARSON.

Peter Larson is a substantial farmer and stock-raiser of Vermilion county, living on section 17, Butler township, where he owns and cultivates a farm of three hundred and twenty acres. His home is conveniently located within two and one-half miles of Rankin so that the advantages of the town are easily accessible. Mr. Larson is a native of

Sweden, born July 2, 1847, and in the country of his nativity he was reared to manhood upon a farm. He was educated in his native tongue but his education in English has been entirely self-acquired.

He came to the new world in 1870, when a young man of twenty-three years, and proceeding at once across the country to Illinois located in Champaign county. He first began work as a farm hand, however, in Douglas county and for two years he was engaged in feeding cattle. He afterward served as foreman for T. D. McKey, a banker of Hanover, who owned three thousand acres of land. Of this Mr. Larson had charge for four years and then he began farming on his own account, renting land for five years to the extent of seven hundred acres. Then with the capital which he had acquired through his industry and enterprise he purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land in Ayers township, Champaign county. This was raw and unimproved but he broke and fenced it, built thereon substantial buildings and made a very valuable farm. Later he bought sixty-five acres in Homer township, conducting both places, and he erected a fair set of buildings on it. There he carried on his agricultural pursuits until 1897. In the previous year he purchased his present farm of three hundred and twenty acres, upon which good improvements are found. He has erected a large and attractive farm residence, has laid many rods of tiling and has divided his place into fields of convenient size by well kept fences. He has also planted fruit trees and made other valuable improvements and in connection with the raising of grain he is extensively and successfully engaged in the raising of full blooded Aberdeen cattle, having a herd of twenty-three head, including a fine Aberdeen bull, which

he has owned for three years. He also fattens cattle for the market and sells about one car-load of cattle and two car-loads of hogs annually. He is one of a company of ten who are engaged in breeding and dealing in pure blooded Percheron and Shire horses and they now own two pure blooded imported stallions, which they purchased in 1901. He is an excellent judge of stock and this branch of his business is proving very profitable and is constantly growing.

In 1870 in Champaign county, Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Pearson, who was born and reared in Sweden. Their marriage has been blessed with five children: Stewart, who is married and follows farming in Butler township; Sam, who assists in carrying on the home farm; Osear, Minnie and John, who are also under the parental roof. They likewise lost two children: Charlie, who died at the age of three years; and Thomas who died at the age of six months.

A Democrat in his political affiliations Mr. Larson voted for Tilden in 1876 and has supported each presidential nominee of the party since that time. He is not bound by party ties, however, at local elections nor is he bitterly partisan. In Champaign county he was elected and served as commissioner of roads but he has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking, having always preferred to devote his energies to his farming interests and other business affairs. Both he and his wife are esteemed members of the Swedish Lutheran church, having been reared in that faith. He belongs to Rankin Lodge, F. & A. M., but joined the order in Champaign county. He is likewise identified with the Modern Woodmen of America. Although he has resided in Vermilion county for a comparatively brief period he has al-

ready become widely known and his extensive business affairs class him among the enterprising, prominent and successful farmers and stock-raisers of this portion of the state.

JOHNSON F. KNIGHT.

Among the early settlers and veterans who fought for the Union in the dark days of the Civil war is numbered Johnson Knight, who is living upon a farm on section 25, Blount township, where he owns and operates ninety-four acres of well improved land. His birth occurred near Portersville, Pennsylvania, November 22, 1843, and on the paternal side he is of English lineage, while on the maternal side he is of Scotch-Irish descent. His father, Washington G. Knight, was joined in wedlock there to Mary Ann Graham and both were natives of Pennsylvania. Their marriage was celebrated by Rev. Hampton, a Baptist minister. During the early boyhood of our subject the parents removed from Pennsylvania to Kentucky, settling in Pendleton county. The father was a millwright by trade and made that his principal business, although he followed farming to some extent. In 1861 he removed from Kentucky to Vermilion county, Illinois, and built a mill in Danville and another in Myersville. By his first marriage he had nine children, five sons and four daughters, the living being: Johnson F.; Mrs. Annie Straiter, of Ross township; Orin, of Blount township; Oswald, of Dewey county, Oklahoma; and Mrs. Lillie Ely, of Russell county, Kansas. Those who have passed away are: Stewart T., who died in 1865; Mrs. E. Shoemaker, who died in 1864; and Mrs. Amelia McMillan, who died

in 1876. The mother of this family passed away in 1866.

Johnson F. Knight received but limited privileges yet he has profited by the opportunities for reading and investigation which have come to him. From the age of eighteen years he has been dependent entirely upon his own resources and during the greater part of his life he has carried on agricultural pursuits, working as a farm hand in his early years. When the Civil war broke out he enlisted as a member of Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry, under Captain Rawlson and Colonel Harmon. The regiment went to Cincinnati and then to Louisville, Kentucky, where it was assigned to General Cook's brigade. The first engagement in which Mr. Knight participated was at Perrysville and later he was in the battles of Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Dalton, Resaca and the capture of Rome, Georgia. He also participated in a number of skirmishes and was in the hotly contested engagement at Kenesaw Mountain, where the regiment lost very heavily. He was in the battle of Peach Tree Creek in front of Atlanta and was in the battle of Atlanta on the 1st of September. He was also in the battle of Bentonville, North Carolina, and during the Atlanta campaign he was under fire one hundred days. He participated in Sherman's march to the sea, the battle of Averysboro, North Carolina, and the grand review in Washington, being mustered out on the 9th of June, 1865.

Mr. Knight had come to Illinois in 1861, starting from Cincinnati on the 14th of February of that year, and arriving at Danville on the 10th of March. It required about three and a half weeks to make the trip and he then settled in Blount township, working out as a farm hand until after the inaugura-

tion of the Civil war. The parents came by way of the Wabash Railroad and the father purchased a farm here, mostly covered with timber. Mr. Knight of this review assisted in clearing part of his father's land and after his return from the war went to work upon the old home farm, receiving three hundred dollars per year for his services. The money thus earned, together with what he had saved in the army, enabled him to begin life for himself. He purchased a small farm and later he added to his landed possessions so that as the years passed he became the possessor of a valuable property. He has always been engaged in farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of the raising of a high grade of Poland China hogs. The farm is well tiled and drained and there are good pasture lands upon the place. He also has a nice orchard and makes a specialty of the production of pears and cherries. He has resided upon his present farm on section 25 since 1876 and its highly improved condition is due to his enterprising efforts.

On the 11th of September, 1867, Mr. Knight was united in marriage to Susan McMillan, who was born in Blount township in 1849 and was educated in this county. They had four children: Washington G.; one who died in infancy; Charles M., who is living in Ohio; and Eldora, who died at the age of six months and seventeen days. The mother died March 19, 1875, and for his second wife Mr. Knight chose Nora E. McMillan, by whom he has four children: Victor, Orrin, Daisy B. and Mabel.

Mr. Knight has served as school director for many years and takes great interest in the cause of education, doing everything in his power to promote the welfare and raise the standard of the schools. He has also

served as commissioner of highways for two terms and has frequently been a delegate to the conventions of the Republican party. He is a leader of his party in this locality and has served as a member of the county central committee. He also belongs to Kenesaw Post, No. 77, G. A. R., of Danville. Mr. Knight is a self-made man, whose prosperity has been the legitimate outcome of earnest purpose and indefatigable energy and to-day he is numbered among the respected and representative farmers of this community.

OSCAR F. MAXON.

High ideals and strong principles have ever been salient features in the life work of Oscar F. Maxon, of Danville, and have been manifest in his business dealings as well as in all other relations with his fellow men. Widely known in this city, the respect of all with whom he has come in contact is tendered him, because of a loyal devotion to all the principles in which he believes. Mr. Maxon is now successfully controlling an extensive loan business and through forty years he has been a factor in the business interests and public life of the city.

A native of New York, he was born in Great Bend, Jefferson county, in 1837, his birthplace being one of the typical log cabins of an early day in a frontier region. His father, Paul Stillman Maxon, was a native of Rhode Island and after arriving at years of maturity he married Lucy Ann Morris, a native of Saratoga county, New York. The father was a miller by trade and was also an excellent mechanic. Both he and his wife were strong New England characters and lived useful and upright lives, which com-

manded for them the respect and confidence of their fellowmen. Their last days were passed in Danville and both died at the age of seventy-seven years. They reared a family of five children, three of whom are still living.

After acquiring his early education in the public schools Oscar F. Maxon entered Lowville Academy, at Lowville, New York, and on the expiration of a year he left that institution to accept a clerkship in the bank of Lowville. He gained much experience in business during his connection with that enterprise, covering a period of twelve years. In 1863 he came to Illinois, making his way to Danville, where he secured a position in the office of the county clerk, but his previous training in banking made him desirous of again entering that field of labor and he secured employment with J. C. Short & Company, of Danville, acting as cashier and manager of their bank during its existence. He afterward turned his attention to the real-estate business, in 1880, and has developed a large loan business, his energy and his advancement in these lines bringing to him desirable and well merited prosperity. He was also the secretary and the treasurer of the Paris & Danville Railroad Company before it became a part of the Big Four system. He is also a director in the Equitable Building & Loan Association, of Danville.

On the 24th of January, 1865, Mr. Maxon was united in marriage to Miss Theodocia M. Yale, a daughter of the Rev. Calvin Yale, of Martinsburg, New York, who was a pioneer Presbyterian minister and devoted fifty years of his life to the work of the ministry. He passed away at the very advanced age of eighty-nine years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Maxon have been born four children: Robbins Yale, who is a graduate

of the University of Illinois and now a civil engineer in the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company; Oscar F., who is a graduate of the Rush Medical College, of Chicago, and now engaged in the practice of medicine in Springfield, Illinois; Harold Allen, who died March 28, 1900, in his twenty-fifth year; and Edward M., who is yet at home in Danville.

From the organization of the Republican party Mr. Maxon has been a believer in its principles and he cast his first presidential vote for Lincoln. When questions of national importance are involved he is a strong partisan, but at local elections, when there is no issue before the people, he votes regardless of party lines, considering only the capability of the candidate. In the year 1866 both Mr. Maxon and his wife became members of the Presbyterian church, with which they are still identified. Mr. Maxon has been very active in church work and has held every office within the gift of the people of his church. For many years he served as a trustee and is now a ruling elder, putting forth every effort in his power to extend the influence and promote the growth of the organization. He has contributed liberally to its support and has been willing to make sacrifice of his personal interests for the welfare of the cause, which is very dear to his heart. With firm faith in its teachings, his life has long been imbued with his Christian belief and his conduct has been guided by its humanitarian rules.

SYLVESTER PARLE.

