

ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SURVEY









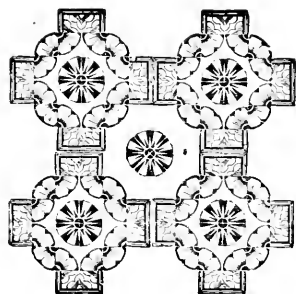
Portrait \*  
Biographical  
Album  
OF  
Will County, Illinois.

CONTAINING

FULL PAGE PORTRAITS

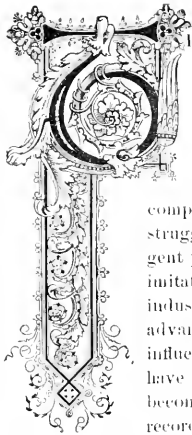
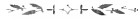
AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES  
OF PROMINENT AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS  
OF THE COUNTY  
TOGETHER WITH PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE  
PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.  
AND GOVERNORS OF THE STATE

CHICAGO:  
CLAPMAN BROS.  
1890





# PREFACE.



THE greatest of English historians, MACAULAY, and one of the most brilliant writers of the present century, has said: "The history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." In conformity with this idea the PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM of this county has been prepared. Instead of going to musty records, and taking therefrom dry statistical matter that can be appreciated by but few, our corps of writers have gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought the county to a rank second to none among those comprising this great and noble State, and from their lips have the story of their life struggles. No more interesting or instructive matter could be presented to an intelligent public. In this volume will be found a record of many whose lives are worthy the imitation of coming generations. It tells how some, commencing life in poverty, by industry and economy have accumulated wealth. It tells how others, with limited advantages for securing an education, have become learned men and women, with an influence extending throughout the length and breadth of the land. It tells of men who have risen from the lower walks of life to eminence as statesmen, and whose names have become famous. It tells of those in every walk in life who have striven to succeed, and records how that success has usually crowned their efforts. It tells also of many, very

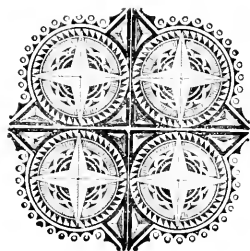
many, who, not seeking the applause of the world, have pursued "the even tenor of their way," content to have it said of them as Christ said of the woman performing a deed of mercy—"they have done what they could." It tells how that many in the pride and strength of young manhood left the plow and the anvil, the lawyer's office and the counting-room, left every trade and profession, and at their country's call went forth valiantly "to do or die," and how through their efforts the Union was restored and peace once more reigned in the land. In the life of every man and of every woman is a lesson that should not be lost upon those who follow after.

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

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

CHICAGO, September, 1890.

CHAPMAN BROS.



PORTRAITS  
AND  
BIOGRAPHIES

OF THE  
GOVERNORS OF ILLINOIS,

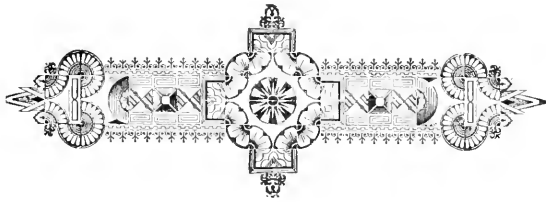
AND OF THE

PRESIDENTS

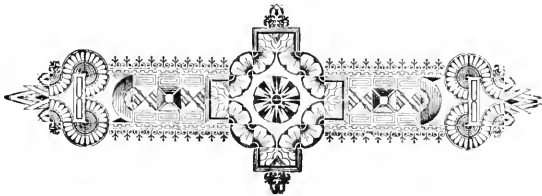
OF THE

UNITED STATES.



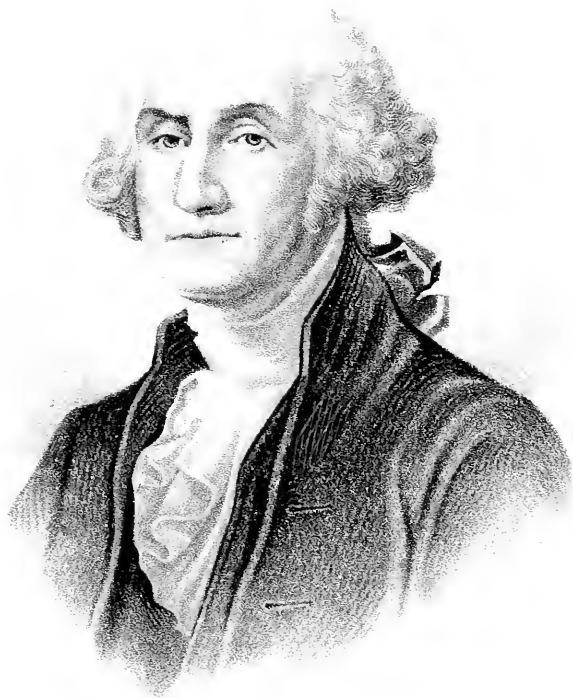


PRESIDENTS.







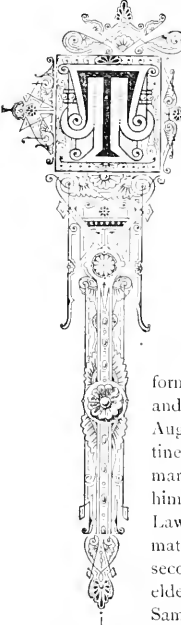


*George Washington*





# GEORGE WASHINGTON,



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

When the British Parliament had closed the port of Boston, the cry went up throughout the provinces that "The cause of Boston is the cause of us all." It was then, at the suggestion of Virginia, that a Congress of all the colonies was called to meet at Philadelphia, Sept. 5, 1774, to secure their common liberties, peaceably if possible. To this Congress Col. Washington was sent as a delegate. On May 10, 1775, the Congress re-assembled, when the hostile intentions of England were plainly apparent. The battles of Concord and Lexington had been fought. Among the first acts of this Congress was the election of a commander-in-chief of the colonial forces. This high and responsible office was conferred upon Washington, who was still a member of the Congress. He accepted it on June 16, but upon the express condition that he receive no salary. He would keep an exact account of expenses and expect Congress to pay them and nothing more. It is not the object of this sketch to trace the military acts of Washington, to whom the fortunes and liberties of the people of this country were so long confided. The war was conducted by him under every possible disadvantage, and while his forces often met with reverses, yet he overcame every obstacle, and after seven years of heroic devotion and matchless skill he gained liberty for the greatest nation of earth. On Dec. 23, 1783, Washington, in a parting address of surpassing beauty, resigned his

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

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

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

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

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






*John Adams*



## JOHN ADAMS.



JOHN ADAMS, the second President and the first Vice-President of the United States, was born in Braintree (now Quincy), Mass., and about ten miles from Boston, Oct. 19, 1735. His great-grandfather, Henry Adams, emigrated from England about 1640, with a family of eight sons, and settled at Braintree. The parents of John were John and Susannah (Boylston) Adams. His father was a farmer of limited means, to which he added the business of shoemaking. He gave his eldest son, John, a classical education at Harvard College. John

graduated in 1755, and at once took charge of the school in Worcester, Mass. This he found but a 'school of affliction,' from which he endeavored to gain relief by devoting himself, in addition, to the study of law. For this purpose he placed himself under the tuition of the only lawyer in the town. He had thought seriously of the clerical profession but seems to have been turned from this by what he termed "the frightful engines of ecclesiastical councils, of diabolical malice, and Calvinistic good nature," of the operations of which he had been a witness in his native town. He was well fitted for the legal profession, possessing a clear, sonorous voice, being ready and fluent of speech, and having quick perceptive powers. He gradually gained practice, and in 1764 married Abigail Smith, a daughter of a minister, and a lady of superior intelligence. Shortly after his marriage, (1765), the attempt of Parliamentary taxation turned him from law to politics. He took initial steps toward holding a town meeting, and the resolu-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

While Mr. Adams was Vice President the great

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

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

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

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





*Mr. Jefferson.*





## THOMAS JEFFERSON.



THOMAS JEFFERSON was born April 2, 1743, at Shadwell, Albemarle county, Va. His parents were Peter and Jane (Randolph) Jefferson, the former a native of Wales, and the latter born in London. To them were born six daughters and two sons, of whom Thomas was the elder. When 14 years of age his father died. He received a most liberal education, having been kept diligently at school from the time he was five years of age. In 1760 he entered William

and Mary College. Williamsburg was then the seat of the Colonial Court, and it was the obode of fashion and splendor. Young Jefferson, who was then 17 years old, lived somewhat expensively, keeping fine horses, and much caressed by gay society, yet he was earnestly devoted to his studies, and irreproachable in his morals. It is strange, however, under such influences, that he was not ruined. In the second year of his college course, moved by some unexplained inward impulse, he discarded his horses, society, and even his favorite violin, to which he had previously given much time. He often devoted fifteen hours a day to hard study, allowing himself for exercise only a run in the evening twilight of a mile out of the city and back again. He thus attained very high intellectual culture, alike excellence in philosophy and the languages. The most difficult Latin and Greek authors he read with facility. A more finished scholar has seldom gone forth from college halls; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The fourth of July, 1826, being the fiftieth anniversary

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

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

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

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

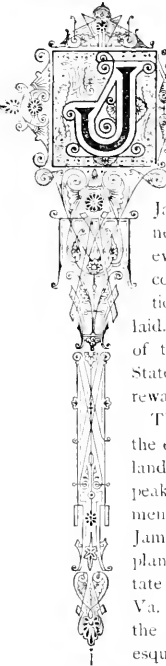




*Jean Meunier*



## JAMES MADISON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*James Monroe*





## JAMES MONROE.



JAMES MONROE, the fifth President of The United States, was born in Westmoreland Co., Va., April 28, 1758. His early life was passed at the place of nativity. His ancestors had for many years resided in the province in which he was born. When, at 17 years of age, in the process of completing his education at William and Mary College, the Colonial Congress assembled at Philadelphia to deliberate upon the unjust and manifold oppressions of Great Britain, declared the separation of the Colonies, and promulgated the Declaration of Independence.

Had he been born ten years before it is highly probable that he would have been one of the signers of that celebrated instrument. At this time he left school and enlisted among the patriots.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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






*J. Q. Adams*



## JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.



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

When but eleven years old he took a tearful adieu of his mother, to sail with his father for Europe, through a fleet of hostile British cruisers. The bright, animated boy spent a year and a half in Paris, where his father was associated with Franklin and Lee as minister plenipotentiary. His intelligence attracted the notice of these distinguished men, and he received from them flattering marks of attention.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Andrew Jackson*





## ANDREW JACKSON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

seas, — a distance of about eight hundred miles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

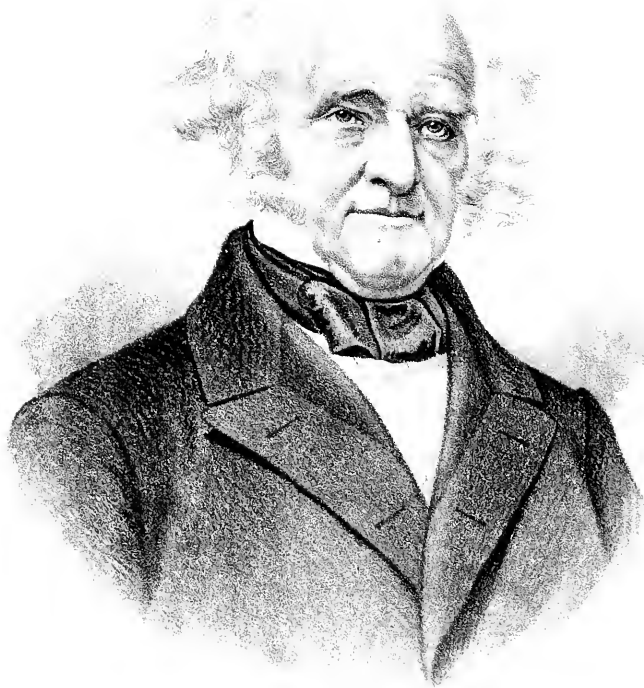
Late in August, with an army of two thousand men, on a rushing march, Gen. Jackson came to Mobile. A British fleet came from Pensacola, landed a force upon the beach, anchored near the little fort, and from both ship and shore commenced a furious assault. The battle was long and doubtful. At length one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

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

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

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






Mr. Van Buren



## MARTIN VAN BUREN.



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

or unbounded by shrub or flower.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



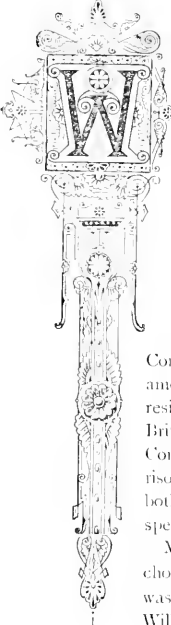


*W. H. Harrison*





## WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.

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

Mr Harrison was subsequently chosen Governor of Virginia, and was twice re-elected. His son, William Henry, of course enjoyed in childhood all the advantages which wealth and intellectual and cultivated society could give. Having received a thorough common-school education, he entered Hampden Sidney College, where he graduated with honor soon after the death of his father. He then repaired to Philadelphia to study medicine under the instructions of Dr. Rush, and the guardianship of Robert Morris, both of whom were, with his father, signers of the Declaration of Independence.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

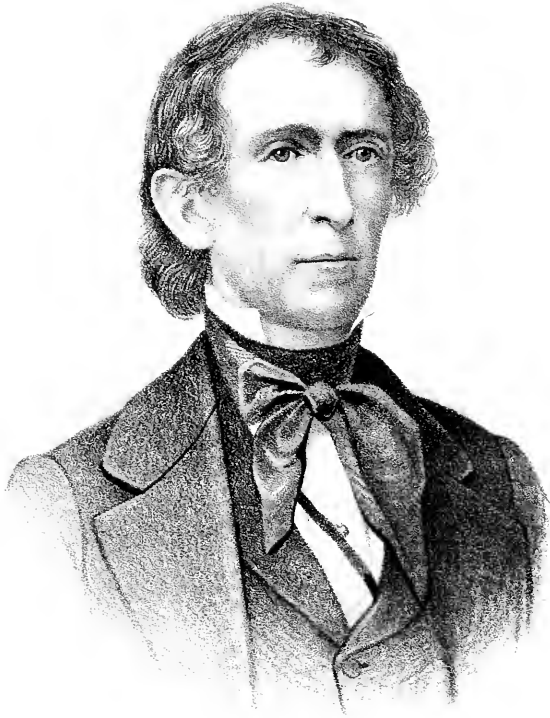
In 1816, Gen. Harrison was chosen a member of the National House of Representatives, to represent the District of Ohio. In Congress he proved an active member; and whenever he spoke, it was with force of reason and power of eloquence, which arrested the attention of all the members.

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

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

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






*John Tyler*



## JOHN TYLER.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

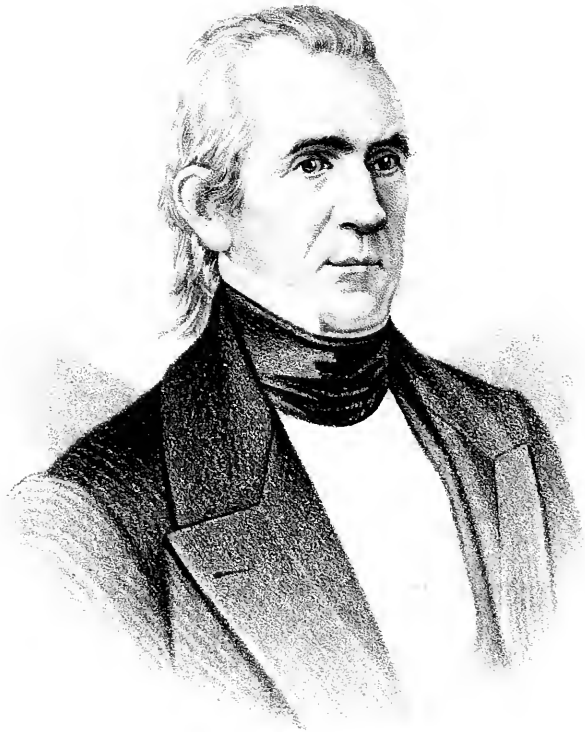
Still the President attempted to conciliate. He appointed a new cabinet of distinguished Whigs and Conservatives, carefully leaving out all strong party men. Mr. Webster soon found it necessary to resign, forced out by the pressure of his Whig friends. Thus the four years of Mr. Tyler's unfortunate administration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

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

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

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



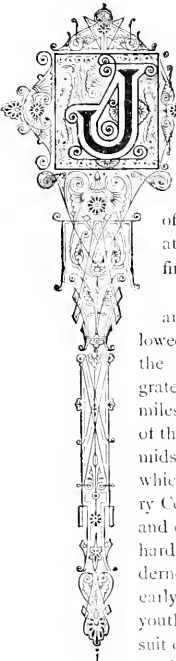


James K. Polk





## JAMES K. POLK,



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In January, 1824, Mr. Polk married Miss Sarah Childress, of Rutherford Co., Tenn. His bride was altogether worthy of him,—a lady of beauty and culture. In the fall of 1825, Mr. Polk was chosen a member of Congress. The satisfaction which he gave to his constituents may be inferred from the fact, that for fourteen successive years, until 1830, he was continued in that office. He then voluntarily withdrew, only that he might accept the Gubernatorial chair of Tennessee. In Congress he was a laborious member, a frequent and a popular speaker. He was always in his seat, always courteous; and whenever he spoke it was always to the point, and without any ambitious rhetorical display.

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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





*Zachary Taylor.*



## ZACHARY TAYLOR.



ZACHARY TAYLOR, twelfth President of the United States, was born on the 24th of Nov., 1784, in Orange Co., Va. His father, Colonel Taylor, was a Virginian of note, and a distinguished patriot and soldier of the Revolution. When Zachary was an infant, his father with his wife and two children, emigrated to Kentucky, where he settled in the pathless wilderness, a few miles from Louisville. In this frontier home, away from civilization and all its refinements, young Zachary

could enjoy but few social and educational advantages. When six years of age he attended a common school, and was then regarded as a bright, active boy, rather remarkable for bluntness and decision of character. He was strong, fearless and self-reliant, and manifested a strong desire to enter the army to fight the Indians who were ravaging the frontiers. There is little to be recorded of the uneventful years of his childhood on his father's large but lonely plantation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For twenty-four years Col. Taylor was engaged in the defence of the frontiers, in scenes so remote, and in employments so obscure, that his name was unknown beyond the limits of his own immediate acquaintance. In the year 1830, he was sent to Florida to compel the Seminole Indians to vacate that region and retire beyond the Mississippi, as their chiefs by treaty, had promised they should do. The services rendered here secured for Col. Taylor the high appreciation of the Government; and as a reward, he was elevated to the rank of brigadier-general by brevet; and soon after, in May, 1838, was appointed to the chief command of the United States troops in Florida.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Millard Fillmore*





## MILLARD FILLMORE.

**M**ILLARD FILLMORE, thirteenth President of the United States, was born at Summer Hill, Cayuga Co., N. Y., on the 7th of January, 1800. His father was a farmer, and owing to misfortune, in humble circumstances. Of his mother, the daughter of Dr. Abiathar Millard, of Pittsfield, Mass., it has been said that she possessed an intellect of very high order, united with much personal loveliness, sweetness of disposition, graceful manners and exquisite sensibilities. She died in 1831; having lived to see her son a young man of distinguished prominence, though she was not permitted to witness the high dignity which he finally attained.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Franklin Pierce*



## FRANKLIN PIERCE.



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

an. Franklin was the sixth of eight children.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*James Buchanan*





# JAMES BUCHANAN,

**J**AMES BUCHANAN, the fifteenth President of the United States, was born in a small frontier town, at the foot of the eastern ridge of the Alleghanies, in Franklin Co., Penn., on the 23d of April, 1791. The place where the humble cabin of his father stood was called Stony Batter. It was a wild and romantic spot in a gorge of the mountains, with towering summits rising grandly all around. His father was a native of the north of Ireland; a poor man, who had emigrated in 1783, with little property save his

own strong arms. Five years afterwards he married Elizabeth Spear, the daughter of a respectable farmer, and, with his young bride, plunged into the wilderness, staked his claim, reared his log-hut, opened a clearing with his axe, and settled down there to perform his obscure part in the drama of life. In this secluded home, where James was born, he remained for eight years, enjoying but few social or intellectual advantages. When James was eight years of age, his father removed to the village of Mercersburg, where his son was placed at school, and commenced a course of study in English, Latin and Greek. His progress was rapid, and at the age of fourteen, he entered Dickinson College, at Carlisle. Here he developed remarkable talent, and took his stand among the first scholars in the institution. His application to study was intense, and yet his native powers en-

abled him to master the most abstruse subjects with facility.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In the year 1850, a national Democratic convention nominated Mr. Buchanan for the Presidency. The political conflict was one of the most severe in which our country has ever engaged. All the friends of slavery were on one side; all the advocates of its restriction and final abolition, on the other. Mr. Fremont, the candidate of the enemies of slavery, received 114 electoral votes. Mr. Buchanan received 174, and was elected. The popular vote stood 1,342,618, for Fremont, 1,224,750 for Buchanan. On March 4th, 1857, Mr. Buchanan was inaugurated.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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






Your friend and comrade

S. Lincoln

ABRAHAM

LINCOLN.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

the next 2000 years were so well pleased, that upon his retirement he placed a store and mill under his care.

In 1832, at the outbreak of the Black Hawk war, he enlisted and was chosen captain of a company. He returned to Sangamon County, and although only 23 years of age, was a candidate for the Legislature, but was defeated. He soon after received from Andrew Jackson the appointment of Postmaster of New Salem. His only post-office was his hat. All the letters he received he carried there ready to deliver to those he chanced to meet. He studied surveying, and soon made this his business. In 1834 he again became a candidate for the Legislature, and was elected. Mr. Stuart, of Springfield, advised him to study law. He walked from New Salem to Springfield, borrowed of Mr. Stuart a load of books, carried them back and began his legal studies. When the Legislature assembled he trudged on foot with his pack on his back one hundred miles to Vandalia, then the capital. In 1835 he was re-elected to the Legislature. Here it was he first met Stephen A. Douglas. In 1839 he removed to Springfield and began the practice of law. His success with the jury was so great that he was soon engaged in almost every noted case in the circuit.

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

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

Election day came and Mr. Lincoln received 180 electoral votes out of 293 cast, and was, therefore, constitutionally elected President of the United States. The tide of a case that was poured upon this good

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

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

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

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





*Andrew Johnson*





ANDREW JOHNSON, seventeenth President of the United States. The early life of Andrew Johnson contains but the record of poverty, destitution and friendlessness. He was born December 29, 1808, in Raleigh, N. C. His parents, belonging to the class of the "poor whites" of the South, were in such circumstances, that they could not confer even the slightest advantages of education upon their child. When Andrew was five years of age, his father accidentally

lost his life while heroically endeavoring to save a friend from drowning. Until ten years of age, Andrew was a ragged boy about the streets, supported by the labor of his mother, who obtained her living with her own hands.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

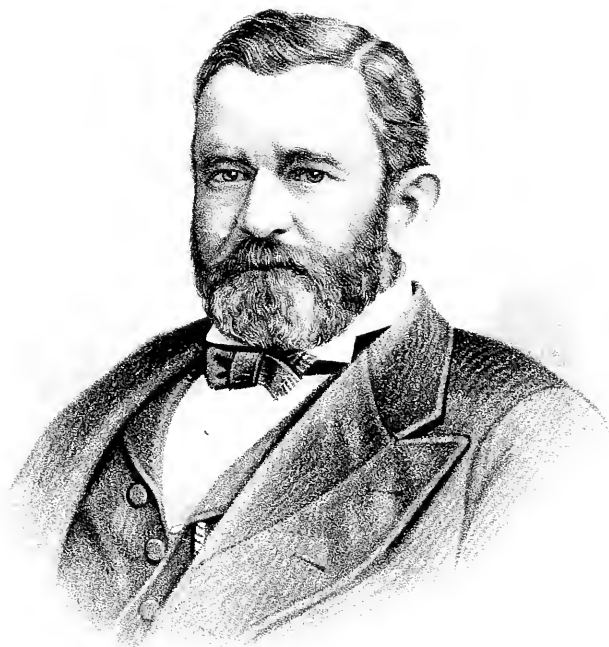
opposition to, the principles laid down in that speech.

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

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

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





*A. S. Grant*



## ULYSSES S. GRANT.



ULYSSES S. GRANT, the eighteenth President of the United States, was born on the 29th of April, 1822, of Christian parents, in a humble home, at Point Pleasant, on the banks of the Ohio. Shortly after his father moved to Georgetown, Brown Co., O. In this remote frontier hamlet, Ulysses received a common-school education. At the age of seventeen, in the year 1839, he entered the Military Academy at West Point. Here he was regarded as a

solid, sensible young man of fair abilities, and of sturdy, honest character. He took respectable rank as a scholar. In June, 1843, he graduated, about the middle in his class, and was sent as lieutenant of infantry to one of the distant military posts in the Missouri Territory. Two years he past in these dreary solitudes, watching the vagabond and exasperating Indians.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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






Sincerely  
R. B. Hayes





## RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.



RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, the nineteenth President of the United States, was born in Delaware, O., Oct. 4, 1822, almost three months after the death of his father, Rutherford Hayes. His ancestry on both the paternal and maternal sides, was of the most honorable character. It can be traced, it is said, as far back as 1280, when Hayes and Rutherford were two Scottish chieftains, fighting side by side with Baliol, William Wallace and Robert Bruce. Both families belonged to the nobility, owned extensive estates, and had a large following. Misfortune overtaking the family, George Hayes left Scotland in 1630, and settled in Windsor, Conn. His son George was born in Windsor, and remained there during his life. Daniel Hayes, son of the latter, married Sarah Lee, and lived from the time of his marriage until his death in Simsbury, Conn. Ezekiel, son of Daniel, was born in 1724, and was a manufacturer of scythes at Bradford, Conn. Rutherford Hayes, son of Ezekiel and grandfather of President Hayes, was born in New Haven, in August, 1756. He was a farmer, blacksmith and tavern-keeper. He emigrated to Vermont at an unknown date, settling in Brattleboro, where he established a hotel. Here his son Rutherford Hayes the father of President Hayes, was

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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






*J. A. Garfield*



## JAMES A. GARFIELD.



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

The house in which James A. was born was not unlike the houses of poor Ohio farmers of that day. It

was about 20 x 30 feet, built of logs, with the spaces between the logs filled with clay. His father was a hard working farmer, and he soon had his fields cleared, an orchard planted, and a log barn built. The household comprised the father and mother and their four children—Mehetabel, Thomas, Mary and James. In May, 1823, the father, from a cold contracted in helping to put out a forest fire, died. At this time James was about eighteen months old, and Thomas about ten years old. No one, perhaps, can tell how much James was indebted to his brother's toil and self-sacrifice during the twenty years succeeding his father's death, but undoubtedly very much. He now lives in Michigan, and the two sisters live in Solon, O., near their birthplace.

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

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

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

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

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

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

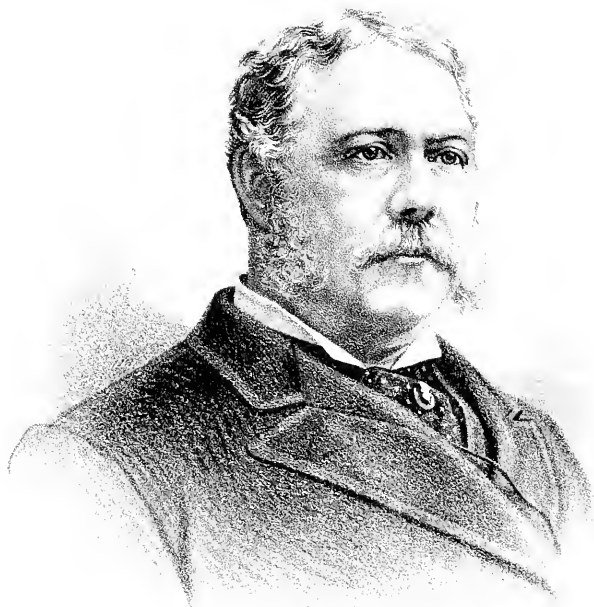
The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with

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

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

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





*C. A. H. H. H.*





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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

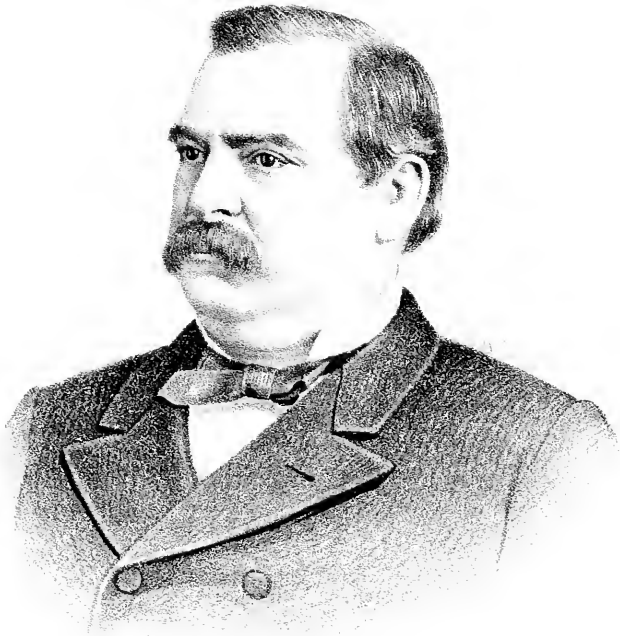
Mr. Arthur was nominated on the Presidential ticket, with Gen. James A. Garfield, at the famous National Republican Convention held at Chicago in June, 1880. This was perhaps the greatest political convention that ever assembled on the continent. It was composed of the leading politicians of the Republican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

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


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

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






Grover Cleveland



## S. Grover Cleveland.



STEPHEN GROVER CLEVELAND, the twenty-second President of the United States, was born in 1837, in the obscure town of Caldwell, Essex Co., N. J., and in a little two-and-a-half-story white house which is still standing, characteristically to mark the humble birth-place of one of America's great men in striking contrast with the Old World, where all men high in office must be high in origin and born in the cradle of wealth. When the subject of this sketch was three years of age, his father, who was a Presbyterian minister,

with a large family and a small salary, moved, by way of the Hudson River and Erie Canal, to Fayetteville, in search of an increased income and a larger field of work. Fayetteville was then the most straggling of country villages, about five miles from Pompey Hill, where Governor Seymour was born. emphatic desire to be sent to an academy. To this his father decidedly objected. Academies in those days cost money; besides, his father wanted him to become self-supporting by the quickest possible means, and this at that time in Fayetteville seemed to be a position in a country store, where his father and the large family on his hands had considerable influence. Grover was to be paid \$50 for his services the first year, and if he proved trustworthy he was to receive \$100 the second year. Here the lad commenced his career as salesman, and in two years he had earned so good a reputation for trustworthiness that his employers desired to retain him for an indefinite length of time. Otherwise he did not exhibit as yet any particular "flashes of genius" or eccentricities of talent. He was simply a good boy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Rey. Harrison*





**B**ENJAMIN HARRISON, the twenty-third President, is the descendant of one of the historical families of this country. The head of the family was a Major General Harrison, one of Oliver Cromwell's trusted followers and fighters. In the zenith of Cromwell's power it became the duty of this Harrison to participate in the trial of Charles I, and afterward to sign the death warrant of the king. He subsequently paid for this with his life, being hung Oct. 13, 1660. His descendants came to America, and the next of the family that appears in history is Benjamin Harrison, of Virginia, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and

after whom he was named. Benjamin Harrison was a member of the Continental Congress during the years 1774-5-6, and was one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was three times elected Governor of Virginia.

Gen William Henry Harrison, the son of the

distinguished patriot of the Revolution, after a successful career as a soldier during the War of 1812, and with a clean record as Governor of the North-western Territory, was elected President of the United States in 1840. His career was cut short by death within one month after his inauguration.

President Harrison was born at North Bend, Hamilton Co., Ohio, Aug. 20, 1793. His life up to the time of his graduation by the Miami University, at Oxford, Ohio, was the uneventful one of a country lad of a family of small means. His father was able to give him a good education, and nothing more. He became engaged while at college to the daughter of Dr. Scott, Principal of a female school at Oxford. After graduating he determined to enter upon the study of the law. He went to Cincinnati and then read law for two years. At the expiration of that time young Harrison received the only inheritance of his life; his aunt dying left him a lot valued at \$800. He regarded this legacy as a fortune, and decided to get married at once, take this money and go to some Eastern town and begin the practice of law. He sold his lot, and with the money in his pocket, he started out with his young wife to fight for a place in the world. He

decided to go to Indianapolis, which was even at that time a town of promise. He met with slight encouragement at first, making scarcely anything the first year. He worked diligently, applying himself closely to his calling, built up an extensive practice and took a leading rank in the legal profession. He is the father of two children.

In 1860 Mr. Harrison was nominated for the position of Supreme Court Reporter, and then began his experience as a stump speaker. He canvassed the State thoroughly, and was elected by a handsome majority. In 1862 he raised the 17th Indiana Infantry, and was chosen its Colonel. His regiment was composed of the rawest of material, but Col. Harrison employed all his time at first mastering military tactics and drilling his men, when he therefore came to move toward the East with Sherman his regiment was one of the best drilled and organized in the army. At Resaca he especially distinguished himself, and for his bravery at Peachtree Creek he was made a Brigadier General, Gen. Hooker speaking of him in the most complimentary terms.