It is astonishing to witness the success of young men who have emigrated to America without capital and through their own un-

indeed efforts have arisen to positions of prominence and affluence. The readiness with which they adapt themselves to circumstances and take advantage of opportunities offered brings to them success and wins them a place among the leading men of the community in which they reside. Such a one is Sylvester Parle, now an extensive coal operator at Vermilion Heights, Danville.

Mr. Parle was born in Ireland, December 23, 1840, a son of Richard Parle, who is still living in that country and who has made farming his life work. To a limited extent our subject attended the national schools of Ireland during his boyhood and finally determined to try his fortune in the new world. Accordingly he and his brother crossed the briny deep but Patrick enlisted during the Civil war and was killed in the battle of Vicksburg.

After coming to the United States Sylvester Parle at once sought employment and for sometime worked at whatever he could find to do, whereby he might earn an honest dollar. On the 10th of May, 1857, he arrived in Vermilion county, Illinois, and located on what was known as the old Sullivan place near the village of Homer, which was all wild land covered with tall prairie grass. Our subject broke the first soil and made the first improvements upon that farm, continuing its cultivation for three years. The following year was spent in Piatt county, Illinois, and on his return to Vermilion county he settled near Tilton, where he worked on different farms and at various other pursuits for several years, but finally removed to Danville and became connected with the coal business, first as a common laborer in the mines of Tilton and South Danville, working on commission only. When the mines at those places were consolidated he was

made foreman of the same and had charge of the same for over ten years or until 1884, when he came to Vermilion Heights, Danville, and began work in the mines there on commission. Later he leased these mines and after operating them in that way until 1886 he purchased them and is now sole owner. He is also interested in other mines in the county and is the owner of some fine farms in Catlin and Danville townships. He now devotes his entire time and attention to the management of his coal mines at Vermilion Heights, where he employs ten or twelve men all the year round, and he supplied mostly the local trade at Danville, although he ships coal to some extent.

Politically Mr. Parle is a Democrat but at local elections he supports the men whom he believes best qualified for office regardless of party lines. Several times he has been offered political positions but has always refused, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his business interests. Both he and his wife are members of the Catholic church of Danville and wherever known they are held in high regard. They have a beautiful home at Vermilion Heights which was recently erected by Mr. Parle near his mines. His life record is one well worthy of emulation in many respects and contains many valuable lessons of incentive, showing the possibilities that are open to young men who wish to improve every opportunity for advancement.

SAMUEL HART.

Samuel Hart, who is engaged in farming and stock-raising, was born in Vermilion county, November 18, 1856, a son of William and Sarah E. (Dougherty) Hart,

who were farming people residing in Warren county, Ohio, and arrived in Vermilion county on the 15th of August, 1833. John Hart, the grandfather of our subject, became one of the pioneer settlers of this portion of the county, where in the '20s he entered land from the government on section 33, Oakwood township. The Indians were far more numerous than the white settlers in this portion of the state at that time and the most far-sighted could not have dreamed that this wild region would soon be transformed into a rich agricultural district. Mr. Hart was a carpenter by trade and his son William also followed the same pursuit. The latter was one of three children, the others being Martha and Thomas, the latter a resident of Oakwood township.

Sammel Hart acquired a common-school education, pursuing his studies in a log schoolhouse such as was common during the period of his early boyhood. He remained in school for about six years, or until thirteen years of age, although in the meantime he had begun to earn his own living. When only a youth of ten years he worked by the month upon a farm, receiving his board and also a colt or a cow in remuneration for his services. At the age of thirteen he began feeding cattle and followed that pursuit for seven years, at the end of which time he turned his attention to farming, renting a tract of land. When his labors had brought to him sufficient capital he purchased eighty acres on section 3, Oakwood township. Upon the death of his grandmother, Mrs. Nancy (Ireland) Hart, he inherited a small portion of her farm but with this exception all that he possesses has been made entirely through his own efforts. He has long been successfully identified with farming and stock-raising in Vermilion county. He now

owns four hundred acres of valuable land, all well tilled and improved with modern equipments and substantial buildings. He handles cattle and hogs on an extensive scale, making large shipments, and he now has upon his place about five hundred head of stock.

On the 16th of October, 1879, Mr. Hart married Miss Sydney Lowman, a daughter of George and Mary Lowman, and the youngest of a family of eleven children, her birth having occurred in Oakwood township in 1860. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hart have been born seven children: George L., at home; Mertie, the wife of Lester Thompson, of Oakwood township, by whom she has one child; Herbert, Sydney, Minnie, Sylvia and Ruth, all at home.

Mr. Hart gives his allegiance to the Republican party and is identified with several civic societies, including the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of the Golden Eagle and the Fraternal Army, of Fithian. His entire life has been passed in this county and from the time when he began to earn his own living as a farm hand at the age of ten years he has steadily worked his way upward and is to-day one of the most prosperous and successful agriculturists in this part of the state.

D. M. JUVINALL.

D. M. Juvinal is one of the enterprising young business men of Danville, conducting a loan and real-estate agency in the Illinois Printing Company building. He is imbued with the spirit of western progress and advancement and his marked energy, perseverance and laudable ambition are bringing to him creditable success. He

is a son of James and Eliza J. (Abbott) Juvinal, pioneers of Vermilion county. His paternal grandparents, Andrew and Mary (James) Juvinal, were both natives of Ohio and cast in their lot among the first white settlers of Vermilion county, arriving here in 1827 when the red men were still very numerous, this being sometime before the Black Hawk war and before the original inhabitants of the land were driven westward by the encroaching civilization of the Caucasian race.

D. M. Juvinal was the fourth child in his father's family and was born in Vermilion county, October 31, 1873. Upon the home farm he was reared and in the district schools he pursued his preliminary education, which was supplemented by two years of study in the schools of Danville. At the age of eighteen he began general farming and stock-raising on his own account in Pilot township. He always kept a good grade of stock and in his agricultural pursuits he was quite prosperous. In August, 1902, however, he left the farm and turned his attention to his present business, dealing in cattle, placing loans, and buying and selling real estate. He has secured an extensive clientele and does considerable business outside of the state. He is a very wide-awake, energetic young business man and carries forward to a successful completion whatever he begins.

On the 30th of August, 1892, Mr Juvinal was united in marriage to Miss Helen Goodwine, a native of this county, born August 10, 1874, and educated in the district schools. She is a daughter of John Goodwine, of Potomac, who was a pioneer settler of the county. The home of our subject and his wife has been blessed with three children, but Dora L. died in infancy.

The others are Reggie C. and Reuel G., aged respectively seven and six years. The parents are active members of the Methodist church, with which Mr. Juvinal has been identified for ten years. He has served for about three terms as trustee of the church in Pilot township. For a long period he has been connected with missionary work and has done much for the uplifting of his fellow men and contributed liberally to the support of the gospel. He is interested in everything pertaining to the welfare and progress of the community in which he lives and is one of the standard bearers of the Republican party, having firm faith in its principles. Living an honorable, upright life, reliable in business and faithful in friendship, Mr. Juvinal is numbered among the prominent, popular and highly respected citizens of Danville.

GEORGE F. HILLEARY.

George F. Hilleary, who is now living on section 33, Blount township, where he owns and controls a rich tract of land, was born in Fulton county, Illinois, September 7, 1840, his parents being Henry and Sarah (Boyle) Hilleary. The father was born in Ohio in 1812 and the mother's birth occurred in the same state in 1816. The former was one of a family of nine children born unto Osborne and Ellen (Hollenback) Hilleary, natives of Virginia. In the year 1830 the grandparents with their family emigrated westward from Ohio to Illinois and settled on section 30, Blount township. They made the journey overland in a covered wagon called a "prairie schooner," and it required some weeks' travel before they reached their

destination. Here the father entered eighty acres of land from the government and he also purchased from a settler a tract of timberland, all of which he cleared with the aid of his sons. His first home was a log cabin in which was a puncheon floor and at one end of the building was an immense fireplace from which the smoke made its egress through a clay and stick chimney. The family raised their own sheep which they sheared and then spun and wove the wool into cloth from which were made the garments of the family. The subject of this review has seen his mother spin flax to make thread. The grandparents of our subject both died in Blount township. All of their nine children reached mature years. In his youth the father of our subject assisted in the development of the home farm and after arriving at years of maturity he bought a tract of land on section 3. He afterward entered eighty acres of timberland and in the midst of the forest he built his home. Subsequently, however, he sold that property. He was a cooper by trade and for some years engaged in the manufacture of barrels in addition to farm work. In Fulton county, Illinois, he wedded Sarah Boylen, and unto this union were born four children, of whom only two reached years of maturity, Helen dying at the age of twenty-one years. Our subject is now the only survivor of the family. The father died in 1854 and the mother passed away in April, 1864, while Helen Hilleary died in the same month.

In taking up the personal history of George F. Hilleary we present to our readers the life record of one who is widely and favorably known in this county. He attended the subscription schools, the temple of learning being a log building furnished with slab seats, while a plank placed upon pins

driven into the wall served as a writing desk. The huge fireplace occupied one entire end of the room, and greased paper served instead of glass in the windows. Mr. Hilleary was a student in that school for nineteen days and after attaining his majority he attended the district schools. His educational privileges, however, were somewhat limited, but reading and observation have made him a well informed man. During the summer months he worked upon the farm, attending school through the winter. After he put aside his text books his entire time and attention was devoted to general farming and stock-raising.

On the 4th of January, 1865, Mr. Hilleary was married to Miss Sarah Hilleary, who was born in this county, July 30, 1845, a daughter of William and Catherine (King) Hilleary, who were natives of Ohio and became pioneer settlers of this section of Illinois. In their family were eight children. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed with five children, and the family circle yet remains unbroken by the hand of death. Emma is the wife of J. T. Snider, of Blount township, and they have three children. Oscar F. married Miss Warren, by whom he has three children, and their home is on section 28, Blount township. W. B., a resident farmer of the same township, married Miss Gutteridge. Bertha is the wife of John Disard, of Oakwood township, by whom she has two children. John O., the youngest of the family, is at home.