During the absence of Gen. Harrison in the field the Supreme Court declared the office of the Supreme Court Reporter vacant, and another person was elected to the position. From the time of leaving Indiana with his regiment until the fall of 1864 he had taken no leave of absence, but having been nominated that year for the same office, he got a thirty-day leave of absence, and during that time made a brilliant canvass of the State, and was elected for another term. He then started to rejoin Sherman, but on the way was stricken down with scarlet fever, and after a most trying siege made his way to the front in time to participate in the closing incidents of the war.

In 1868 Gen. Harrison declined re-election as reporter, and resumed the practice of law. In 1876 he was a candidate for Governor. Although defeated, the brilliant campaign he made won for him a National reputation, and he was much sought, especially in the East, to make speeches. In 1880, as usual, he took an active part in the campaign, and was elected to the United States Senate. Here he served six years, and was known as one of the ablest men, best lawyers and strongest debaters in

that body. With the expiration of his Senatorial term he returned to the practice of his profession, becoming the head of one of the strongest firms in the State.

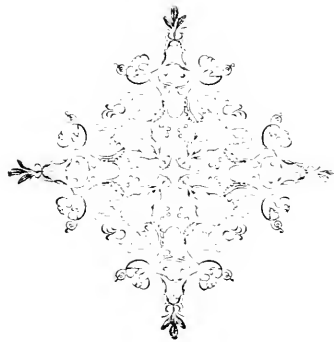
The political campaign of 1888 was one of the most memorable in the history of our country. The convention which assembled in Chicago in June and named Mr. Harrison as the chief standard bearer of the Republican party, was great in every particular, and on this account, and the attitude it assumed upon the vital questions of the day, chief among which was the tariff, awoke a deep interest in the campaign throughout the Nation. Shortly after the nomination delegations began to visit Mr. Harrison at Indianapolis, his home. This movement became popular, and from all sections of the country societies, clubs and delegations journeyed thither to pay their respects to the distinguished statesman. The popularity of these was greatly increased on account of the remarkable speeches made by Mr. Harrison. He spoke daily all through the summer and autumn to these visiting delegations, and so varied, masterly and eloquent were his speeches that they at once placed him in the foremost rank of American orators and statesmen.

On account of his eloquence as a speaker and his power as a debater, he was called upon at an uncommonly early age to take part in the discussion of the great questions that then began to agitate the country. He was an uncompromising anti-slavery man, and was matched against some of the most eminent Democratic speakers of his State. No man who felt the touch of his blade desired to be pitted with him again. With all his eloquence as an orator he never spoke for oratorical effect, but his words always went like bullets to the mark. He is purely American in his ideas and is a splendid type of the American statesman. Gifted with quick perception, a logical mind and a ready tongue, he is one of the most distinguished impromptu speakers in the Nation. Many of these speeches sparkled with the rarest of eloquence and contained arguments of greatest weight. Many of his terse statements have already become aphorisms. Original in thought, precise in logic, terse in statement, yet without faultless in eloquence, he is recognized as the sound statesman and brilliant orator of the day.



# GOVERNORS.





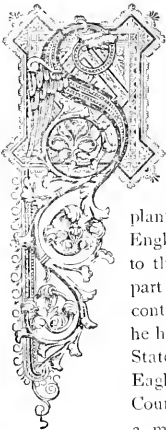




*Shadrach Bond.*



## SHADRACH BOND.



SHADRACH BOND, the first Governor of Illinois after its organization as a State, serving from 1818 to 1822, was born in Frederick County, Maryland, in the year 1773, and was raised a farmer on his father's plantation, receiving only a plain English education. He emigrated to this State in 1794, when it was a part of the "Northwest Territory," continuing in the vocation in which he had been brought up in his native State, in the "New Design," near Eagle Creek, in what is now Monroe County. He served several terms as

a member of the General Assembly of Indiana Territory, after it was organized as such, and in 1812-14 he was a Delegate to the Twelfth and Thirteenth Congresses, taking his seat Dec. 3, 1812, and serving until Oct. 3, 1814. These were the times, the reader will recollect, when this Government had its last struggle with Great Britain. The year 1812 is also noted in the history of this State as that in which the first Territorial Legislature was held. It convened at Kaskaskia, Nov. 25, and adjourned Dec. 26, following.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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







*Edmund Coles*



## Edward Coles.

**E**DWARD COLES, second Governor of Illinois, 1823-6, was born Dec. 15, 1786, in Albemarle Co., Va., on the old family estate called "Enniscoorthy," on the Green Mountain. His father, John Coles, was a Colonel in the Revolutionary War. Having been fitted for college by private tutors, he was sent to Hampden Sidney, where he remained until the autumn of 1805, when he was removed to William and Mary College, at Williamsburg, Va. This college he left in the summer of

1807, a short time before the final and graduating examination. Among his classmates were Lieut. Gen. Scott, President John Tyler, Wm. S. Archer, United States Senator from Virginia, and Justice Baldwin, of the United States Supreme Court. The President of the latter college, Bishop Madison, was a cousin of President James Madison, and that circumstance was the occasion of Mr. Coles becoming personally acquainted with the President and receiving a position as his private secretary, 1809-15.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Norman Edwards*



## Ninian Edwards.

**NINIAN EDWARDS**, Governor from 1827 to 1830, was a son of Benjamin Edwards, and was born in Montgomery County, Maryland, in March, 1775. His domestic training was well fitted to give

his mind strength, firmness and honorable principles, and a good foundation was laid for the elevated character to which he afterwards attained. His parents were Baptists, and very strict in their moral principles. His education in early youth was in company with and partly under the tuition of Hon. Wm. Wirt, whom his father patronized, and who was more than two years older. An intimacy was thus

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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








*John Reynolds*



# John Reynolds.

JOHN REYNOLDS, Governor 1831-4, was born in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, Feb. 26, 1788. His father, Robert Reynolds and his mother, *nee* Margaret Moore, were both natives of Ireland, from which country they emigrated to the United States in 1785, landing at Philadelphia. The senior Reynolds entertained an undying hostility to the British Government. When the subject of this sketch was about six months old, his parents emigrated with him to Tennessee, where many of their

relatives had already located, at the base of the Copper Ridge Mountain, about 14 miles northeast of the present city of Knoxville. There they were exposed to Indian depredations, and were much molested by them. In 1794 they moved into the interior of the State. They were poor, and brought up their children to habits of manual industry.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Wm. L. D. Ewing*




## W. M. L. D. EWING.



**W**ILLIAM LEE D. EWING, Governor of Illinois Nov. 3 to 17, 1834, was a native of Kentucky, and probably of Scotch ancestry. He had a fine education, was a gentleman of polished manners and refined sentiment. In 1830 John Reynolds was elected Governor of the State, and Zadok Casey Lieutenant Governor, and for the principal events that followed, and the characteristics of the times, see sketch of Gov. Reynolds. The first we see in history concerning Mr. Ewing, informs us that he was a Receiver of Public

Moneys at Vandalia soon after the organization of this State, and that the public moneys in his hands were deposited in various banks, as they are usually at the present day. In 1823 the State Bank was robbed, by which disaster Mr. Ewing lost a thousand-dollar deposit.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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










*Joseph Duncan*



## Joseph Duncan.



JOSEPH DUNCAN, Governor 1834-8, was born at Paris, Ky., Feb. 23, 1794. At the tender age of 19 years he enlisted in the war against Great Britain, and as a soldier he acquitted himself with credit. He was an Ensign under the dauntless Croghan at Lower Sandusky, or Fort Stephenson. In Illinois he first appeared in a public capacity as Major-General of the Militia, a position which his military fame had procured him. Subsequently he became a State Senator from Jackson County, and is honorably

mentioned for introducing the first bill providing for a free-school system. In 1826, when the redoubtable John P. Cook, who had previously beaten such men as John McLean, Elias Kent Kane and ex-Gov. Bond, came up for the fourth time for Congress, Mr. Duncan was brought forward against him by his friends, greatly to the surprise of all the politicians. As yet he was but little known in the State. He was an original Jackson man at that time, being attached to his political fortune in admiration of the glory of his military achievements. His chances of success against Cook were generally regarded as hopeless, but he entered upon the campaign undaunted. His speeches, though short and devoid of ornament, were full of good sense. He made a diligent canvass of the State, Mr. Cook being hindered by the condition of his health. The most that was expected of Mr. Duncan, under the circumstances, was that he would

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

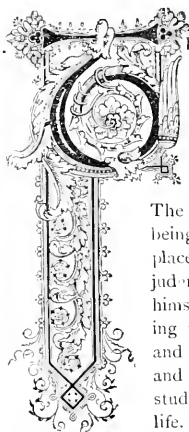




*Ans. Carlin*

Thomas

Carlin.



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

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

to Missouri, then a part of "New Spain," where he died in 1810.

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

more conveniently he removed to the city of Quincy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

At the close of his gubernatorial term, Mr. Carlin removed back to his old home at Carrollton, where he spent the remainder of his life, as before his elevation to office, in agricultural pursuits. In 1839 he served out the unexpired term of J. D. Fry in the Illinois House of Representatives, and died Feb. 4, 1852, at his residence at Carrollton, leaving a wife and seven children.







*Thomas Ford*



## Thomas Ford.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





*Wm. French*



## Augustus C. French.

**AUGUSTUS C. FRENCH**, Governor of Illinois from 1846 to 1852, was born in the town of Hill, in the State of New Hampshire, Aug. 2, 1808. He was a descendant in the fourth generation of Nathaniel French, who emigrated from England in 1687 and settled in Saybury, Mass.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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







*J. A. Mattison*

## Joel A. Matteson.

**J**OEL A. MATTESON, Governor 1853-6, was born Aug. 8, 1808, in Jefferson County, New York, to which place his father had removed from Vermont three years before. His father was a farmer in fair circumstances, but a common English education was all that his only son received. Young Joel first tempted fortune as a small tradesman in Prescott, Canada, before he was of age. He returned from that place to his home, entered an academy, taught school, visited the principal Eastern cities, improved a farm his father had given him, made a tour in the South, worked there building railroads, experienced a storm on the Gulf of Mexico, visited the gold diggings of Northern Georgia, and returned *via* Nashville to St. Louis and through Illinois to his father's home, when he married. In 1833, having sold his farm, he removed, with his wife and one child, to Illinois, and entered a claim on Government land near the head of Apple River, in what is now Kendall County. At that time there were not more than two neighbors within a range of ten miles of his place, and only three or four houses between him and Chicago. He opened a large farm. His family was boarded 12

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

During the four years of Gov. Matteson's administration the taxable wealth of the State was about trebled, from \$137,818,070 to \$349,951,272; the public debt was reduced from \$17,398,085 to \$12,843,144; taxation was at the same time reduced, and the State resumed paying interest on its debt in New York as fast as it fell due; railroads were increased in their mileage from something less than 400 to about 3,000; and the population of Chicago was nearly doubled, and its commerce more than quadrupled.

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

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





*Wm. A. Russell*



## William M. Bissell.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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








*John Wood*



## John Wood.

JOHN WOOD, Governor, 1860-1, and the first settler of Quincy, Ill., was born in the town of Sempronius (now Moravia), Cayuga Co., N. Y., Dec. 20, 1798. He was the second child and only son of Dr. Daniel Wood. His mother, *nee* Catherine Crause, was of German parentage, and died while he was an infant. Dr. Wood was a learned and skillful physician, of classical attainments and proficient in several modern languages, who, after

serving throughout the Revolutionary War as a Surgeon, settled on the land granted him by the Government, and resided there a respected and leading influence in his section until his death, at the ripe age of 92 years.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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







*Rich. Yates*



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

mission to the Bar he soon rose to distinction as an advocate.

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

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

Gov. Yates occupied the chair of State during the

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

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

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

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

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

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

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







*R. J. Oglesby*



## Richard J. Oglesby.



**R**ICHARD J. OGLESBY, Governor 1805-8, and re-elected in 1872 and 1884, was born July 25, 1824, in Oldham Co., Ky.—the State which might be considered the "mother of Illinois Governors." Bereft of his parents at the tender age of eight years, his early education was neglected. When 12 years of age, and after he had worked a year and a half at the carpenter's trade, he removed with an uncle, Willis Oglesby, into whose care he had been committed, to Decatur, this State, where he continued his apprenticeship as a mechanic, working six months for

Hon. E. O. Smith.

company of eight men, Henry Prather being the leader. In 1852 he returned home to Macon County, and was placed that year by the Whig party on the ticket of Presidential Electors. In 1856 he visited Europe, Asia and Africa, being absent 25 months. On his return home he resumed the practice of law, as a member of the firm of Gallagher, Wait & Oglesby. In 1858 he was the Republican nominee for the Lower House of Congress, but was defeated by the Hon. James C. Robinson, Democrat. In 1860 he was elected to the Illinois State Senate; and on the evening the returns of this election were coming in, Mr. Oglesby had a fisticuff encounter with "Cerro Gordo Williams," in which he came out victorious, and which was regarded as "the first fight of the Rebellion." The following spring, when the war had commenced in earnest, his ardent nature quickly responded to the demands of patriotism and he enlisted. The extra session of the Legislature elected him Colonel of the Eighth Illinois Infantry, the second one in the State raised to suppress the great Rebellion.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

During the year 1872, it became evident that if the Republicans could re-elect Mr. Oglesby to the office of Governor, they could also elect him to the United States Senate, which they desired to do. Accordingly they re-nominated him for the Executive chair, and placed upon the ticket with him for Lieutenant Governor, John L. Beveridge, of Cook County. On the other side the Democrats put into the field Gustavus Koerner for Governor and John C. Black for Lieutenant Governor. The election gave the Republican ticket majorities ranging from 35,334 to 59,174,—the Democratic defection being caused mainly by their having an old-time Whig and Abolitionist, Horace Greeley, on the national ticket for President. According to the general understanding had beforehand, as soon as the Legislature met it elected Gov. Oglesby to the United States Senate, whereupon Mr. Beveridge became Governor. Senator Oglesby's term expired March 4, 1879, having served his party faithfully and exhibited an order of statesmanship beyond criticism.

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

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

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





*John R. Palmer*



## JOHN M. PALMER

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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







*John L. Beveridge*



## John L. Beveridge.

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

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

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

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

First, he taught school in Wilson, Overton and Jackson Cos., Tenn., in which experience he underwent considerable mental drill, both in book studies and in the ways of the world. He read law and was admitted to the Bar, in the South, but did not learn to love the institution of slavery, although he admired many features of Southern character. In December, 1847, he returned North, and Jan. 29, 1848, he married Miss Helen M. Judson, in the old Clark-Street M. E. church in Chicago, her father at that time being Pastor of the society there. In the spring of 1848 he returned with his wife to Tennessee, where his two children, Alla May and Philo Judson, were born.

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

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

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

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

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

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





*M. Cullom*

## SHELBY M. CULLOM.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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








John M. Hamilton



## John M. Hamilton.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In 1876 Mr. Hamilton was nominated by the Republicans for the State Senate, over other and older competitors. He took an active part on the stump in the campaign, for the success of his party, and was elected by a majority of 1,645 over his Democratic-Greenback opponent. In the Senate he served on the Committees on Judiciary, Revenue, State Institutions, Appropriations, Education, and on Miscellaneous; and during the contest for the election of a U. S. Senator, the Republicans endeavoring to re-

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

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

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

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






*J. W. Fisher*



Joseph W. Fifer.



JOSEPH WILSON FIFER. This distinguished gentleman was elected Governor of Illinois November 6, 1888. He was popularly known during the campaign as "Private Joe." He had served with great devotion to his country during the Rebellion, in the Thirty-third Illinois Infantry. A native of Virginia, he was born in 1840. His parents, John and Mary (Daniels) Fifer, were American born, though of German descent. His father was a brick and stone mason, and an old

Henry Clay Whig in politics. John and Mary Fifer had nine children, of whom Joseph was the sixth, and naturally with so large a family it was all the father could do to keep the wolf from the door; to say nothing of giving his children anything like good educational advantages.

Young Joseph attended school some in Virginia, but it was not a good school, and when his father removed to the West, in 1857, Joseph had not advanced much further than the "First Reader,"

Our subject was sixteen then and suffered a great misfortune in the loss of his mother. After the death of Mrs. Fifer, which occurred in Missouri, the family returned to Virginia, but remained only a short time, as during the same year Mr. Fifer came to Illinois. He settled in McLean County and started a brickyard. Here Joseph and his brothers were put to work. The elder Fifer soon bought a farm near Bloomington and began life as an agriculturalist. Here Joe worked and attended the neighboring school. He alternated farm-work, brick-laying, and going to the district school for the succeeding few years. It was all work and no play for Joe, yet it by no means made a dull boy of him. All the time he was thinking of the great world outside, of which he had caught a glimpse when coming from Virginia, yet he did not know just how he was going to get out into it. He could not feel that the woods around the new farm and the log cabin, in which the family lived, were to hold him.

The opportunity to get out into the world was soon offered to young Joe. He traveled a dozen miles barefoot, in company with his brother George, and enlisted in Company C, 33d Illinois Infantry; he being then twenty years old. In a few day

the regiment was sent to Camp Butler, and then over into Missouri, and saw some vigorous service there. After a second time helping to chase Price out of Missouri, the 33d Regiment went down to Milliken's Bend, and for several weeks "Private Joe" worked on Grant's famous ditch. The regiment then joined the forces operating against Port Gibson and Vicksburg. Joe was on guard duty in the front ditches when the flag of surrender was run up on the 1th of July, and stuck the bayonet of his gun into the embankment and went into the city with the vanguard of Union soldiers.

The next day, July 5, the 38d joined the force after Johnston, who had been threatening Grant's rear; and finally an assault was made on him at Jackson, Miss. In this charge "Private Joe" fell, terribly wounded. He was loading his gun when a minie-ball struck him and passed entirely through his body. He was regarded as mortally wounded. His brother, George, who had been made a Lieutenant, proved to be the means of saving his life. The Surgeon told him unless he had ice his brother Joe could not live. It was fifty miles to the nearest point where ice could be obtained, and the roads were rough. A comrade, a McLean county man, who had been wounded, offered to make the trip. An ambulance was secured and the brother soldier started on the journey. He returned with the ice, but the trip, owing to the roughness of the roads, was very hard on him. After a few months' careful nursing Mr. Fifer was able to come home. The 33d came home on a furlough, and when the boys were ready to return to the tented field, young Fifer was ready to go with them; for he was determined to finish his term of three years. He was mustered out in October, 1861, having been in the service three years and two months.

"Private Joe" came out of the army a tall, tanned, and awkward young man of twenty-four. About all he possessed was ambition to be somebody—and pluck. Though at an age when most men have finished their college course, the young soldier saw that if he was to be anybody he must have an education. Yet he had no means to enable him to enter school as most young men do. He was determined to have an education, however, and that to him meant success. For the following

four years he struggled with his books. He entered Wesleyan University Jan. 1, 1865. He was not a brilliant student, being neither at the head nor the foot of his class. He was in great earnest, however, studied hard and came forth with a well-stored and disciplined mind.

Immediately after being graduated he entered an office at Bloomington as a law student. He had already read law some, and as he continued to work hard, with the spur of poverty and promptings of ambition ever with him, he was ready to hang out his professional shingle in 1869. Being trustworthy he soon gathered about him some influential friends. In 1871 he was elected Corporation Counsel of Bloomington. In 1872 he was elected State's Attorney of McLean County. This office he held for eight years, when he took his seat in the State Senate. Here he served for four years. His ability to perform abundance of hard work made him a most valued member of the Legislature.

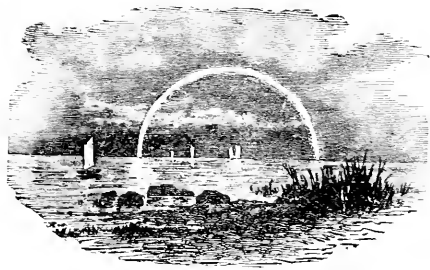
Mr. Fifer was married in 1870 to Gertie, daughter of William J. Lewis, of Bloomington. Mr. Fifer is six feet in height and is spare, weighing only 150 pounds. He has a swarthy complexion, keen black eyes, quick movement, and possesses a frank and sympathetic nature, and naturally makes friends wherever he goes. During the late gubernatorial campaign his visits throughout the State proved a great power in his behalf. His happy faculty of winning the confidence and good wishes of those with whom he comes in personal contact is a source of great popularity, especially during a political battle. As a speaker he is fluent, his language is good, voice clear and agreeable, and manner forcible. His manifest earnestness in what he says as well as his tact as a public speaker, and his eloquent and forceful language, makes him a most valuable campaign orator and a powerful pleader at the bar. At the Republican State Convention, held in May, 1888, Mr. Fifer was chosen as its candidate for Governor. He proved a popular nominee, and the name of "Private Joe" became familiar to everyone throughout the State. He waged a vigorous campaign, was elected by a good majority, and in due time assumed the duties of the Chief Executive of Illinois.






WILL COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS.







# INTRODUCTORY.



THE time has arrived when it becomes the duty of the people of this county to perpetuate the names of their pioneers, to furnish a record of their early settlement, and relate the story of their progress. The civilization of our day, the enlightenment of the age and the duty that men of the present time owe to their ancestors, to themselves and to their posterity, demand that a record of their lives and deeds should be made. In biographical history is found a power to instruct man by precedent, to enliven the mental faculties, and to waft down the river of time a

safe vessel in which the names and actions of the people who contributed to raise this country from its primitive state may be preserved. Surely and rapidly the great and aged men, who in their prime entered the wilderness and claimed the virgin soil as their heritage, are passing to their graves. The number remaining who can relate the incidents of the first days of settlement is becoming small indeed, so that an actual necessity exists for the collection and preservation of events without delay, before all the early settlers are cut down by the scythe of Time.

To be forgotten has been the great dread of mankind from remotest ages. All will be forgotten soon enough, in spite of their best works and the most earnest efforts of their friends to preserve the memory of their lives. The means employed to prevent oblivion and to perpetuate their memory has been in proportion to the amount of intelligence they possessed. The pyramids of Egypt were built to perpetuate the names and deeds of their great rulers. The excavations made by the archeologists of Egypt from buried Memphis indicate a desire of those people

to perpetuate the memory of their achievements. The erection of the great obelisks were for the same purpose. Coming down to a later period, we find the Greeks and Romans erecting mausoleums and monuments, and carving out statues to chronicle their great achievements and carry them down the ages. It is also evident that the Mound-builders, in piling up their great mounds of earth, had but this idea—to leave something to show that they had lived. All these works, though many of them costly in the extreme, give but a faint idea of the lives and characters of those whose memory they were intended to perpetuate, and scarcely anything of the masses of the people that then lived. The great pyramids and some of the obelisks remain objects only of curiosity; the mausoleums, monuments and statues are crumbling into dust.

It was left to modern ages to establish an intelligent, undecaying, immutable method of perpetuating a full history—immutable in that it is almost unlimited in extent and perpetual in its action; and this is through the art of printing.

To the present generation, however, we are indebted for the introduction of the admirable system of local biography. By this system every man, though he has not achieved what the world calls greatness, has the means to perpetuate his life, his history, through the coming ages.

The scythe of Time cuts down all; nothing of the physical man is left. The monument which his children or friends may erect to his memory in the cemetery will crumble into dust and pass away; but his life, his achievements, the work he has accomplished, which otherwise would be forgotten, is perpetuated by a record of this kind.

To preserve the lineaments of our companions we engrave their portraits, for the same reason we collect the attainable facts of their history. Nor do we think it necessary, as we speak only truth of them, to wait until they are dead, or until those who know them are gone: to do this we are ashamed only to publish to the world the history of those whose lives are unworthy of public record.







*F. Goodspeed*



JUDGE FRANCIS GOODSPEED.

The name of Judge Goodspeed was for many years a familiar one to the people of Will County, among whom he entered upon and finished a most worthy career. He was born in Tioga County, Pa., January 25, 1821, and departed this life at his home in Joliet, April 10, 1889. In 1847, he became a resident of this city which thereafter remained his home and with whose growth and prosperity he was intimately identified. The subject of this



notice received the ordinary common-school education in his youth, but he aspired to something better and before reaching his majority left home and entered the famous Genesee Seminary at Lima, N. Y., where he spent two years. Then coming to the West he entered the office of the Hon. Hugh Henderson, a former Circuit Judge, where he devoted his attention to the study of law and in 1848, was admitted to the bar. Shortly afterward he associated himself with O. H. Haven, in a partnership which continued until the latter's death. Subsequently he was in partnership with

the Hon. Josiah McRoberts, and later with the Hon. Henry Snapp and Augustus F. Knox, his partnership with the two latter gentlemen continuing until 1876. The following year upon the formation of the present judicial circuit he was first elected to fill the additional seat on the bench created by this act, and in 1878 was re-elected for the full term of six years. In June, 1884, on account of failing health he resigned his office and thereafter battled with the insidious disease which finally caused his death.

Aside from his regular practice Judge Goodspeed was prominent in local affairs, serving as Mayor of Joliet and occupying other positions of trust and responsibility. In 1861, he was selected as delegate to the Constitutional Convention, which met in the city of Springfield and was an active participant in the deliberations of that body. He was possessed of strong intellectual powers and was entirely devoted to his profession, in which he labored to excel. As a lawyer and judge for nearly forty years he made an enviable record. No man stood higher in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens. He was a man of strong convictions and sympathetic nature, conscientious and truthful; and while he exacted much perhaps from his fellow-men, he required from them no more than he was desirous of bestowing in trust and





had acquired a thorough knowledge of his trade he went to work on his own account, coming to Monce in March, 1859, and opening a shop here, engaged in the manufacture of wagons the ensuing fifteen years. He then established himself, in April, in the implement business, which he carried on until February 1, 1890, meeting with more than ordinary success, and deriving a handsome income from the profits. Coming to this country without means, his stalwart, vigorous manhood, clear brain and skillful hand being his only capital, he has secured wealth, and is one of the richest men in this part of the county. He is the owner of four hundred and sixty-eight acres of land, three business buildings and good residence property in this city, besides owning valuable realty in Chicago. To the lady who presides over his attractive home he was united in marriage March 5, 1859. Her maiden name was Louise Gantz, and she was born in the Province of Saxony, Germany, May 17, 1839. She was a daughter of Lawrence and Sophie Gantz. In 1853 they came to the United States and first settled at New Bremen, near Chicago, where he bought a farm, on which they resided the rest of their days, his death occurring in 1880, and his wife's in 1882. They had four daughters—Mary, Louise, Caroline and Rafine, all of whom are married and have families. Our subject and his wife have seven children, namely: Fred; Anna, wife of Louis Bischmann; Rudolph, who died at the age of six months; Leopold; August; Louise, who died at the age of twelve years; and Otto.

Although not one of the earliest settlers, Mr. Schoenstedt may justly be regarded as one of the pioneers of this county, which owes much to his untiring labor. His name will always be indissolubly linked with that of Monce, as partly by his influence it has attained its present position as one of the leading towns in this section of the State; he has ever been active in extending its commercial and business interests, has contributed generously to all schemes that would enhance its material prosperity, and he has its educational, religious and social interests at heart. A man of such vigorous mind, such unerring sagacity and keen vision cannot well avoid accepting public office at the call of his fellow-men, when it seems

his imperative duty as a loyal citizen to do so, and hence, while having the care of an extensive business and a large property, Mr. Schoenstedt has found time to take a part in the administration of local affairs, and has served as Village Trustee eight years. In politics his views coincide with the principles promulgated by the Republican party. Religiously, our subject and his estimable wife are members in high standing of the United Presbyterian Church, actively assisting in the good work carried on by their pastor and fellow-members.



**JOSEPH E. GOUGAR.** This is one of the most worthy representatives of the well-known Gougar family, who have since the pioneer days been closely identified with the interests of New Lenox Township. The father of him of whom we write was the late William Gougar, who with others of the family is written of on other pages of this volume. They have uniformly followed agricultural pursuits, and have obtained the reputation of being the most thorough and skillful agriculturists, as well as being numbered among the leading business men of Will County.

The subject of this notice was the youngest child of his parents, and was born at the old homestead in New Lenox Township, March 21, 1831. He spent his boyhood and youth at the farm, becoming familiar with the various employments of rural life, and pursuing his early studies in the district school. Later he was a student one year at Beloit (Wis.) College, and also pursued his studies for the same length of time in the State University at Madison. His education was completed in T. J. Sloan's Commercial College at Chicago, from which he was duly graduated. This last-named institution was instituted and conducted by Col. T. J. Sloan, who during the Civil War commanded the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry.

For eight months after leaving college Mr. Gougar was employed as book-keeper for the firm of Reynolds & Willis in Chicago. With that excep-

tion he has spent the most of his life in his native township. During the Civil War he was an active Union man, and raised two companies of troops, these being assigned to the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry. He also visited the South, and relieved the wants of many of his old friends whom he found in need.

For three years Mr. Gougar bought grain at the village of New Lenox, and operated the warehouse at that point. For nearly one year he taught school in the township. Afterward he turned his attention to farming, in which he has since been engaged. He is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of choice land, upon which he has made good improvements, including a fine set of buildings, besides planting fruit and shade trees, building substantial fences and gathering together all the necessary machinery for the successful prosecution of agriculture. There is an air of thrift and prosperity about the place, which invariably attracts the eye of the passing traveler, and is indicative of the progressive spirit and industry of the proprietor.

Mr. Gougar remained a bachelor until thirty years of age, and on the 24th of November, 1861, was joined in wedlock with Miss Hattie Perkins, the ceremony taking place at the bride's home in Minooka, Grundy County, this State. Mrs. Gougar is the only daughter of her parents, William and Elizabeth (VanDalsen) Perkins, and was born in Grundy County, December 28, 1811. She was carefully trained and educated, and for some time prior to her marriage followed the profession of a teacher. Her father, the late William Perkins, was one of the pioneer settlers of Grundy County, and departed this life at his home June 17, 1887. He was a man of more than ordinary intelligence, liberal and progressive in his ideas, and when his children were of suitable years removed from his farm to Joliet for the purpose of giving them the education he desired them to have. This accomplished, he returned to the old homestead.

To Mr. and Mrs. Perkins was born a family of three children, two sons and one daughter. The eldest son, Van Dalsen Perkins, was a non-commissioned officer, serving in the late Civil War, and met his death on the battlefield of Chicka-

mauga. The other son, Charles E., is farming in Kendall County, this State. Mr. and Mrs. Gougar are the parents of six children, two of whom—Ella and Florence—died at the ages respectively of three and sixteen months. The survivors are: Charles P., Hattie M., Harlow W., and Eva A.

Mr. Gougar since early manhood has taken an active part in local politics, and is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. For the past eighteen years he has been connected with the School Board of his district, has held the office of Township Assessor four years, and Collector one year. Both he and his estimable wife are prominently connected with the Episcopal Church, attending services at New Lenox. They have one of the most pleasant homes in the county, and occupy a high position in the social circles of their community.



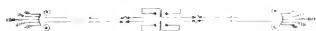
**TRUFEMAN A. MASON.** No visitor to Joliet would long be in ignorance of the name and estate of the gentleman above named, as his home is that of an ideal farmer. The splendid place is situated on the Boulevard and is supplied with all the modern conveniences in the residence and outer premises. Mr. Mason spends his time in looking after his flocks and herds, taking great delight in the fine sheep and cattle that graze upon his fertile fields. After an active business career of years during which he gained a fine reputation for honorable dealing, enterprise and zeal, he has become the possessor of means which enable him to indulge his tastes and take the ease he desires.

A history of the lives of Daniel and Hannah Mason, parents of the subject of this sketch, is incorporated in this volume. The son was born in New Hartford, N. Y., March 14, 1816, and attended the schools in Utica, completing his education begun in the public schools by studying at Whitestown Seminary in the same city. His years until 1866, were spent in the East, and leaving his native place at that date, he came to Chicago, Ill. Entering the employ of the Chicago & Alton

railroad, he worked for that road a few months returning to the Empire State in the fall of 1867, and engaged in the wholesale paper and stationery business.

In 1869, Mr. Mason disposed of the business and began dealing in lumber, sash, doors and blinds, doing both a wholesale and retail trade in company with F. W. Plant under the style and title of Mason & Plant. In 1881, Mr. Mason disposed of his interest and again coming west embarked in the same business at the Michigan Central cut-off in Joliet, continuing in the trade until May, 1889, when he sold out to Wilcox Brothers. Mr. Mason also owns a lumber business in Plainfield of which Albert R. Caton is manager.

In 1872 the rites of wedlock were celebrated between Mr. Mason and Miss Hannah E. Caton whose family is represented elsewhere in this volume. Under the efficient care of Mrs. Mason, the dwelling to which friends are so cordially welcomed presents the appearance of order and refinement so attractive to family and guests, and all who enter are charmed by the gracious manners of the hostess. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Mason has been blessed by the birth of the following named children: Cornelia, who was born in 1873; William Caton, in 1875; Marie, in 1878, and who died in 1880; Bessie, born in 1880, died in 1881; True Caton, born in 1887, died March 26, 1888. Mr. Mason's family belongs to the Presbyterian Church at Joliet.



**E**DWY C. OGDEN, M. D. The medical profession of this county includes the names of many skillful and successful practitioners among whom may be properly mentioned he with whose name we introduce this biographical record. He located in Joliet in 1879, and in a short time fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of the people, both as a physician and surgeon and as a member of the community. He is essentially a Western man with western interests, his native place being Fond du Lac, Wis., and the date of his birth May 25, 1859.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Dr. M. B. Ogden, an eminent physician and a native of Cooksville, Province of Ontario, Canada, who there grew to man's estate and with his brother, Dr. Edwy J. Ogden, read medicine and took his first course of lectures at Victoria College, Toronto. For some years he followed the methods of the regular school and then removing to Fond du Lac, Wis., adopted the Homeopathic system to which he adhered subsequently. In 1864-65, he attended lectures at Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, then in August, 1866, removed to Joliet, where he resumed his practice which he continued up to the time of his death. This event occurred September 6, 1881. He was cut down in the prime of life having been born in 1838. He was one of the earliest Homeopaths in this section of the country and enjoyed a large and lucrative practice. Dr. Ogden has two uncles in Chicago and a large number of cousins, members of the medical profession. As he remarks, this seems to be "a family failing." The father was a member in good standing of the Episcopal Church, and in politics, voted the Republican ticket. His wife had preceded him to the silent land, her death taking place March 8, 1879.

Dr. E. C. Ogden was the only child of his parents and spent his boyhood and youth in Joliet where he pursued his first studies in the city schools. He finished his literary education at the Chicago University and began the reading of medicine with his father, who proved a most thorough and safe instructor. He first attended lectures during the winter of 1877-78 in Hahnemann Medical College and February 27, 1879, he graduated and practiced with his father until the latter's death. He then continued the practice and has thus formed an extended acquaintance throughout the county, receiving the patronage of its best people. He has been a close student and an extensive reader and keeps himself thoroughly posted upon modern methods of treatment. He belongs to the State Medical Association and is President of the Patriotic Order Sons of America.

The marriage of Dr. Ogden and Miss Hettie A. White of Joliet was celebrated at the bride's home September 28, 1882. Mrs. Ogden was born in

Spartansburg, Pa. and is the daughter of Edward D. and Margaret E. White who came to this county in 1875. Her father is now living in Joliet, her mother is deceased. Of this union there has been born one child, a son Arthur W., December 13, 1881. The Doctor and his estimable lady stand high in social circles and their pleasant home is the frequent resort of the cultured people of this city. Politically, the Doctor is a Republican.



**A**LONZO B. BROOKS. This veteran of eighty-one years and his estimable partner are familiarly known to a large portion of the residents of Homer Township, where they have sojourned many years, and by their sterling worth have drawn around them many friends. They are passing their declining days quietly and comfortably at their snug homestead on section 10, with the satisfaction of having performed life's duties well as far as in them lay, making for themselves a good record and one of which their children will never be ashamed. Mr. Brooks has for some time been afflicted with failing eyesight, but bears the dispensation of Providence in a philosophical manner, and still is enabled to find much that is good in life.

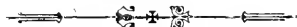
The subject of this notice was born February 14, 1809, in Otego Township, Otsego County, N. Y., and went with his parents to Delaware County, that State, when a lad of about six years. He lived there with his parents until 1826, and then the family removed to Hamburg, Erie County, where the parents lived until 1836, when they came to Illinois.

In due time Mr. Brooks returned to Delaware County, and was married to Miss Alice, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Edmonds. They settled in Hamburg, Erie County, where they resided until the following spring, then Mr. Brooks returning to Otego County, occupied himself as a millwright. Afterward he removed to Erie County, of which he was a resident until 1837. In June of that year he came to this State. He was then joined by his wife, who was only permitted to remain

with him a short time thereafter, her death taking place October 11, 1837, in Lockport Township. Of this union there was born one child, a son, Joseph E., who is now a resident of Lockport.

Mr. Brooks contracted a second marriage in August, 1838, in Homer Township, to Miss Jane Weaver. This lady was born in Washington County, N. Y., January 21, 1807. After marriage Mr. Brooks remained in Lockport for a short time, then in the spring of 1839 settled on his present farm. This comprises eighty acres of good land, which under his careful management is in a highly productive condition, and is the source of a comfortable income. Of this marriage of our subject there have been born five children, only one of whom is living, a son, Sterling A. The latter was married in Northport, Mich., to Miss Emily Cornell, and is living with our subject.

The father of our subject was Benjamin Brooks, who died about 1865, at the home of his son, Alonzo B., with whom he had lived for eleven years. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Anna Warner, died in Crete Township about 1838. Our subject has held the office of Assessor and Justice of the Peace for many years. He officiated as Highway Commissioner several terms, and in politics is a firm supporter of Republican principles. He and his estimable wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as was also the first Mrs. Brooks.



**C**HARLES HERTZOG. The life of this gentleman presents a record of arduous labor which is perhaps not exceeded in that of any other resident of the county. He has now retired from active work, feeling the weight of seventy-five years and the toil which he endured. A twenty-acre tract of land with a pretty cottage upon it is the home of himself and wife, and his farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 17, Kankakee County, is rented to his son. He also owns forty acres of land on section 22, in this township, a part of which he uses for pasture, the rest being rented out.

Grandfather Hertzog came from Alsace to America many years ago, being sold for his passage. He settled in Pennsylvania, where his son, George, the father of our subject, was born. The latter married Catherine Ioh, a native of the same State, whose father had served during the entire Revolutionary struggle, spent the memorable winter with Washington at Valley Forge, and walked barefooted on the snow and ice, leaving tracks of blood to mark his way. He hated a Hessian soldier with all the strength of his being.

Charles Hertzog, of this notice, was born in the Keystone State September 5, 1815, and had such limited educational privileges that his schooling was not more than a year all told. When sixteen years old he was bound out to learn the shoemaker's trade, at which he served four years and eight months, receiving only his board and clothes, although during haying and harvesting he worked for farmers and his master took the pay. The youth had very hard treatment during the years of his apprenticeship.

After learning his trade young Hertzog went to Pottsville, where for a short time he was engaged in journey work, after which he became a laborer in the coal mines for several years. In the intervals of mining he worked at other occupations, some of his labor in Pennsylvania bringing him the wages of fifty cents per day, from which he was obliged to board himself. He labored in saw-mills and also followed the river a while.

On September 11, 1836, Mr. Hertzog was united in marriage with Miss Abigail Fiddler, a native of the Keystone State, in which they continued to reside until 1850. They then came to Illinois, making their home in Napierville, a few months after which they removed to Kankakee County, then a part of Will County. Mr. Hertzog bought one hundred acres of prairie land, twenty acres of which had been broken, and opened up a good farm. He was almost empty-handed when he located upon the place and he had a hard time to get along, but stubborn perseverance finally conquered. He remained upon the farm until his home was burned out, when he spent a short time in Kankakee, returning to his farm, from which he removed to Will County several years since.

The first vote of Mr. Hertzog was cast for Martin VanBuren. Since then he has been a Whig and a Republican of conservative views. While in Kankakee Township he served as Director of the School Board and as Overseer of Highways. During his residence in Pennsylvania he was a member of the Sons of Temperance. He is the father of eleven children, of whom the following survive: Charles Wesley, Mrs. Henrietta Nicolai, Mrs. Ellen Fisher, Henry H., James N., and Mrs. Martha Fleming. He lost one son during the Civil War, at which time Charles Wesley and William F. belonged to the Thirty-ninth Illinois, Yates Phalanx. The first-mentioned returned to his home at the close of the war, but William was killed June 18, 1861.



**C**HARLES W. SOLLITT. The Sollitt homestead, now occupied by this gentleman, comprises one hundred and sixty acres on section 30, Washington Township, which is well adapted for general farming and the feeding of stock. For the past nine years Mr. Sollitt has been much interested in the Hereford breed of cattle and has made a specialty of raising them. At present he has a herd of thirty, at the head of which is the noble animal, Justice, whose registered number is 16240.

For some thirteen years Mr. Sollitt has had the personal control of the homestead, on which he has lived since 1861, at which time the parents came here on account of the failing health of the wife and mother. He was born in Chicago, July 18, 1854, but grew to manhood in the township he now calls home. His education was finished at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind., and he chose as his vocation in life the peaceful pursuit of a farmer. In this work he has been fairly successful, and by hard work and earnest zeal for his pursuit has attained a good rank among the agriculturists of the vicinity.

The father of our subject is an old resident of Chicago, where he has many friends, and is held in excellent repute as a former builder, of integrity and reliability. He has become well-to-do, owning

much real estate in the city, and now lives a retired life at No. 519, Jackson Boulevard. He was born in Yorkshire, England, and is the son of a mechanic, who died there in the prime of life. The ancestors for several generations had been born in the mother country, but the remote progenitors were natives of France, whence they went to England during the Huguenot troubles prior to the date of the American Revolution.

John Sollitt was taught the trade of a wheelwright, and followed the same in the land of his birth until about 1836. He had married Miss Mary Pruitt, of his own shire, and to them had been born two children prior to their removal to America. They settled in Kingston, Canada, where Mr. Sollitt engaged as a builder, leaving that city for the United States after a sojourn of two years. He located in what was then a small village, but has now grown to be the second city in the United States and a power in commercial circles.

It is worthy of note that Mr. Sollitt was a poor man with a wife and three children to support and but \$5 he could call his own when he reached Chicago. The first work he obtained was the construction of a stage curtain roller for the first theatre built in the city, and this job, although a small and simple one, secured him further work by its good execution. After he had gotten a start as a builder, Mr. Sollitt became a partner of Peck & Updike, and ere long was prominently recognized in his business. He built the first courthouse in Cook County.

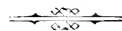
The wife of Mr. Sollitt died of the cholera, July 18, 1850, in the prime of life, leaving a family of small children without a mother's care. The husband contracted a second matrimonial alliance in Racine, Wis., choosing Mrs. Annie Wilson, *nee* Rountree, as his companion. This lady was born in County Durham, England, and was there married to Samuel Wilson, an Englishman. They came to the United States, locating in Buffalo, where Mr. Wilson died of the cholera. His widow afterward came West to Wisconsin, and after her marriage to Mr. Sollitt resided in Chicago until her health failed and they bought property for a country home in Will County. This farm, now

owned and operated by our subject, was the parental home until the death of the mother in 1871, when she was about fifty years old. She had borne her last husband two children—our subject and a sister, Blanche, now Mrs. Board, who resides in Oak Park, a part of Chicago.

John Sollitt was again married, the ceremony taking place in Racine County, Wis. The bride was Miss Ann Blackburn, also a native of England. She had come to this country when a young lady, and since her marriage, with the exception of the first two years, has lived in Chicago. Mr. Sollitt is a member of the Old Settlers' Society of that city.

Charles W. Sollitt won as his companion in life Miss Clara Marsh, an educated and refined woman who was born in Crete, January 13, 1858. She was reared and educated in this and Cook Counties, and was engaged in teaching for some time prior to her marriage. The wedding rites were celebrated at the bride's home in Matteson, Cook County, March 23, 1877. Her parents, Edwin and Mary (Frank) Marsh, are now living in Chicago rather retired, although they still own an interest in a ranch in Russell County, Kan.

Mr. and Mrs. Sollitt, of this notice, have had three children—Anna died at the age of three years; Leslie and John still live to gladden their parents hearts by their intelligence and affection. Mr. Sollitt is a Republican, and staunch in the faith. He and his good wife attend the Congregational Church at Beecher. They are respected and esteemed by their fellow-citizens as their merits demand.



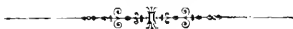
**J**OHNS BEDFORD, deceased, was a worthy member of the farming community of Plainfield Township, and during his busy career he was active in advancing its material interests, and we are pleased to be able to place this brief outline of his life on the pages of this volume. A native of Lincolnshire, England, he was born September 28, 1828, his father, bearing the same name, also being a native of England, and was three bred to farming pursuits and spent

his entire life on his native soil. Our subject was reared to an agricultural life, and resided in the land of his birth until 1852. Then in the prime of a vigorous, self-reliant manhood, he set out for the New World, trying to see what life held for him in this land of promise, embarking at Liverpool in the month of March on the sailing-vessel "Lady Ashburton." He landed in New York and came directly to Illinois, where he thought he would be most likely to prosper as a farmer. He found employment on a farm in Will County, and was engaged there for some time. In 1855 he returned to his old home, and in the same year was married to Miss Ann Foulston, a native of Lincolnshire, England. Her father, John Foulston, was born in Nottinghamshire, his father, of the same name, being a native of the same shire, where he carried on farming until his death. Mrs. Bedford's father was reared on a farm and followed agricultural pursuits, spending his entire life in the land of his birth. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Nicholson. They were the parents of eleven children, four of whom came to America—George, now deceased, resided in Illinois some years; James lived in Canada some years, spending the latter part of his life in Manitoba; Francis came to Illinois and has since died; Charles lives in this county.

In March, 1856, our subject again set sail for America, embarking on the vessel "Neptune," accompanied by his young bride, whom he was bringing with him to assist in the upbuilding of a home in his adopted country. Six weeks later they landed in New York, and came to Illinois and located at Lockport. Our subject was there engaged as an engineer, running a stationary engine for a few years. He then resumed the occupation to which he had been bred. In 1876 he bought the farm where his family now resides. This contains ninety-two acres of finely-cultivated land, provided with substantial buildings and every necessary improvement. It is very fertile, and is finely located four miles from Plainfield and eight miles from Joliet.

Ere he had attained to old age, and while it seemed as though he had many years of usefulness before him, his honorable career was cut short by

his untimely death, March 28, 1880. A man of sterling integrity, whose every day life bore testimony to the inherent uprightness of his character, by his demise the township lost one of its most respected and trustworthy citizens; his family a good husband and faithful father, who was always kind and considerate, and his neighbors, one who was always helpful in his relations with them. He deserved the prosperity that followed his work, as he labored conscientiously and perseveringly, and exercised sound judgment and due discretion in all his dealings. In his wife, who survives him, he always found a faithful and ready assistant, one to whose aid he was greatly indebted for the coziness and comfort of a good home. To them were born four children—Albert F., who lives with his mother; Walter S., who resides in Joliet; Lizzie J., who is in St. Louis; and Sarah J. at home. The family occupies a good social position, and all are attendants at the Episcopal Church.



**J**OSEPH F. LEISING, dealer in grain, lumber and live stock, established himself in business at Goodenow in 1877, and has conducted an extensive and successful business. He was formerly a book-keeper with the Crete Manufacturing Company, and possessing business talents of a high order, has naturally made steady progress until he is now numbered among the most reliable men of his town. He was born in the Province of Westphalen, Germany, December 1, 1845, and lived there until a young man of twenty-four years, coming in 1869 to America. During his residence of twenty years in his adopted country, he has become thoroughly adapted to her institutions which find in him one of their warmest defenders.

The father of our subject was Henry Leising, also a native of Westphalen, who spent his entire life in his native land, engaged in farming pursuits. He had served his country as a soldier and was a reliable and substantial citizen, and one who enjoyed in a marked degree the esteem of all who knew him. He was fifty-six years old at the

time of his death; he was married in early manhood to a maiden of his own province, Miss Elizabeth Senger, who survived her husband a number of years, living to be quite aged. Both were members of the German Catholic Church. There had been born to them two sons and three daughters of whom Joseph F. of this sketch was the eldest, and he was the only one who came to the United States. His two sisters are still residents of Westphalen one of them being married.

Mr. Leising in accordance with the laws and customs of his native country was placed in school at an early age and received a thorough education, becoming familiar with the French and Latin languages. He commenced his business career as a clerk and was thus occupied for nine years in his native province. Not being satisfied however, with his condition or his prospects, he decided upon seeking the New World and in the summer of 1869 repaired to the port of Bremen and took passage on a steamer bound for New York City. Arriving safely at his destination he at once set out for Chicago, but not long afterward came to Crete Township, where he soon found employment as a clerk and book-keeper and by his faithfulness and attention to his duties gained the goodwill of his employers and the esteem of all who knew him.

Mr. Leising was married at Crete to Miss Eliza, daughter of Andrew Schweidemann. The latter was a native of Bavaria and was married in the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg to Miss Elizabeth Miller. Later they emigrated to the United States, settling in Buffalo, N. Y., where the father conducted a hardware store for a number of years and died at the age of fifty-three. The mother and daughter then came to Illinois, locating in Crete Township where they lived until the marriage of the latter. The mother then returned to Buffalo where she is now living with one of her daughters. Although sixty years of age she is bright and active.

Miss Leising was born in Buffalo, N. Y., August 31, 1856, and was one of a family comprising two sons and two daughters, all of whom are living. She was subjected to careful parental training and after her father's death remained with her mother

until her marriage, obtaining her education in the common schools. Of her union with our subject there have been born five children, viz: Henrietta M. died aged eleven months; those living are: Ida S., Ella C., Leo A. II. and Augusta. Mr. Leising, politically, is decidedly in favor of the Democratic party and has served as Township Clerk, besides holding other minor offices. He is prompt to meet his obligations, a square man in his business transactions and looked upon in all respects as a representative citizen.



AMUEL G. NELSON, Supervisor and Justice of the Peace of Milton Township, is a native of Randolph County, Ind., and a son of John and Elizabeth (Gray) Nelson. His father was of Scotch-Irish descent, and was reared in Huntingdon County, Pa., he later removing to Kentucky and from there to Ohio. His next removal was to Randolph County, Ind., whence he went to Montgomery County, making his home on a farm four miles west of Crawfordsville. He represented his county in the Indiana Legislature, and at one time made a strong race for the State Senate from that district, but was defeated. In 1848 he came to Will County, Ill., where he died in 1851 at the residence of our subject. His life work was that of farming, and his labors were successful. During the War of 1812 he served in the American army. In politics he was a Democrat, and in religion a member of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. He was an own uncle of Senator Joseph E. McDonald, of the Hoosier State. His wife was born near Wheeling, W. Va., and died in this county in 1852.

The parental family consisted of the following-named children: McDonald, Esther, William T., Elizabeth, Sarah, Nancy, Samuel G., Mary and Daniel M. The only survivors of this household band are: William T., Samuel G., and Daniel M. He of whom we write was born May 8, 1827, and passed his early life on the farm in Montgomery County, Ind., receiving his education in the com-



mon schools, under the instruction of Joseph E. McDonald, later one of Indiana's prominent legislators. When about of age young Nelson came to Illinois, settling on the farm where he yet lives. He owns one hundred acres of land on section 3, his residence being in the village of Wallingford. Every dollar that he possesses has been made by his own exertions and in farming, which has been his life work.

In 1862 Mr. Nelson joined the Union Army as a private in Company H, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, but was soon elected First-Lieutenant of his company. In November, 1863, he was promoted to the Captaincy, and subsequently to the rank of Major, in which he finished his service. After the close of the war he was mustered out, June 12, 1865, at Huntsville, Ala., and at Chicago, Ill., was discharged July 1. During his campaign life Maj. Nelson bore a part in the famous battles of Stone River, Chattanooga, Mission Ridge and other conflicts of less prominence yet no less dangerous to those who participated. Among these were the engagements at Nashville, Franklin, and the minor affairs of the Georgia campaign as far south as Jonesville. At Mission Ridge he was wounded in the left hip by a minie ball.

The first marriage of Mr. Nelson was celebrated at the home of the bride in Wilton Township, Mrs. Abigail (Meacham) Nelson was born in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1830, and died August 29, 1855. She left one daughter, Elizabeth H., born September 24, 1851. On December 12, 1878, this daughter became the wife of Alexander Price, who died November 1, 1879. They had one son, Herbert A., who with his widowed mother now lives with our subject.

Mr. Nelson contracted a second matrimonial alliance May 1, 1856, choosing for his companion Miss Sarah A. Thomas, of Cook County. This lady was born in Florence Township, Oneida County, N. Y., in 1837, and died April 19, 1877. This marriage was blessed by the birth of six children, whose record is as follows: Celia J., who was born July 1, 1857, married William H. Warren, a farmer of Wilton Township, and has four children—Minnie, Celia, Ella and Walter; William T. was born May 21, 1859, and was killed by

the kick of a horse August 21, 1873; Sarah E. was born October 28, 1861, and died August 30, 1881; Mary M., born October 8, 1866, is the wife of Anthony F. Dennis, a farmer in Peotone Township, and has one daughter, Elsie M. James M. was born January 1, 1872, and Laura B., November 29, 1875.

For eighteen years Mr. Nelson has held the official station of Justice of the Peace, and is serving his sixteenth year as Township Supervisor. He takes daily and weekly papers in sufficient numbers to keep himself thoroughly informed in the progress of mankind and the news of the day, and is much better read and more intelligent than most men. His home is one in which both friends and strangers are sure of a cordial welcome and the best of entertainment he can give; while to enterprises of genuine worth he is a liberal contributor. Although not connected with any religious organization, he believes in and supports them. He has always been a Democrat and taken an active interest in party affairs. He belongs to the Independent Order of Old Fellows.

DAVID S. STEPHEN. This gentleman occupies a prominent position among the business men of Frankfort Station, being proprietor of the Frankfort machine shop, a dealer in engines, machines, pumps, pipes, etc., and also occupying the official station of Justice of the Peace. He is a son of Joseph and Jane (Garden) Stephen, both of whom were born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. Joseph Stephen studied for the ministry, and during his college life was a classmate of the famous Lord Byron. He began his ministerial labors in his native shire, as pastor of a Baptist Church, abandoning his field of labor there in 1843, when he crossed the Atlantic and located in Canada. There he engaged as clerk for a Mr. Barnet, a contractor on the Welland Canal.

After sojourning in the Dominion a year, Mr. Stephen came to the United States, accompanying his employer to Lockport, this county, where he died not long after. The disease which caused his death was bilious fever, and he was then sixty-

three years old. He was an ardent Abolitionist, preaching the doctrine from the pulpit and writing upon the question of slavery for the public press. During his boyhood he had become proficient as a mechanic, having inherited a taste for handicraft from his father, William Stephen, a native of Wales, and a practical mechanic, who had served for a time in the English army.

After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Jane Stephen became the wife of James Logan, and they are living at Frankfort Station. By her first union she became the mother of five children, viz.: Jane, Mrs. Bruce, who died in Lockport Township; David S., our subject; E. C., who is running a planing, saw and feed mill, and manufacturing general wood work in Frankfort; Joseph S., a machinist in Chicago; George W., who died when eleven years old. Joseph S. served in the Twentieth Illinois Infantry three months, and re-enlisted in another regiment, serving until discharged on account of physical disability. When sufficiently recovered he enlisted again, continuing to act in defense of his country until honorably discharged at the close of the war. The second union of the mother of our subject was blessed by the birth of one child, William H. Logan, now constant in Frankfort.

The birthplace of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch was St. Fergus, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, and his natal day March 14, 1839. Until he was five years old he was reared in his native village, and he then went to live with his grandfather at Almouth, where he remained until his parents removed to America, when he accompanied them hither. He traveled by steam to Edinburg, thence by rail to Glasgow, where the family embarked on the "Naverina." After a tedious voyage of ten weeks, landing was made in New York City, whence they went to St. Catharines, Canada, and then to Thorwald, seven miles from Niagara Falls, whose roar they could distinctly hear.

The removal to Illinois was made by a steamer to Chicago, which was then but a village, and by team to Lockport. A home was made on the Barnett farm, in the township of Homer, and the lad began his attendance at the common schools,

Previous to this time he had been instructed entirely by his parents, and he was able to begin his school life in the Third Reader class. The Indians had left this region not long before and the country was an almost unbroken prairie, neighbors were few and far between, and all the surroundings were of a primitive nature. Some four or five years later he of whom we write, and his brother, E. C., walked to Frankfort Township, where their stepfather bought a farm, on which our subject lived until his eighteenth birthday.

During his early years David Stephen was occupied in farm pursuits, but when eighteen he began working as a millwright and carpenter finding employment in Joliet and Lockport. He also engaged somewhat in jobbing and repairing, all handicraft coming naturally to him as an inheritance from his mechanical ancestors. Not only had his father and grandfather Stephen been excellent mechanics, but his grandfather Garden was also a fine workman as a millwright and plowwright, and the efficient proprietor of a general implement shop in Aberdeenshire. Young Stephen drilled during the late war and volunteered, but was rejected by the examining physician.

In 1863 our subject and his brother, E. C., opened a machine and repair shop in Frankfort, the connection continuing three years, after which the older brother retired, and spent three years in Kalamazoo County, Mich. In 1871 the partnership was resumed, and the firm of D. S. & E. C. Stephen built a machine shop, feed mill, sawmill and other edifices, continuing in partnership until 1889, when the connection was again dissolved. Since that time our subject has been carrying on his present business, having a fine set of machinery for working iron, and doing a large trade in repairing engines and other machines, and manufacturing a double-force pump of the Stephen Bros' invention. He has manifested an unusual degree of enterprise, and has a reputation for mechanical skill which is unexcelled.

At the home of the bride in Frankfort, in November, 1867, the rites of wedlock were celebrated between Mr. Stephen and Addie C. Bathrick. The bride was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, was educated in Buffalo, N. Y., and was for a time en-





*Lehas Richards*

gaged in teaching, a profession for which her culture, tact and fine character well fitted her. She is a daughter of the Rev. Stephen Bathrick, a Free Will Baptist minister and also a practicing homeopathic physician. He labored in various States—New York, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, etc.—ably advancing the cause of Christianity for years. He entered into rest in Frankfort, this county, in 1880. To Mr. and Mrs. Stephen two children have been born, named respectively Marian F. and Edwin L.

Mr. Stephen is now serving his third term as Justice of the Peace, and his second term as a member of the Board of Village Trustees. A man of ripe intelligence, good judgment and firm principles, he proves an efficient worker for the prosperity and order of the town. He belongs to Joliet Lodge, No. 42, F. & A. M. He is a staunch Republican, politically, and has frequently been sent as a delegate to county conventions.



**D**R. CHARLES RICHARDS. The medical profession of Will County received a worthy addition in 1868, by the advent of Dr. Richards, who thereafter prosecuted a successful practice until his death, which occurred February 5, 1890. He was born in Newport, Herkimer County, N. Y., July 26, 1832, and was the son of Richard and Mary Agnes (Newton) Richards, who spent their last years in Ohio.

When Charles was a lad of ten years, his parents removed to New Haven, Ohio, where he completed the rudiments of an English education, and, when of suitable years, began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. F. G. Armstrong. Later he attended lectures at the Albany Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1855. He continued his residence at New Haven, and followed his profession until coming to Illinois.

During his citizenship in Joliet, Dr. Richards won the respect and esteem of all by his sterling qualities of heart and mind. Not only was he skilled in dispensing medicines, but he possessed that sympathetic and genial nature which at once

inspired confidence among his patients, and which was often of more assistance to them in their recovery than anything which could be obtained from the pharmacist. Dr. Richards built up a large and profitable practice, and in social as well as business circles was a universal favorite. From 1870 to 1874 he held the office of County Coroner, and for some time he was Secretary of the Will County Medical Society. His religious belief coincided with the doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was a leading light in Joliet, and of which his widow is also a member. Politically, Dr. Richards was a staunch Republican, and was influential in his party in this portion of the State.

The marriage of Dr. Charles Richards and Miss Harriet, daughter of Thomas T. and Phebe (Stewart) Mulford, was celebrated at the bride's home, in New Haven, Ohio, March 25, 1858. Mrs. Richards was born March 19, 1835, in New Haven, Ohio, and was one of a family of six children born to her parents. The latter were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, and are now deceased. Mrs. Richards, who survives her husband, is a lady of excellent character, and highly respected in the community. She occupies a beautiful home on Richards Avenue, and enjoys the friendship and association of the best people in the city. To her active co-operation may be attributed not a little of the Doctor's success, for she was a true helpmate to him in every sense of the word.

In connection with this sketch we present a lithographic portrait of Dr. Richards. He is remembered affectionately by a very large circle of acquaintances, to whom his worthy traits of character endeared him. He was distinguished not less for his kindness of heart than for his superior talents of mind, and, as became a true Christian, his word was always as good as his bond.



**W**ILLIAM C. TROWBRIDGE, junior member of the firm of Tillotson & Trowbridge, is familiarly known as one of the editors and publishers of the *Crete Journal* and its aux-

iliaries, which includes the local interests of Bloom, Monee, Beecher, Matteson and Goodenow. The combination of papers was established by Mr. W. H. Gardner, in March, 1888, and in May following he was succeeded by the present firm. They have a *bono fide* issue of five hundred copies weekly, and publish a paper which is heartily welcomed by the people of this region, being full of local news, and treating concisely all the important topics of the day.

Mr. Trowbridge is a practical printer, with an experience of eight years as foreman of the *Breeders' Journal*, a stock paper formerly published at Beecher, Ill. He served a full apprenticeship at the "art preservative" in Lewistown, Pa., and Grand Rapids, Mich., and subsequently was employed five years in the State Printing Office at Lansing. His native place was Altoona, Pa., and the date of his birth April 11, 1856. His father, William S. Trowbridge, was born in Granville, Washington County, N. Y., August 21, 1825, and died October 5, 1889, at Grand Rapids, Mich. The latter was of staunch New England stock, and on account of the death of his father when he was but a boy, was thrown upon his own resources at an early age. He learned the trade of an iron moulder at Poultney, Vt., and later emigrated to Harrisburg, Pa., where he followed his trade and was married to Miss Henrietta Kuhn. Mrs. Trowbridge was born and reared in Harrisburg, and was the daughter of Jacob and Susan Kuhn, who died there.

After their marriage the elder Trowbridge and his wife remained for some years residents of Harrisburg and then removed to Altoona, Pa., where the father operated some time as a foundryman. He then removed to Juniata County, and later to Lewistown, where he became the employe of a firm engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements. He was thus occupied until the fall of 1863, and then, the Civil War being in progress, enlisted in the Two Hundred and First Pennsylvania Infantry, in which he served until the close of the war, when he received his honorable discharge.

Returning now to his home and family in Lewistown, Pa., the father of our subject not long afterward took charge of the smelting department

of the Freedom Steel Works, one of the largest manufacturing enterprises of the kind in Pennsylvania, and he there remained until 1870. We next find him making his way to Grand Rapids, Mich., where he was joined by his family in 1871, and where he spent the remainder of his life. In Grand Rapids he was manager of Chubb's Agricultural Implement Works. He was a skilled workman, and was of that genial and companionable disposition which drew around him hosts of friends. His religious views coincided with the doctrines of the Episcopal Church.

The mother of our subject died at her home in Grand Rapids, Mich., in March, 1875, aged about sixty years. She, like her husband, was a member of the Episcopal Church. There were born to them ten children, seven of whom, five daughters and two sons, are yet living. These with one exception are all married. William C. is next to the eldest, and like them obtained his education principally in his native county. He accompanied the family in the removal to Grand Rapids, Mich., and was there married, March 10, 1876, to Miss Lelia M. Wilkins. This lady was born in Grand Rapids, August 31, 1856, and was carefully reared and educated. She grew up an accomplished and intelligent woman, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of three children, viz.: F. Winona, William Roy and Myron. Mr. and Mrs. Trowbridge are members of the Congregational Church at Crete, and Mr. Trowbridge, politically, is a sound Republican.



**J**OHN DAY. No member of the farming community of this county is more worthy of representation in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM than this gentleman, who has been identified with the agricultural interests of this part of the State for many years, and now owns and occupies a choice place of ten acres in Plainfield Township, and also one hundred and eighty-two acres in Du Page Township.

Mr. Day is of English birth, born in Lincolnshire, April 2, 1836. His father, bearing the same

name as himself, was a native of the same shire, and his grandfather was a life-long resident there. The father of our subject was reared on a farm in his native county, and was there employed in agricultural pursuits until 1856, when he came to America and settled in Illinois, buying a home with our subject in DuPage Township, and living there until his useful life was closed by death. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Rebecca Brickles, and she was also a native of England. She spent her last years at the home of our subject at Plainfield. She and her husband were the parents of four children, namely: Mary, William, John and Sophia. The latter died at the age of four years, and the others came to America. Mary married William Pepper. They located in this county, and she is now deceased. William located in Manhattan, but is now residing in Joliet.

John, of whom we write, was reared in the land of his birth until he was eighteen years of age. He had heard of America, and being an ambitious, self-reliant, adventurous youth, he longed to try his fortunes here, but was restrained by his parents from coming to this country until the age mentioned. Having finally obtained their permission, he set sail from Liverpool April 2, 1854, and after a tedious voyage of seven weeks landed in New York. He started thence at once to Illinois to join friends at Plainfield. He immediately sought employment here, as he needed the money, and soon found work on a farm at \$16 a month. He was thus engaged for about three years, and then rented land on shares until 1866, when he bought ninety-one acres of land on section 30, DuPage Township, and about eight years later bought ninety-one acres adjoining on the same section. He resided there until 1884, then rented the farm and came to town, and bought the pleasant residence in which he has since lived retired, he having acquired a handsome competence by untiring and well-directed labors.

To the wife who makes this home cozy and attractive, Mr. Day was united in marriage in October, 1859. Mrs. Day's maiden name was Catherine Stratton, and she was born in Wayne County, Ohio, December 6, 1810. Her father,

William Stratton, was a native of New Jersey, and moving from there to Ohio, located among the pioneers of Wayne County, and there spent the remainder of his life. The maiden name of his wife was Barbara Hicks. She was born, it is thought, in Pennsylvania, and was of Dutch descent. She spent her last years in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Day have three children living—Sophia A., Lizzie J. and Carrie O.