After his marriage Mr. Hilleary settled on section 4, Blount township, where he began farming on his own account, using a single shovel plow to cultivate his land. He cut his grain with a sickle, bound his wheat by hand and also planted his corn in that

way. He went to mill on horseback, taking with him a sack of corn, which he would have ground and then return home with the meal. He remembers, too, when candles were made by dipping the wick into melted tallow and then allowing it to cool. This process was repeated again and again until the candle had become of sufficient size, and later candle molds brought into use. Mr. Hilleary also remembers seeing the fires made with flint and tow, and when they had no supply of those materials they would have to go to a neighbor to borrow some fire. Everything was primitive, not only farm implements, but the methods of life. The cooking was done over a fireplace, the pots and kettles hanging from an iron crane, the bread and pies baked in a skillet which was covered with coals. Mr. Hilleary well remembers the first cook stove used in the family. Prairie wolves were many times killed and there were large herds of deer roaming at will over the prairies, while prairie chickens, turkeys and other wild game were to be had in abundance. Chicago was the trading point at a very early day, but as the years passed the work of progress and improvement was carried on and at the present time Vermilion county not only ranks as one of the leading agricultural counties of this great commonwealth, but in its midst stands one of the metropolitan centers of the state, although Mr. Hilleary can remember when the hazel brush grew upon the site of Danville. When the town contained but few houses he has hauled corn to Danville, selling it for fifteen cents per bushel. Now he has a splendid farm improved with all modern equipments, including fine machinery. There are good buildings upon his place and a splendid orchard furnishing him large supplies of

apples and pears. He also raises blackberries on an extensive scale and his corn crop yields about forty bushels per acre. Mr. Hilleary has held a number of offices including that of assessor and in this capacity served nine terms, or ten years. He was also supervisor four years and school director about fifteen years, and at the present time is serving as supervisor. A citizen of worth, no public trust reposed in him has ever been betrayed in the slightest manner or degree. He is ever loyal to the good of the community, active in support of its best interests and has been closely identified with the upbuilding of schools and churches. He holds membership in the Methodist church with which his family are also connected, and he is now serving as one of its trustees.

O. B. GRAVAT.

Vermilion county owes much to the efforts and labors of Oscar B. Gravat, and no history of this portion of the state would be complete without the record of his life. He was the first to introduce fruit-raising as an industry into this portion of Illinois, and to demonstrate the possibilities of this section as a horticultural district. In this way he has aided both directly and indirectly in promoting the material prosperity of his community. At the same time he has had marked influence upon the moral development and has been the friend of every movement and measure calculated to promote the general good. He is numbered among the early settlers of Blount township and resides on section 14 where he has a farm of eighty-five acres, all well improved. He was born in this township, June 16, 1841, and is a

son of Abraham B. and Mary M. (Potter) Gravat, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of New York. The father made the journey westward overland in an old-time "prairie schooner," and arrived here when the land was wild and unbroken. There was not a house or a fence for miles around and the country was full of prairie wolves, deer, wild turkeys and prairie chickens. He has shot wild turkeys upon his own place. The father of our subject entered three hundred and twenty acres of land, fourteen miles west of the home of our subject, paying twenty-five cents per acre for his property. He began improving this but his health failed and he sold out. This land is worth to-day one hundred dollars per acre. Later he purchased a portion of the present farm of our subject, paying six dollars per acre. In the early days he went to Perrysville and to Covington, Indiana, to mill, and he hauled grain and apples to Chicago across a country which was broken up by many sloughs and ponds. It was necessary to ford the river for no bridges had been built, and to camp out at night. He sold his corn for only ten cents per bushel. In those early days the greater part of the land was still unclaimed, although a squatter had settled here and there. The first home of the Gravat family was a log cabin, and the barn was also made of logs and had a threshing floor. The clothing was entirely homemade and many times our subject has assisted in preparing the flax in the summer and the wool in the winter and indeed has taken his turn at the spinning wheels. He has assisted in running off spindles with swifts, and from the swift to the reel. His father used flint and tow in making a fire in the early days and used grease lamps and candles for illuminating

purposes. O. B. Gravat frequently assisted in making candles and has oftentimes attended church when the little house of worship was lighted by candles and when the preacher would go around with snuffers in order to brighten the light. The old crane hung over the fireplace and many a night Mr. Gravat has studied by the light of the fire. The early settlers would also tell the time of day by a mark on the door, the hour being estimated by the shadow. He well remembers the first clock that was used by his father, the same being purchased from a peddler. The girls in those early days would go to church, carrying their shoes and when they neared the building would sit down upon a log and put them on, and after the service would again take them off, thus practicing economy. Mr. Gravat's father hauled the timber to build the first courthouse of Danville. He was an enterprising man and was among those who assisted in making the county what it is to-day. He married in this county and died about the close of the Civil war, while his wife, surviving him for some years, passed away June 4, 1879. In their family were six children: R. P., of Oklahoma; Mrs. Helen English, a widow of Danville; O. B.; Mrs. Gelina Straw, of Vermilion county; John, deceased; and Cynthia, who has also passed away.

O. B. Gravat received but a common-school education, but has largely devoted his time to the reading of good books, being a man of literary tastes. At the age of twenty-three he was ordained as a minister of the Christian church, but has never become a regular minister, although he preached at one church for four years. For over thirty-three years, however, he has given much time to Christian work, filling

many pulpits in the absence of regular pastors. His attention has been largely given to farming and he has made a specialty of raising stock and fruit. For a quarter of a century he has devoted much attention to horticulture and has found it a very profitable business. To-day he enjoys the credit of raising the best strawberries that enter the Chicago markets. He produced one berry that measured seven inches in circumference and they averaged from four to seven inches. He also raises blackberries in large quantities, having as high as fifteen acres planted to that fruit. He brought the first grape root from Missouri to this locality and his neighbors laughed at him for his pains, saying that fruit could not be raised in this country, but he experimented with this, and finding that it could be raised and that excellent qualities could be produced, he entered the business and has since carried it on with excellent success. He sold the first quart box of strawberries ever placed upon the Danville market. He now devotes his attention entirely to strawberries, raspberries, pears, peaches, and blackberries, and because of size, quality and flavor his fruits find a very ready sale upon the market and bring to him an excellent financial return. When he first began selling, all fruit was measured out in quart tins. Mr. Gravat certainly deserves great credit as a pioneer in this industry in Vermilion county, his labors proving of marked benefit to his fellow men who have followed his example and devoted their energies to horticulture. He now has an established trade which is bringing to him an excellent income.

When Mr. Gravat took up his present home he began clearing his place and hauled the lumber for the erection of buildings. He first built a plank house, sixteen by

twenty feet, and therein kept bachelor's hall for a year. He was then married to Miss Caroline Lankenship, who lived for only about a year thereafter. On the 26th day of August, 1873, he wedded Sarah Chenoweth, who was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, a daughter of Joshua and Elizabeth (Ladly) Chenoweth, who were also natives of the Buckeye state and came to this county at an early day in a covered wagon drawn by ox-teams. It took them three weeks to make the trip from Missouri, and they settled at Myersville. Both Mr. and Mrs. Chenoweth now reside in Danville, at the age of seventy-six years. In their family were eight children: Mrs. M. J. Thomas, of Fairchild county, Ohio; Mrs. Gravat; Mrs. Dora E. Swisher, of Danville; Sherman G., of Blount township, and four who have passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Gravat are parents of the following children: Charlie, who married Gertrude, a daughter of I. O. Fairchild, and has one daughter, Lucile; Ira, Harley, Ollie, Howard, Dessie, Ora, Mabel and Clyde, all at home; and one that died in infancy.

Mr. Gravat is familiar with pioneer experiences and can relate many interesting incidents concerning early life in Vermilion county. He was often engaged in hunting coons, climbing the trees for them. He assisted in felling the forests and breaking the prairie, working with a single shovel plow. He also cut grain with the sickle and afterward with the cradle. In early days he was a great hunter and frequently sold coon skins at one dollar and fifty cents apiece. His ministerial career has been of a pioneer kind. He would hold meetings and then return home and chop wood, after which he would again go to the place of worship to preach. He has often walked five miles to keep a min-

isterial appointment and in the early days his wife would frequently ride with him to church on horseback, buggies being then almost unknown in this locality. Like her husband, Mrs. Gravat has long been a devoted and consistent member of the Christian church. He has preached many funeral sermons in this county and he is widely known and respected for his fidelity to his belief and his exemplary life. He served as a school director for many years and has been trustee for nine years. In politics he is a staunch Prohibitionist, the cause of temperance finding in him a warm and earnest friend. Mr. Gravat has always been loyal to the support of what he believed would uplift his fellow men and promote moral advancement; in business affairs has ever been found honest and reliable, as well as enterprising; and in all life's relations he has ever been true to the confidence reposed in him. His example is indeed well worthy of emulation and those who know him entertain for him high regard.

SAMUEL MOORE, M. D.

Four years' connection with the medical fraternity of Danville has been sufficient to demonstrate to the residents of this city that Dr. Samuel Moore is well equipped for the practice of his profession, that his knowledge of the principles of medicine is comprehensive and accurate and that his love of scientific research is supplemented by a deep human sympathy, without which the medical practitioner can never hope to gain the best results or the highest honors in his profession. Dr. Moore is yet a young man but few have undertaken the work to which

he is devoting his energies, better qualified for the arduous and difficult duties.

The Doctor was born at Coot Hill, in County Cavan, Ireland, November 9, 1871, a son of Hugh and Margaret (Roundtree) Moore, who were natives of the same locality and were there married. The father devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits in Ireland until his death, which occurred in 1887, while his wife passed away in 1898. They were members of the Protestant Episcopal church and in their family were seven sons and six daughters, while eleven of the family are yet living, namely: Alexander, who is a rector of the Episcopalian church and resides at Kilkenny, Ireland; Sarah, the wife of James Mahood, of County Cavan, Ireland; Jane, who became the wife of William Wilson and after his death married Thomas McCulloch, of County Cavan; Mary, who spent some time in Germany, then lived for twelve years in France and is now a high school teacher of London, England; James, who married Elizabeth Reynolds of County Fermanagh, Ireland, and resides on the old homestead, near Coot Hill, Ireland; Harriet, the wife of James Moore, of County Cavan; William, who is a professor in Trinity College of Dublin; Elizabeth, the wife of J. Stephenson, of Lancastershire, County Monagan, Ireland; Samuel; Hugh, who is chief of the Cape Colony police in South Africa and was in the English army in the Boer war; Robert, who is a veterinary surgeon connected with Trinity College, of Dublin; and two who passed away—John, who died at the age of sixteen months; and Anna, who was a twin sister of Jane and died at the age of six months.

In the maternal line Dr. Moore can trace his ancestry back through several genera-

tions. His mother was a daughter of Alexander Roundtree, of Comptown, County Cavan, Ireland, and a granddaughter of Jack Roundtree, of County Cavan, while her great-grandfather was Charles Roundtree, who was born in County Armagh, Ireland about 1710. In 1730 he removed to Killgriffe in County Meath. His wife was Mollie Coleman, of the same place. The Doctor has relatives in various parts of the world and several of the family have been quite prominent in Cape Colony.