Our subject is in every sense of the word a self-made man, as all that he is and has he owes to his own exertions. He is a man of self-respecting character, is well dowered with firmness, activity and sound business qualifications, and is classed among our best citizens.



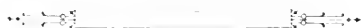
**A**LBERT L. DAVIS. The subject of this notice, who is a familiar figure among the mercantile interests of Joliet, was born October 7, 1845, in Dublin, Wayne County, Ind. His parents were Norton and Ellen (Chamberlin) Davis, who were natives of New York. Norton Davis spent his early years in his native county of Monroe, and after reaching man's estate occupied himself at various employments, and was successful financially. For many years he operated a machine-shop, and was engaged in the manufacture of farming implements at Dublin, Ind. He died there on the 1th of December, 1883. He was a man of fine business abilities, the architect of his own fortune, commencing life without means at the age of sixteen years, and gained for himself a good position socially and financially.

The mother of our subject survived her husband seven years, dying February 9, 1890, at the old homestead in Dublin, Ind. The parental household consisted of six children, only two of whom are living—Albert L. and Walter C., the latter living in Cambridge City, Ind., where he follows the occupation of a jeweler.

Albert L. attained his early education in the common schools, and later he entered Miami Commercial College, from which he was graduated in 1861. He commenced his business career as a

book-keeper for the firm of Davis, Lawrence & Co., which subsequently was known as the Wayne Agricultural Company, and Mr. Davis held his position with the firm for a period of twelve years. In 1886, in company with S. S. Chamberlin, he engaged in the furniture and undertaking business at Lockport, and the firm holds a leading position among the business interests of the place. In July, 1888, he entered into partnership with the firm now known as S. S. Chamberlin & Co.

Mr. Davis was married January 21, 1869, at the bride's home in Dayton, Ohio, to Miss Clara S. Odell. This lady was born August 18, 1819, in that city and is the daughter of Thomas W. and Caroline L. Odell, who were natives respectively of Canada and Ohio. This union resulted in the birth of four children, viz.: Nelle C., Arthur R., Clarence O. and Ada N. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity in Joliet, being a Knight Templar. He has one of the most valuable collections of ancient and Roman coins in this country, some of them dating back as far as three and four hundred years before Christ. He and his wife are both active members of the Universalist Church, and hold membership in the First Universalist Church in Dublin, Ind.



**T**HOMAS TUCKER. The agricultural element that has been so largely instrumental in the upbuilding of Will County is well represented by this gentleman, who is one of the foremost farmers and stock-breeders of Monee Township, where he owns a large and valuable farm.

Mr. Tucker was born September 27, 1835, near Shasherry, Dorchester, England, a son of Luke and Sarah Tucker, who were natives of the same place as their son. His father was a farmer during his early life but for many years he was engaged as a collector of tithes for the church. He and his wife had a family of eight children: Elizabeth Rose, of England; Ann, who became the wife of George Hitchcock and died in England, leaving a son and

daughter; Israel is a resident of Chicago; Mary, wife of Abraham Scrivens, of Will Township; Sarah married Thomas Randerson, and has since died; Thomas; Stephen; John, the eldest, died in England. The mother of our subject died in England about 1842, and his father with five children came to the United States two years later, landing after a voyage of eight weeks, arriving in Syracuse on the Fourth of July, in season to celebrate our great National holiday. Mr. Tucker was a resident of that city about thirteen years, and subsequently going to Chicago died there in September, 1876, aged eighty-three years and five months.

A lad of only nine years when he came to this country, our subject has been reared under its institutions and was educated in its public schools, and no native-born citizen is more loyal than he. He followed farming in Syracuse until 1858, when he came to Chicago with his brother Stephen and was engaged in the butchering business there for some years. In the spring of 1863 he took a most important step in life, as he then came to this county to resume his early occupation as an agriculturist and located on the farm where he now resides. This comprises two hundred and forty acres, supplied with all substantial improvements and he has besides much other land. He has two hundred and forty acres adjoining in Monee, one hundred and sixty acres in Will Township, and has eighty acres of the two hundred and forty acres which he and his brothers owned jointly at one time. Mr. Tucker began life without a dollar and has acquired all this valuable property by the exercise of keen judgment, incessant industry and the wise economy that knows when to spend as well as when to spare money, and is numbered among our moneyed men who are using their influence to advance the town and county in every direction. Mr. Tucker takes a leading place in the township as a stock-breeder, and for the last six years has made a specialty of rearing Hereford cattle, importing a part of his herd directly from England. He is also interested in raising horses, the Hambletonian stock being his favorite, of which he has some fine specimens.

May 3, 1860, Mr. Tucker and Miss Ann Shevlin were united in marriage. She was born in County



Donegal, Ireland, a daughter of Charles and Ann (Gollahar) Shevlin, who were also natives of that county, where the father carried on farming. Mrs. Tucker was one of a family of four children, the others being James, of Chicago; Mary, of New Jersey; and Edward, of Chicago. The latter, the eldest, was the first to come to the United States, he coming in 1857 and Mrs. Tucker in 1859. This marriage of our subject has been blessed to him and his wife by the birth of nine children, namely: Ann; Sarah Mary, wife of James O'Shea, of Chicago; Thomas, Emma, Rose, Charles; Stephen, who died at the age of twelve; Anna, and Israel.

During an honorable career as a sagacious, enterprising agriculturist, Mr. Tucker has displayed in a good degree those solid traits of character that are needful to the attainment of good fortune in any calling, and in his dealings with all, either in a business or social way, he has ever shown himself to be a man of honor and truthfulness. He is a consistent member of the Baptist Church, and his wife is a devoted communicant of the Roman Catholic Church. Politically, our subject is a sound Republican.



**C**HARLES SCHIRRA. This gentleman is numbered among the practical and successful farmers of Crete Township, in which he has resided since 1865. He now owns two hundred and thirty-five acres of land on section 7, it being well improved, well stocked, and well cultivated. Farming has been the life work of Mr. Schirra and in its pursuit he has brought to bear a marked degree of determination, intelligence, and keenness of observation. As a reliable citizen, an affectionate husband and parent, and an individual interested in the world's progress, he receives the respect of those about him and fills a worthy place in the list of foreign-born citizens.

The parents of our subject were Nicholas and Mary (Loufe) Schirra, both of whom were natives of Prussia, the former being of French ancestry and the latter of German blood. Both lived to a good old age, spending their entire lives in their

native land. Mr. Schirra was usually employed at farm labor. He and his wife belonged to the German Catholic Church. They were the parents of seven sons and three daughters, the subject of this sketch being the third child.

In one of the Rhine Provinces, Charles Schirra was born April 17, 1817. He obtained a good German education and becoming a farmer worked as a tiller of the soil in his native land until thirty years old. He then, in the spring of 1847, started to America, taking passage at Antwerp on a sailing vessel and spending forty-two days on the Atlantic. He was followed to this country in later years by two brothers and a sister, all of whom are yet living. He landed in New York City without means to continue his journey, and he therefore worked his way to Chicago, which he reached sometime in the fall. He worked in various parts of Cook County until 1853, when he purchased one hundred and fifteen acres of land in Bloom Township, upon which he remained until he became a resident of Will County. His first purchase here was of two hundred acres, to which he afterward added.

In Rich Township, Cook County, he of whom we write was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Ladoux, with whom he lived happily until June 14, 1876, when she was called hence by the angel of death. She was then forty-eight years of age, having been born in Switzerland, December 25, 1827. Her parents Joseph and Lizzie Ladoux were natives of Switzerland, who upon coming to the United States in 1845, settled at once in Rich Township, Cook County, where they began to improve a farm. After some years the mother died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mary Goodseid, being then in her seventy-second year. The father afterward came to Crete Township, Will County, and died at the home of his son, Joseph, he also being seventy-two years old. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ladoux belonged to the Catholic Church.

To Mr. Schirra and his good wife, fourteen children were born. John and Charles died young and they also lost an infant. Of the living children we note the following: Eliza married Peter Wehren, a furniture dealer who lives in Madison, Cook County; Matilda is the wife of Peter

Schmidt, their home being in Chicago; Carrie became the wife of Sebastain J. Lux, who is now deceased and she lives on her father's farm; Joseph is operating a farm in this township; Phillip C. lives in Monee Township; Ida M. is the wife of Metz Miller, a carpenter in Chicago; Charles C. and Anna A. are at home; George is now associated with his brother, Joseph, in operating a farm; Walter P. and Jacob O. are at home. All the children were educated in both German and English and are intelligent, well informed, and manifesting energy and thrift. Mr. Schirra is a sound Democrat.



**J**OHN T. CLYNE is one of the bright and enterprising young business men of Will County, being closely identified with its stock interests. He is connected with S. W. Simmons in the breeding and handling of trotting stock and they are the proprietors of the Stone City Stables in Joliet, where they have a fine stud of horses. They issue the Will County *Horseman*, of which our subject is the business manager. They are making a great success of this paper published in the interests of the turfmen, as it already has a good circulation. It is a four-column, eight-page quarto, having been enlarged from a four-page sheet. Our subject comes of sterling New York ancestry and is a native of that State, born in Cohoes, Albany County, December 8, 1857, to James and Catherine Clyne. His mother was the daughter of John and Mary Quinn, of Washington County, N. Y., who were of Irish descent. The father of our subject was the son of Thomas and Margaret (McCormick) Clyne, the latter a native of Oneida County, and the old homestead on which she was born is still in possession of the family. Her ancestry came to America in Colonial times, Thomas Clyne was born in County Longford, Ireland, his father having gone there from Germany during the exodus from that country.

Our subject was reared in the city of his birth until he attained the age of nine years and there

laid the foundation of his education. At that age he commenced working in the knitting factories and was thus employed until 1875, when at the age of seventeen, on a certain Sunday evening, he and his "chum" started out to make their fortune in the West. His friend, Martin Mahon, is now a wealthy man in San Francisco, Cal. When our subject thus ventured out into the world he had but a few dollars in his pocket, and after traveling some days he secured a job in a sash and blind shop at ninety cents per day. He worked there two weeks and then left to learn the trade of a bricklayer, but the contractor skipped the county and left him in the lurch. Fortunately he had a friend who could and did lend him \$5, and he made his way to Lockport, where he obtained work in the harvest field and was there employed nine days, which was his first experience of farm life, and for the next three years he was engaged in agricultural pursuits, the last two working for Judge Simmons, the father of his partner. Feeling the need of a better education he entered a good school at Valparaiso, Ind., and was closely engaged in study there for a year. He then returned to Plainfield and worked for the same man for a time and then resumed his scholastic pursuits and was in school for a year, paying his own way in the meantime. When he had completed his education he again went back to Plainfield and there took part in a ceremony which has had an important bearing on his after life as he was at that time married to Miss Anna L., daughter of John and Hannah McClosky. She is an earnest Christian and a consistent member of the Methodist Church. Of her happy union with our subject three sons have been born—Mead, Wade, and Vard.

After marriage our subject utilized his education by teaching school in DuPage. He subsequently took charge of the business of J. W. Funk, who was a great horse shipper and contractor. After that Mr. Clyne was appointed to take charge of the County Poor House, under Judge Simmons, and was keeper for three years, and then was made Superintendent of the Poor, and continued in that position from 1885 until the present time. He is now associated with S. W. Simmons, as before mentioned. They have a valuable stud of horses of which we may mention Dictator, Jr., son of Dictator and

Delwood a member of the Nutwood family; Ali Bushaw, son of Greens Bushaw; T. B. Mount, representative of old Almont, No. 33; Harry and Leo McGregor, descendants of the famous Robert Gregor of time 2:17½, and many others of considerable note.

Mr. Clyne is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Madison Lodge, No. 175; Chapter of Joliet, No. 27, and also belongs to the Joliet Commandery of Knight Templars, No. 4. As a public-spirited citizen fully alive to the best interests of his county and township, he is a thoroughbred Republican and takes a great interest in politics and has been instrumental in getting many good measures through the State Legislature, notably, the opening of the boulevard at Joliet. A man of ambitious, forceful character, well-trained intellect, and excellent habits, our subject is an influence for good in the community and exerts himself to promote its advancement.



**J**OHN GOUGAR. This aged veteran, who has passed the eightieth year of his age, has been a resident of New Lenox Township since 1830. He has seen much of pioneer life, contributed his full quota to the development of the agricultural resources of this section, and is now in the enjoyment of a competence, being able to look back upon a well spent life, and feeling that his labors have not been in vain. During his long residence in Will County he has gathered around him hosts of friends, who have long recognized his sterling qualities, and whose confidence and esteem he enjoys in a marked degree. The biographer finds him pleasantly situated in a beautiful home, amidst all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

The immediate progenitors of Mr. Gougar were William and Catherine (Abel) Gougar, natives of Pennsylvania, and the father born in Berks County. They were reared and married in the Keystone State, but in 1818 removed to Ohio, and lived eight years in Pickaway County. Thence they removed to Vermillion County, Ind., and from there,

in June, 1831, to Illinois, settling on section 18, in what is now New Lenox Township. The father tilled the soil successfully, and constructed a good homestead from a tract of wild land, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying March 31, 1861. The mother died January 6, 1851.

To the parents of our subject there was born a family of eleven children, nine sons and two daughters, eight of whom are living. John, our subject, was the eldest of the family, and was born in Northumberland County, Pa., March 20, 1810; he accompanied the family in their removals to Ohio and Indiana, and attained to manhood on a farm in Vermillion County, where he sojourned until the fall of 1830. He then came to what was then Cook, but is now Will County, Ill., and settled on section 18, New Lenox Township, of which he has since been a resident. He thus bears the distinction of being one of the oldest living settlers of this county.

Mr. Gougar remained a bachelor until a man of thirty-nine years, and then he met his fate in the person of Miss Mary Ann Miller, to whom he was married in Joliet, January 2, 1849. Mrs. Gougar was born May 21, 1813, near Shippensburg, Pa., and was the daughter of Jacob and Mary (Boots), Miller, likewise natives of the Keystone State, in the eastern part of which they spent the closing years of their lives. They were the parents of nine children, two of whom are living.

Our subject and his wife commenced their wedded life together at the home which they now own and occupy. Of their union there has been born one child only, a son, Lewis F., November 15, 1852. He has spent his entire life at the old farm, and for many years past has had the chief management of it, relieving his parents from many cares. He was given a good education in the schools of New Lenox Township and at Englewood, Ill. For several years he has been a School Director in his district, and also served as Overseer of Highways. Both parents and son are regular attendants of the Episcopal Church.

John Gougar cast his first Presidential vote for Van Buren, and from that day to this has continued a staunch supporter of the Democratic party. He served in the Black Hawk War, being a member

of a company of mounted volunteers, under the command of Capt. Holden Scission, and had three brothers—Williams, Nicholas and Daniel—who served in the same company, all being mustered into service in August, 1832. During the early days the post-office was at the house of Mr. Gougar, Cornelius Van Horn acting as Postmaster, and constituted one of the stations between Danville and Chicago. Mr. Gougar served on the petit jury in Chicago, walking the entire distance. In 1830 he went to mill with an ox-team to a place near Ottawa. He hauled his grain and other produce to Chicago, also drove his live-stock there to market. Upon one occasion, during the Black Hawk War, he in company with David Magnet, sought safety in a cave north of Joliet, where they remained undisturbed until the danger was past.

Near the residence of Mr. Gougar is an old Indian burying ground. During the early days the pioneers endured untold hardship, and but few survived to tell the tale. The subject of this notice is looked upon as one of the old landmarks, whose career has been one of more than ordinary interest. He traces his ancestry to Germany, and the family was first represented in America probably during the Colonial days. Mr. Gougar has in his possession a German Bible, which was printed about 1600, and which is carefully preserved as an invaluable relic. He has made for himself a good record, and his name will be held in kindly remembrance long after he has been gathered to his fathers. Two of his brothers, who have also been men of note in their community, are represented elsewhere in this volume.



JOHN CANN stands among the leaders of the stock-raising and farming interests of Will Township, where he owns a farm which in point of cultivation and general improvement is scarcely surpassed by any in the neighborhood. Mr. Cann was born and bred in England, Tavistock Parish, Devonshire, being his native place, and April 30, 1851, the date of his birth. His parents, Thomas and Elizabeth (White) Cann,

were also natives of that place. During some period of his life his father moved to Plymouth, England, where he had a position on the police force. He was a farmer and butcher by occupation. He was the father of six children, of whom four grew to maturity, namely: Salina, now deceased; John; George (living in England), and Samuel H. The mother, who died in her native land, was a devoted Christian, and a member of the Church of England. The father came to the United States in September, 1875, and made his home with his children. He was one of a family of three sons and three daughters, of whom he was the only one who ever came to the United States. The names of his brothers and sisters were Joseph, John, Elizabeth, Julianna, and Mary. Our subject's mother was a daughter of John White, who had three sons and three daughters: John, who lives in Iowa, and Mary, wife of James Joslyn, of Kansas, being the only members of the family to come to this country.

John Cann, of this sketch, passed his boyhood and youth in his English home, receiving his education in the local schools. In the month of April, 1860, in the dawning of a vigorous, manly manhood, he embarked for America to begin life anew on this soil, accompanying thither his cousin, George Berry. For awhile after landing on these shores he lived near Niagara Falls. In April, 1871, he removed to Peotone, and worked on a farm there, and was also employed at one time in Chicago, till 1876. In that year he located on his present farm, and two years later he began his independent existence as proprietor and manager of a farm of his own, buying this of its former owner and from its rich harvest fields he reaps a good income. It is pleasantly located on section 8, and its one hundred and sixty acres are in a fine state of cultivation. He does a good general farming business and for the past six years he has been paying particular attention to raising Short-horn cattle.

To the wife who has materially assisted him in making their cosy home and looks so carefully to the comfort of the household, Mr. Cann was united in marriage August 21, 1872. Mrs. Cann's maiden name was Amelia Ahlborn, and she was born in New York City, July 31, 1856, to William and





*Yours Truly*  
*William Dougall, M.D.*

Amelia (Epson) Ahlborn, who came from Germany to Monce in 1855, and located on a farm, where the father subsequently died. His widow now resides in Peotone. Of the three children born to her, two are living, Amelia and Henry. She has married a second time, taking as her husband Henry Raphof, by whom she has one child, George. The wedded life of our subject and his estimable wife has been blessed by the eight children born to them: George, William, Herbert, Clarence, Thomas and Richard. Two of their children died, one in infancy and one at ten years.

The years that have passed away since our subject landed in this country have been fraught with much care and labor, but every obstacle has been steadily conquered by a quiet determination to turn everything to his advantage as far as practicable, and by wise economy and thrifty management he has placed himself in an honorable position among his fellow-townsmen, he having increased the small capital of \$5 with which he landed in this country, to a comfortable competence. He is always interested in the welfare of his adopted township, and has aided in its material and moral elevation. At one time he served as Road Commissioner, working faithfully to improve the local highways. His wife belongs to the Presbyterian Church and identifies herself with all its good work.



**W**ILLIAM DOUGALL, M. D. On the opposite page appears a lithographic portrait of Dr. Dougall, whose long residence in Will County, together with his active participation in all worthy measures for the development of the resources of the community, has made him prominent both socially and in the ranks of the profession. His life has been such as to shed an added lustre on a good old name, and he inherits those substantial traits of character which have rendered the Scotch famous amid a galaxy of nations. It has been said that there are two kinds of education, one which is received at school, and the other, more

important, which we give ourselves. Dr. Dougall was fortunate in gaining each kind of training, and as a result his character has been rounded out and developed, while he has acquired those habits of perseverance and energy, which are so essential to success in any profession.

Our subject, who was the fifth son of John and Margaret (Houston) Dougall, was born at Funderwood, Paisley, Scotland, March 1, 1812. His father, who was a leading cotton spinner in the west of Scotland, came with his family to this country in 1858, and purchased a farm near New Haven, Ind. On this homestead he died December 28, 1874, having reached the ripe age of seventy five years. His life was characterized by sincere piety, uncompromising rectitude, and by social qualities which secured for him the love and esteem of his neighbors. The mother of Dr. Dougall was born January 1, 1801, in the village and parish of Houston, Renfrewshire, Scotland, and was descended from a French-Huguenot family who left France at the time of the massacre of St. Bartholomew. She survived her husband several years, dying June 17, 1888. The family included twelve children, eight of whom survive. These are Mrs. David McGregor, of Manchester, England; Mrs. John Hadden, of Milwaukee, Wis.; James, of the Royal Botanic Gardens in Glasgow, Scotland; Allan H., of Ft. Wayne, Ind.; David, of Georgetown, British Guiana, South America; Mrs. Dr. M. F. Williamson, and our subject of Joliet, Ill.; and Mrs. J. F. Beuret, of Antwerp, Ohio.

The family are truly cosmopolitan. Of the four who are deceased, one is buried in Scotland, one in England, one in America and one in China. The widow of the eldest son lives in London, England; some of the grandchildren live in Lisbon, Portugal; and in China are to be found a son-in-law, granddaughter, and three great-grandchildren. These are the family of a beloved daughter, Isabelle F. Williamson, who after thirty years spent in the mission field of China, died, and was buried in August, 1886, in the field which she had selected for her life work. Her memory survives her, perpetuated as it is by numerous translations and a widely known and celebrated work entitled "Old Highways in China." Such is the family to which the

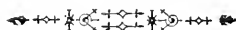
subject of this sketch belongs and he is a worthy representative of a good old stock.

William Dougall was educated at the High School at Glasgow, an institution founded in the twelfth century. Here he finished his preparations for the study of medicine, upon which he was about to enter, when the change of circumstance and location by reason of his father's emigration to America, compelled him to relinquish for a time his projected career. Upon the breaking out of the Civil War he quickly responded to the call for troops, and on June 1, 1861, enlisted in Company C, Fiftieth Indiana Infantry, at Ft. Wayne. He served with his command in every engagement, sustaining severe wounds at the battle of Stone River, Tenn. On October 1, 1863, having passed the "regular" examination he was commissioned Captain in the Thirteenth United States Colored Infantry, in which capacity he acted, often with an independent command, until the close of the war, when he resigned. His brother, Allan Houscoun Dougall, was also a Captain and Adjutant of the Eighty-eighth Indiana Infantry.

On his return from the field William Dougall took up his medical studies, subsequently taking the regular medical course in the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and remaining there during 1866-'67. On March 4, 1868, he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine from the Chicago Medical College, and on the first of the following month began the practice of his profession at Lemont, Cook County, Ill. He was married October 1, 1872, to Miss Cassie Walker, daughter of Edwin Walker, of Lemont, and then removed to Joliet, where he now resides. Here he has followed his profession with great success and has especially distinguished himself by his skill in surgical cases. He takes a laudable interest in the advancement of his profession, in which he has secured a leading position.

Dr. Dougall is now President of the Board of Examining Surgeons for pensions at Joliet, and also President of the Will County Medical Society. In 1875, being an ardent Republican he was Chairman of the County Central Committee. As an organizer he possesses elements of success and is capable of ably assisting in the party work. In 1879 he was

appointed Postmaster at Joliet, a position which he held until 1883. At present he is Commander of Bartleson Post, No. 6, G. A. R. He is a gentleman of scholarly tastes and ripe culture, and is active in the promotion of all efforts for the material and social advancement of the community in which he lives.



**JOHN O. PIEPENBRINK.** Among the prosperous farmers of Crete Township he with whose name we introduce this sketch, holds no unimportant position. He has been successful as a tiller of the soil and has made a specialty of stock-raising, for which purpose he has one of the finest bodies of land within the township, this being located near the town limits and comprising seventy-three acres on section 16, and thirty-two acres on section 2, adjoining. The land is very fertile and improved with good buildings and has been occupied by Mr. Piepenbrink since the fall of 1878.

With the exception of eighteen months which he spent in the city of Joliet, Mr. Piepenbrink has been a resident of Crete Township since a child three years of age. He was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, January 5, 1847, and when three years old accompanied his parents, John and Sophia (Willie) Piepenbrink to the United States, they settling in Crete Township, where they are still living. The father purchased land, where with the aid of his estimable wife, they built up a good homestead which they still own and occupy. John O. was reared to habits of industry, becoming fully familiar with the various pursuits of farm life and remaining with his parents until settling about the establishment of a home of his own.

With the above-mentioned object in view, Mr. Piepenbrink was married April 5, 1875, at the bride's home in Crete Township to Miss Dora Orkenberg. This lady is a native of the same province in Germany as her husband and was born January 8, 1850. She likewise was a child of three years when her parents came to America, and they settled in Crete Township, where the father improved a farm and where both parents spent the



remainder of their days. Both were past seventy-four years of age, the mother surviving her husband but a short time. They were most excellent and worthy people and members in good standing of the Lutheran Church.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born four children, viz.: William O., Eda D., Albert F. and Martin J. Mr. and Mrs. Piepenbrink belong to the Lutheran Church at Crete and hold no secondary position among the leading people of their township. Mr. Piepenbrink, politically, affiliates with the Republican party and has held the various local offices. He is one of the Directors of the Crete Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company, a member of the Finance Committee and has been no unimportant factor in contributing to its success.



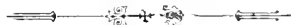
**F**RED SENHOLTZ. A well-improved farm of one hundred acres located on section 3, Washington Township, has been the life-long home of the gentleman above named, who now owns this part of the parental estate. He was born June 19, 1862, and was educated in the common schools of the neighborhood. He is well informed on general topics as well as in the work to which he has given his attention as a life labor. He is successfully conducting the vocation of a general farmer, keeping up the improvements on the homestead, and displaying many of the qualities which led his father to success in the same field of labor.

The chosen companion of Mr. Senholtz was known in her maidenhood as Miss Minnie Wehrmann. She was born in the same township as her husband, January 19, 1868, and reared and educated here under the oversight of worthy parents who had removed hence from Germany at an early day. They improved a farm which they still make their home. The happy union of Mr. and Mrs. Senholtz has been blessed by the birth of one child, Amel. Mr. Senholtz is a Republican and both he and his wife have good standing in the Lutheran Church.

The father of him of whom we write was Fred Senholtz, Sr., who was born in Germany and there reared to agricultural pursuits. In 1848, when

about of age, he came to the United States and journeying from the coast to Chicago found employment in that vicinity for some time. In Cook County he was married to Miss Augusta Trube, who was born in the Fatherland and when a young woman crossed the Atlantic, living in Chicago until her marriage. The young couple soon came to Will County and securing one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in Washington Township, made that their home during the balance of their lives.

The estate was increased to two hundred and eighty acres and placed under excellent improvement and cultivation. There three sons and three daughters were born to the worthy couple, the subject of this union being the second son and child. But one of the fraternal band has been called from time to eternity. The mother breathed her last in 1875, when past fifty years of age. She was a life-long member of the Lutheran Church, had been an efficient companion and a devoted mother. The father lived to the age of sixty-four years, dying June 28, 1886. He left the reputation of a good citizen, a hardworking man and a consistent member of the Lutheran Church. In politics he was a Republican.



**F**RANCIS L. KERCHEVAL. This gentleman is one of the leading young men of New Lenox Township, a position to which his intelligence, business energy and good character fairly entitle him. His father was the late James C. Kercheval, who was born in Preble County, Ohio, August 10, 1816. His mother was Anna Roundtree, who was born in North Carolina, January 5, 1820. The Roundtree family removed from North Carolina to Indiana about the year 1825, settling near Crawfordsville, Montgomery County, at which place the parents of our subject were married in the year 1841.

At that time James C. Kercheval was a resident of New Lenox Township, having come to Will County in the fall of 1830. He was, therefore, one of the very earliest settlers in the county, and as such deserves grateful remembrance for his assist-

ance in the early work of development to which the residents of the county are indebted for their beautiful estates and the many comforts and conveniences which surround them. He brought his bride to this township, making a home on Maple Street, where years of happy wedded life were spent and a useful career pursued by both husband and wife. Mr. Kercheval breathed his last February 6, 1873, after having secured the esteem of those about him. His widow survived until February 7, 1888, when she too entered into rest, leaving behind her a record of good deeds and kind words which affords a pleasing remembrance to all who love her.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Kercheval included twelve children, two of whom died in infancy. The record of those who lived to grow up is as follows; Mary J. became the wife of Francis Grauger and died in New Lenox Township, in October, 1882; Charles E. resides near the city of Joliet; Sarah E. is the wife of H. C. Larsh, of Crawfordsville, Ind.; Martha I. is the wife of Dr. James McCann, of Normal, this State; Annie E. is the widow of Elvis D. Lynk, who died in the village of New Lenox, in July, 1879; Margaret died when twelve years old; Winfield S. lives in Joliet Township; Francis L., of whom we write, and Frances F. are twins; Albert R. lives in Joliet Township.

The subject of this sketch was born in New Lenox Township, November 17, 1859, and with the exception of one year that township has been his home during his entire life. He was educated in the township schools and in the city of Joliet, becoming well-versed in practical knowledge and laying the foundation for his present fund of information. He was engaged in mercantile business in the village of New Lenox for two and a half years and was also employed as a clerk there for about two years. With this exception he has followed farming. The estate on which he lives consists of one hundred acres on section 5, which was the old homestead of his father. The buildings which stand upon it are well built and adequate, the dwelling being especially noticeable for its substantial and comfortable appearance and the taste which is manifested in its surroundings. Va-

rious other improvements have been made upon the farm which is conducted according to the most improved methods, Mr. Kercheval showing himself an able agriculturist.

The many sterling qualities of Miss Emma F. Lynk won the regard of Mr. Kercheval, who was prospered in his wooing, winning that lady's consent to be his wife. Their marriage rites were celebrated in Joliet, May, 26, 1880, and happiness has followed their union. Mrs. Kercheval is the younger of two children born to Tunis and Lydia A. (Hartshorn) Lynk, the other child having died in infancy. Mr. Tunis Lynk was a native of New York, and his wife, formerly Lydia A. Hartshorn, was born in the State of Vermont. Her mother died in New Lenox Township, January 15, 1877, and her father is now living in Lawtey, Bradford County, Fla. Mrs. Kercheval was born May 18, 1861, in the township which is still her home. She is the mother of two sons—Frank C. and James F.

Mr. Kercheval is a member of the Republican party. His townsmen have shown their confidence in his worth of character and good judgment by electing him to the office of Township Assessor, which position he has now held for five years. Mrs. Kercheval is a member of the Episcopal Church, which her husband also attends. Both are popular members of society and well-spoken of on all sides.



**F**REDERICK C. WILCOX. Although but little more than thirty years of age, the above-named gentleman holds a prominent place among the business men of Joliet, and among her most public-spirited and enterprising citizens. He is the manager of the immense business of the Wilcox Bros', Lumber Yards, and of the Carriage Repository which has been added to the former business, and has place in social orders and public responsibilities. Probably no man of his years in the city that contains so many fine business men, can boast of an equal record in worldly affairs and popular esteem.

The natal day of Frederick Wilcox was March 29, 1858, and his birthplace the city in which he

yet makes his home. His father, Edmund Wilcox, is an old settler and well-known resident here, being one of three or four who have lived here fifty-two years. His biography will appear on another page of this volume. The lad was educated here, and after completing his studies was engaged as a clerk in the hardware store of Brooks & Co., from the age of eighteen until his majority, when he went to Russell County, Kan. There he remained some two and a half years, returning to Joliet in August, 1881.

At that time our subject, with his brother William G. Wilcox, bought the entire lumber business of the firm of Mason & Plants. Ere long the brother, who was teller in the First National Bank, was elected cashier to take the place made vacant by the death of the former incumbent, and our subject became sole manager of the lumber business. He has carried it on successfully, and now has the largest yard and trade in the city. In May, 1889, he purchased the wholesale yards of T. A. Mason, at the Michigan Central Yards, and has carried on both departments of the business since.

In 1887 Mr. Wilcox erected a carriage repository, and undertook the control of that enterprise also. He has recently been elected Secretary and Treasurer of the Swan Carriage Company, a corporate body that was organized not long since and located in this city, the object being to do a wholesale jobbing business. Of this company he was one of the organizers. The enterprises in which he is engaged call for much wisdom and tact in controlling and guiding the men employed, but the manager seems to be at no loss to do this, and to push forward both so as to insure their increase. Nor do these affairs prevent him from taking part in other enterprises of a less personal character.

Mr. Wilcox has held various official stations in societies and civic bodies. He was Worshipful Master of Matteson Lodge, No. 175, A. F. & A. M., in 1878-79; and is now Eminent Commander of Joliet Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar. He was Master of the Blue Lodge at the time of the conclave in Washington, and took with him to that city his entire corps of officers. His lodge was honored with an invitation to confer and exemplify the third degree at Alexandria, Va., in which

lodge Gen. Washington belonged, and over which he presided eight successive years. Mr. Wilcox therefore occupied the same chair, conferring the degree in the presence of three hundred of the most distinguished Masons of the United States. He is one of the originators of the Joliet Masonic Association, an institution gotten up for the purpose of building a Masonic Temple in the city. Its present capital is \$60,000, and Mr. Wilcox is Treasurer and Director, as well as a member of the building committee. The intention is to erect a building on the North side of Jefferson Street, east of the Chicago & Alton tracks, which will be the largest and finest edifice in the city.