Nature may endow one with mental capacity or possibilities, but specific knowledge must be acquired through personal effort and the man who gains prominence in any of the "learned professions" is he who labors for it. Through close application Dr. Moore has become a man of scholarly attainments. His education was begun at Tullyrin, an endowed school at Coot Hill, where he remained until thirteen years of age, when he entered school in County West Meath, Ireland, where he spent three years. For two years he was a student in the Santar school of Dublin—a school of the Incorporated Society of Ireland. In conjunction with this he spent one year in the Royal University of Ireland. He won numerous first-class certificates of the different divisions of the science and art department of South Kensington, London, England, reaching the fifth stage in mathematics, with honor in the first three and the fifth; also received certificates for work done in the departments of sound, light and heat, physical geography, mathematics, magnetism and electricity. He also took the three courses—junior, middle and senior—of the intermediate education before the Board of Ireland, winning the honors in mathematics in all three di-

visions, and also received the honors in mathematics in the Royal University of Ireland and honors in the different grades of the church education and society of the Protestant Episcopal church of Ireland.

In 1889 Dr. Moore came to America, landing in New York and working for a time in various capacities in that city and in Philadelphia, attending business college in the latter city at night until 1894. He then entered Park College, in Parkville, Missouri, where he remained for a year pursuing a literary course, after which he entered the University Medical College at Kansas City, Missouri, where he was graduated with the class of 1898. Entering upon the practice of medicine in Vermilion county, Illinois, he has for four years remained in practice here and his constantly increasing practice already extends over a large part of the country and embraces many of the best homes of Danville. He is thoroughly conversant with modern methods of procedure in the treatment of diseases and is continually broadening his knowledge by individual research.

The Doctor was married November 5, 1902, at No. 1738 North Twenty-first street, in Philadelphia, to Miss May Smith, who was born in Wicklow, County Wicklow, Ireland, a daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Summers) Smith, who were born, reared and married in County Wicklow and in 1889 came to Philadelphia. In early life a blacksmith, years of labor marked his transition into a retired capitalist. He lived for two years in this country and died December 29, 1891, at the age of sixty-nine years, and his widow still resides in Philadelphia. In their family were the following named: Letitia, the wife of William G. Maxwell, of Dublin, Ireland; Edward B.

who died in 1896; Mrs. Moore; Myrtle E., of Philadelphia; Jeremiah Matthew, who was married May 31, 1902, to Mary McCaffery, of Philadelphia; and George C., an engraver of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Moore holds membership in the Modern Woodmen Camp, the Court of Honor, the Fraternal Tribune, the Royal Circle, and the Fraternal Army. In politics he is an avowed Republican, and he belongs to the First Presbyterian church of Danville, while his wife holds membership in the First Episcopal church. He is examiner for various fraternal and insurance societies and in the line of his profession he is connected with the Vermilion County Medical Society and the State Medical Society. Not yet in the prime of life he has already attained marked success in his chosen calling, which argues well for the future.

ROBERT H. SMITH.

Robert H. Smith, one of the most extensive and prosperous farmers and land owners of Vermilion county, was born May 22, 1858, in this county, a son of John Smith, whose birth occurred in England. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Adaline Moorehead and was born in Virginia. They were married in Vermilion county and became the parents of four children, of whom Robert was the third. The father had come to America in 1836. He was only twelve years of age when he landed in this country and in England and in the United States he attended the common schools, thus acquiring his education. For a year he resided in New York and then came to Vermilion county, Illinois, where

he remained for a year, after which he again spent a year in the Empire state, returning to this county in 1843. He was then about fifteen years of age, but he possessed great strength of character and determination, as is shown by the trips he made to and from Vermilion county and the business ability he manifested in various ways. On returning here in 1843 he located in Middlefork township and soon afterwards purchased forty acres of land for which he paid one dollar and a half per acre. It was all raw land, not a furrow having been turned or an improvement made upon it, but he at once began to break it and placed it under cultivation and from time to time he added to his farm as his capital increased until he owned more than five thousand acres. He was instrumental in placing under cultivation and improving as much, if not more, land than any other one man in this part of the county and thus he was an important factor in the upbuilding of his section of the state. In the early days he endured many hardships and difficulties but he persevered in his work, although he had to haul his grain long distances to market and then receive but small pay for his products. He brought the first plow to the locality and he used oxen in breaking prairie. His first home was a log cabin of small size and in it he and his estimable wife reared their family, living in that way for many years until his financial resources permitted him to construct a more commodious dwelling, which house is now owned and occupied by James Leonard. About three years prior to his death he erected a residence in Potomac and there spent his remaining days. For fifty years he was a devoted member of the Methodist church, took an active interest in religious

work and contributed liberally to the support of the church and the extension of its influence. In political views he was a Republican and he served as school director and as steward of the church. He was about twenty-three years of age at the time of his marriage and of this union were born four children: Martha J., who became the wife of William Kuykendall; Allen G.; Robert H. and Laura J., who is the wife of L. S. Holderman. The mother died in 1886 at the age of sixty-two years and the father passed away February 11, 1902, at the age of seventy-eight years. The county certainly owes to him a debt of gratitude for what he accomplished in its behalf in the way of reclaiming the wild land for purposes of civilization and in opening up this district to development, progress and improvement.

Robert H. Smith acquired his early education in the common schools of his township and there the period of his youth was passed, assisting his father until about twenty-six years of age, when he began farming on his own account. He married November 6, 1889, to Miss Alice F. Severns, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Severns, both of whom were natives of Ohio. In their family were seven children and the father died in Ohio at the age of sixty-seven years, while the mother is still living in that state. He was a dealer in agricultural implements and also carried on farming. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were married in Celina, Ohio, and unto them have been born four children; Adeline; Leota; John Franklin, who was born January 8, 1888, and died November 1, 1902; and Martha Lucile.

Throughout the greater part of his business career Mr. Smith has been engaged in

the raising, buying and selling of stock. It has been his principal occupation and his efforts have been attended with a high degree of success. In 1901 he purchased land to the extent of four hundred acres located in Pilot township. This he afterward sold and purchased four hundred acres just opposite his home. Upon this is a good race-track, which, in addition to four acres of land, he sold to his brother. He also owns one thousand acres in this county, which he inherited from his father. In the controlling of his business affairs and in enlarging his operations he shows excellent business ability and it is therefore but the legitimate result of his labors that he is continually increasing his capital.

Mr. Smith is a stalwart Republican in politics and believes firmly in the principles of his party, which he labors earnestly to introduce into the active affairs of life. His beautiful home, which was built of brick at a cost of eleven thousand dollars, was erected in 1896 and is one of the most attractive residences of the county.

GEORGE W. PURNELL.

George W. Purnell, who is now living a retired life on Logan avenue, Danville, but for more than twenty years was one of the active and thrifty farmers of Oakwood township, owning and operating two hundred and forty-seven acres of valuable land, dates his residence in Vermilion county from December, 1871. He was born in Fountain county, Indiana, February 13, 1831. His father, Samuel Purnell, a native of Maryland, was born in November, 1797, and came of English ancestry. When

a child he accompanied his parents on their removal to Kentucky and was there reared to manhood. In that state he married Elizabeth Price, a native of Fleming county, Kentucky, and in order to provide for his family he followed agricultural pursuits and also carried on carpentering and shoemaking. Several children were added to the household during the residence of the family in Kentucky. In 1838 Mr. Purnell took his wife and children to Fountain county, Indiana, where he entered one hundred and twenty-eight acres of land from the government, his patent bearing the signature of Martin Van Buren, then president of the United States. Mr. Purnell cut down the trees, cleared the land and thus opened up a good farm in the midst of the wilderness. There he reared his family and spent his remaining days. His wife survived him to the advanced age of ninety-one years, dying about 1888. George W. Purnell is one of a family of five sons and four daughters and with the exception of one son all reached mature years. Two sons and two daughters are yet living, the brother of our subject being Francis M. Purnell, of Fountain county, Indiana.

George W. Purnell was reared to manhood on the old home farm and received but limited school privileges, attending only during the winter months, while throughout the remainder of the year he worked in field and meadow, as the work of plowing, planting and harvesting progressed. He is almost entirely self-educated and is likewise a self-made man. After his father's death he bought out the interest of the other heirs in the old homestead and further improved the land and developed a farm. He cleared one hundred acres of heavy timber land and built a neat and substantial house. He also

planted fruit trees and cultivated his fields, making a valuable farm, which he continued to cultivate until 1871. He then sold the old homestead and came to Illinois, settling in Vermilion county, where he purchased a farm of two hundred and forty-seven acres, lying in Oakwood township. He began to further improve this property, built a good residence, fenced and tiled the place and made other substantial improvements, and now his fields yield to him golden harvests in return for his labors. For twenty years he successfully continued to cultivate his farm, thereby acquiring a comfortable competence which now enables him to live retired. Leaving his farm he resided for three years in Muncie and in 1890 came to Danville, where he purchased a neat and substantial residence in which he is now living retired.

Mr. Purnell has been twice married. In Fountain county, Indiana, in 1854, he wedded Nancy Henry, a native of Kentucky, who was reared in Bracken county. She died in Oakwood township, Vermilion county, Illinois, in 1893. Of the six children born unto them four are yet living: Joseph Samuel, a farmer of this county; Elijah A., who is engaged in the grain business in Muncie; John E., a business man of Danville; and William F., a dentist of Petersburg, Indiana. Emma J., the first born, died in childhood and Eldora F., died at the age of two years. In Muncie, in 1896, Mr. Purnell was married to Mrs. Catherine Tenebaugh, a widow, who was born in this county and is a daughter of Maxwell Scott, who came from Ohio to Illinois in pioneer times. She was reared and educated in Vermilion county and first gave her hand in marriage to J. P. Tenebaugh, also an early settler of Illinois, who came here from Virginia.

Politically Mr. Purnell is a stalwart Republican, having supported that party since he cast his first presidential ballot for John C. Fremont in 1856. He has never sought or wanted office, preferring to give his time to his farm and business. He did serve, however, for a few years as commissioner of highways and was township school trustee for nine years. He and his wife are active members of the Christian church of Danville in which he is serving as a deacon, taking a helpful part in the church work and doing everything in his power to extend the growth and influence of the church. His life history illustrates in a marked degree what may be accomplished by well directed efforts and a strict adherence to correct business principles.



R. R. WORTHINGTON, M. D.

Dr. R. R. Worthington, who in the successful practice of his profession in Indianola is giving evidence of a thorough understanding of his work and of the accurate application of medical principles to the needs of suffering humanity, was born at Fern Leaf, Mason county, Kentucky, August 15, 1852, and is a son of General and Sally (Rimyon) Worthington, both of whom were natives of Kentucky and were there married. The father was a farmer and also engaged in speculating in hogs and tobacco. He gave his political support to the Whig party and several times represented his district in the state legislature. In addition to this he held a number of township and county offices. He was recognized as one of the prominent and influential residents of his part of the state,

leaving the impress of his individuality for good upon public progress and improvement. An exemplary member of the Masonic fraternity and a devoted member of the Church of Christ, he commanded the confidence and respect of all with whom he came in contact. He died in 1862 and is still survived by his widow, who resides in Mason county, Kentucky. In their family were eight children, but only two are living—the Doctor and Love, now the wife of John R. Thompson, of Mason county, Kentucky.