Mr. Wilcox is also now a member of the Board of Education, and President of the Union Club, a large and fine organization, numbering in its membership the best elements of Joliet society. He is likewise President of the Joliet Improvement Company, a syndicate of property owners, organized in 1888, he being one of the originators. He votes with the Democratic party. As can be seen by the brief mention above, Mr. Wilcox is a busy man, manifesting his capability in a highly successful business career, in the aid of his fellow-men in their efforts to upbuild the city and improve its society and material appearance, and filling a leading place in the community. He is educated in a broad and liberal sense, and possesses upright principles of life.



**HON. URI OSGOOD.** Among the settlers of June, 1836, came the subject of this notice who located in Joliet and began the practice of law, being among the first attorneys of the embryo city—his competitors being Messrs. Newkirk, Henderson, Boardman and Wilson. Mr. Osgood in addition to his law practice in due time engaged in private banking at which he continued until 1862.

In the meantime, having been recognized as a valued addition to the community, Mr. Osgood was elected to various offices and finally to the Legislature, being elected to the State Senate in which he served from 1851 to 1860. He was then

nominated by the Democracy as a member of Congress from this district but was defeated by Owen Lovejoy. Subsequently he lived the life of a private citizen, attending to his law practice until his death which occurred February 8, 1871. From the time of locating in Joliet his home had been at the corner of Jefferson and Eastern Avenues, where he lived comfortably and surrounded himself and his family with many of the luxuries of life. He left five children at the time of his death all of whom are living; having had eight children in all. Julia became the wife of Charles Scott of Cincinnati and died of cholera in St. Louis, Mo. in 1867, at the early age of twenty-two years; Alpha M. died when six years old; Oscar died aged about six months. The surviving sons are Augustus A., Algernon S. and Henry R., all residents of Chicago. Virginia A. is the wife of George S. House, a prominent attorney of Joliet; Emma Aldrich married Charles Seymour of Batavia, N. Y., and they are living in Oakland, Cal.

On January 1, 1839, the subject of this notice was united in marriage with Miss Caroline V., daughter of Fenner and Emoline (Wade) Aldrich. Mr. Aldrich was born in Massachusetts in 1803, and was a son of one of the earliest families of the Bay State. The paternal grandfather, David Aldrich, married Miss Mary Capron, and removed to Pennsylvania where he took up a large tract of land in the vicinity of Harper, Susquehanna County. There he and his good wife spent the remainder of their days. His children later removed to Northern Illinois, but one son, Levi, went in 1852, to California. The mother of Mrs. Osgood bore the maiden name of Emoline Wade; she was born in Connecticut and was the daughter of Sylvanus and Mary (Chace) Wade, the former of whom served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Fenner Aldrich came to Illinois in October, 1844, settling in Will County, when it was a part of Cook County and of which Mr. Aldrich became Deputy Sheriff before the division. He was also proprietor of two hotels, the Joliet House and Exchange House. In 1839, he was elected the Sheriff of Will County, and re-elected in 1839. He enjoyed a wide acquaintance throughout the

county and was universally liked on account of his genial disposition. For a time he resided in Springfield and conducted the St. Nicholas House, during which time Governor Matteson was one of his guests.

Mr. Aldrich preferring Joliet as a place of residence, returned to the city and conducted the Exchange Hotel during the remainder of his active business life. He departed hence August 5, 1881. He was a Democrat politically. The mother passed away several years prior to the decease of her husband, her death taking place February 16, 1872. Mr. Aldrich was a member of the Masonic fraternity and in religion was a Universalist.

Mrs. Osgood was born October 3, 1821, in Harford, Susquehanna County, Pa. and came to Joliet with her parents when quite young. She obtained her education in the city schools and when reaching womanhood was married January 1, 1839, to the subject of this notice. Mr. Osgood was born December 22, 1809, in Preston, Chenango County, N. Y. where he lived until 1836, coming then to Joliet. The politics of Mr. Osgood was a staunch Democrat. Many years ago Mr. and Mrs. Osgood joined the Universalist Church and in 1864 they transferred their membership to the Episcopal Church.

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WATSON F. TWISING. Of honorable ancestry, from whom he inherited sterling qualities of mind and character, which have been developed under the care and training of worthy parents, this young gentleman is bearing his part in the battles of life in a manner which wins the regard of those about him and causes him to be numbered among the most enterprising of the younger farmers of Green Garden Township. He, with his brother Dana, owns and occupies an excellent farm, comprising two hundred and forty acres on section 17, the same being the estate which his father secured in 1851, and which father and son developed from the raw prairies into cultivated fields, which produced abundantly.

The original owner of this fine farm was Hiram

Twining, who was born in Townsend Township, Essex County, Mass., in 1819. He was reared principally in New Hampshire and Vermont, and followed farming and dairying in the latter State during his early manhood. There he was married to Miss Betsey Needham, a native of Rutland County and daughter of Isaac Needham, a farmer and dairyman.

In 1851 Hiram Twining and his family, which at that time comprised his wife and two children, located on one hundred and sixty acres which he had secured with a Government land warrant. He first put up a board shanty, hauling the material from Joliet. The breaking of his ground was done with a Lockport steel plow made by "Jim" Lane, the motive power being oxen. Mr. Twining began the dairy business, but it did not prove a success, as he had the misfortune to lose his hay and meet with other catastrophes. He, therefore, turned his attention to general farming, and this venture proved a successful one. He added one hundred and sixty acres of land to that which he already possessed, forming two farms, on each of which he had a good set of buildings. He improved his herd of cattle, those of a high grade or full-blood taking the place of the animals he had.

Mr. Twining was an Abolitionist and Republican. He belonged to the Christian Church, but when the congregation in the neighborhood was disorganized he united with the Free-Will Baptists. He served as Justice of the Peace one term. His death, which was caused by heart disease, took place December 14, 1889. His widow is still living, making her home with her son, our subject. She is now three-score and ten years old and in somewhat delicate health. In addition to our subject, her family includes Dana E., Leonora L. and Irena E., who also live on the homestead, and Jasper E., who occupies a farm of eighty acres south of his old home.

The Rev. Jonathan Twining, grandfather of our subject, was born in the village of Orleans, on Cape Cod, and was the son of a Revolutionary soldier. In early life he went with his parents to Essex County, Mass., where he married Eliza Fessenden, of the old Bay State. His trade was that of a cooper and he owned a shop in Essex County.

After a time he removed to New Hampshire, where he sojourned but a short period ere going into Vermont. In Rutland County he worked at his trade and at teaming until his death. He was an active member of the Christian Church and for some years labored as a minister. His widow came to Illinois and died at the home of her son, Hiram, at the age of seventy-five years.

The gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch first opened his eyes to the light in Shrewsbury Township, Rutland County, Vt., April 8, 1818. He was only a babe when his parents removed to this State, which is the scene of his earliest recollections. The broad prairie over which herds of deer roamed at will, wolves and other wild animals were frequently to be seen and the appearances of civilization were but rare, is that to which he looks back. He was carefully reared by his parents, who gave him every advantage of which their surroundings would admit. He attended the first schoolhouse which was built in the neighborhood, it being District No. 1. In study he spent his time during the summer until he was fourteen years old, and from that time until he was eighteen enjoyed similar privileges in the winter. In the meantime he had been assisting, as his strength would permit, in the home duties, having begun to drive a team when nine years old.

Young Twining assisted his father until he had reached man's estate, after which he began a more personal career, although he continued to reside on the homestead, in the payment for which he bore a part. He carried on the farm for his father until the death of the latter, and then he took entire charge of it. The land is all fenced and is well supplied with substantial buildings of various kinds, among them being a commodious barn, 40x80 feet, which was built in 1878, a cornerib, granary, windmill and tank, creamery, etc. Orchards and groves adorn the land, which is fertilized by Mud Creek, at the head of which it is located.

General farming is the work to which Mr. Twining gives his attention, and he secures excellent crops of good grain by an intelligent use of fertilizing agents and modern means of cultivation. He raises high-grade Short-horn cattle, graded Poland-China hogs, and good draft horses, seven head

of the latter being kept and three teams constantly used upon the farm.

Mr. Twining was Township Supervisor in 1886, and succeeded H. H. Stassen, the present County Clerk. His father acted as School Director, School Trustee, and delegate to county conventions, and the son is following in his father's footsteps as a useful public servant. He is a Republican of the staunchest kind and has served his party as a member of the Central Committee. During two terms of court he has sat upon the petit jury. His religious belief is that expressed in the creed of the Baptist Church. He and the other members of the family circle are numbered among the best citizens of the section, having an unusual degree of intelligence, good breeding and honorable principle.



**J**OHAN J. WALZ. The life of this gentleman shows in a striking manner what can be accomplished by persistency and diligence, backed by honorable conduct toward mankind. From the position of a poor boy he has risen to that of a man of means, the owner of a large amount of real estate, including three hundred and twenty acres in New Lenox Township, and thirteen hundred and sixty acres in Ellsworth County, Kan. The farm lands of Ellsworth, Kan. belonging to our subject are quite valuable, eighty acres of them being laid out in town lots in the beautiful city of Ellsworth, which is the county seat of Ellsworth County, besides being underlaid with a vein of salt one hundred and fifty-four feet thick and it being 97 per cent. pure. While yet a youth he landed in New York, "a stranger in a strange land," with ten francs in money (less than two dollars) and the first money he earned in America was sent to his father to repay the indebtedness for his passage money. Under circumstances which would have discouraged many, young Walz began the course of persevering industry which has resulted in securing to him the fine estate already mentioned.

The gentleman of whom we write is the eldest of three sons born to Daniel and Margaretta (Kalm-

bach) Walz, his brothers bearing the names of Daniel and George C. His father was born in Waldorf, and his mother in Spieldberg, both towns in the kingdom of Wurtemberg, which forms a part of the Germanic confederation. Both parents died in their native land. In Waldorf, he of whom we write was born February 5, 1836. He acquired a good fundamental education and learned the trade of a book-binder prior to leaving his native land, which he did in April, 1854, embarking in a sailing vessel which reached New York the last of June. In the metropolis young Walz remained nine months, after which he went to Torrington, Litchfield County, Conn., where he worked on a farm for \$8 a month.

In December, 1856, Mr. Walz left Connecticut to become a resident of Will County, Ill. Here he took a contract with another man to cut two hundred cords of wood and in the spring began working by the month for different farmers in New Lenox Township. He continued to work in this way for several years, even after he had purchased eighty acres of land, which he was able to do in the spring of 1861. This he rented until 1866. In the spring of 1863, he went to California, remaining on the Pacific coast three years and while there engaging in different occupations. On his return to the Prairie State he purchased an additional eighty acres of land and turned his attention to the cultivation of his own farm. He has increased the acreage still more and erected thereon an excellent set of buildings, including a pleasant dwelling, commodious barns, granaries and other outbuildings.

At the home of the bride's parents in New Lenox Township, April 6, 1868, the rites of wedlock were celebrated between Mr. Walz and Miss Henrietta A. Stricher. This lady was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, November 20, 1846, being the fifth in a family of six children. Her brother and sisters are named Sophia, Louis, Louisa, Carolina and Fredericka. Her parents, Frederick and Sophia (Freier) Stricher, were born in the Duchy of Mecklenburg and lived there until the latter part of the '50s when they emigrated to America. They came to this county and located in Green Garden Township, whence they afterward removed to New





*L. L. Miller*



Lenox Township where Mr. Stricher died in 1880. Mrs. Stricher is still living and makes her home with our subject. Mrs. Walz was well educated and from her honored parents received good instruction in the principles of right living and the useful habits in which the German women excel, while her manners are marked with the friendliness and courtesy which everywhere win regard. Her happy union has resulted in the birth of seven children—Addie L., George A., Frank H., Arthur L., Sadie A., Florence E. and Estella H. Of these, Frank, Arthur and Sadie are dead.

Mr. Walz has been Highway Commissioner and School Director, in these public stations as in his personal affairs exhibiting zeal and good judgment. In politics, he is a Republican, firmly believing that by that party the best interest of the Nation will be advanced. The family attends the German Lutheran Church, supporting it by means and influence. It is needless to state that Mr. Walz is highly respected, not simply because he is a man of means, but because his character is an honorable one. The younger members of his family are worthy descendants of parents whom they regard with loving reverence.



**TIMOTHY L. MILLER.** No visitor to this county would long be unfamiliar with the name and personality of the gentleman above named, who is widely known to stockmen and others as one to whom the advancement of the cattle interests in this section is largely due. He has undoubtedly done more to introduce fine Hereford cattle than any other man in this vicinity, and ranks as one of the leaders in stock-raising in the entire State. Not less than \$100,000 has been spent by him in this direction, and at all the prominent expositions he carries off his share of laurels on the stock exhibited. He became prominent as the owner of the famous bull, Success, which has a wonderful record for his fine descendants, and went far to popularize the noble breed.

Mr. Miller began the introduction of Herefords in the spring of 1872, when he introduced Sir

Charles, No. 543, from the Province of Ontario, Canada. He subsequently became the owner of Success, whom he imported from Herefordshire, England, by the side of his dam when he was three months old. This animal was regarded as the greatest of his breed in the world, Lord Wilton of England not excepted. Mr. Miller refused \$25,000 for him, and kept him until his death in the fall of 1886.

Mr. Miller claims that eighty per cent. of his herd are daughters and granddaughters of this famous animal. The present head of the herd is Conqueror, the son of Success from Leonora III., the dam being the sister of Mrs. Edwards Leonora, which was regarded as the best cow of England. Foremost among the other animals are Dictator and Grove Turner, the latter being the grandson of Lord Wilton on the sire's side and of Grove III. on the dam's side. The entire herd consists of about two hundred fine animals, three-fourths of which are cows and heifers, and represent some of the finest strains in this country.

Mr. Miller was born in Middletown, Conn., April 7, 1817, and is a representative of fine old New England families of English and German descent. He grew to manhood in his native place, receiving as good an education as New England afforded in her common schools. He removed to Summit County, Ohio, in 1842, purchasing his first land two years later, and living upon it until 1856. He then came to Illinois, immediately after the completion of the Illinois Central Railroad, securing Government land in this county. His first purchase was two hundred and forty acres, which was subsequently increased until his estate amounted to over six hundred acres, all of which is highly improved and about half drained by tiling. All of the outbuildings are first-class, the immense stock barn being one hundred and eighty feet square, and so arranged as to shelter three hundred head of cattle and feed to supply the whole. The residence is one of the largest in the State, being two hundred and four feet long; it is built in sections, the main building on the west, office in the center, contains twenty-five sleeping rooms, and is well designed for the pleasure and accommodation of the household and the numerous visitors

who enjoy its hospitality. A cellar is built under the entire edifice.

The father of our subject was Timothy B. Miller, a native of Middletown, Conn., and the son of Peter Miller, who was born in Prussia and there educated for the ministry. He did not follow the ministerial profession, but coming to America when a young man, settled in Connecticut and devoted himself to business. He married a Miss Joyce, who came of English parentage, and both died in New England at an advanced age. They were members of the Episcopal Church. Timothy B. Miller early in life learned the business of a shoe manufacturer, which he followed for some years, later becoming a trader in meats, continuing in this business during the remainder of his active life. He removed to Ohio in 1846, dying there a few years later.

In Middletown, Conn., the father of our subject was married to Miss Mary Hughes Pierce, a native of that city and the daughter of an English couple who has resided in Boston during the Revolutionary War. They subsequently removed to Middletown, where Mr. Pierce for many years had the management of a brewery. Mrs. Timothy B. Miller after the death of her husband came to Illinois, and lived with her children in this State until 1886, when she was called hence at the advanced age of eighty-six years. Her demise took place at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Edward Mize, of Chicago. She and her husband were active members of the Episcopal Church. They were the parents of six children, two of whom died young and one in mature years. The survivors are: our subject, who was the first-born; Charles R., a business man of Brooklyn, N. Y.; and the daughter before named.

The first marriage of the gentleman with whose name this sketch is introduced took place at the bride's home in Middletown, Conn. His chosen companion was Miss Abigail S. Elliott, who was born in that place, was carefully reared by excellent parents, and well educated. Her parents were Clark and Almira (Gillett) Elliott, who belonged to prominent New England families and were also natives of Connecticut. Mr. Elliott was a carriage-maker in his early life, but in later years devoted

his attention to general merchandising. He died in his native State when about three-score-and-ten years old. Mrs. Elliott survived him some years, dying in 1888 at the ripe old age of ninety-five. Both were members of the Congregational Church.

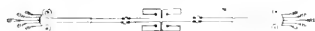
Their daughter, Mrs. Miller, shared her husband's joys and sorrows until 1858, when in the prime of life she was called from time to eternity. She was the mother of five children, dying at the birth of the last, who was christened Henry, and who died when three years of age. The surviving offspring of this marriage are: Kate E., wife of George B. Woodward, who has charge of the branch house of the Fairbanks Scale Company in St. Paul, Minn.; Abbie A., the wife of Frank Gould, a wholesale merchant of Chicago, whose residence is in Evanston; Mary P., wife of Albert C. Reed, who resides in Crete, this county, and does business as a broker in Chicago; and Timothy E., a farmer of Washington Township.

The lady who now presides over Mr. Miller's home became his wife in Rockford, prior to which time she had borne the name of Anna E. Hodges. She was born in Clarendon, Vt., July 22, 1828, being a daughter of Silas W. and Polly (Gillett) Hodges. Her parents were natives of Vermont and Connecticut respectively, and of New England parentage. The father was a son of Dr. Silas Hodges, a prominent physician who died in Clarendon in 1804, at the age of sixty-one years. The mother belonged to a family of seafaring people. The old stock in both lines were Congregationalists in religion. The parents of Mrs. Miller were married in Rutland County, Vt., and there the mother died at the age of fifty-two years, and the father at the age of seventy-two. He had been a farmer, merchant and owner of a marble quarry.

Mrs. Anna Miller was educated in Holyoke, Mass., and there acquired an excellent mental training and development, together with a knowledge of the high principles which should animate womanhood. She came to Rockford, Ill., after reaching maturity. She is the mother of one child, a daughter, Abbie, who died in infancy. She and her husband have been members of the Congregational Church for many years. Mr. Miller is a genial man who takes great pleasure in showing

visitors over his fine estate, and his stock is by no means overlooked. The good cheer of the mansion is dispensed with grace by his wife, whose culture and refinement fit her for any circle of society. Mr. Miller was formerly a Democrat, and was President of the Hickory Club in Middletown, Conn., in 1840, but since the organization of the Republican party he has taken his place in its ranks.

Elsewhere in this volume appears a lithographic portrait of Mr. Miller.



**W**ILLIAM H. HUNTER, coal dealer in Joliet, is a native of this city, in which he was born August 1, 1854. He is a son of Thomas R. and Lucinda (Smith) Hunter, the former of whom was born in Sullivan County, N. Y., February 2, 1818, and came to Will County, Ill., in 1837. En route to this place he stopped at Grand Haven, Mich., for a time, and after arriving in Joliet opened a smithy, he being a blacksmith. In 1849 he was attacked by the gold fever, and went to California, where he was very successful during the one short year he remained there. On his return, in 1850, he built a residence on the corner of Oneida and Broadway Streets. In 1854, he began the propagation of fruit, opening a nursery in the southwestern part of the city, which he continued until 1882. He enjoyed the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and was twice elected by them to a place in the city council. He died April 22, 1888. His wife, the mother of William H., died March 25, 1882.

The above-named Thomas R. Hunter was married July 23, 1845, to Miss Lucinda, daughter of Barton and Fatha Smith, both of whom were early settlers of this county, to which they had come from Indiana, in 1835. For many years Mr. Smith was a Justice of the Peace. Originally a Tennessean, in politics he was a pronounced Democrat, and during the war, when he believed that slavery was doomed, he said he hoped he would not be spared to see the blacks liberated. Although the Emancipation Proclamation was issued prior to his

death he did not witness much of its effect, and may almost be said to have realized his wish as he died September 22, 1863. The union of Thomas R. Hunter and Lucinda Smith was blessed by the birth of two children: Fatha E., wife of J. Q. A. King, of Kansas City, Mo.; and William H., of whom we write. The devoted mother preceded husband to her long home, dying March 15, 1882. She also was a native of Tennessee. The ancestry of the Hunter family is traced back to Scotland on the one hand and through the Davenportes to Colonists who came to America in the good ship "Mayflower."

The boyhood of our subject was passed in Joliet in acquiring a common-school education, and laying the foundation for the habits which mark his life. The coal trade possessed a great attraction for him, and his first business venture was to purchase an interest with Ferdinand Munch. A short time afterward we find him in partnership with Frey & Hawkins, and after a year of this association, he bought out the interest of Mr. Frey, and at the end of the second year that of Mr. Hawkins. From a comparatively small beginning, he built up the coal trade to large dimensions and was compelled through increase of business to greatly enlarge his facilities for handling "black diamonds."

From the smallest, the business of Mr. Hunter has become the largest in the county. In 1881 he associated Mr. O. W. Curtis with himself, but a year ago again assumed entire control of the trade. Step by step, through singleness of purpose and the practice of strict integrity, Mr. Hunter has climbed, round by round, the ladder of success. He attends strictly to business, taking but little part in politics, although an ardent Republican. Socially he stands high in popular esteem.

He was married, November 13, 1878, to Miss Mollie P. Turner, of Lockport, this county. Two children have been born to them: Carrie L., August 17, 1879; and Robert Samuel, October 17, 1881.

S. S. Turner, the father of Mrs. Hunter, was a native of Berwick, Pa., whence he came to Illinois, in 1851. He was a moulder and pattern maker, but finding little to do in this line, in the

comparatively new West to which he had come, he employed himself in boat building and carpentering. At that time the heavy business done by canal, made boat building a most desirable industry. He died May 25, 1882, that being his sixtieth birthday. His first wife, the mother of Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Caroline Turner, had breathed her last December 24, 1860.

**THOMAS LARKIN.** Among the well-regulated homes of Joliet Township none have about them an air of greater comfort and content than that which has been built up by the joint efforts of Mr. Larkin and his estimable wife. They make no pretensions to elegance in their style of living, but have plenty to eat, drink and wear and something laid by for a rainy day. It is possible that in their modest home there is vastly more genuine happiness than is to be found in a palace.

A native of County Galway, Ireland, Mr. Larkin was born in the year 1838, and is the son of Edwin and Mary (Kelley) Larkin, who were also natives of the Emerald Isle and who spent their entire lives there. Thomas lived with his parents until a young man of twenty years and then resolved to seek his fortunes in America. Repairing to Belfast, he embarked on a sailing vessel which, after a journey of four weeks, landed him safely in New York City. Soon leaving the great metropolis, he turned his steps toward the far West, coming to this county and for two years was in the employ of the Rock Island Railroad Company. After this he engaged in farming, working by the month for about three years. At the expiration of this time he had saved a little money and taking unto himself a wife and helpmate, rented a farm in Lockport Township, which he operated successfully for several years. Next he purchased the farm on which he now lives, securing at first eighty acres and later added to his landed possessions, so that besides this farm which now embraces one hundred and thirty acres, he has eighty acres in Troy Township. The whole

is in a good state of cultivation and the home farm is supplied with neat and substantial buildings.

The marriage of Thomas Larkin and Miss Ellen Goss was celebrated at the bride's home in Joliet in the year 1859. Mrs. Larkin was born in County Queens, Ireland, about 1840, and is the daughter of Anthony and Catherine (Downy) Goss who were likewise natives of that county, where they spent their entire lives. The father was a farmer by occupation and the parental family comprised six children.

To Mr. and Mrs. Larkin there have been born five children, all living and named respectively, Edward, Mary, Thomas, Bernard and Agnes. Mary is the wife of Frank McManus and they live in Lockport Township. Mr. Larkin, politically is a pronounced Democrat, well informed, progressive in his ideas and possessing more than ordinary intelligence. He has served as School Director in his district and Overseer of Highways. Both he and his estimable wife belong to the Catholic Church. Mr. Larkin before making permanent settlement crossed the Mississippi into Missouri, but not liking the country returned and he thinks there is no section which in all respects is equal to the Prairie State.

**ANDREW J. LINEBARGER.** Probably no section of country has advanced more rapidly than that of Northern Illinois and this has been wholly owing to the character of the men who first made settlement here. They encountered many difficulties during the first years of their sojourn in the Prairie State, but they came equipped, not so much with worldly goods as the spirit of resolution and perseverance which admitted no such word as "fail." They battled with the elements of a new soil, the inconvenience of rude farming implements and imperfect transportation of their produce, and have lived to see prosperity smiling upon their labors.

He with whose name we introduce this sketch deserves more than a passing mention in noting

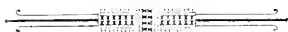
the early settlers of Will County. He is the son of one of its most worthy pioneers and was born at his father's old homestead in Jackson Township, January 7, 1834. His father, Henry Linebarger, was a native of North Carolina while his mother who bore the maiden name of Nancy Hougham, was a native of Ohio. Henry Linebarger came to Illinois in the fall of 1832, accompanied by his brother George, then went back to Indiana, and in the spring of 1833, returned to Will County, where he spent the following summer and in the fall of the year went back to Park County, Ind., for his family. They settled on section 21, Jackson Township, in the month of November, at a time when the country was very thinly settled and there they continued to live until called from their earthly labors. The father died September 8, 1842, when comparatively a young man. The mother survived her husband for the long period of thirty-five years, remaining a widow, and departed this life April 22, 1877.

To the parents of our subject there was born a family of seven children, of whom Andrew J., was the third. He has been a life long resident of Jackson Township and obtained his education mostly in the log schoolhouse in the neighborhood of his father's farm. After the latter's death he remained with his mother until his marriage. This interesting and important event occurred April 30, 1856, at Joliet, Ill., the bride being Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph and Frances (Hildebrand) Phillips. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Linebarger settled upon the land which they now own and occupy, and which comprises four hundred and thirty five broad acres on section 20. Here they have since made their home. The household circle was completed by the birth of three children, the eldest of whom, a son, Lewis H., is a banker in Peotone, this State; Laura is unmarried and remains with her parents; Emma J., is the wife of J. R. McCleery, of Oxford, Iowa.

The parents of Mrs. Linebarger were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. Upon emigrating to America they settled in Madison County, N. Y., where the mother died in April 1881, and the father in October, 1888. Their

family consisted of eight children, of whom Mrs. Linebarger was the next to the eldest. She likewise is a native of the Fatherland and was born January 1, 1834. She was a child of twelve years when coming to America with her parents and was reared to womanhood in Madison County, N. Y. She has been the true helpmate of her husband in all his worthy undertakings and has assisted him materially in the accumulation of their property.

The Linebarger farm is one of the most valuable in Will County, being improved with good buildings, fruit and shade trees and all the other appurtenances required by the progressive and industrious agriculturist. Mr. Linebarger keeps himself posted upon modern methods of agriculture and avails himself of the most approved machinery in the cultivation of his land. It is devoted largely to grain raising, while Mr. Linebarger gives due attention to the breeding of good grades of live stock. He is conservative in politics, usually giving his support to the Democratic party. He has never been an office-seeker, preferring to give his time and attention to his farm and his family and is looked upon as a peaceable and law-abiding citizen who has contributed his full quota to the general welfare of the community. Our subject was the first white child born in Jackson Township.



**A**LLEXANDER V. PATTERSON. Among the leading enterprises of Joliet may be mentioned the livery business of Mr. Patterson, which is carried on in that systematic manner which indicates in a marked degree his adaptation to this calling. Prompt and courteous in the treatment of his customers and a straightforward man in all the relations of life, he occupies an enviable position, both in business and social circles.

The subject of this notice traces his ancestry to one of the best nationalities on the face of the globe—the Scotch-Irish, from which have emanated qualities that on both continents have constituted a large portion of their bone and sinew. Andrew

Patterson, the father of our subject, was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, but was of Scotch ancestry. The mother bore the maiden name of Eliza Varner. She was also a native of County Tyrone and of ancestry similar to that of her husband. They spent their childhood and youth near the place of their birth, where they were married and where they still live, the father engaged in agricultural pursuits.

To the parents of our subject there was born a family of ten children, nine of whom are living and making their homes, five in the United States and four in Europe. Alexander V., the fourth in order of birth, is a native of the same place as his parents, and born in County Tyrone, October 16, 1862. He remained with them until approaching the twentieth year of his age, and then, believing that he could better himself in the United States, left the old roof-tree April 26, 1882, embarking for the promised land. Landing in New York City on the 2d of May following, he came directly to Illinois, locating in Joliet, and for six months thereafter was in the employ of his uncle, T. H. Patterson. At the expiration of this time he engaged as a fireman with the Michigan Central Railroad Company, remaining thus occupied about three years. The Joliet Steel Company next claimed his services, and he remained with this company until October, 1888.

Having now the wherewithal to embark in business on his own account, Mr. Patterson secured a goodly number of horses and vehicles, establishing himself on Ottawa Street, occupying Nos. 208 and 210. His stables are equipped with modern conveniences and patronized liberally by the best people of Joliet and vicinity. About the time of starting his business, Mr. Patterson also formed matrimonial and domestic ties, being wedded, October 2, 1888, to Miss Minnie M., daughter of the late John and Melinde (Hareth) Stock. The young couple established themselves in a snug home on Oneida Street, and are now the proud parents of a little daughter, Linda L., who was born October 12, 1889.

Mrs. Patterson was born in August, 1868, in Joliet, of parents who were both natives of Germany. They emigrated to America in 1854 and

settled in Troy Township, where the father engaged in farming. Mr. Stock died in March, 1881, in Joliet. The mother had passed away ten years prior to the decease of her husband, her death taking place at Joliet, May 5, 1871. There was born to them a family of four children, of whom Mrs. Patterson was next to the youngest.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was James Patterson, who was born in Scotland and who spent his last days in Ireland. His wife bore the maiden name of Jane Hawley. She also was of Scotch birth and ancestry. They were married in Scotland whence they removed to Ireland, where Grandfather Patterson engaged in farming. On the maternal side of the house Grandfather Alexander Verner was a man of note in his day and a Colonel in the British army. He married Susan Rankin. Both were natives of Scotland, whence they removed to Ireland and died in County Tyrone.

Upon becoming a voting citizen, Mr. Patterson identified himself with the Republican party, of whose principles he is a warm supporter. Both he and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Central Presbyterian Church, of Joliet. They have started out in the journey of life under favorable auspices and with the good wishes of hosts of friends.



**L** OUIS METTERHAUSEN, publisher of *Das Volksblatt*, is conducting the only German paper in Will County. It is a journal largely patronized by the German residents of Will County, being well edited and devoted to local interests while expounding in a clear and decided manner the principles of the best interests of the people, independent of any political party.

The subject of this notice was born January 21, 1840, in the town of Gilten, Hanover, and lived there until a young man of twenty-five years, acquiring a good education, and following the profession of a teacher. In October, 1865, he emigrated to the United States and first located in Naperville, Ill. Subsequently he was in Detroit, Mich., Clevel-

land, Ohio, Chicago and Beecher, Ill. prior to locating in Joliet where he settled in October, 1889, at which time he moved *Das Volksblatt* from Beecher where it had been established in May, 1882. At Beecher, he was a prominent man, holding the offices of Postmaster and School Treasurer and Trustee. When first locating at Beecher in 1869, he established himself as a general merchant and conducted the store in connection with other business until his removal.

Mr. Metterhausen was married May 6, 1871, to Miss Minnie Klusmeyer at Beecher, Ill., and they are now the parents of three bright children—Carl, born April 6, 1872; Charlotte, February 9, 1876, and Emil, March 31, 1881. Mrs. Metterhausen is likewise a native of Germany and born in the Province of Hanover, November 6, 1853. She came to America with her parents when a young girl of fourteen years. They settled in Washington Township, this county; the father is deceased and the mother resides in Chicago.



**T**OBIAS FAHS. Through the efforts of such men as Tobias Fahs, the prairie lands of Peotone Township, that once were covered with the rank growth of coarse grasses and brilliant wild flowers, have become the fertile fields, fruitful orchards and velvety lawns of an advanced civilization. The farm which is the home of our subject lies on section 11, and is furnished with all needful buildings and the other improvements which indicate to the passer-by that it is under the control of a man of industry, good judgment and taste.

The Fahs family is of Swiss stock, and has been represented in America for several generations. In Maryland, Abraham Fahs, the father of our subject, was born and made his home during his entire life. He was a whitesmith by trade. He married Elizabeth Siess, a native of the same State, daughter of George Siess, a blacksmith, who in later life became a large farmer and the owner of several farms. Abraham Fahs died in 1813, and the widow subse-

quently married Conrad Willhide. She died in 1832, and Mr. Willhide in 1839. The fruit of her first marriage was four children, all now deceased except our subject. Her second marriage was also blessed by the birth of four children, of whom one is deceased.

The subject of this biographical review was born September 2, 1811, in Frederick County, Md. He attended a subscription school about two months in the winter season, and even in boyhood had to work very hard on his stepfather's farm. His experiences were the ordinary ones of a farmer's boy, and his time and labor were given to his stepfather until he was nineteen years of age. He then bought some mountain land, and worked in the timber, getting out bark, posts and cooper's stuff for five or six years. In 1841 he removed to Perry County, Pa., where his brother had a large tannery, working there eight years as a finisher of leather, and during the last two years tending a store of his brother.

The health of Mr. Fahs became somewhat impaired, and he was obliged to return to farm labor, as better suited to his constitution. He operated a farm in Pennsylvania until 1856, then came to Illinois, settling in Knox County, but sojourned there but a year. He then came into Will County, purchased a farm on section 11, and began his labors as one of the pioneer farmers of the township. The section was but thinly settled, and although the country is level, he could see but two houses from his home. His farm was all raw land, which he placed in good condition, retaining it in his possession until some three years since. Since that time he has made his home with his son, Cornelius L.

Mr. Fahs was fortunate in his choice of a life companion, securing for his wife Miss Araminta Willyard, oldest child of Peter and Elizabeth (Miller) Willyard, natives of Maryland. Miss Araminta was born in Frederick County, September 22, 1812, receiving a common-school education and a training in useful accomplishments and good principles from her worthy parents. Of the seven brothers and sisters who once composed the family circle, she and two others are all that now survive.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Fahs was celebrated

April 3, 1833, and ten children have come to bless their happy home. Those who have been reared to mature years are Harriet S., wife of Christ. Schryer, their home being one mile south of Peotone, and their family including five children; James A., who married Ruth E. Winslow, has one child, and lives at Hinckley; Elizabeth, widow of August Chase, has one child; Julia, wife of John Gloss, and mother of seven children, their home being in Carbondale, Kan.; Maria, wife of the Rev. Joseph J. Tobias, of Chicago, and mother of two children; the Rev. David W., who married Jennie Kerr, lives at LeMars, Iowa, and has three children; Cornelius and Amelia, who are still single and at home.

Cornelius Fahs displays marked talent as an artist, doing beautiful work in free-hand drawing, without instruction, and also painting in oil and water colors exceedingly well. He has taken two painting lessons from the artist Bigelow, of Chicago. Many specimens of his work adorn the walls of the home, and afford pleasure to his parents and many friends. All of the brothers and sisters have received a good common school education and take advantage of the means afforded by the press to add to their store of knowledge and keep pace with the world.

Mr. and Mrs. Fahs, their children and their sons-in-law and daughters-in-law belong to the Presbyterian Church. The only exception is the Rev. J. J. Tobias, who is identified with the Methodist Episcopal denomination. All are actively interested in the Sunday-school, in which the father has been a teacher. He is an Elder in the church. He has been School Director and School Trustee for many years, manifesting the interest in the cause of education which would naturally be expected of a gentleman as intelligent as he. The first school in this locality was on his farm, the first teacher being Ruth E. Winslow, now Mrs. J. A. Fahs. The Rev. J. J. Tobias was also a teacher in the same school.

Mr. Fahs was elected Township Supervisor, serving in that office two terms. He has always been strongly on the side of temperance, and has belonged to a temperance society. In politics he has been a Whig, a Know-Nothing and a Republican,

During the Civil War he was a warm advocate of the Union cause, supporting it very liberally with money as well as with his personal influence. He helped to organize the first church in this neighborhood, and was one of the charter members. His religion is not put on as a Sunday garment, but is a clothing for every-day life; his tastes are refined, his mind aglow with intelligence, and take him all in all, he is one who may well be taken as a model citizen and man.

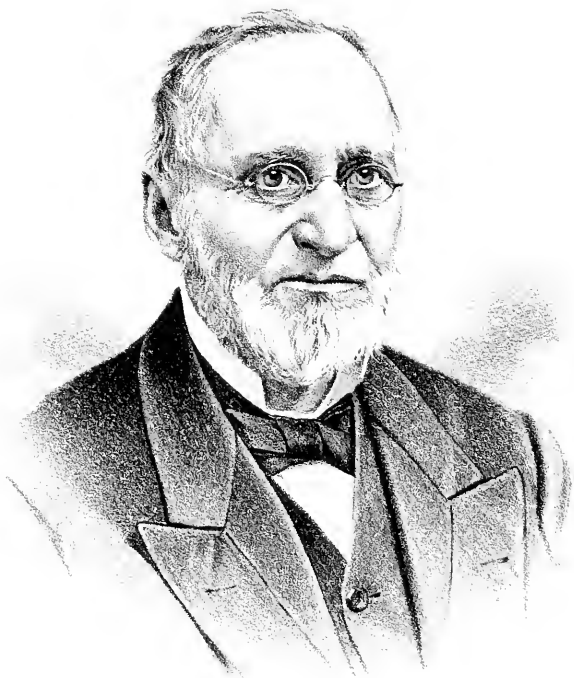


EDWARD JARMAN is managing his farming interests in DuPage Township with satisfactory results. He is a native of Wales, born August 21, 1816, and on his father's side coming of a well-known old family of exclusively Welsh origin. His parents, Edward and Martha Jarman were likewise natives of that country. He was but a year old when his father died. His mother survived her husband several years; her death occurring after our subject had been in America for a long time. He was the youngest of four children and was reared in his native land by his mother's brothers, making his home with them, more or less until he came to this country. His father was a farmer and he was bred to that pursuit.

Starting out in life with no capital excepting his physical and mental endowments, in 1867, thinking that he could better his condition in this great Republic, he took passage for this country at Liverpool and, after a voyage of thirteen and one-half days, first set foot on these shores in the great metropolis of the country. Rightly believing that his best chances for carrying on his calling as a farmer were in Illinois, he came directly to this State. He began his life here by working out for others and was thus engaged for seven years. For more than two years he was in the employ of Reuben Smith, and afterward worked for Jonathan Royce about four years, and for nearly three years farmed that gentleman's place on shares. After that for five years he farmed on shares in Wheatland Township, and in 1882 came to this township to





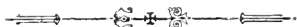


*Edmund Giles*

take up his residence. He located first on section 7, made his abode there two years and then settled on his present farm on section 19. He has more than one hundred and ninety-three acres of land, of which one hundred and three acres comprise the home farm. This is already under excellent cultivation and yields, in repayment for his hard labors, fine harvests. It supplied with suitable buildings and Mr. Jarman has good machinery to carry on his farm work.

By his marriage, November 15, 1873, with Miss Mary A. Campbell, a native of Ireland, our subject secured the co-operation of a cheerful helper and active worker. Three children, Gertie, Mary and Lulu, have blessed their marriage to them.

As we have seen, Mr. Jarman has had his own way to make in the world, and that he has done well so far is evinced by the condition of his estate. He possesses a fair share of energy, acumen and thrift, and a knack of working to the best advantage, and these, with other attributes, have contributed to his prosperity. He is a man of intelligence, is well posted in general affairs, and manifests proper public spirit. He has done good service as School Director. He interests himself sufficiently in the politics of his adopted country to take sides with the Republican party.



**E**DMUND WILCOX. For a period of thirteen years 'Squire Wilcox has officiated as Justice of the Peace in Joliet, being elected to this office in the spring of 1877, and serving continuously by re-elections since that time. He was elected each time by an almost unanimous vote, and at the last election received all but fifty of the ballots cast. One year he received twenty-three hundred out of about twenty-four hundred votes cast. Although a pronounced Democrat, his name was on all the tickets of all parties and these facts indicate his popularity among the people of this county. He keeps one of the neatest dockets ever opened, there being scarcely a blot on all the pages on which he has entered records for the last thirteen years. Socially and in business

circles he is a universal favorite, being of genial and obliging disposition, and making friends where ever he goes.

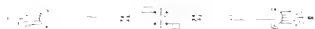
The subject of this notice was born September 18, 1816, in Onondaga County, N. Y., and is thus approaching the seventy-fourth year of his age. He is the offspring of an excellent family, being the son of Loammi and Hannah (Paddock) Wilcox, who were natives respectively of Connecticut and Washington County, N. Y. The father was a farmer by occupation and met an accidental death in Onondaga County in 1836, at the age of fifty years. The parental household consisted of four children, of whom Edmund was the second born. His younger brother, Harvey, of Los Gatos, Cal., is now deceased; Cordelia W., Mrs. Clement, resides in Joliet; Caroline, the wife of Dr. Wilson, died in her native county; Loammi Wilcox was a carpenter by trade, which he followed, however, but a few years, finally engaging in the more congenial occupations of farm life. The Wilcox family was an old and prominent one in New England.

The district school afforded Mr. Wilcox his early education and later he entered Hamilton College at Clinton, N. Y., from which he was graduated in 1835. The following year he came to Joliet, and for thirty years thereafter was engaged in the dry-goods business, being part of the time associated in partnership with his brother-in-law, Mr. Clement. He has always signaled himself as a progressive and public-spirited citizen and for ten years was President of the Gas Company, superintending the construction of their building and being otherwise prominent in its management, and for a number of years was a prominent member of the City Council. In making the journey hither from New York State he traveled overland by team, sometimes in a wagon and sometimes on a sled, it being in winter, and accompanied by three other young men. He thus had a full experience of pioneer life and has been the interested witness of the transformation of this section of the country from a wilderness into the abode of a civilized and prosperous people.

After becoming a resident of Joliet Mr. Wilcox was married March 26, 1815, to Miss Sarah M., daughter of Joseph and Electa (Chauncey) Green. The parents of Mrs. Wilcox came to this State

from Washington County, N. Y., settling in McHenry County. During his younger years Mr. Green engaged in merchandising, but after coming to Illinois, turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. Mr. and Mrs. Green spent their last years in Blue Island, Cook County. Mrs. Wilcox was born July 23, 1825, in Washington County, N. Y., and remained a member of her father's household until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there was born a family of seven children, three of whom died in infancy: Alvin C. who died May 11, 1873, leaving one child, now the wife of H. E. Porter, of Joliet; William G., is Cashier of the First National Bank; Frederick C. is engaged as a lumber dealer, manager and partner of the firm of Wilcox Bros.; Charles C. is the City Clerk of Joliet. Mrs. Sarah M. Wilcox departed this life at her home in Joliet, March 12, 1890, at the age of sixty-four years.

The long period during which Mr. Wilcox has resided in Will County has made him well known to the citizens, who will therefore welcome his portrait as a valued addition to the ALBUM.



**W**ALTER PADDOCK, a pioneer of fifty-two years standing, established himself as a resident of Homer Township, this county, in February, 1838, and he has since resided within its limits. The country was then in wide contrast to its present condition and no man has looked with warmer interest upon its progress and development than he with whose name we introduce this sketch. He has had a full experience of life in the early days and by his industry and his good qualities as a citizen, has contributed his full quota to the growth and progress of his adopted township. No man in the township has made for himself a better record and none are held in higher esteem.

The subject of this notice was the fifth in a family of fourteen children, the offspring of Jonathan and Mercy (Weaver) Paddock, and was born in Camillus, Onondaga County, N. Y., August 19, 1817. He remained a resident of his native county until a youth of eighteen years and afterward lived in Cayuga County two years. Then, in February,

1838, he emigrated to Illinois and has since been a resident of Homer Township, this county.

The early years of Mr. Paddock were spent in a comparatively uneventful manner, in attendance at the district school and learning the various arts pertaining to farm life. He was content to adopt this as his life vocation and has been uniformly successful as a tiller of the soil, securing a home and a competence for his declining years. When nearly thirty years of age he was married in Homer Township February 25, 1817, to Miss Jane S. daughter of the late T. T. and Mary (Hollenback) Roberts, who were natives of Vermont.

After marriage the newly wedded pair settled on a farm on section 21, Homer Township, whence in 1819, they removed to that which they now own and occupy. The household circle was completed by the birth of five children, the eldest of whom, a son, George A., died September 9, 1887, at the age of thirty nine years. Jerome is farming in Homer Township; Florence died when three years old; Elmer E. and Merton F., are farming in Homer Township. Politically, Mr. Paddock is in accord with the principles of the Republican party. He has represented Homer Township in the County Board of Supervisors for a period of six years and has also officiated as Assessor several terms. The cause of education has ever found in him a firm friend. He has officiated as a School Trustee, also as Highway Commissioner and Township Collector, and to whatever position he has been called, he has fulfilled its duties in a manner creditable to himself and satisfactory to all concerned. Mrs. Paddock belongs to the Congregational Church in Homer Township.

The father of our subject was Jonathan Paddock, a native of Washington County, N. Y., who married Miss Mercy Weaver, who was also born in the Empire State. The parents were married in Washington County and settled in Onondaga County, whence they removed later to the town of Aurelius, in Cayuga County, where they both died at the age of sixty-six years. Nine of their children lived to become men and women; seven are now living and residents mostly of Michigan, New York and Illinois.

Mrs. Paddock was born March 11, 1825, in Men-

dou, Monroe County, N. Y., and was the third in a family of eight children. She came with her parents to Illinois about 1815. The latter were natives of Vermont and after their removal to New York State with their respective parents were residents of Monroe and Niagara Counties. Mrs. Roberts departed this life at Lemont, Ill., a few years ago. Mr. Roberts died in Mokenca about 1851. They were most worthy and estimable people, enjoying the respect of all who knew them.



**J**ACOB KARCH. One of the most enterprising and public-spirited farmers of Frankfort Township is the gentleman above named, whose pleasant home is located on section 25. His estate comprises one hundred and sixty broad and fertile acres, which under his careful and intelligent control produce abundantly and make their cultivation both pleasant and profitable. A full line of farm buildings is conveniently disposed, and a fine orchard supplies an abundance of fruit as well as adorning the farm with its pleasing shade and waving boughs. Mr. Karch raises grain and cattle and a good grade of draft horses, of which he keeps about fifteen head.

This gentleman is of German ancestry, his father, Henry J. Karch, having been born near Frankfort on the Rhine. He was a baker there but afterward engaged in hotel-keeping until 1838, when he came to America and located in Herkimer County, N. Y. There he continued the occupation of an hotel keeper and also conducted a farm finally operating one hundred acres. In 1850 he changed his location to Will County, Ill., buying two hundred and forty acres on section 36, Frankfort Township. Here he broke the soil and made all the improvements, carrying his produce to Chicago by teams and consuming three days in the trip. He was a very successful farmer and eventually became the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of land which is divided into three improved farms. He held township offices at various times, built the first school-house and church in his vicinity and manifested a high degree of public spirit. He be-

came well-known as a straightforward business man. In politics he was a strong Republican and in religion a member of the German Methodist Episcopal Church in which he was Class-Leader and otherwise prominent. He died on his homestead in 1888, at the advanced age of eighty years.

The wife of Henry Karch was Catherine Feeter, who was born in Bayren, Germany, and who died on the home farm four weeks after her husband. She had borne eight children named respectively, Catherine, Caroline, Henry, Charles, Jacob, Martin, Margaret and Fred. Henry was a member of the One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, in which he enlisted in 1862, and was killed at the battle of Chickamauga.

The gentleman with whose name we introduce this sketch was born on the Mohawk River, near Frankfort, Herkimer County, N. Y., September 5, 1816. He was but four years old when his father removed to the Prairie State, the journey being performed by rail to Chicago and by team to the farm in this county. Here the lad grew to manhood amid the usual surroundings of a farmer's son and was early set to work in the fields. His education was received at what was known as "Skunk's Grove Knowledge Shop," an old log schoolhouse with slab benches and the other primitive furnishings common in new settlements.

During the boyhood and youth of our subject wild game was still plentiful in the vicinity of his home and oxen were used upon the farms, several yoke being attached to the breaking plows, and which he learned to drive. On one occasion when about fourteen years of age he was sent to Chicago to sell a yoke of fine large oxen. On the way he had to cross a creek which was frozen over and the cattle refused to go upon the ice. As soon as they came to the edge of the stream they would back and in spite of his efforts they continued this process for about an hour when the boy thought of a scheme by which he could get them across. Turning them with their heads toward home he backed them on to the ice and as soon as they saw it before them, they continued the backing process very rapidly.

Young Karch remained at work for his father until about twenty-four years old when he took

personal control of the farm, continuing it some three years. He then purchased his present place, the quarter section having no improvements except the breaking. The soil being all tillable except what is left in the timber and the owner having the knowledge and experience of a practical farmer, he soon brought it to its present condition of beauty and worth. The lady to whom he owes the comfort of his home life was known in her maidenhood as Miss Louisa Schraeder. She was born on board a Mississippi steamer when her parents were coming from New Orleans. Her father, Martin Schraeder, was formerly a farmer at Blue Island, Cook County, but is now residing in Chicago, having become well-to-do and retired from his active labors four years since.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Karch was celebrated in this county in 1873, and has been blessed by the birth of six children named respectively, Albert, Laura, Charles, Carrie, Lydia and Arthur. Their home being but two miles from Frankfort, they have excellent advantages which combine the best of country and town life, and their children are being well reared and educated. Mr. Karch was School Director nine years and was the means of placing the school on the improved footing in which it is now carried on. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church at Frankfort, in which he has been Steward and Trustee. In politics he is a staunch Republican. His personal popularity is great and all recognize his worth as a man and citizen.



**ON MICHAEL COLLINS.** Day by day each human being is building a monument more enduring than Time itself—one which for grandeur and sublimity depends entirely upon the subject and is in no wise affected by what "they" say or do. This is the monument of a life, and the pleasing task of the biographical writer is to set this upon the printed page. When the mind and heart of men are attuned to noble deeds and upward growth, it needs not that we add to the simple record what would but "gild refined gold" but to call attention only

to what has been done in business, office or society, and the traits that a personal acquaintance will reveal.

The Irish race is honored in the person of the gentleman named above, who is now engaged in business in Peotone, owning a large grain elevator there, and also holds membership on the Chicago Board of Trade. He is a self-made man, as will be seen, and the reason therefor understood by following the facts of the parental history. His parents, John and Bridget (Mulvihill) Collins, were born in County Clare, Ireland, the one in 1815 and the other in 1817, the father being a gardener in his own land. They were married in 1843, and became the parents of five children—Michael; John, deceased; Martin, who is in the hardware business in Peotone; Thomas, Illinois Central Agent at Grand Crossing; and Mary, wife of William T. Shaffer, a farmer in Wayne County.

When the Emerald Isle was sorely afflicted by famine in 1848, Mr. Collins came to America and obtaining work on the Vermont Central Railroad earned money to send his suffering family and finally to bring the mother and two sons—the family then—across the briny deep. A temporary home was made in the Green Mountain State, whence they removed to Canada. There the father worked on the Great Western Railroad for six years or until its completion, then locating in Fayette County, Ill., where he still resides. He helped to build the Illinois Central Railroad, continuing his arduous labors until about a dozen years ago. He is still active, bearing his years well, but his wife is not in robust health. They were not able to bestow upon their children all the advantages that would be possible if they were young now, but gave them good advice and what education they could.

Michael Collins was born in County Clare, near the historic ground of the Shannon River, October 15, 1845, and was about five years old when brought to America. The schooling he received was barely sufficient to give him an understanding of the rudiments of education, but since attaining manhood, he has diligently applied himself to study and made wonderful progress. He has carried on a systematic course of general reading, including

law, politics and ethics; and has collected one of the finest and best selected libraries in this locality. It contains standard works on almost every conceivable subject, scarcely a topic referred to in his home being without its volume for consultation.

When sixteen years old young Collins began life for himself by securing a clerkship in a store at Farina, Fayette County. The opportunity for advancement seemed limited and his ambition led him to desire a broader field. He therefore went to Kimmunity, Marion County, where he learned telegraphy and station work on the Illinois Central line. In 1863, he was appointed night operator at Gilman, Iroquois County, and a month later was transferred to Makanda, Jackson County, as agent and operator for the Illinois Central Railroad. He performed the duties of the office but a year when on account of fever and ague he obtained a transfer to Peotone, where he added the duties of express agent to those he had formerly carried on.

For twelve years Mr. Collins held the position here, satisfying his employers and the public, and he then resigned in favor of his brother Thomas, himself entering into the grain and hay business in company with Robert Ruins, under the firm name of Ruins & Collins. In 1875, the connection was dissolved and a new partnership formed, the firm of Schroeder, Smith & Collins embarking in the sale of general merchandise and carrying it on five years. During that time our subject and Mr. Schroeder were also connected in the grain business, the style of the firm being Collins and Schroeder.

The same year that Gen. Garfield was elected to the Presidency, Mr. Collins made the race in this district for the Legislature and was elected on the Republican ticket by a large majority. His record in the Thirty-second General Assembly of Illinois is one of an opponent of all ring jobs, unnecessary and extravagant appropriations, and the friend of every means of real development and moral growth. He has held local offices for many years and his popularity is indicated in the fact that he has repeatedly defeated candidates of the German race which predominates in his locality. He has been Supervisor of Peotone Township for years, has also been Chairman of the County Board, member

of the Village Board and School Director. He has likewise been Justice of the Peace, although he read law for purely business purposes and not with the intention of practicing it other than in his own affairs.

The same fall that he was elected to the legislature, Mr. Collins sold out his interest in the general merchandise business and bought out his partner in the grain trade, to which he has given his exclusive attention as a means of support and gain. The trade has constantly grown in his hands, the month of May, 1890, having brought him \$20,000 in business in Peotone. In connection with that business he holds a membership in the Chicago Board of Trade, thus being able to operate among the bulls and bears of the grain market that almost rules the deals of the country. Mr. Collins also has a half interest in the Tile Works at Peotone, and a share with his brother in the hardware business.

Mr. Collins was fortunate in his choice of a life companion, gaining for his wife Miss Caroline Folke, who became Mrs. Collins, December 2, 1869. She looks well to the ways of her household, graciously presides over the tasteful dwelling, and surrounds her family with the joys of home only possible to a true and devoted woman. She was born May 22, 1852, was educated in the common schools and belongs, like her husband, to the Presbyterian Church. Her father, Dr. Henry Folke, was a prominent physician of this county for many years; he died in 1879. Her mother bore the maiden name of Louisa Klinzman and is still living, making her home with Mr. and Mrs. Collins. Dr. and Mrs. Folke were born in Germany whence they came to America many years ago.

To Mr. and Mrs. Collins three children have been born—Kittie, Grace and Paul. Miss Kittie was graduated from the Peotone High School in 1890, and will take a course of instruction in instrumental and vocal music at Lake Forest University, near Chicago, next year. Miss Grace will accompany her and take a classical and scientific course, while it is the intention of the parents to give Master Paul equally good opportunities as his years increase.

Mr. Collins is Elder and Trustee in the Presby-

terian Church and Superintendent of the Sunday School. Miss Kittie teaches the infant class. In principles and practice, Mr. Collins is a temperance man. He has been a Republican since he arrived at manhood and was a member of the Union League when it was dangerous, in Southern Illinois, to belong to it or the Republican party. He has taken an active part in conventions, county, State and Congressional. He belongs to Peotone Lodge, 636, A. F. and A. M., in which he has occupied the Secretary's chair many times.

The residence of Mr. Collins was a purchase and has been remodeled and beautified since he became the owner. It is furnished throughout in accordance with the taste of the occupants and is a popular gathering place for the best citizens. A few years ago Mr. Collins platted Collins' Addition to Peotone. He has owned several farms but only for purposes of speculation, selling when good opportunities came. When three years old he had the small pox, and, taking cold, the disease settled in his right side and limb, permanently crippling him.



**THOMAS CULBERTSON.** This gentleman is numbered among the old settlers of Will County, in which his residence began in 1836, a few months after he had attained his majority. The long years which he has spent here have given him an extended acquaintance throughout the county, and he is well-known as one whose years have been spent in industry and good citizenship. He is the youngest of ten children who comprised the family of Thomas and Mary (Wood) Culbertson, parents and children being natives of New Castle County, Delaware.

The eyes of our subject opened to the light August 23, 1811, and his boyhood was passed in the pursuit of knowledge and the home duties suited to his years. When sixteen years old he learned the miller's trade, at which he was occupied in his native State until he came to Joliet. Here he found employment in the McKee mill, in which he remained until August, 1838, after which he spent two or three months in the Norman mill, the dam

of which was then taken out for the canal. He then went to Wilmington, finding employment at his trade in the mill of Dr. Bowen, and after twelve months spent there returned to Joliet and entered the Robert Jones steam mill. There he was engaged but a few weeks, leaving to settle on Hickory Creek, where he engaged in milling for himself. The old Red Mill having been begun but left unfinished, Mr. Culbertson rented and finished it, operating it for two years prior to his purchase of the property, which he continued to manage until the summer of 1865. Since that time he has followed different occupations, having sold his mill a short time after he gave up operating it, and having since his marriage occupied the homestead on section 12. His home is one of comfort, the dwelling being a cozy one, and the land which accompanies it sufficient in extent to furnish farm products "enough and to spare" for the use of the family. The little farm comprises thirteen acres, which under careful control is of more value than many estates much greater in extent.

In March, 1850, having been attacked by gold fever, Mr. Culbertson, with several companions left Joliet to cross the plains to California. Their journey to the Eldorado and the experiences which Mr. Culbertson passed through in the four years of his residence upon the Coast, become very interesting when graphically pictured by himself, but it is not our purpose to attempt their recital here. Suffice it to say that the mining to which he devoted himself proved more lucrative than in the case of many who had left home and friends and exposed themselves to danger and privation in their search for the precious metal.

On November 19, 1856, in Joliet Township, Mr. Culbertson was united in marriage with Miss Martha M., daughter of Lewis and Mary (Runyon) Kercheval. The bride was born in Preble County, Ohio, October 9, 1824, and was six years of age when brought by her parents to the Prairie State, their settlement being made in New Lenox Township, this county, where they abode until death. Mr. Kercheval was a native of Virginia and his wife of Kentucky. They had ten children, of whom Mrs. Culbertson is the fifth in order of



birth. She had the advantage of excellent home training, acquiring many useful arts, together with the qualities of disposition and character which make her respected and admired, and which have been a potent factor in the comfort of home life. She has borne her husband three children—Thomas E., Mary E. and Anne E. The son is now book-keeper for Sanger & Moody, in Chicago; Mary is the wife of Wilbur H. Smith, of Joliet; Anne died when about nineteen months old.

Mr. Culbertson has served both as School Director and School Trustee, fulfilling the duties of the offices in a creditable manner, and evincing a deep interest in the progress of education. In politics he is a Democrat. Both himself and wife have many warm friends in the county, and although they are highly regarded for the labors of their earlier years and their record as old settlers, the respect in which they are held is due still more to their pleasant natures and upright characters.



**L**EVI M. CLAYES. This name represents one of the oldest living pioneers of Will County. He came to this region as early as 1832, when the present site of Joliet was covered with weeds fifteen feet high. The main thoroughfare through this part of the country terminated at Lockport, which was a hamlet of half a dozen shanties located near the river. Mr. Clayes took up a tract of Government land in the vicinity of Lockport, and after making some improvements left it and went to Chelsea, now Frankfort, where he established a store of general merchandise, having mostly the red men of the forest for his customers.

Mr. Clayes likewise was one of the first Postmasters in Will County, and conducted the office and his store until failing health compelled him to a change of occupation. He then turned his attention to farming on the section of land of which he was the owner and became well-to-do, bringing a large portion of his land to a good state of cultivation and putting up fine buildings. He also set out

an orchard with numbers of other fruit and shade trees, while about one mile south grew up by degrees the town of Frankfort.

In March, 1868, Mr. Clayes sold out and removed to another farm belonging to him and located in the same section. There also he operated a steam sawmill and in this manner disposed of about eighty acres of oak and walnut timber. The Rock Island Railroad furnished him abundant shipping facilities and he realized from this venture handsome returns. He remained there until wisely deciding to lessen his labors and cares, and in 1873 removed to Joliet and erected a large fine house at the intersection of Scott and Webster Streets. This forms one of the most attractive homes of the city. The dwelling stands back from the street and in front of it is an extensive lawn while the general surroundings of the place indicate the cultured tastes and ample means of the proprietor. Mr. Clayes is the owner of other valuable city property and a farm in Green Garden Township, besides real estate in Wilmington. He has accumulated his possessions by his own industry and economy, having at the start no resources but those with which nature had endowed him. He has had little time to meddle with political matters, aside from giving his unqualified support to the Republican party.

During his younger years Mr. Clayes enjoyed in more than an ordinary degree youthful pleasures and recreations, and in company with Mr. Stillman, inaugurated the first bull ever given in the county. The invitations were gotten up in fine style, the paper being embellished with the United States coat-of-arms and the American eagle. They were headed "Union Bull" and read as follows: "The managers present their compliments and respectfully solicit the company of —— at the Joliet Hotel, Thursday, the 24th inst., at 3 o'clock, P.M., fall of 1834.

O. W. Stillman, J. W. Brown, O. T. Rogers, L. M. Clayes, S. S. Chamberlain, C. Sayre, A. Castle, R. Nixon, S. Munson, Managers.

O. W. Stillman, L. M. Clayes, Floor Managers."

The subject of this notice was born February 8, 1808, in New Hampshire, and is the son of Peter and Lois Clayes, who were natives of Scotland and Massachusetts, respectively, and spent their last

years in Frankfort, Will County. Peter Clayes was the original manufacturer of the Chickering Pianos at New Ipswich, N. H. L. M. when a young man removed to Pittsford near Rochester, N. Y. When reaching manhood he repaired to Pittsburg, Pa. and subsequently to Louisville, Ky., in both of which places his brother-in-law, Sylvanus Lathrop, was engaged as a builder and contractor, mostly of bridges, and put up several large structures of the kind at both places. He came to Illinois when about twenty-three years old and was subsequently married in Mokena, Ill., November 21, 1858, to Miss Parthena F. Benedict. This lady was born in Colborne, Canada, June 29, 1832. Of this union there are two daughters, viz.: Hattie A., the wife of C. H. Talcott, Cashier of the Will County Bank, and Louise B., who remains at home with her parents. The parents of Mrs. Clayes were Amzi L., and Luey (Hoyt) Benedict, natives of Connecticut and New Hampshire, respectively, now deceased.



**THOMAS D. FERGUSON.** Farming has been the chief occupation of Mr. Ferguson since he reached man's estate, and he now gives his attention to that and to the dairy business at his pleasant home on section 6, New Lenox Township. Although still on the sunny side of forty, having been born March 31, 1853, Mr. Ferguson has manifested the qualities of true manhood, and won an honorable name among his fellow-men. His estate comprises eighty-eight acres, on which a complete line of farm buildings has been erected, all above the average, while other improvements are in accord with the edifices. The snug estate is so well managed that it affords an excellent income and is more profitable than a larger number of acres would be if under less efficient control.

The gentleman of whom we write derives his sterling qualities from honorable Scotch ancestors, combining traits which the friends of his deceased parents well remember in them. His father was William Ferguson, and his mother Elizabeth Doig,

sister of Thomas Doig, whose sketch appears in this volume. They were born in the land which has given to the world a Bruce, a Burns, and many heroes of sword and pen. After their marriage they emigrated to America, settling in New Lenox Township, this county, about 1833. They were therefore numbered among the early settlers, and shared in the labors which have resulted in the present prosperity and high development of this county. They continued to live in New Lenox Township until the death of Mr. Ferguson, which occurred in May, 1862. His widow breathed her last in Chicago, in August, 1871.

The parental family consisted of four daughters and five sons, he of whom we write being the fifth in order of birth. His early years were spent at the home in this county and in Chicago, his education being obtained in the common schools. He was first married, January 10, 1878, to Miss Sadie, daughter of Sylvanus and Mary (Doxtader) Lusk. The wedding took place in New Lenox Township, in which the bride was born, and where she died after a brief married life, passing away December 10, 1879. She left an infant son, William L. The second marriage of Mr. Ferguson took place at the residence of the Hon. Dwight Haven, October 19, 1881. The bride was Miss Nellie L., daughter of Dwight and Helen L. (Savage) Haven, and was born in New Lenox Township, November 2, 1853. Her parental and ancestral history is given in the sketch of her father, found elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Ferguson has served efficiently as School Director, as an official and as a private citizen manifesting a deep interest in the cause of education. In politics he is a Republican. Mrs. Ferguson is a member of the Episcopal Church. Growing to maturity amid the most favorable surroundings, she developed into a lady of pleasing manners, more than average intelligence, and a knowledge of both useful and ornamental arts, which fitted her for any sphere in life and causes her not only to be cherished by her companion as his choicest blessing, but to make friends wherever she is known. Mr. Ferguson is likewise one of whom good is spoken, affording the biographical writer a pleasant task in inditing his life history.





*Yours Truly  
Julius S. Holmes*

**JULIUS S. HOLMES.** Among the prominent citizens of Will County, considerable mention belongs to the gentleman whose portrait is shown on the opposite page, and who has been a life-long resident of New Lenox Township. In his native place he has acquired a reputation for integrity and perseverance, and wherever known is highly respected. When still a small child he was orphaned by the death of his father, who was a farmer in New Lenox Township. Our subject was therefore early thrown upon his own resources, and though at present only in the prime of life has by his own efforts made himself independent. To such men as he, America owes her high standing among other older countries, and to the efforts which such citizens as he have made, Will County may justly attribute the development of her limitless resources.

The gentleman of whom this sketch is written is a son of the late Asher Holmes and his wife, Eliza Ann Elmore. Both were born in Sherburne, Chenango County, N. Y., the father on September 28, 1797, and the mother on September 22, 1805. In their native county they made their first home after marriage, subsequently removing to Chautauqua County, and in 1832 returning to that in which they were born. In the spring of 1835 they turned their footsteps westward, and coming to Will County, Ill., made a settlement on section 22, New Lenox Township. Here the father was engaged in farming until his death, January 24, 1854. The widowed mother continued to live on the old homestead until her death, which occurred June 5, 1880. They had six children—James E., Myron P., Eliza A., Orsamus, Lydia and Julius S. Eliza, who was the wife of Thomas Stolp, died in Nebraska in May, 1873.