Dr. Worthington attended the Franklin Seminary, of Mason county, and afterward became a student in Minerva College. Taking up the study of medicine he matriculated in the Medical College of Ohio, in which he was graduated in the class of 1874. He then came to Illinois, settling in Catlin, where he practiced for a short time, after which he removed to Indianola where in connection with the practice of his chosen profession he is also conducting a pharmacy. His success has come to him in recognition of his merit and his thorough understanding of the work to which he devotes his energies. He is examiner for many lodges and insurance societies and is a member of the Medical Association of Vermilion county. As his financial resources have increased he has made judicious investments in real estate, and now owns some good city property in Indianola.

On the 23d of December, 1870, in this place, Dr. Worthington was married to Miss Laura Lavine McMillan, who was born in Vermilion county, February 1, 1860. Her father, William McMillan, was a native of Pennsylvania, born March 14, 1810, and wedded Mary Jane Hill, whose birth occurred in Crawford, Pennsylvania, in 1834.

They were married in Washington county, in the Keystone state, September 1, 1843. Mr. McMillan carried on agricultural pursuits and also conducted a hotel. In 1856 he removed to Vermilion county. Politically he was a Democrat, and filled the office of justice of the peace, and he belonged to the Masonic fraternity. Mrs. Worthington was one of a family of six children: J. T., a lumber merchant of Danville; J. A. of Indianola; Ortie Lissie, the wife of Simon Snyder, who is living near Philo, Illinois; Mrs. Worthington; Sanford, who died in infancy; and William H., of Indianola. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Worthington have been born four children: Samuel Lester, who is teaching in the public schools of Indianola; Chester A., who is attending school; Anna Love and Hazel. The Doctor belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and to the Modern Woodmen of America. Voting with the Democracy he has served in some official positions, having been a member of the board of education, the mayor of Indianola and county supervisor, holding each position for several terms and discharging his duties with marked fidelity, so that over the record of his public career there falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil. A leading member of the Church of Christ, he is serving as one of its elders.

E. B. WILLISON.

E. B. Willison, who has served as postmaster of Indianola since 1896, was born in Vermilion county, June 7, 1854, a son of E. B. Willison, whose birth occurred in Maryland in 1804. The father engaged in farming and carpentering, his home being

one mile southwest of Indianola where he entered land from the government, living there from 1850 until the time of his death, March 8, 1882. In politics he was an earnest Republican and capably served as justice of the peace, while in the Baptist church, in which he was a member, he held the office of deacon. He was twice married and by his first union had three children, of whom two are yet living: James, a resident of Oklahoma; and Coyel, who is living in Wichita, Kansas. By the second marriage there were five children: Nancy, the wife of Robert McIntyre, of Van Buren, Arkansas; E. B.; Joseph, of Burton, Kansas; Eleanor, of Cambridge, Kansas; and Deborah, the wife of William Bowdery, of Watonga, Oklahoma.

E. B. Willison began his education in the Willison schoolhouse which stood on his father's land, and later entered the Wesley school. He usually attended school for about three months during the winter, while in the summer season he worked upon the home farm. He was married October 24, 1876, at Ridgefarm, to Miss Martha Ellen Lough, who was born in West Virginia, a daughter of John and Mary (Williams) Lough. Her parents were married and located in West Virginia and at the time of the Civil war came to Ridgefarm, Illinois. Here the father purchased land and later traded his farm for town property in Ridgefarm where he made his home until his death. In his younger years he engaged in teaching school. He was a member of the Baptist church and in his political belief was a Republican. His wife passed away in 1900, when living with our subject. Mrs. Willison was of a family of two sisters and three brothers: Fannie, the wife of Henry Henderson, of Nebraska; John and Charles,

who reside in Nebraska; Calvin, who is living in Sidell, Illinois, and Mrs. Willison.

After his marriage Mr. Willison removed to the home of Thomas Roach, there living until the following spring when he took up his abode upon the old family homestead which has since been his place of residence. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres of land and five acres of city property in Indianola, also a general store. He likewise is proprietor of a large department store at Sidell and has a business block at the corner of Main and Franklin streets in Danville. He also has a house and lots on Robinson street in that city and his landed possessions include one hundred and sixty acres in Camden county, Kansas, and two hundred and fifty acres in Georgia. In his business undertakings Mr. Willison has prospered. Whatever he begins he carries forward to successful completion, and he is a man of resourceful business ability. He recognizes not only the possibilities of the moment, but also the opportunities of the future, and has so conducted his labors as to win creditable and gratifying success. In politics he is a stalwart Republican and in September, 1866, he was appointed postmaster, in which capacity he has since served. He was formerly supervisor of Carroll township, although it is a Democratic stronghold, and he occupied that position for several terms,—a fact which indicates his personal popularity and the trust reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. He has filled other minor offices, all of which have found in him a worthy incumbent.

Mr. Willison and his wife are the parents of seven children; Zula is the wife of George Cole, of Indianola, and they have one daughter, Thelma. The other members

of the family are, Floy, Mary, Blaine, Goldie, Eskie and Joy. The parents hold membership in the Baptist church, giving to it a generous support and taking an active part in its upbuilding, and for ten years Mr. Willison has been superintendent of the Sunday-school.

GEORGE HARRISON.

George Harrison, who resides near Hope, Illinois, was born in Yorkshire, England in 1822. His father was a shepherd in that country for more than a half century. In early life the subject of this review engaged in farming work and for six years hauled goods from the wharf to the city of Barnsley, England. In 1845 he was united in marriage to Rachel Murgatroyd, also a native of Yorkshire, born in 1824. They remained in England for about six years after their marriage and then sought a home in the new world, crossing the Atlantic in the sailing vessel "Levi Hassen," which carried four hundred and thirty passengers and was seven weeks and four days upon the voyage, Captain Knapp being in command. At length their anchor was dropped in the harbor of New York and Mr. and Mrs. Harrison made their way to Dunkirk, that state, where they lived for sixteen years, his attention being given to hauling wood and to farming.

The year 1867 witnessed the arrival of Mr. Harrison in Vermilion county. He purchased land in Pilot township on section 34, and here he yet owns one hundred and ten acres. He lived upon that farm until 1867, when he removed to the home of his widowed daughter, who lives on section 35.

In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Harrison

were ten children, of whom six still survive: G. H., now a resident of Gifford, Illinois; Uretta, who is the widow of Jesse Collison and with her Mr. Harrison is living; Thomas, of Kankakee; Sophia, the wife of James Stuckey, of Pilot township; Rachel, the wife of Thomas Keys; and Dina, the wife of Charles Douglas. Mr. and Mrs. Harrison also have fifteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren and one of their grandchildren operates the old home farm. Both our subject and his wife have long been earnest members of the Christian church and in politics he has been a stalwart Republican since the organization of the party. For six terms he served as school director and the cause of education has ever found in him a worthy friend. The country was wild and unimproved when he came to Vermilion county, there being only two houses within sight of his home. Plenty of wild game was to be had and there was no market or trading place nearer than Danville and Rantoul. With the work of improvement and progress Mr. Harrison has been active and has ever taken a deep interest in the general good and the upbuilding of his community. He is now eighty years of age and his wife seventy-eight years old and this venerable couple are respected and esteemed by all with whom they have been brought in contact for their lives have ever been honorable and upright.

ALFRED ALLISON.

Alfred Allison is a respected citizen of Danville whose life work proves what are the business possibilities offered in Vermilion county to men of laudable ambition and strong, honorable purpose. He has at-

tained a place among the wealthy citizens of this portion of the state and his advancement is due entirely to his own efforts. Mr. Allison was born in Harrison county, Kentucky, June 24, 1825, and is a son of Otho Allison, who was a farmer and also a miller. In an early day he removed from Indianapolis, Indiana, his son Alfred being at that time only a year old. When the son was three years old the father came to Vermilion county, Illinois, with his family, consisting of his wife, eleven sons and two daughters. Five of this number are yet living, namely: Mrs. Daniels, George, Thomas Jefferson, William Philip and Isaac. Upon coming to this county the father entered a claim of one hundred and twenty acres, five miles from Danville, in Newell township. This comprised eighty acres of prairie land and forty acres of timber land and it was still in the condition in which it came from the hand of nature, for not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon the place. Danville at that time had not been laid out and when it was started there was a contest for the county seat, Danville winning by a vote of three, this being due to the fact that it was situated on the Vermilion river which many thought would prove an advantage. During his boyhood days Alfred Allison accompanied his father on a trip to Chicago where they saw the Indians paid off after the Black Hawk war. He also saw the first brick building ever erected in that city. A picture of his surroundings in pioneer days would present the early history of Vermilion county. He has seen as many as sixteen yoke of oxen hauling one wagon across the swamps. Then the land was crossed and re-crossed by sloughs which made the roads almost impassable. The members of the family wore home-made

clothing and they first lived in a little log cabin which was situated at the edge of the timber. The food was cooked over the fireplace and the smoke made its egress through a chimney built on the outside of the house. The barn was also built of hewed logs. Fires were made without the use of matches, for that now seemingly essential article of the household had not then been invented. The spinning wheel was found in every home and the members of the Allison family spun and wove flax and made their own thread and clothing. They also manufactured rope which was used for lines in driving the horses. The first plow which Mr. Allison remembers had a wooden moldboard and the corn was cultivated with a single shovel. Grain was cut with a sickle and afterward the cradle came into use, and at the time of early spring planting corn was dropped by hand and covered with a hoe. The school was held in a log cabin which Mr. Allison attended during the winter months while in the summer he labored in the fields.

On the 18th of January, 1844, when in his nineteenth year, Alfred Allison was married to Cornelia N. Clapp, who was born in North Carolina and was to him a faithful companion and helpmate on life's journey for many years, but her death occurred February 13, 1900. In the meantime, however, they had celebrated their golden wedding, living together for fifty-six years. They were the parents of eleven children: Otho, who is married and resides in Missouri; Mary, the deceased wife of George Woods; Louis, of Dakota; George L., who is married and lived in Missouri; George, who is also married and lives in that state; Barbara, the wife of Cicero Allison, of Alvin, Illinois; Emma, the wife of Aleck Patrick, who for eight years has served as county sher-

iff in Nebraska; Alfred J., who lives in Alvin, and married Miss Price, a daughter of the man who carried the first mortar used in the erection of the first brick house in Chicago; Thomas Jefferson, who is married and lives in Danville; Daniel, who is married and is the proprietor of a hotel in Alvin; and Lloyd P., also of this county. All the children received liberal literary educational privileges and were also provided with instruction in music. Some of the sons having been away from home for several years, upon their return a grand reunion of the family was held and it proved a most enjoyable occasion. Mr. Allison has been a second time married, having on the 14th of January, 1903, in Danville, wedded Mrs. Emma Rice, a daughter-in-law of J. J. Rice, one of the pioneers of Pilot township, Vermilion county.

For many years Mr. Allison was an active factor in the agricultural and stock-raising interests of this portion of Illinois. He began his domestic life in a log cabin and thus lived until he could secure better advantages. He drove oxen to the breaking plow, felled the forest trees and cleared away the brush, this work largely occupying his attention for about eleven years. At first he was the owner of four yoke of cattle, but he persevered in his work until his labors had brought him capital sufficient to pay for ninety-one acres of land. This he improved and from time to time he added to it until he owned seven hundred acres comprised within a number of valuable farms located in different parts of Vermilion county and some were situated upon the state line. Eventually he sold three hundred acres of his land for twelve thousand dollars and later he purchased the Braden farm a half mile from Alvin. There he engaged in

general farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of keeping only high grade stock. He was always a lover of fine horses and has ever owned some excellent specimens of the noble steed. He now owns a thoroughbred stallion and he bred nine hundred and sixty-four colts in eight years, traveling in that time sixteen thousand seven hundred and eighty-four miles in a circuit. He has bred as high as one hundred and eighty-eight colts in one season. After living upon his farm near Alvin for some time he removed to Alvin and he now makes his home in Danville. He owns city property here and he also has eleven acres three miles north of Danville. In his political views Mr. Allison has ever been a stalwart Republican from the organization of the party. His life is indeed honorable and many of his sterling traits of character are worthy of emulation. He has never used liquor or tobacco and has never gambled. He has lived in peace with his fellow men and is modest and retiring in disposition. Wherever he has gone there has he won friends by reason of his genuine worth and now in his old age he has a wide acquaintance and all who know him esteem him highly. He numbers his friends among the young and old, rich and poor and he certainly deserves mention in this volume.



REV. DANA SHERRILL, A. M., B. D.

This well known and honored citizen of Hoopeston, who is now practically living a retired life, was born in Lisbon, Kendall county, Illinois, on the 5th of June, 1842, his parents being Lewis and Emeline (Moon) Sherrill, both of whom were na-

tives of New York, though they were married in Kendall county, this state. The mother died in November following the birth of our subject, and the father was again married in 1849, his second union being with Janette Gilfillan, by whom he had three children, namely: Charles, a farmer of Lisbon; Mary, wife of Norman S. Shufeldt, also an agriculturist; and Ida J., wife of L. V. Cryder, a farmer and stock-raiser. The father died July 16, 1897, and his second wife departed this life in August, 1899.

Dana Sherrill, the only child of the first union, attended the academy at Lisbon, Illinois, and later entered the preparatory department of Beloit College, Wisconsin, in 1859, and had about completed the course when the Civil war broke out. Not content to remain in school when he believed his services were needed at the front, he laid aside his text books, and on the 2d of July, 1861, enlisted for three years in Company D, Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for three months longer than his term of enlistment. He was under the command of Captain W. P. Pierce, Colonel Nicholas Grensel and General Sheridan most of the time. His first engagement was at Pea Ridge, Arkansas, under the command of Generals Curtis and Seigel, after which the regiment was summoned to the relief of General Hallock in the siege of Corinth. The summer of 1863 was spent in Mississippi, and Mr. Sherrill took part in the battles of Perryville and Stone River and the Tullahoma campaign, followed by the battle of Chickamauga, the first day's fight at Chattanooga and the capture of Orchard Knob. He was also in the charge of Missionary Ridge under Sheridan, then went to the relief of Knoxville.

and was later in the Atlanta campaign, being a member of Gordon Granger's corps and in charge of the forage department. He was mustered out at Nashville and finally discharged at Louisville in the fall of 1864 with a war record of which he may be justly proud.

Returning to Beloit, Wisconsin, Mr. Sherrill took up the regular course and was graduated in 1870 with the degree of A. M. Having determined to enter the ministry he next took a three years' course at the Chicago Theological Seminary, where he was graduated in 1873 and was afterward granted the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. His first pastoral charge was at Forrest, Livingston county, Illinois, where he had previously acted as supply while in the seminary at Chicago, and had also filled the pulpit of the Congregational church at Chebrose, Illinois. In 1881 he became connected with the American Missionary Association, being appointed superintendent of church and school work with headquarters at Savannah, Georgia, where he remained six years, founding schools and churches through the south and looking after the erection of church buildings and school-houses. Returning to Illinois in the fall of 1887, he was installed as pastor of the Congregational church at Marshall, Clark county, where the following six years were passed, and for two years he was pastor of the church of the same denomination at Mazon, Grundy county, Illinois. On account of ill health he then removed to Hoopston, where he has since made his home, doing incidental church work and assisting the Home Missionary Society, though he has no regular charge. He often fills pulpits, however, in the absence of the regular pastor. For the past five years he has spent the win-

ter months in Daytona, Florida, where he also has a home. Besides his city property he owns six hundred acres of farm land in the vicinity of Hoopston and two hundred and forty acres in Kendall county, Illinois, renting both places.

Mr. Sherrill was married at Saratoga, Illinois, December 23, 1873, to Miss Louvica Ayres, who was born in Fairfield county, Connecticut, in 1842, and is a sister of Frederick H. Ayres, who is represented on another page of this volume. They have a very pleasant home on East Penn street, which was purchased by Mr. Sherrill in 1891, and which is the abode of hospitality and good cheer. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the Republican party, and he is a prominent member of the Grand Army Post of Hoopston, in which he has filled the offices of commander and chaplain. He is a man of high intellectuality, broad human sympathies and tolerance and is imbued with fine sensibilities as well as clearly defined principles, and he enjoys the respect, confidence and high regard of all who know him.



ALLEN T. CATHERWOOD.

While Allen T. Catherwood never attained to prominence in the political world or sought to figure before the people in the light of a public official, there has probably never been a private citizen of Hoopston who has exerted a stronger or more beneficial influence than the subject of this memoir on account of his calm, clear and unbiased judgment, his honorable purpose, his clear insight into the affairs of the present and the possibilities of the future and his

unfaltering fidelity to what he believed to be right. So devoted was he to the public welfare of the town that no measure for the general good ever sought his aid and cooperation in vain. He held friendship inviolable and the relations of the home were to him a sacred trust.

Allen Thompson Catherwood was born in Belmont county, Ohio, December 16, 1842, the eighth child in a family of ten children born to James Catherwood and Lydia Tussey, who was a lineal descendant of the Von Springers. He was about thirteen years of age when his father died, leaving his mother—a woman of no ordinary strength and purity of character—with a large family of children and in straitened circumstances. For two years she remained in Ohio, and that Allen's young mind was busy was attested by the old legal friend who predicted of the "silent one" much that his early manhood fulfilled.

In 1858 Mrs. Catherwood came with her family to Shelby county, Illinois, where she had wild land to be improved. Here the growing youth formed a friendship that was an education in independence, energy, sincerity and helpfulness to others which honored him who gave and him who received. This friend was Thomas Ponting, the pioneer in bringing Texas cattle to the Chicago markets and who was a staunch friend ever after and a man strong in his loyalty to what he thought right. Of him Mr. Catherwood gained his business training and developed that keen insight and quick sympathy with human nature in varied conditions, which were afterward so large a factor in his success. It was of Mr. Ponting that Mr. Catherwood learned the cattle business and for a number of years he was connected with that business in the

west, being among the first to drive and later to ship cattle to the Chicago markets. In 1876 he became a resident of Vermilion county, settling upon a farm near Hoopeston. Shortly afterward purchasing a grocery store in Hoopeston in connection with Nathan Williams, he successfully conducted it for some years, for, though he had no previous experience in merchandising, he possessed practical common sense, keen discernment and enterprise and these qualities always win prosperity. As a stock-dealer he also controlled extensive trade transactions until he ceased his purchases and sales of stock in order to devote his energies to the grain business.

One of the strongest elements in his successful career was his recognition of opportunity. He seemed to know just when, how and where to establish an enterprise so that it would become a profitable source of income, and his business affairs were usually of such a character that they promoted public prosperity while contributing to his individual success. He was instrumental in founding many of the leading industries of Hoopeston, including the Hoopeston Canning Factory, of which he was part owner and general manager for a number of years. In 1880 S. S. McCall had organized the Illinois Canning Company but after two years the enterprise met with failure. Some of the leading citizens of Hoopeston, including J. S. McFerren, William Moore, Cyrus Hartwell, A. T. Catherwood, A. H. Trego, J. A. Cunningham, A. Honeywell and Thomas Williams, then leased the property in 1883 and engaged in the manufacture of sugar and in canning corn. The following year Mr. Catherwood, Mr. Trego and Mr. McFerren took the factory, which they conducted until they organized and established

the Hoopeston Canning Factory in 1884. Mr. Catherwood assumed the management and under his capable control the business was conducted with excellent success until 1891, when he retired. The enterprise, which was begun on a small scale, gradually increased until the volume of business transacted by the Hoopeston Canning Company had reached extensive proportions and the factory had become a paying investment, returning splendid dividends to the stockholders. This was largely due to the management and splendid business ability of Mr. Catherwood.

For a number of years Mr. Catherwood was also connected with the grain trade, buying and selling largely on the line of the Lake Erie & Western Railroad, owning large elevators at different points and forming partnerships in many of the towns in which he conducted his transactions as a grain merchant. He owned a large grain farm near Ambia, Indiana, in company with Mr. Williams and he never lost his interest in agriculture or the promotion of the welfare of the farming class.

In October, 1873, Mr. Catherwood was united in marriage to Miss Cornelia Hartwell, of Hoopeston, who is an aunt as well as a sister-in-law to Mrs. Mary Hartwell Catherwood, the author. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Catherwood were born six children, of whom three are still living: Robert was married June 4, 1902, to Miss Lucy Cotton Morris and is practicing law in Chicago; Maude Hartwell and Naomi are with their mother and the latter is studying voice culture in Chicago.

Mr. Catherwood was called to various public offices and in matters pertaining to the general good he was helpful and generous. He served as alderman of Hoop-

eston for several terms and was made the chairman to investigate the different plans of waterworks, with the view of selecting the best for Hoopeston. He believed that a sanitary system of waterworks would greatly lessen the possibility of an epidemic of contagious disease and to this end he gave special attention to the matter. He visited various places of the country on a tour of inspection and after the board reached a decision, practically embodying his ideas, he was given the general supervision of the construction of the waterworks system and with the assistance of his partner, Mr. Trego, he carried the work forward to successful completion. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and in the Masonic fraternity he attained the Knight Templar degree. On account of failing health he disposed of his business interests, retaining only his lands and other realty and prior to his death he spent one winter in California and one in Florida. He passed away in the spring following his California visit, in June, 1892, leaving to his wife and children a legacy, which after eleven years have passed meets them still in the unfolding and fruition of his thoughtful plans for their comfort and guidance.