The natal day of our subject was August 30, 1818, and his birthplace the old homestead on which he grew to manhood and continued to live until the spring of 1890. He was educated in the common schools, and by the use of the means which are open to all who desire knowledge, he has added to the knowledge obtained at school the broader education which can only be gained by a mature mind and a practical application of theories in contact with mankind. After having pursued

an agricultural life until the date before mentioned, Mr. Holmes rented his farm and removed to New Lenox Village. He is now giving his attention to the grain trade, his principal place of business being Manhattan, although he is also a member of the Chicago Board of Trade. His business ability is undisputed, and has been made use of by his fellow-citizens, who have called upon him to fill official stations of various natures.

The marriage of Mr. Holmes was celebrated in New Lenox Township, January 24, 1871, his bride being Miss Sophie, youngest child of Abraham and Jane (Wood) Willis. Mrs. Holmes was born in New Jersey, August 14, 1852, but grew to womanhood in this county, to which her parents came in 1861. They were natives of the Empire State and the parents of nine children. The mother died in Wenona, Marshall County, Ill., February 28, 1886; Mr. Willis is yet living. Mrs. Holmes possesses an estimable Christian character, and has the knowledge of domestic arts and social accomplishments which make her home a happy one and give her popularity among her acquaintances. She has borne twelve children, named respectively: Raynor E., Arthur W., Laura E., Herbert H., Bessie J., Eva M., Mamie E., Ethel J., Mattie A., Olive I., Sophie L. and Julius W. Eva M. and Olive I. are deceased.

Mr. Holmes has ever taken an active interest in politics, and is numbered in the Republican ranks. He has held the office of School Trustee for twelve years, and has also been School Director. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has held the offices of Steward and Trustee, positions of financial importance, for which his business talents and deep interest in the work of the church well qualified him.



**WILLIAM GOODSON** has for a period of twenty years pursued his farming operations in Plainfield Township, and is counted one of the most substantial residents of the place. He is a native of Leicester-shire, England, born December 14, 1834. His father, John Goodson, was

born in the same shire and was there reared to agricultural pursuits, and always earned his living tilling the soil, spending his entire life in his native land. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Lucy Howell, and she was born in Rutland, England. She came to America in 1869, and now makes her home with her children, she having attained the age of eighty-one years. There were eleven children born to the parents of our subject, eight of whom were reared to maturity as follows: George, William, Samuel, Thomas, Henry, John, Richard and Robert, all of whom came to America, except Richard, and settled in different parts of the country.

He of whom we write went to work on the farm at an early age and earned his own living. The wages were low and the chances of securing a home in his native land were almost *nil*, and he determined to see what life held forth in America, and on the 29th of October, 1856, accompanied by his bride, set sail from Liverpool in the good ship "Cultivator," and on the 29th of November landed in New York. From there he and his wife proceeded to Orange County, N. Y., where they found themselves penniless and among strangers. Our subject with characteristic self-reliance immediately set about finding employment, and soon obtained work upon a farm. He resided there until August, 1856, and then went with his family to St. Clair County, Mich., and there was engaged in a saw-mill until 1859. In that year he again started westward, and coming as far as Illinois resumed his old employment as a farm hand in Canton, Fulton County. In 1864 he went to Kendall County. Having prudently saved his earnings he was enabled to be more independent, and commenced farming on his own account, renting land. He carried on his farming operations in that manner for six years, and then bought eighty acres of land, which is included in his present farm in Plainfield Township. This was scarcely at all improved, and a rude shanty on the place was the only building. Since then he has been much prospered, and has brought about great changes on his place, having erected a good set of frame buildings, planted fruit and shade trees, fenced the land and now has it under admirable cultivation. He has been so

successful that he has added to his estate, and now has one hundred and eighty-six and one-third acres of fine farming land, all lying in a body and constituting as productive and well-improved a farm as is to be found in the locality.

In 1856 Mr. Goodson was happily married to Miss Sarah Broom, a native of Rutland, England, and a daughter of John Broom. Their marriage has been blessed by the birth of eleven children, nine living, namely: Mary A., Lucy, Lillie, Amelia, Edward, Charles, Ernest, Herbert and Eva. The deceased were Hannah and William H. Mr. Goodson's career as a farmer, since he took up his residence in this place, proves him to be a shrewd, practical, industrious man, and the honorable, upright life that he has always led entitles him to be called a trustworthy man and a good citizen, and he and his family are well respected in this community.



**J**OHAN W. DOWNEY. The legal fraternity of Will County numbers among its most painstaking and promising members him whose name we introduce this notice. He is yet young in years, having been born April 3, 1860, and his childhood home was in Norman Township, Grundy County, this State. His parents were John and Mary (O'Halloran) Downey, who were natives of County Tipperary, Ireland.

The father of our subject came to America in 1819, and in 1851 was married to Miss O'Halloran, in LaSalle County, this State. They settled upon a farm, and there were born to them six children, five sons and one daughter. One son, Edward, died at the age of twenty-six years. The others, with the exception of our subject, are residing in Grundy County. John W., who was the fourth in order of birth, spent his boyhood on the farm, assisting in its labors, and attending, mostly during the winter season, the common school. He was of studious habits, improving his leisure hours by reading and study, and after leaving school occupied himself as a teacher, which is the usual stepping stone to other professions. He was desirous, however, of advancing his education,

and in the summer of 1882 entered the Normal School at Valparaiso, Ind., which he attended three terms.

Mr. Downey, having resolved upon following the profession of law, came, in the spring of 1885, to Joliet, and entered the office of Haley & O'Donnell, where he closely applied himself to the study of the best legal works until December following, when he was admitted to the bar. He remained with his preceptors one year, then opened a law office, and has since confined himself to the practice of his profession. He was elected City Attorney in April, 1889, for a term of two years. Politically, Mr. Downey affiliates with the Democratic party, and in religion he adheres to the Catholic faith of his forefathers. Socially, he belongs to the Independent Order of Foresters. He gives his whole time to the duties of his profession, and is rapidly acquiring a substantial footing therein.



**HENRY C. CULLOM.** The real-estate and insurance business of Joliet and vicinity finds a lively representative in Mr. Cullom, who with his partner, James W. Patterson, has a well-equipped office on Chicago Street. He embarked in these enterprises in the fall of 1888, writing fire, life and accident policies. He is a native of Illinois and was born in Tazewell County, April 1, 1839, to Richard N. and Betsey Elizabeth (Coffey) Cullom.

The parents of our subject were natives respectively of Tennessee and North Carolina, and met in Kentucky, where they were married. In the fall of 1830 they emigrated to Illinois, and the father hereafter occupied himself at farming in Tazewell County, Ill. The mother passed away in December, 1868. The household circle numbered five sons and six daughters, of whom the subject of this notice was the youngest. Five of these are living.

The subject of this notice lived in his native county until reaching man's estate—in fact eight years after reaching his majority. The most of

this time was employed in farm pursuits. His education was such as was afforded by the common school, and he acquired those habits of industry and economy which have followed him through life. In 1868 he repaired to Springfield, Ill., and engaged in the mercantile business until 1871. Then, going to Southeastern Nevada, he entered the employ of the Government as Indian Agent, and was in that region and Indian Territory about eighteen months.

At the expiration of this time we find Mr. Cullom on a farm in Lawrence County, Ill. Later he took a contract from the penitentiary in Joliet, to manufacture hosiery and clothing, and occupied himself at that industry for a period of twelve years. Then, selling out, he embarked in his present business. He was married October 29, 1861, to Miss Anna M. Kingman. Mrs. Cullom was born May 16, 1811, and like her husband is a native of Tazewell County, this State. Their union has resulted in the birth of four sons and four daughters, seven of whom remain under the parental roof. The second daughter, Jennie N., is the wife of Edward C. Barrett, of Joliet. Mr. Cullom cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln, and in politics, continues a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He is an Elder of the Presbyterian Church, and belongs to the Patriotic Order Sons of America.



**FREDERICK A. LUTHER.** Probably a majority of the farmers of Wilmington Township are men well-to-do, and of that class who have been the architects of their own fortunes. Among them may be properly mentioned the subject of this notice, who is comparatively young in years, and who is a native of this State, born in Kankakee County, March 28, 1855. He is the representative of a substantial old family of New England ancestry, the son of Charles and Lucy (Holland) Luther, who were natives of Vermont.

The paternal grandparents of our subject were Jabez and Elizabeth (Parkman) Luther, the former of whom was a son of Caleb and Rebecca (Brown)

Luther. Caleb was the son of Jabez and Alse Luther, who were natives of Massachusetts, and Jabez was a son of Caleb and Mary Luther, natives of the New England States. Caleb was a son of Samuel and Sarah, likewise natives of New England, and Samuel was the son of Samuel, Sr., and Mary Luther. Samuel, Sr., was the son of Capt. John S. Luther, a seafaring man and commander of a merchant vessel. The latter was killed by the Indians on the Delaware River, in 1645; he was of German descent, but born in Ireland.

Some of the early members of the Luther family were men of note in New England, and exercised no unimportant influence in their communities. Grandfather Jabez Luther was a merchant in Cornish, N. H., for many years. He lost both his arms by the premature discharge of a cannon, on the 14th of July, 1805. Charles Luther, the father of our subject, was born in Pittsford, Rutland County, Vt., June 30, 1819, and spent the first twelve years of his life there. He was married there, in 1844, and in 1849 set his face westward, coming to Illinois and settling on a farm in Kankakee County. He lived there until 1865, then removed to Wilmington Township, this county, where he still lives.

The mother of our subject, also a native of the Green Mountain State, was born in Stockbridge, Windsor County, to Jonathan and Mary (Ramney) Holland. The latter were also natives of Vermont, where they spent their entire lives. To Charles and Lucy Luther there were born three children only, viz.: Julius J., Charles W., and Frederick A., of this sketch. The latter is the only surviving member of the family. Julius J. was in Chicago several years prior to his death. He was a man of fine business qualifications and considerable means, and for several years was the owner and superintendent of the Brink Express Company.

Frederick A. Luther has been a resident of this county since 1865. He has followed farming all his life, and owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, comprising a well-improved farm lying about one and one-half miles northwest of Wilmington. He has a fine residence, with substantial outbuildings, an ample supply of farm machinery, and all the other appliances for prosecuting his calling in

a profitable and successful manner. In addition to general agriculture he is considerably interested in blooded horses, of which he is enabled to exhibit some fine specimens. He makes of farming and stock-raising an art and a science, and by reading and observation keeps himself thoroughly posted as to the best methods employed in connection therewith.

One of the most important events in the life of Mr. Luther was the occasion of his marriage, September 7, 1877, with Miss Mary E. Thomas, the wedding taking place at the bride's home in Wilmington. Mrs. Luther was born January 10, 1856, in England, to Henry and Mary (Lester) Thomas, who were likewise natives of England, and with whom she came to America when a child nine years of age. They settled in this county; the father is deceased, and the mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Luther are the parents of two sons—Charles J. and John H. Both parents and sons belong to the New Jerusalem Church, and our subject, politically, affiliates with the Democratic party.



DAVID L. CHRISTIAN occupies a farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 13, Peotone Township, which is sufficiently large to afford a comfortable maintenance. He has, however, obtained what is better than silver or gold, a good name and the respect of his fellow-men. He has been a leader on the side of morality when it took high moral courage to announce his beliefs and uplift the standard of right and justice in the community.

Our subject was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., September 6, 1824, and is the oldest child of David and Jane (Wolverton) Christian. The father was born in 1795, and the mother April 26, 1804, both in the Empire State, where their marriage also took place, the date of that event being January 15, 1822. The wife breathed her last August 26, 1833, after having borne three children, of whom our subject is the only survivor. Two years after her death the father removed to Michigan, sojourning but four years ere settling in



DuPage County, Ill., on a farm which he continued to occupy until overtaken by death, in 1815. He married for his second wife Mrs. Christiana Ketchum, nee Churchill, who still survives. This union was blest by the birth of two children.

The gentleman of whom we write received a common-school education in New York and Michigan, his youthful days being passed in the ordinary manner of a farmer's son. Being the eldest child, he had charge of his father's business for a few years prior to the latter's death, and for a short time after. He took up the High School studies in the old Chicago Academy, fitted himself for teaching and found employment in the district schools of DuPage County, for three winters. In the intervals of his professional work he was employed on the construction of the Illinois & Michigan Central Railroad, from Kensington to Chicago. During a part of three seasons, in 1852-53-54, he was occupied under a contract for fencing the road, and some of the fence is still standing near Madison, after thirty-seven years.

In the fall of 1851, Mr. Christian returned to the old home, remaining thereon until the spring of 1858, when he located in the village of Peotone, Will County. In the spring of 1867 he removed to the farm where he has since resided. It consisted of two hundred and forty acres of good land, wholly unimproved at the time of his purchase. He erected upon it, in 1867, a good residence, which cost \$2,500, the accompanying barns and other outbuildings, and placed the entire acreage under good cultivation. When he began life for himself Mr. Christian was nearly empty-handed, \$250 being his share of his father's estate. He has an interest in the old homestead in DuPage County.

On October 23, 1851, Mr. Christian was united in marriage with Miss Clara, daughter of Samuel and Judith (Elliott) Page, natives of New Hampshire. Mr. and Mrs. Page removed to Illinois in 1839, settling in Kane County, where the husband died in 1840, his widow surviving until 1863. They were the parents of six children, three of whom are now living, and Mrs. Christian was the

fifth in order of birth. Her natal day was March 28, 1833, and her native State New Hampshire. She attended a select school in DuPage County, Ill., enriching her mind with useful knowledge and mental culture. A womanly woman, her quiet dignity is felt in every circle that she enters, and she has stood side by side with her husband in moral and Christian endeavors.

To Mr. and Mrs. Christian six children have been born, as follows: Walter, September 22, 1852; Ella, February 27, 1854; Mary, October 1, 1856; David Warren, November 6, 1859; Sarah F., March 17, 1863; Clara Jenny, May 30, 1866. They have received more than common-school educations, and Warren and Clara have taught in this country. More than one of the family are especially gifted in intellect and possess musical and other talents. The three eldest children are deceased. Ella passed away November 11, 1879, leaving a host of friends to honor her memory. Her especial talent was for music, and she excelled in organ playing, also succeeding wonderfully as a teacher. With a strong intellect and a noble heart, she bore a share in the good works instituted throughout the vicinity, and became greatly loved. She was the leader of the music in the church where the family attended, and promoted its interests very largely. She was the wife of John H. Brayton.

Two of the surviving children of Mr. and Mrs. Christian are living in homes of their own. David W., a merchant in Kankakee, Ill., married Cora J. Palmer, and has one child, David Palmer. Sarah F. is the wife of H. Anson Harsh, of Normal Park, Cook County, and they have one child, Clara.

Mr. Christian has been School Director in District No. 6, also Township Trustee of Schools, Township Treasurer of Schools, Supervisor of Peotone Township and Justice of the Peace. He has always taken an active interest in politics, and at the beginning of his political experience was a strong Abolitionist. For twenty-five years he has been identified with the Republican party, for which he has acted as Township Representative, in conventions, probably a greater number of times than any other man here. He has also been a delegate to State and Congressional conventions. Before

the war he was connected with the "underground railroad," and during the war he was also a member of the Union League.

For about five years Mr. Christian was the only man in the village of Peotone who would speak out in behalf of temperance, liquor being at that time sold there without license. So frank had he been in expressing his views, and so ardently had he labored against the liquor interest, that he was at one time threatened by mob violence, but good counsel finally prevailed and he was not molested. Both he and his wife formerly belonged to the Good Templars' organization and held office therein.

The entire Christian family belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and take an active part in the work of the denomination, especially in the Sunday-school and music. The son Warren has ever been connected with the choir, his fine bass voice adding volume and depth to the lighter tones of his sisters and others. Mr. Christian took part in the initiatory steps to secure preaching of the Gospel, and a place of worship in the village of Peotone. He is Trustee, Steward and Class Leader; he has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school in Peotone twenty-three years continuously, and held the same position elsewhere. At present he teaches the Bible class. Mrs. Christian has had a class for about twenty-two years continuously, and the children have also been teachers. The influence exerted by such a father and mother is beyond calculation, and when extended by the sons and daughters the benefit to mankind is boundless, giving reason for the approval of all who feel an interest in the advancement of humanity.



**J**OHAN WILLIAM DIERSEN is a prosperous farmer and stock-raiser, whose fine farm is located on section 15, Crete Township. He is the fortunate possessor of two hundred and forty acres of highly-improved land, besides thirty acres of timber, all of which formerly belonged to his father, whom he succeeded in the ownership and operation of the home-stead. It has been almost his life-long home, as he came to it

with his parents in his youth, having previously lived in Chicago some six years. The family arrived in America in 1846 from Hesse-Cassel, Germany, where he of whom we write was born, September 2, 1838.

John H. Diersen, father of our subject, was of good German blood, and in his native country was in the employ of a German nobleman bearing the name of Munchhansen, from the time he was a young man until he came to the United States. He married Sophia Hue, who was, like her husband, a native of the Prussian Province of Hesse-Cassel and of pure Hessian ancestry. After the birth of four children, one of whom died in infancy, Mr. Diersen set out for America, with his wife, son and two daughters. They set sail from Bremen in May, 1846, and after a tedious voyage landed in the American metropolis, July 5. Thence they went up the Hudson River to Albany, thence on the canal to Buffalo, where they embarked upon a lake steamer, which anchored in Chicago in the latter part of the month. They remained in that city until 1852, when Mr. Diersen procured forty acres of Government land in Will County and began agricultural labors as a poor farmer.

By hard work and the rigid economy best known to themselves, he and his wife got on in the world, finally becoming quite rich. They accumulated the land now owned by their son, improved and occupied it for some years, finally removing to Crete Village, where both died. The death of Mrs. Diersen took place in 1885, and that of her husband in 1887, both being about seventy-three years of age. They were estimable people, well known in the vicinity and well respected. They were closely connected with the work of the Lutheran Church, to which they gave liberally. The only members of his family now living are our subject and his sister, Mrs. Sophia Brown, of Chicago. Before his marriage Mr. Diersen had served his country as a soldier in the Hanoverian War.

J. W. Diersen assisted his parents as his strength would permit, becoming of age on the farm he now owns and in the improvement of which he took part. He was married in this township to Engel Descevisz, who was born in Hesse-Cassel,

Germany, August 28, 1812. When sixteen years old she accompanied her brother Philip to America, their home being made in this county. Philip Desenisz served some time during the late Rebellion as a member of the Union army. Mrs. Diersen received a good practical education and excellent home training from her worthy parents, and during her mature years has exhibited marked ability as a housewife and great kindness in her domestic and social relations. Her mother, Sophia (Saller) Desenisz, died in the year 1881, being then quite old. Her father, Philip Desenisz, Sr., is still living in his native clime, where he has been a small farmer. He is a lifelong member of the Lutheran Church, of which his deceased wife was also a communicant.

The wife of our subject has borne him twelve children, of whom we note the following: John is a hardware dealer in Crete, his wife being Sophia Piepenbrink; William is at present working in a grain house in the same town; Louisa is the wife of Phillip Pieperbrink, a farmer in Crete Township; Henry is now with his brother, assisting him in the hardware business; August, Herman, Gotlieb, Amelia, Emma, Walter, Anna and Otto are at home. Herman is learning the trade of a blacksmith. Mr. Diersen has held the minor offices of the township and is now acting in the capacity of School Director, and has been Highway Commissioner since 1871, and has also been Treasurer for the same length of time, and is Secretary of the Crete Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company. He and the members of his family who are entitled to vote belong to the Republican party. The entire family, parents and children, belong to the Lutheran Church.



REV. ERNST A. BRAUER, pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Crete, is one of the ablest men in the ministry and besides possessing natural talents of a high order, is finely educated, a close student and an extensive reader. For the last forty-three years he has given his entire attention to the interests of

his church and people and is greatly esteemed in the community, not only among those with whom he is intimately associated, but by the people at large. Mr. Brauer came to this place from St. Louis, Mo., where for six years he had been pastor of Trinity, one of the oldest Lutheran Churches in that city. Prior to this he was for ten years a Professor in Concordia Theological Seminary at St. Louis, to which he removed from Pittsburg, Pa., where he had been connected with the oldest church in that city for six years. During the Civil War he served with the Missouri Militia and assisted in quelling the disturbances in that State, although never having regularly enlisted.

Mr. Brauer assumed charge of his first congregation at Addison, DuPage County, Ill., in November, 1847, during the pioneer days, when his salary, like his congregation, was exceedingly small and continued so for a number of years and he lived to see this society become one of the largest and most prosperous in the Synod, comprising the States of Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and others. He was one of the earliest preachers of the Lutheran denomination in Illinois which was not represented by any other for a number of years. He labored faithfully in the service of the Master and was rewarded by witnessing in due time a bountiful harvest.

The subject of this notice was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, April 19, 1819, his early home being in the vicinity of Northeim. He received his education at a cloister in Elfeldt, where he pursued his studies six years, but he afterward entered the University at Gottingen from which he was duly graduated and after this he became a pupil in the college at Berlin. Subsequently he became a private tutor in the family of Mr. Ompteda, the German Ambassador at London, and was thus occupied two years. At the expiration of this time he sailed for America in October, 1847, and after a nine weeks' voyage landed in New York City. He had only intended remaining a few years in this country, but his labors have been attended with such prosperity and he has made so many friends, besides becoming greatly attached to its institutions that he has no desire of returning except to visit the scenes of his youth.

While a resident of Addison, Mr. Brauer made the acquaintance of Miss Bente Reimann, who became his wife September 9, 1849, the wedding taking place in Chicago. Mrs. Brauer was born October 23, 1822, in the town of Schullburg, Hanover, and is the daughter of Richard Reimann who was of pure German ancestry. She was carefully reared and received a thorough education in her native tongue. She went to Paris, France, with an uncle and from there came to America in 1849. Of her union with our subject there have been born nine children, all of whom are living. Five sons and two daughters are married. Albert H. was born in 1850 and at an early age evinced more than ordinary talent, being fond of his books and ambitious to excel in his studies. He was graduated at Ft. Wayne, (Ind.) College and later at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. He now has charge of the Lutheran congregation at Beecher, Ill. He married Miss Louisa Stein, of St. Louis, Mo., and they are the parents of seven children. Jane became the wife of Prof. Theophile Mees, Rector of the Ohio Seminary at Woodville, Ohio; they have six children. Dorothea is at home with her parents; Charles H. married Miss Anna Bartling and is living at Eagle Lake, Ill. He was educated in Springfield, Ill., and has charge of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. He is the father of four children. August G. was educated in a Seminary at St. Louis, where he now lives engaged as a stove repairer; he married Miss Amelia Schuricht and they have four children; Helene is the wife of the Rev. Frederick Pfotenhauer, who has charge of a congregation at Lewiston, Wis., and they have four children; Herman E. is the pastor of the Lutheran Church at Niles, this State; he was educated in St. Louis, Mo., and Springfield, Ill., and married Miss Johanna Brockman of Chicago; they have four children. Frederick E. was graduated at Ft. Wayne, (Ind.) Seminary and later at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and is now assistant pastor with his father, besides having charge of other local churches; he married Miss Anna Meyer of Lake View, Ill.; they make their home with our subject. William A. is a minister of the Lutheran Church, having charge of a flourishing congregation at Hammond, Ind.; he was

graduated from the college of his church at Springfield, Ill. He is unmarried.

Mr. Brauer and his son Frederick have a fine library of which they make constant use and which contains many choice volumes including some ancient works of great value. The family holds a high social position, representing the culture and refinement of the community.



**A**BRAMHAM GOCKLEY. A compend of biographies of residents in Jackson Township would be incomplete if it did not include that of the gentleman above named, a retired farmer who is now enjoying the fruits of his early industry. His farm is on section 24, where he has resided since April 1857. He now makes his home in Joliet. His landed estate comprises two hundred and seventy acres which he rents, feeling that he is entitled to repose in his declining years. The residence is of pleasing architectural design, well furnished and pleasantly located, and all of the outbuildings upon the estate are well built and sufficient in size and number to adequately shelter stock, crops, and machinery.

The early life of Mr. Gockley was spent in Lancaster County, Pa., in which he was born May 17, 1827. He was reared on a farm and early determined to follow the business of farming and stock-raising, which he has done throughout his entire active life. He was married in his native county in October, 1848, to Miss Hannah Lutz, who was born in the same county in 1827. When the removal to this county was made the family included three children. The parents have had ten sons and daughters, five of whom died when they were young.

The living children of Abraham Gockley and his esteemed wife are: Henry, a resident of Joliet; Sarah, wife of Harmon Deutschman of Jackson Township; Marinda, wife of Andrew Peterson of Jackson Township; Albert, a resident of Joliet, and Mary, wife of Jerry Johnson, of Rice County, Kan. The devoted wife and mother was called





*J R Ashley*

from time to eternity April 25, 1867. She was a member of the German Baptist Church, whose principles she ever endeavored to carry out in daily life.

The nature of Mr. Gockley is extremely genial and social, and his memory is stored with information and incidents of earlier life, which make him an entertaining companion. He manifests a deep interest in the welfare of those about him, particularly in the cause of education and the spreading of the Gospel. He has been School Director for twelve years and is an active member of the German Baptist Church.



**J**AMES R. ASHLEY. The subject of this notice is familiarly called "the father of all the wire mills of this county." He is one of the oldest residents of the county, having come to Plainfield as early as 1837, when a boy of twelve years. He was born February 3, 1825, in Martinsburg, Lewis County, N. Y., and is the son of Riley B. and Sally (Searles) Ashley, the latter of whom died when her son James R. was only two years old, also leaving an infant daughter who died in early childhood.

The subject of this notice remained with his father in his native place until 1837, and then the latter decided to emigrate to Illinois, set out with his little family and in company with three other families journeyed overland with teams from New York to this county. After a tedious journey of one month they arrived in the embryo town of Joliet, June 9, following.

The father being a Baptist minister purchased a home in the village of Plainfield and also bought a farm in that vicinity, the latter of which he leased while he confined his attention to his pastoral duties. He organized the first Baptist Church in the place and remained in charge of it for several years. Through his efforts various other churches were organized throughout the surrounding country, and among these he labored faithfully, sometimes going as far as Chicago to preach. He maintained his home continuously in Plainfield and

died there in August, 1880, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. He had in the meantime contracted a second marriage and there were born to him three more children, only one of whom is now living. After the death of his wife he was married a third time, and his widow is at present residing in Leyden, N. Y.

James R., of this notice, was reared by his father and step-mother in Plainfield, and was given a good education, completing his studies at Warrenville, this State. He first engaged in business in Plainfield as a merchant in a small way and by the exercise of a wise economy, succeeded in accumulating sufficient means to erect a large store building in which he placed a first-class stock of merchandise. He conducted the business until July, 1870, and then sold out. In the meantime, when the township organization was effected he was elected Township Clerk, which position he held for a period of fifteen years. During that time he also held the office of Justice of the Peace two terms and in addition to this, from the fall of 1862 until the spring of 1870, was the United States Gauger for what was then the Eighth Congressional District, comprising six counties. He had the supervision of all the distilleries, wholesale liquor and rectifying establishments within his bailiwick, and was required to inspect all liquors made and collect the tax thereon. It will thus be seen that during those years he was a very busy man.

After disposing of his mercantile interests Mr. Ashley rested for a time, then, in 1874, removed to Joliet and became connected with the firm of A. B. Sharpe & Co., with whom he remained until January, 1876. He then sold his interest in the concern and that same day he and his brother formed a partnership with H. B. Scutt and William Watkins, for the purpose of manufacturing wire fence—Mr. Ashley furnishing, with the exception of \$500, all the capital. The partners operated together until the summer of 1876, and resolved themselves into the Joliet Wire Fence Company, taking in several new men and Mr. Watkins dropping out. They located their plant at Adam's Dam until the 1st of August when it was destroyed by fire. Not finding a suitable location elsewhere, they took

their machinery to the penitentiary and the company continued to do business until January 1, 1879. Then Mr. Seutt, D. Robertson and Mr. Ashley purchased the interest of the other partners and formed the new firm of H. B. Seutt & Co., and they operated until September, 1881, when Mr. Ashley disposed of his interest in the business to his partners.

In the meantime Mr. Ashley organized another firm called the Joliet Wire Company, with a capital of \$50,000, and in connection with it established a wire drawing company, which, however, was separate in its operations. At this time there had been no enterprise of this kind west of the city of Cleveland, Ohio, and it was made a grand success. In July 1882, Mr. Ashley purchased the machinery of the Joliet Wire Company and took the contract for employing one hundred and twenty-five convicts for eight years. At the expiration of this time he organized the present Ashley Wire Company, of which he was made President and Treasurer. On account of his failing health, W. S. Brooks was appointed Acting President and Treasurer, while Mr. Ashley retained the chief supervision of the concern. At the last election of stockholders he was re-elected President and Treasurer. The company are removing their plant to the southwest part of the city on the banks of the canal, where they are erecting extensive brick buildings and will thus double their present capacity. In 1876, H. B. Seutt & Co., constituted the third firm in the United States engaged in the manufacture of barb wire and solved the problem of the feasibility of such fencing on the western plains. Mr. Ashley has large real-estate interests in Joliet, and at one time owned forty thousand acres of land in Florida, three-fourths of which he subsequently disposed of to parties in this city.

The marriage of James R. Ashley and Miss Julia F. Tyler was celebrated in Plainfield, October 27, 1850. Mrs. Ashley was born in April, 1825, in Bridgewater, Mass., and was the daughter of Daniel Tyler, who spent his last years in Troy, N. Y. The Tyler family left the Bay State in an early day, settling in Troy, N. Y., where Mrs. Ashley spent her younger years. She came with her sister to Plainfield about 1811. Of this union there were

born four daughters, only one of whom is now living, Ella M., the wife of George W. Bush, of Joliet. Religiously, Mr. Ashley is a member of the Baptist Church in Plainfield, while in political affairs he is a staunch Republican, and in the councils of his party occupies a prominent place. He has made for himself a fine record in business circles while as a member of the community he occupies no secondary position among his fellow-citizens.

Elsewhere in this volume will be found a lithographic portrait of Mr. Ashley.



**S**AMUEL S. WHITE. Among the energetic men who came to Joliet a number of years ago, and who were identified with its interest for years, living an upright and useful life in the midst of their fellow-men, may be numbered the late Samuel S. White, who entered into rest February 3, 1884. He was born in Lawrence County, Pa., where he grew to manhood, obtained his education, and learned the trade of a painter. For some years after reaching man's estate he continued to reside in the Keystone State, finding abundant employment at his trade, in which he became proficient, and which he followed until his death.

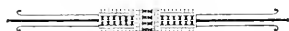
At the home of the bride, in New Castle, of his own native county, on April 22, 1851, Mr. White was united in marriage with Miss Inez E. Crawford. This lady was a native of the town in which her wedding took place, and had opened her eyes to the light July 25, 1835. She is the third of six children born to David and Rebecca (Hozack) Crawford, the parents having also been natives of the Keystone State. She possesses many virtues of character, much intelligence, and the cordial manners which add to the attractions of the true woman.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. White continued to reside in New Castle some five or six years, after which, in 1856, they came to Joliet. In the spring of 1868 they settled on a tract of land not far from the city, and there Mr. White



breathed his last. The widow still occupies the homestead, which consists of about eighty acres of fertile land, upon which such improvements have been made as are common to the homes of those who are in comfortable circumstances and possessed of energy and good taste.

Mr. White belonged to the Universalist Church, in which he held good standing, and among the social bodies was connected with the Knights Templar. He was the father of five children, named respectively: Ella L., Lillian M., C. Harold, David C. and Florence R.



**S**AMUEL LOEBSTEIN. The late Samuel Loebstein, who died at his home in Beecher, March 15, 1888, was a prominent citizen of the place in which he had been the first to establish a general store. It was situated in what is now the eastern part of Beecher, but was formerly known as Washington Center. A store building was erected and the business established in 1870, and the proprietor had from the start an excellent trade, which increased and brought wealth to the originator and extended his reputation as an honorable and enterprising dealer. The store was well located to accommodate the country trade, and Mr. Loebstein thoroughly understood the needs of his customers and with the assistance of his able wife kept the establishment well stocked and the business carefully managed in every detail. During his active life at this place Mr. Loebstein was also extensively engaged in buying and selling stock.

The natal day of our subject was February 13, 1832, and his birthplace Hebenhausen, Wurtemberg, Germany. He was the son of Jacob Loebstein, a native of the same kingdom, whose business was that of a horse dealer and who was a prominent man in his town. He had married a native of the same kingdom, who also passed her entire life there.

Their son, of whom we write, was but a boy when he lost his parents and after becoming of age he set out to try his fortune in the New World.

After landing in New York he went at once to Chicago, Ill., from which point he traveled in Illinois, Indiana and Michigan for some time, finally locating in Dwyer, Ind. There he began his career as a stock dealer, thence coming to what is now Beecher, Ill. He possessed excellent business qualifications and made a success of whatever he undertook. He belonged to the Masonic fraternity, being enrolled in Blue Lodge, No. 710, at Grant Park. In politics he was a staunch Democrat. He came of the old Hebrew stock and was a firm believer in the Jewish religion.