CHARLES C. WILLIAMS.

Charles C. Williams needs no special introduction to the readers of this volume because he is a native son of Vermilion county and also because he is a well known representative of business interests, having extensive landed possessions and carrying on stock-dealing on a large scale. He was born September 1, 1861, about a mile and a

quarter northwest of Hoopeston, a son of Thomas and Lovina (McFarland) Williams, who are represented on another page of this work.

In the common schools of the locality Charles C. Williams acquired his preliminary education, which was supplemented by study in Hoopeston and also in Lebanon, Ohio. He was thus well equipped to meet the practical and responsible duties of a business career. When about twenty years of age he became connected with the dry-goods trade, continuing the business for about a year, after which he went to the west, locating in Omaha, Nebraska. He remained for about fourteen years in that city and during six years of that time was connected with the Standard Oil Company, having charge of its office work in that city. He afterward entered into business relations with John A. Creighton, one of the leading capitalists of Nebraska, whom he represented as general manager and cashier. His business experience in the west was broad and of a varied nature, and well qualified him for the responsible duties which he assumed upon his return home.

In 1894 Mr. Williams returned to Hoopeston and entered upon the work of settling up the Hoopes estate, as the successor of his father, who had been appointed one of the executors. In this labor C. C. Williams was associated with J. A. Cunningham and so continued until the final settlement of the estate. Following this Mr. Williams assumed the management of his father's property and with him he owns three thousand acres of land, and owns individually twelve hundred acres, all well improved and constituting a very valuable property. He is extensively engaged in farming and also raises stock for the market and both

branches of the business return him a very gratifying annual income.

On the 20th of August, 1891, Mr. Williams was married to Miss Anna S. Dillon, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Dr. Dillon, one of the early physicians of this state. During the early girlhood of his daughter he removed to Decatur, Illinois, where she was educated. By her marriage she became the mother of one child, Leland T., who was born June 15, 1892. Mrs. Williams belongs to the Methodist church and Mr. Williams holds membership relations with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In his political views he is a Democrat and by Governor Tanner he was appointed one of the commissioners from the state of Illinois to the Omaha Exposition. His life has been that of a typical American business man, watchful of opportunities, enterprising and with the force of character that enables him to so direct his efforts that what he undertakes shall reach a successful completion.

REV. MELCHIOR AUER.

There is something akin to poetic justice in the fact that this gentleman, an adopted son of America who proved his loyalty to the country in the dark days of the Civil war, should now be connected with the Soldiers' Home in Danville, exercising a strong moral influence there in behalf of his old comrades who wore the blue uniform of the nation. Mr. Auer came from a land noted for the bravery and valor of its sons, his birth having occurred in Switzerland, June 25, 1841. His father, Melchior Auer, was the village miller in his native town and

married Elizabeth Neukom, who was also a native of Switzerland. In their family were seven children, the subject of this review being the sixth in order of birth. Only two of the family, however, are now living, the brother of our subject being Conrad Auer, who is likewise a resident of Danville. It was in the year of 1848 that the parents crossed the Atlantic to America and made their way to St. Louis, Missouri, where they remained until the fall of 1851, when they came to Illinois. Our subject was a lad of eight summers at the time of the emigration to the new world and remained under the parental roof until after the outbreak of the Civil war, with the exception of about three years spent in Pike county, Illinois, working as a farm hand, by which he acquired the money to pay for his education. With his brother, John G. Auer, he later served an apprenticeship to the shoemaker's trade. He had been deeply interested in the attitude of the south over the question of slavery and its right to withdraw from the Union and feeling that the national government at Washington should be supreme he resolved to enter the army as a defender of the Union cause. In 1861, therefore, he joined Company D, First Missouri Cavalry, with which he served for three years and one month, taking part in the battles of Black Water, Pleasant Hill and Newtonia, Missouri, together with other engagements.

After his return from the war Rev. Auer pursued a preparatory course of study and then entered the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where he was graduated in 1870. Having prepared for the ministry his first charge was in the West Jacksonville circuit. After spending six years in the ministry he entered the Garrett

Biblical Institute at Evanston, Illinois, where he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. He served as pastor of several churches and in the fall of 1894 he came to Vermilion county, making his home at Rossville for a number of years. He afterward lived at Fairmount and on the 16th of December, 1899, he was appointed to his present position in connection with the Danville branch of the National Soldiers' Home.

Rev. Auer was united in marriage to Miss Alice Pugh on the 3d of September, 1872. The lady was born in Shelbyville, Illinois, November 10, 1852, a daughter of William and Mary Pugh. She acquired her education in the Shelbyville Seminary and in Delaware, Ohio, and by her marriage she has become the mother of three children: Edgar C., who is in Honduras, Central America; Charles M., who is now in Detroit, Michigan; and William N., at home. Dora, a niece, has made her home with them, as a daughter, since infancy.

Rev. Auer votes with the Republican party and is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Union Veterans Legion. For thirty-two years he has been a member of the Illinois Conference and at present he is serving as chaplain in chief of the Union Veterans Legion. Almost his entire life has been devoted to the work of extending the cause of Christianity so that all men shall be Christ's followers. His influence has been widely and effectively felt and wherever he has gone his earnest purpose, his strong and logical utterances and his devotion to his cause have made their impression upon his hearers for the betterment of mankind. Since coming to the Soldiers' Home in Danville he has organized a temperance club and for three years he

served as its president. He is a man of deep human sympathy, always ready to extend a helping hand to those in need of material or moral assistance and in his position he has won in marked degree the confidence, respect and love of the old soldiers.

G. M. HANLY, D. D. S.

The splendidly equipped dental office of Dr. Hanly is evidence of his success and his prominence in his profession. His suite of rooms constitutes one of the finest dental offices in this part of the state and is supplied with every modern appliance known to the profession that is of value in facilitating work in his line. The Doctor deserves great credit for what he has accomplished, as from an early day he has been dependent upon his own resources and he is not only a self-made man, but a self-educated man as well, and in a profession where advancement depends upon individual merit he has gained a position of prestige.

The Doctor was born July 27, 1857, in South Carolina, and is a son of John Hanly. His father was born in Rhode Island and after arriving at years of maturity wedded Emeline Black, who was a native of Pennsylvania. They became the parents of three sons, of whom J. B. died at the age of twenty-seven years, while N. E. is now living at Gibson City, Illinois. The father was in the employ of the Southern Railroad Company as a landscape and scenic painter, working in the shops at Marion, South Carolina. At the time of the Civil war he joined the Confederate army and was killed in the service.

When but a child Dr. Hanly went to Marietta, Ohio, with his mother. She is still living at the advanced age of seventy

years, making her home with her son. In 1901 the Doctor buried his grandmother, Mrs. Maria E. Black, who was then in the ninety-eighth year of her age. On leaving the south Mrs. Hanly went to Indianapolis, Indiana, and subsequently to Madison, Wisconsin, where the Doctor was reared. When only about eight years old he was bound out to an old German farmer, who died eighteen months later. Our subject afterward followed various pursuits in order to provide for the support of himself and his mother. Ambitious, industrious and energetic, he had managed to complete a course in a business college and in a private school at the time he was sixteen years of age, doing chores and also cooking for his teacher in order to pay for his tuition. He afterward followed carpentry work for two years and then, determining to make the profession of dentistry his life work, at the age of eighteen he began studying with a dentist of Mazo Manie, Wisconsin, with whom he remained for twenty-five months.

During that time Dr. Hanly gained a comprehensive knowledge of the practice of dentistry and then entered into partnership relations with O. T. Taylor, of Waukegan, Wisconsin, with whom he remained for about fourteen months at that place. Together they then removed to Wahpeton, North Dakota, where they practiced for two years and then dissolved partnership. In 1882 Dr. Hanly began business alone and not only gained success as a member of the dental fraternity, but also prospered in many speculations and investments in that state. He purchased equities and trafficked in land until he had nearly two thousand acres. He also owned store buildings and six residences besides a stock of drugs in Wahpeton and in the last named enterprise

he was associated with his brother. He remained in North Dakota from the winter of 1879 until 1890, when he came to Hoopeston, arriving in this city on Christmas eve of that year. He had partially disposed of his interests before leaving the north, retaining, however, his city property, which he has since sold. He brought with him to this place about four thousand dollars and has since realized about eight thousand dollars upon the property which he held in North Dakota.

On locating in Hoopeston Dr. Hanly purchased a lot, on which he built a residence at a cost of six thousand dollars. Later he bought two acres more and in 1899 he purchased fifteen acres adjoining, on which he built four good residences. On the 7th of December, 1901, he suffered considerable loss in the fire which destroyed the McFerren block, his total loss amounting to twenty-four hundred dollars, on which he had but seven hundred dollars insurance. This fire occurred while he was absent on a visit to Indianapolis, but within twenty-four hours after the fire he had re-opened his office in the Hamilton & Cunningham Bank block and thus with only a few hours' interruption he was continuing his profession, in which he has met with the most marked success. When the new McFerren block was completed, on the 15th of May, 1896, he removed to that building, where he has a suite of three rooms. He fitted up his office at an expense of twenty-five hundred dollars and there are no better equipped dental apartments in the state outside the city of Chicago. He uses all the latest appliances and facilities for carrying on his practice which has reached very large proportions, his patronage coming to him from a wide territory. In addition to his other

interests here the Doctor owns a lot and training barns adjoining the city park. Both he and his wife have always been lovers of fine horses. The Doctor has owned some very valuable stock. He to-day owns a brood mare which has foaled five colts, and Hazel H., the two-year old, has made a half-mile in one minute and four seconds and a mile in two minutes and twenty-five seconds. Her full sister, Pansie, after nineteen days' driving, made a record of 2:30. Dr. Hanly also has two other colts that are very prominent. The mare is by Albert, and the two colts were sired by Jay Wood, by Nutwood.

On the 10th of October, 1883, in Wahpeton, North Dakota, Dr. Hanly was united in marriage to Miss Viola L. Corry, who was born in Broomville, near Tiffin, Ohio, December 6, 1862, a daughter of Usel and Mary (Eastman) Corry, both of whom are natives of Greene county, New York. The father conducted a sawmill and also carried on farming. In 1893 he came to Hoopeston and in connection with O. P. Chamberlain owns the Independent Telephone System of this place, having constructed the plant which he now conducts. Mrs. Hanly has two brothers and one sister: Ed, Mrs. O. P. Chamberlain and W. L., all of whom are residents of Hoopeston. Like her husband she is very fond of fine horses and is an excellent judge of the noble speed. She also takes much interest in fine poultry and has been identified with various poultry associations before which she has read papers bearing on the subject in its different branches. The Doctor and his wife have no children, but his mother is a member of the household and from her the Doctor has never been separated. He provided for her support in his early boyhood and they have always lived together.

In his political affiliations the Doctor is a Democrat and has served as a delegate to county and congressional conventions. On the 21st of April, 1903, he was elected alderman from the second ward of Hoopeston, opposing a strong candidate on the business men's ticket. Socially he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias fraternity and the Modern Woodmen of America. In his youth he had many hardships and difficulties to overcome, but with persistent purpose he surmounted all obstacles in his path. He has a genial temperament and a disposition which enables him to meet conditions of life without worry. He has always managed to take things easily, which is by far the best method. At the same time he has been quick to note an opportunity and to improve it, and through his marked ability in his profession and his judicious investments in property he has become one of the successful men of Vermilion county.

JOHN W. FOX.

John W. Fox is now living on section 29, Middlefork township, about four miles from Potomac, where he owns a good farm, but the care and cultivation of his land he is leaving to others while he is enjoying a richly merited rest from labor. Since 1872 his home has been within the borders of this state and since the spring of 1875 he has resided in Vermilion county. He was born near Zanesville, in Muskingum county, Ohio, August 4, 1839, and is a son of Reese Fox, whose birth occurred in Chester county, Pennsylvania, in 1808. The grandfather, Joseph Fox, was likewise born in the Keystone state and came of a family of

Welsh and Scotch ancestry that was founded in Pennsylvania at an early epoch in its history. There Reese Fox was reared and married to Phebe Wilson, a native of Chester county, Pennsylvania. Soon after his marriage he removed westward to Ohio, becoming one of the pioneer settlers of Muskingum county. By trade he was a shoemaker and followed that pursuit for a few years in Zanesville. Later he purchased land and improved a farm upon which he reared his family and spent his last days, passing away in 1887, at the advanced age of seventy-nine years. His wife survived him for a few years and then she too was called to her final home. John W. was the youngest and the only son in their family of four children, all of whom reached adult age. The eldest, Mrs. Elizabeth Mercer, is now a widow living in Muskingum county, Ohio. Mrs. Maria Pierce is also a widow living in that county and Mrs. Sybilla Peyton has likewise lost her husband and makes her home in Muskingum county.

It was in that county that John W. Fox was reared upon the old homestead farm while in the district schools he obtained his education, remaining with his father there until twenty-two years of age. In 1861 he donned the blue uniform of the northern army and joined Company D, of the Seventy-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to duty in the army of the Cumberland. He thus participated in the battles of Shiloh, Raymond, Champion Hill, Jackson and the siege and capture of Vicksburg, after which he was granted a thirty days' furlough, which he spent at home visiting friends. On the expiration of that period he rejoined his regiment at Kenesaw Mountain and participated in the hard fought battle there. He was likewise in the

Atlanta campaign where the regiment suffered severely, losing about one thousand of its number in a few hours. Mr. Fox also took part in the siege of Atlanta and later went with Sherman on the march to the sea, taking part in a hotly contested engagement on a big rice plantation near Savannah, that being the last engagement in which he participated during the Civil war as his term of enlistment had expired. He was sent home by way of New York city and honorably discharged at Columbus, Ohio, in January, 1865. After his return he worked as a farm hand for a few years.

Mr. Fox was married in his old home neighborhood in Muskingum county, August 17, 1865, to Eliza Ann McDonald, who was born in that county and reared and educated there. Her father, Joseph McDonald, was a native of Pennsylvania and in his childhood was taken to the Buckeye state where he remained during the period of his minority and for many years after his marriage. His wife who bore the maiden name of Jane Hunter was a native of Ohio. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fox began their domestic life on a farm, renting for about a year, after which they purchased a tract of land on which they lived until 1872. In that year our subject sold his property in Ohio and removed to Illinois, where he again operated rented land for four years. He then purchased his present property comprising one hundred and seventy acres, on section 29, Middlefork township, and with characteristic energy began to cultivate and improve the fields and as the demand has arisen he has erected a large and substantial residence and good out buildings and has otherwise improved his property until it is valuable as well as attractive in appearance. He has planted shade trees around his home,

has a good orchard and his land is well drained by tiling. He has also fenced his property and thus divided it into fields of convenient size and each year he annually harvests good crops and also sends a large number of cattle to market.

Mrs. and Mrs. Fox have one son living, Reese Otto, who is married and carries on the home farm. He has two living children—Nellie Gertrude and Frances. Our subject and his wife also lost a daughter, Rattie Jane, who became the wife of John Endicott and both are now deceased. They left a daughter, Bessie, who makes her home with her grandparents. In his political adherence Mr. Fox is a Republican, where national issues are involved. At local elections, where the object is to secure men capable of attending to the business of town or county, he votes independently. He has preferred to give his time and attention to farm work rather than seeking office and thus he has never been prominent in political circles. He has served, however, on the school board for a number of years and has been effective in his work in behalf of education. His wife was reared in the faith of the Presbyterian church, both are highly esteemed people of the community and have long been identified with Vermilion county. They enjoy the warm regard of many friends and Mr. Fox well merits the retirement from labor which he is now enjoying, as through former years of business activity he won a comfortable competence.

F. N. ODBERT, M. D.

Dr. F. N. Odbert was born April 15, 1857, in Washington county, Pennsylvania, and was educated in the public schools and

in Waynesburg College. He studied medicine in the Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and was graduated in the class of 1880. He came to Indianola immediately after his graduation and began practice here.

Dr. Odbert was married March 30, 1887, to Alice Bradway, of Fairmount, Illinois, and they have one child, Nellie C., now thirteen years of age. In politics he is a Republican. In his church relations the Doctor is a Methodist, and fraternally he is connected with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Masonic Lodge. For twelve years he has been a member of the board of pension examiners. The Doctor enjoys a good practice in Indianola, which is the result of his skill in his chosen profession, and he is regarded as a substantial and worthy citizen of the community in which he lives.

WILLIAM G. CATHCART.

Among the younger men of Vermilion county who have achieved success in the business world is the subject of this review, who was born in the town of Natrona, Mason county, Illinois, February 8, 1869, a son of John M. and Sarah J. (Alexander) Cathcart, both of whom were natives of County Tyrone, Ireland. John M. Cathcart was born in that county, March 12, 1842, in the town of Pomeroy. His father, Gabriel Cathcart, was likewise a native of County Tyrone as was his wife. Gabriel Cathcart was one of the landed proprietors of his community and belonged to one of the old families of Ireland. He and his wife always made their home in Ireland, although they visited their son several times. He lived to the ripe old age of eighty-seven

years, while his wife passed away at the age of sixty.

John M. Cathcart was second in a family of seven children born to his parents and in the county of his nativity received a fair education. He early began a business career, however, being but sixteen years of age, and for two years ran a family grocery store. On the 1st day of March, 1860, he sailed from Queenstown and landed in New York after a voyage of thirteen days, which was a remarkably short time for that period. Coming directly west Mr. Cathcart located in Morgan county, Illinois, being employed the first summer on a farm near Alexander Station. He thus acquired a knowledge of how farming was conducted in America and the next year rented a farm of one hundred acres. He continued to rent in Morgan and Logan counties, Illinois, for several years and became quite extensively engaged in stock-raising. In 1866 Mr. Cathcart made his first purchase, locating on a farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Mason county, Illinois. This place he broke and improved and resided upon it for seventeen years. In 1883 he went to Nebraska and in company with his brother-in-law, William and Joseph Alexander, he operated an extensive cattle ranch in Webster and Nuckles counties. He continued in the cattle business for four years and returning to Illinois, he erected a grain elevator and engaged in the lumber and grain business at Broadlands, Illinois. In 1891 Mr. Cathcart moved to Sidell, Illinois, where he established a similar business, which he conducted in connection with the Broadlands business up to 1896, since which time has been living retired.

On the 15th of November, 1867, John M. Cathcart was united in marriage to Miss Sarah J. Alexander, a daughter of James

Alexander of County Tyrone, Ireland. He died when Mrs. Catheart was a small child and for years she made her home with her brothers, William and Joseph Alexander, who were prominent men of Illinois. Joseph Alexander is deceased and William makes his home when in Illinois, with Mr. Catheart. He, as was his brother, is an extensive owner of Iowa, Nebraska and Illinois farm land. Three children have been born to Mr. Catheart and wife as follows: Florence, the wife of John H. Herron, died May 14, 1899, leaving one child, Alexander Catheart Herron, a little lad of five years. William G. is the subject of this review. John is now serving as assistant cashier of the Bank of Lyons, Alexander & Company. Mr. Catheart and wife are members of the Christian church of Sidell, in which he is serving as deacon. Fraternally he is a Mason and in political belief he is a Republican.

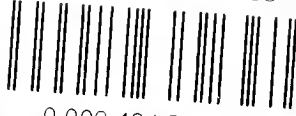
William G. Catheart received his primary education in the schools of Natrona, Illinois, which he supplemented by an attendance in a Jacksonville high school. As Mr. Catheart expresses it "he had no youth" for at the age of fifteen he went west to Nebraska and assumed the management of Alexander and Catheart's cattle ranch in Webster county. The exposure to inclement weather resulted in his contracting rheumatism very badly and for a time it was thought that he would be unfit for outdoor life again, and partially on that account the Bank of Lyons, Alexander & Company, of Sidell, Illinois, was organized, and Mr. Catheart placed in charge as cashier. He had previously spent six months in the First National Bank of Paris, Illinois, there familiarizing himself with banking and bank methods, under the direct supervision of the

president, A. J. Baber. He has been cashier since its organization in 1887 and two years later was admitted to the firm as a partner. In 1896 Mr. Catheart, his brother-in-law, John H. Herron, and his father, John M. Catheart, established the Sidell grain and elevator company which was incorporated in 1902 with our subject as president. The firm owns and operates seven elevators beside the transfer elevator at Mt. Vernon, Illinois, which has a capacity of one hundred and fifty thousand bushels of grain. Mr. Catheart is the president of two national banks in Indian Territory, the Weleetka and the First National of Wewoka. Both banks were established in 1902 and are in thriving condition. In connection with his wife Mr. Catheart owns and operates sixteen hundred acres of land, to which he gives his active supervision.

The marriage of William G. Catheart and Miss Anna Sconce was celebrated June 12, 1890. She is a daughter of James S. and Emma (Sodowsky) Sconce, a complete record of whose lives appear elsewhere in this volume. One child has blessed the union of our subject and his wife; Celia S., born May 9, 1893, is attending the home school. Both Mr. and Mrs. Catheart are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally he is a member of the blue lodge at Sidell and the chapter at Danville of the Masonic fraternity and also of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Danville. In political belief he is a stalwart Republican, and has served as mayor and trustee of Sidell. Few if any men are more widely known in the section of the state in which he lives than Mr. Catheart, and the esteem in which he is held is but a just tribute to the sterling worth of the man.



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