The marriage of Mr. Loebstein and Miss Anna Hess was celebrated in Chicago. The bride was born in Aufhausen, Germany, September 23, 1849, and was quite young when her parents came to the United States. In this country she grew to maturity and received her education. She possesses a cultured mind, friendly manners and a more than ordinary amount of business ability, which has been particularly manifested since the death of her husband in keeping the enterprise in which he had been engaged going with its normal success. Her judgment regarding stock, her shrewdness in buying, and the thorough oversight which she gives to every detail of the business marks her as a worthy member of a race from which such able financiers as the Rothschilds and others have sprung. She is the mother of five children, of whom Minnie, Jennie and Polly died in infancy. The survivors—Emma and Fannie—are now making their home with their maternal grandparents in Chicago and being well educated in the Douglas School of that city. Mrs. Loebstein belongs to the Jewish Church.

The parents of Mrs. Loebstein are Lippman and Jetty (Leiter) Hess, natives of Aufhausen, Germany, where the father was born May 22, 1818, and the mother June 25, 1825. They were companions in youth and their childish regard strengthened and led them to unite their lives and fortunes. Mr. Hess was a manufacturer of vinegars in Germany until late in the summer of 1856, when he emigrated to America. The family which included three children, after crossing the ocean settled in Rochester, N. Y., later removing to Harrisburg, Pa., and still later to Freeport, Ill. They

finally located in Chicago where Mr. and Mrs. Hess ran a hotel for some years. They have now retired from active labor and are still living on the South side. They are now quite full of years but smart and active, and are excellent representatives of their race. Mr. Hess is a man of much ability, recognized as such by all who knew him, and both have many friends in their wide circle of acquaintances. They are devoted adherents of the Jewish faith.



**J**OHN H. ROBINSON, deceased, began his residence in Will County, in the fall of 1841, making his first settlement in Troy Township, but several years later removing to Joliet Township. In the latter he breathed his last December 8, 1873. During the early years of his residence here he filled the official station of Supervisor. His birth took place in Tonawanda, Niagara County, N. Y., June 5, 1811, and at his native place he resided until he was nineteen years old. He then came West as far as Ashtabula County, Ohio, which was his home until he removed to Illinois. During his residence in Ohio, he returned to his native State and in the town of Hampton, Washington County, was united in marriage with Miss Nancy A. Hulett. This worthy lady was a native of that place, where her eyes opened to the light October 11, 1813. Their union was blessed by the birth of six children, four of whom died in infancy. The survivors are Andrew J. and John H., the former a resident of San Francisco, Cal., and the latter of the parental homestead in this county.

The young man, who, since his father's death, has had charge of the Robinson homestead, was born in Channahon Township, February 20, 1855. He was educated in the schools in Will County and grew to manhood in possession of a goodly store of practical knowledge which, taken in connection with his natural inclination toward all that is progressive and enterprising, has brought him rapidly to the front in the business enterprises in

which he is engaged. The homestead comprises eighty acres on which are excellent improvements and its appearance shows that it is ably managed and remunerative.

Mr. Robinson is also engaged in the Fire Insurance business, representing the Home Company of New York, and he also represents the Michigan Mutual Life Insurance Company of Detroit. He is thoroughly adapted to this work, having an acute and almost instantaneous judgment of human nature, and a persistence in presenting his cause that is kept from being disagreeable by affable manners and good conversational powers. In all business transactions he is careful yet enterprising, while he ranks high among the public-spirited citizens, being one of the most foremost in all meritorious enterprises. He is an active member of the Richard Street Methodist Episcopal Church of Joliet, and in both city and country is well and favorably known for his private character and his business ability.

An important step in the life of Mr. Robinson was taken June 16, 1886, when at the bride's home in Joliet Township he was united in marriage with Miss Jennie H. Lawrence. She is a well educated and amiable lady, a native of this county, and one well calculated to fill her place at the head of household affairs. Their union has been blessed by the birth of two children, Jay and Alice.



**M**OSES BOWE occupies an important place among the leading farmers and stock-raisers of Will Township, who have contributed to raise it to its present prosperous condition, and have thus materially advanced the interests of the county. Mr. Bowe is of Irish birth and parentage, born in County Wexford, town of Ballclay, June 22, 1835, a son of John and Annastasia Bowe. They had five children, namely: Mary, Ellen, Elizabeth, Moses and John P., all of whom grew to maturity, and Ellen and Mary married and reared families.

Our subject spent the early years of his boyhood in the land of his nativity, coming to the United

States with his uncle, Philip Bowe, in 1815, who located in Pennsylvania. In 1852, Mr. Bowe came to Chicago, where he lived two years, working in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad. In 1851 he came to Monce, where he was connected with the same railway till about 1881. He then took up farming for a living and located on the one hundred and sixty-nine acres which he had purchased here in 1864, and on which he had made various improvements. He now has his place in an excellent condition, provided with suitable buildings, and the land well tilled. He gives much attention to stock-raising and has a fine herd of thoroughbred Short-horns. Our subject has acquired this property by the exercise of his keen foresight and practical ability.

May 6, 1860, Mr. Bowe took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Hanora Hurley. She is a native of County Kerry, Ireland, and a daughter of Michael and Catherine (Green) Hurley. They were the parents of five children: Ellen, John, Mary, Catherine, Hanora, all of whom came to America, with the exception of the oldest, all marrying and rearing families, excepting John. The latter was an officer in the Federal Army, serving as Sergeant during the late war, and was killed in the battle of Lookout Mountain. Mary was the first to come to the United States, taking up her residence in Glens Fall, N. Y., in 1817, and then subsequently removing to Chicago. Mrs. Bowe came to the United States in 1852 and has ever since been a resident of Illinois. Of her happy wedded life with our subject the following children have been born: Philip S., John J., Michael M., William M., and Agnes. William died at the age of seventeen.

We have seen that our subject is a self-made man, and we may add, what seems to be the universal testimony of the entire community, that he is a strictly honorable, straightforward man, a most desirable citizen and in his domestic relations is all that a considerate husband and wise father should be. He interests himself in public, social and religious matters and bears a prominent part in the civic life of county and township, having been elected Supervisor to represent the township of Will on the County Board for five years without

opposition, which fact speaks well for his popularity and ability. In politics he is a decided Democrat. Religiously he and his wife are esteemed members of the Reformed Church.



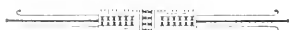
DAVID S. HENNEBERRY occupies one of the fine tracts of land of which Wesley Township boasts so many, being joint proprietor with his brother John. It consists of two hundred and seventy fertile acres on section 21, on which both crops and stock are raised. The fields produce abundantly under the intelligent management to which they are subject, and the most careless eye will discern that the stock is in excellent condition. The Messrs. Henneberry are single, but their pleasant home is presided over by their sister Jenny, who surrounds them with all the home comfort which they desire.

In County Tipperary, Ireland, David Henneberry and Bridget Reeves were born. They became man and wife, and have reared a family of seven children, viz: David; John and Annie (twins), Jenny, Christopher, Mary and Agnes. The parents came to America in 1819, making their first settlement in DuPage County, Ill. They removed thence to Grundy County, and a few years later to Marshall County, where they sojourned but a short time. Returning to Grundy County they resided therein until 1883, when they took up their abode on a farm on section 2, Wesley Township, Will County, where they still live.

The subject of our sketch first opened his eyes to the light of day December 31, 1857, in Grundy County. He was educated in the district schools, and began life for himself when seventeen years old by hiring out on a farm. He worked as a farm hand two years, then in 1876 with his brother bought the place which they now occupy and operate. Being still young in years, they have plenty of time before them in which to reach a high position among the farmers of the county, and to add to their already comfortable possessions.

Mr. Henneberry is now serving his fourth term as Supervisor of Wesley Township, and his con-

tinuance in office indicates the opinion that is held by his fellow-citizens of his good judgment and zeal. For three years he held the office of Road Commissioner of the district. The Republican ticket is always voted by him, and he has ever been active in political work, both as one of the rank and file of the party, and as a delegate to county and congressional conventions. He has the ready speech and quick intelligence of the race from which he descends, is respected as his good qualities deserve, and like other members of his family, is a devout member of the Catholic Church.



**D**ANIEL PATTERSON. In the annals of Wheatland Township, the name of this gentleman occupies an honorable place as one of its efficient pioneers who has given practical aid in making it one of the finest farming regions in this section of the county. By steady toil and excellent management he has acquired a valuable property since he came to Illinois forty years ago, and he and his brother own a large tract of land, all lying in a body, and in a fine state of cultivation and exceedingly well improved.

Our subject is a native of Dumfrieshire, Scotland, born October 13, 1828. His parents were John and Jane Patterson, also natives of that country. He was reared in the land of his birth on a farm, and received a fair education. Ambitious to see something more of the world and to build up a home for himself, he emigrated to America in 1850, taking passage at Liverpool on a sail vessel. He encountered a heavy storm at sea which lasted nearly a week, but at last, after a voyage of thirty-seven days, landed in safety in New York City. From there he came directly to this county, and for a time made his home with his brother Mungo. He finally settled on his present farm on section 10, in which he owns a half interest, his brother James, who lives with him, being the proprietor of the remainder. This is one of the largest farms in this vicinity, and is well provided with substantial buildings, modern machinery and everything to operate it to advantage.

When he and his brother first took possession of it it was in a wild condition, and by their united labors they have made it what it is to-day. Their farm is well stocked, as they pay much attention to that branch of business. When they began farming here Lockport was their grain market, and grain was shipped to Chicago from that place by canal. Almost the entire growth of this section of Illinois has taken place under their eyes, and they have ably assisted in placing this county where it is to-day, among the foremost agricultural counties in the State.

The maiden name of Mr. Patterson's wife was Jane Williamson, and she is also of Scottish birth. He has found in her a true helpmate, one who is devoted to the interests of her family, and by her patient toil has been a factor in bringing about his prosperity. They have had ten children, of whom the following are living: William, Robert, Margaret, John, Mary, Grace, Laura and Frank.

Mr. Patterson's life has been one of industrious toil, guided by discretion, prudence and sound common sense, that have placed him among the moneyed men of Wheatland. He has always displayed the qualities which mark a good citizen, is loyal to his adopted country, and gives his allegiance to the Republican party. A man of earnest views and strong principles, he is a firm temperance advocate. He has interested himself in forwarding the educational advantages of the township as School Director, which office he still holds.



**T**HOMAS DOIG, New Lenox Township probably has not a more enterprising, liberal or public-spirited man within its limits than he with whose name we initiate this sketch. He is a life-long farmer by occupation, but notwithstanding the cares and labors involved in looking properly after a large tract of land, he has always taken time to keep himself informed in regard to the various enterprises calculated to benefit his community, and to these has given his uniform support. His well-tilled fields yield abundantly the choicest crops of Northern Illinois, and he culti-

vates them with the latest improved machinery. He has a neat and substantial farm dwelling, and the various outbuildings required for the proper prosecution of his calling.

Thomas Doig traces his ancestry to one of the best nationalities on the face of the globe, being the son of Andrew Doig, who was born September 21, 1797, on the river Tay, in the city of Dundee, in Forfarshire, Scotland. The latter when reaching manhood married Miss Isabella Fife, a native of his own shire, the wedding occurring in October, 1805, at Dundee. The father set out for America in 1830, and located at Philadelphia, Pa., where he was joined by his family two years later, and they lived there several years. He followed his trade of a stonemason, was a skilled workman, and was employed in the erection of Girard College, the Exchange Building, and other important edifices in the city of Brotherly Love.

Early in the '40s the parents of our subject removed to Washington, D. C., where Andrew Doig continued his former business, also being concerned in the erection of various public buildings, including the postoffice, and he put up the self-supporting hanging stairs, a piece of architecture difficult to accomplish, and which has been gazed upon by admiring thousands. He was also employed on the Capitol Building and other important structures, remaining there until 1847. That year he decided to seek his fortunes in the West, and coming to Will County settled in Homer Township, and securing a tract of land changed his occupation to that of a farmer. He built up a comfortable home and lived there until after the death of the mother, who passed away May 4, 1861. Mr. Doig survived his estimable partner for a period of twenty-six years, departing this life at the home of his son Alexander, on Maple Street, New Lenox Township, February 17, 1887.

To the parents of our subject there was born a family of ten children, of whom the record is as follows: Mary Ann died in Philadelphia in girlhood; Elizabeth became the wife of William Ferguson and died in Chicago, Ill.; Thomas resides on Maple Street in New Lenox Township; Andrew is a miller by trade and lives in McHenry County; Jessie died in Philadelphia when quite young;

James is farming in the State of Kansas; Isabella is the wife of Stanton Lyuk, of New Lenox Township; William died at Hadley, in Homer Township, when a youth of sixteen years; Alexander is farming in New Lenox Township; John H. prosecutes agriculture in the same township.

The subject of this notice was the third child of his parents and is also a native of Dundee, Scotland, born March 3, 1826. He came to America with his mother in 1832, and at the early age of twelve years started out to earn his own living, being employed in a butcher shop in Philadelphia until a youth of eighteen. He then accompanied the family to Washington, D. C., where he was employed at bricklaying three years. We next find him in Baltimore, Md., where he was similarly employed until 1849. In the fall of that year he came to this county, locating in Homer Township, but in 1850 joined the caravan moving toward the Pacific Slope, and until January, 1853, was engaged in hunting for the yellow ore. He was fairly successful, but decided to return to Homer Township, and a year later settled on Maple Street in New Lenox Township. In May, 1854, he removed to his present farm, where he has since resided and given his entire attention to its improvement and cultivation. He has one hundred and seventy-two acres of good land with modern improvements.

Thomas Doig was married in Chicago, Ill., May 5, 1854, to Mrs. Ann M. (Lyuk) Van Duser. This lady was born in Columbia Township, N. Y., November 17, 1820, and is a daughter of Z. W. and Sallie (Harder) Lyuk, mention of whom is made in the sketch of Stanton Lyuk, on another page in this ALBUM. Her first husband was Gilbert Van Duser, who died on Maple Street, New Lenox Township, April 2, 1853. Of this union there were born two children; Sarah C., the wife of Alexander Doig, of New Lenox Township, and John I. who died here in April, 1882.

Mr. and Mrs. Doig are the parents of four children, viz: Isabella, who died in childhood; Annie, the wife of George L. Francis, of New Lenox Township; Irene, who died young, and Thomas J., who is farming in New Lenox Township. Mr. Doig is a staunch Democrat, politically, and has taken an active part in the councils of his party,

holding various positions of trust and responsibility, and representing his township in the County Board of Supervisors. Mrs. Doig is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The family hold a good social position in the community, and are contributing their full quota toward the promotion of its best interests.



**W**ILLIAM GEORGE JACKSON. Probably no business man in the city of Joliet is more shrewd, careful and persistent in his operations, or displays a greater vigor in his undertakings than the above-named gentleman, who withal is modest and conscientious in his dealings. A few years ago he abandoned the occupation in which he had previously been engaged, to embark as a furniture dealer, which he thought would be a more congenial and money-making business. He has been well repaid for the change, his present enterprise reaching a trade of \$20,000 per year.

Mr. Jackson is of English ancestry and parentage, and belongs to a family which for five generations had followed the same business. In 1841 his parents, W. S. and Frances M. (Hogbin) Jackson, left the mother country to make a home in America. They located at Utica, N. Y., where our subject was born, October 27, 1851, being one of three sons and one daughter who comprised the parental household. The father was a first-class butcher and did a large market business. Young Jackson finished a commercial course of study at the age of twenty-two years, and being ready to embark in business for himself followed the footsteps of his ancestors, thinking it a rut from which he could not escape.

In 1878 Mr. Jackson determined to seek a home farther west than his native State, and after traveling around considerably decided upon Joliet as his future location. He went into J. J. Culver's meat market, but in the latter part of August, 1879, started a similar business for himself in the building next door to the First National Bank, where he remained until the Board of Trade building was

erected on North Ottawa Street. Into that he moved, continuing to prosper, and soon afterward buying a splendid home just outside the city limits.

It took many hard knocks to bring about the prosperity which is so easily mentioned, and it was not without some misgivings that in 1884 Mr. Jackson abandoned the block to engage in his new enterprise. On the 1st of September he rented the entire second floor of the Board of Trade Block, and with this and his market store-room he bloomed out with a first-class furniture repository. The many friends he had made in his old business naturally clung to him in the new, and a deserved success has been his.

On April 20, 1876, at the home of the bride in New Hartford, N. Y., the rites of wedlock were celebrated between our subject and Miss Maggie E. Craig. This lady is a daughter of James Craig, was the recipient of careful home training and excellent educational advantages, and her cultured mind, refined manners and fine character fit her for the positions of wife and mother, and member of society. She has borne her husband three children, named respectively: George Elliott, born September 18, 1878, Clarence Mason, born October 20, 1880, and Cleora W., born February 4, 1884. Mr. Jackson is a Republican. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, to the Knights of Pythias, and to several insurance societies.



**L**OUIS WENBERG was born in the southern part of Sweden in 1856, and grew to manhood in his native land, engaging in the occupations of a farmer and stonemason. At the age of twenty-four years, in company with his mother and four brothers, he embarked at Guttenberg and ere long landed in New York. They came West at once, locating in Joliet, where our subject resumed his trade of a stonemason and his brothers engaged as quarrymen. Two years later the Wenberg brothers and a brother-in-law formed a co-partnership under the style of Wenberg & Co., and having bought three acres of land on Maple





*Yours Truly*  
*Geo. M. Campbell*



Street, embarked in the business of quarrying. Business grew rapidly, and by 1889 they had transacted a trade which reached the value of \$16,000. The firm of Wenberg & Co. was dissolved in 1890. Alfred Wenberg and his brother-in-law taking the department of contracting and masonry, and Louis, our subject, continuing the quarry business alone.

Of the four brothers of our subject two are now deceased. Frank was born in 1818 and died in 1886; Peter was born in 1850 and died in 1881, leaving two children, whose home is with his mother. This estimable lady was born in 1821, and is now living in Joliet with her grandchildren. She is noted for her excellence of character, and is regarded with loving respect by hosts of friends. Her husband died in Sweden in 1878. The mother and sons were preceded to America by a sister of our subject, Ida Louisa, who married Charles E. Swerberg in 1881, and died in 1885, leaving one child.

Louis Wenberg was married in 1883 to Miss Lottie Soderland, a native of Sweden, who came to America in 1882. To them have been born two children: Albert, aged five years, and Laura, aged ten months, whose childish beauty and bright ways are a constant delight to their parents. Mr. Wenberg has risen by his own industry and judgment to an honorable place, and is highly respected for his integrity and social qualities. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wenberg belong to the Swedish Baptist Church.



**G**EORGE M. CAMPBELL, Secretary, Treasurer and General Manager of the Joliet Stone Company, is one of that class of men who have been instrumental in advancing the material interests of the city. A residence of nearly twenty-eight years, during which he has made for himself a good record, both in social and business circles, has fully established him in the esteem and confidence of all who know him. With the exception of three years, one of which was spent in the South, and two at his old home in New England, he has been a continuous resident of Joliet since April, 1862.

The native place of our subject was in Unity,

Waldo County, Me., and the date of his birth January 5, 1818. He is the son of John B. and Margaret W. (Norton) Campbell, the former of whom was a native of Montville, Me. The father of our subject, grew to mature years in his native town, and at an early age went to sea and followed a sailor's life for four years, in the meantime becoming first mate of a vessel. He then learned the trade of a carpenter, and finally became expert as an architect and a skilled mechanic. After marriage he moved to Medford, Mass., and thereafter lived in several places in the Bay State until 1857, employing himself as an artisan. That year he resolved to seek the far west and removed with his family across the Mississippi to Lynn County, Iowa, settling at a point sixty-five miles beyond a railroad. He still continued at his trade and took the lead in the building interests of that section of the Hawkeye State, putting up some of the best structures in the surrounding country, including Central City. At that place he built the first church and schoolhouse and left the marks of his handiwork upon various other important structures, remaining there until 1862.

In the spring of 1862, Mr. Campbell returned East as far as Joliet, Ill., where he followed his trade one year, and then on account of an accident which crippled one of his hands, he turned his attention to portrait painting, taking up the art readily and becoming very proficient. He subsequently returned to Iowa, where he lives at a pleasant country seat, called "The Pines," situated two miles east of the capitol building at Des Moines. He was first identified with the Whig party, and is now a staunch Republican and one of the leading men of his county.

The parental family of our subject consisted of three children, the youngest of whom died in infancy. The survivors are George M., our subject, and Susan E., now the wife of Gurdon Fox, of Des Moines, Iowa. The mother is likewise living. She was born January 16, 1827, while the father was born September 15, 1822. Mrs. Campbell was in her girlhood Miss Margaret W. Norton. She was born near Bucks Harbor, Me., in what is now the town of Brooksville, in the same house under whose roof her father first opened his eyes to the

light, though at the time of his birth the place formed a part of the State of Massachusetts.

George M. Campbell pursued his early studies in the Joliet schools and completed them in the English and Classical Institute at Springfield, Mass., where he spent two years. He then occupied himself as a teacher in Tennessee at the foot of Lone Mountain for five months. We next find him in Joliet, where he followed the trade of a carpenter, which he had learned from his father, and he soon commanded journeyman's pay. While at school he had taken a commercial course and became fitted for an accountant and now occupied himself in this capacity from July, 1867, until May, 1875.

The next move of Mr. Campbell was to embark in business for himself, having as his partner, Mr. George H. Monroe. In 1875, the Joliet Stone Company was formed and incorporated two years later with Mr. Monroe as President and Mr. Campbell as Secretary and Treasurer. The latter also became interested in the Crescent Stone Company, Joliet, and is at present one of its Directors. He is also engaged in real estate to a certain extent.

Mr. Campbell has always been an active worker in the Republican party but with the exception of serving as Assistant Supervisor of Joliet, he has declined to assume the responsibilities of office. He was married December 25, 1873, to Miss Elizabeth R., daughter of the Hon. Henry Snapp. Mr. Snapp in former years was a noted attorney and represented this district in Congress. He is now living retired from the active duties of life in San Jose, Cal. Mrs. Campbell was born in Joliet, this county, August 25, 1851, and obtained her education in the common schools. She possesses considerable musical talent and perfected herself in this accomplishment in Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have two children, Jessie M. and Ida A. Our subject and his estimable wife are members of the Universalist Church.

The Joliet Stone Company was incorporated in 1877 with a capital of \$30,000, which later was increased to \$100,000. The principal quarries are near the foot of Richards Street and from them are obtained the largest output of any quarry in this part of Illinois, the district covering an area of about eighty acres from which is taken all the va-

rieties of stone known to this region. The main office is at Joliet and there are five branch offices in Chicago to which is run a fleet of boats owned by the company and operated by a force of two hundred and fifty men during the busy season. They have connection with all the railroads centering in Joliet, being the only quarry enjoying such ample transportation facilities.

On another page of this Album appears a lithographic portrait of Mr. Campbell.



**WALTER J. FIDDYMENT.** After years of well-directed efforts as one of the farmers and business men of Lockport, this gentleman has retired in allience to the enjoyment of an elegant home and the society of a charming family. He is a son of John and Sophia (Blogg) Fiddymment, natives of Norfolk, England, where he was born, April 3, 1837. His father came to America the same year, and was joined by the mother and son in 1839. John Fiddymment was a distiller, and carried on his business in Lockport until 1865, when he removed to a farm in Lockport Township.

Walter J. Fiddymment attended the public schools, proving an apt pupil and fitting himself for a practical application of the theories which he learned with his father. When his father removed to his farm our subject engaged in farming with him, but resided in Lockport. In 1881 he embarked in the business of a quarryman, by opening a quarry at Lockport, in which the quality of the stone is unsurpassed. By strict attention to business and honorable methods, his product obtained a ready sale, and the business which began with but a few men, employed from one to two hundred when our subject disposed of his interest in 1889.

In 1886 Mr. Fiddymment organized a stock company called the Lockport Stone Company, of which he became President; Olas Paulsen, Secretary and Treasurer; W. J. Fiddymment, Olas Paulsen and J. C. Fiddymment, son of our subject, Directors. The business was extended until it became one of

the best equipped and most profitable plants in the West. Having disposed of his plant to the Western Stone Company, Mr. Fiddymont retired from the business. He has always been noted for his liberality and geniality. In politics he is a Democrat. The record of his business life is creditable alike to his financial ability and manly spirit, while his personal character commands the respect of his friends.

The marriage of Mr. Fiddymont and Miss Ellen J. Clarkson took place in 1862, and has been blessed with the birth of fourteen children, eleven of whom are living in Will County near the parental home. Mrs. Fiddymont is a native of Joliet and belongs to one of the oldest and most honored families of the county. She is a member of St. Dennis Catholic Church, is a woman of devout Christian character, and possesses the gracious manners which are so charming in a hostess.



**G**EORGE M. LYND. It affords the biographical writer pleasure to be able to record in this volume the main incidents in the life of an honest and upright citizen, a good business man and a patriotic soldier, who has been well known in Lockport for a number of years. Mr. Lynd was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1836, and as the fortunate son of educated parents and the inheritor of the zeal and mental ability which have characterized his progenitors, he became proficient in book lore and capable of performing well his part in life.

The father of him of whom we write was Samuel Lynd, a native of Germantown, Pa., who devoted himself to the ministry in the Baptist Church. Such was his devotion to the cause of the Master that he left a lucrative position in the East and came to Cincinnati, Ohio, when it was but a straggling village. There he remained eighteen years, building up a large congregation, afterward going to St. Louis, Mo., as pastor of the First Baptist Church. He was chosen as President of the Western Baptist Theological Institute, located at Covington, Ky.,

and moved to Georgetown, Ky. Subsequently he came to Chicago, Ill., as pastor of the North Street Church, but was recalled to Cincinnati, where he closed an active ministry of forty-five years, to spend his last days with his son in Lockport.

The wife of this able minister and the mother of our subject was born in New Jersey, and was a daughter of the Rev. James Staughton, at one time Chaplain of the House of Representatives at Washington, D.C. The Rev. Mr. Staughton was the divine whose eloquence made Chatham Street Church, of Philadelphia, famous, drawing thither such crowds that the capacity of the building was never sufficient to accommodate them, although the edifice was so spacious that no successor was able to fill it, and it was eventually torn down.

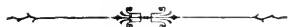
The subject of this sketch was educated in the school presided over by his father, and began his personal career as a teacher, his particular field being that of a private tutor. "The shot heard round the world" aroused him from his peaceful calling, and answering the first call for troops to suppress the Rebellion, he enlisted in Company C, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry. His commanding officers were Capt. Bacon and Col. Bartleson, under whose leadership he saw service in the West, participated in the battle of Chickamauga and in Sherman's march to the sea. He was subsequently sent back to Nashville, where he assisted Gen. Thomas to defeat and destroy Hood's army. He was never touched by a bullet, but passed through the many dangerous scenes of war unscathed, exhibiting the qualities which led to his successive promotions from the rank of Sergeant to that of Captain, which he held when mustered out.

Upon returning to the North at the close of the war Mr. Lynd entered the grocery business with his brother-in-law, Mr. Lull, in Lockport, Ill., and together they carried on a growing trade for a number of years. About a decade ago Mr. Lull retired, his former partner continuing the business at the old stand, where he has an excellent trade and endeavors to meet every want of his patrons. Mr. Lynd is fortunate in his home life, having won as his companion Miss Mary M. Blount, whose family is one of the oldest and most prominent in the county. Her father, Samuel Blount, was the first

Supervisor of Homer Township. Mr. and Mrs. Lynd are the parents of two daughters—Carrie and Louise. Mr. Lynd is a member of Gooding Post, G. A. R., at Lockport.



**M**ARTIN WESTPHAL was born at Bramstadt, Holstein, October 27, 1837, when that section of the country was under Danish rule. In 1856 he came to America, and in the fall of the same year located in Crete, this county; here he remained until 1863, when coming to Joliet, he was employed as Deputy Recorder until the autumn of 1869. Having been admitted to the bar, he now began the practice of law, and in 1875, opened the German Loan & Savings Bank, which he continues at present with the assistance of his two sons as clerks.



**B**ERGAN BROS. The Messrs. Michael, John and Daniel Bergan own and operate three hundred and twenty acres of land on section 4, Manhattan Township, their specialty being the importing, breeding and sale of horse-flesh. They have become known far and near for their herd of Shetland ponies which generally numbers from fifty to sixty head; and for the fine Kentucky saddle horses in which they deal. They also raise draft horses, full-blooded Short horn cattle, thorough-bred Cottswold sheep and full-blooded Poland-China swine. The zeal which they have manifested in their business is bringing them the success which they merit, and they have the pleasure of knowing that in their former line of labor they were also successful, not only gaining worldly goods, but relieving their parents of a great burden and securing their choicest blessing.

Martin Bergan, the father of our subject, was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1803, and tilled the soil in his native land until the fall of 1847. In November he bade adieu to the Emerald Isle, crossed the Atlantic to New Orleans and

started northward with his family. The river froze so that he was not able to reach Joliet, Ill., until April, 1848. He then bought eighty acres of raw land which now forms a part of the Bergan Bros. estate. At that time the township of Trenton, comprising what are now Green Garden and Manhattan Townships, contained but seven voters, and Mr. Bergan is the oldest settler therein now living. He improved and operated his farm, for some years being very successful, and adding to his landed estate until his possessions here amounted to three hundred and twenty acres and he held land elsewhere in the county. Misfortune, however, overtook him about a decade since, and he retired, his sons assuming control of affairs with the determination to recover all that he had seemingly lost.

Mr. Bergan has at different times been the incumbent of the various township offices, and he has also been useful in his day and generation by reason of the assistance which he has given to the cause of education and religion. He put up the first schoolhouse in his district and has helped to build churches. He has always voted the Democratic ticket. He is now eighty-seven years of age, while his wife, formerly Miss Esther Welsh, of County Kilkenny, Ireland, has reached her three-score years and ten. Both belong to the Catholic Church and as devout believers have reared their children in the tenets of the faith. Their family includes Michael, Mary, John and Nicholas, who were born in Ireland, and two of whom are members of the firm of which we write. Mary is the wife of John Peterson and lives in Harris, Anderson County, Kan., and Nicholas resides in Nuckolls County, the same State. The children born in America are William, who died at the age of twenty-eight years; Mrs. Bridget Hayden, of Florence; Ann, widow of Thomas C. Kelly, who lives with her parents; Daniel, of the firm of Bergan Bros.; and Martin, who keeps a livery stable in Manhattan.

The three brothers, of whom we write, were reared upon the farm which they now operate and the work of which they learned the rudiments of when quite young. They enjoyed the privileges of the district school in which they acquired a

practical education. John was the hunter of the family and made several trips to Green Bay, Wis., and the hunting grounds of Minnesota, where he spent some time in hunting and trapping, doing well in this occupation. In 1880, after their father's misfortune, they put their shoulder to the wheel and together bought the home farm and engaged in the cultivation of grain. They worked hard, managed carefully and won success, soon being rewarded by seeing the mortgage lifted and having the deed of a well-improved farm in their possession.

The brothers gradually worked into the stock business and in 1887 began importing Shetland ponies. John Bergan went to the Shetland Islands bringing back a herd and is now making his fourth trip thither. They not only import but they also breed the little animals, having the best herd of brood mares in the country. It includes Minnie Warren, the smallest brood mare in the United States; her weight is but one hundred and ninety pounds. She took the honors at the American Horse Show, in Chicago, where three other first premiums were secured by the Bergan Bros. Their ponies are all registered. Few prettier sights can be imagined than that afforded by the playful antics of the tiny equines.

The Bergan Bros., keep nothing but fine stock, and in all their labors use the latest farm machinery, likewise keeping up to the times in the construction and arrangement of necessary buildings. An immense barn having a frontage of one hundred and sixty feet affords stabling and shelters the large amount of hay and grain needed to supply the wants of the stock. The land is watered by Jackson Creek and is further supplied with the cooling liquid by means of a windmill and tank, while a beautiful orchard and shade trees provide fruit and afford shelter from the scorching rays of the sun.

In 1888 the Bergan Bros., assisted to organize the American Shetland Pony Association, of which John Bergan is Vice-President. All are members of the Grange at Maubattan, three miles distant from their home, and Daniel is Treasurer of the Lodge. He has also been Highway Commissioner for four years and is now serving as School Direc-

tor. He is likewise a member of the Central Committee of the Democratic party, to the principles of which all the brothers staunchly adhere. They belong to the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Joliet, and have a high standing among its members.



ALLEN G. HAWLEY, editor of the *Will County Commercial Advertiser*, was born in Centralia, Ill., April 25, 1858. He is the son of Henry S. and Deborah (Bramen) Hawley, natives of the Empire State, who settled in Lockport early in the '30s. Our subject was educated in the public schools of Lockport and at an early age entered the office of the *Lockport Courier*, which was then edited by N. S. Greenwood, the balloonist. After two years spent in the employ of that gentleman he entered the office of the *Joliet Sun*, where he finished his apprenticeship. He had become thoroughly conversant with the printer's trade, and had also acquired a good knowledge of journalistic work in editorial and other departments.

In 1877 Mr. Hawley opened a small job printing office in Lockport, and during the same year began the publication of the *Lockport Standard*. The enterprising spirit of the man and his ambition to reach a high standing in the fields of journalism was not satisfied with this enterprise, and he, therefore, began the publication of the *Advertiser*, believing that a sheet of this nature would reach a larger circulation and a more influential place. He began it by himself filling the various positions of editor, reporter, printer, devil and business manager. The plant consisted of one old press propelled by hand.

Ere long the standing of the paper had become sufficiently assured to allow the use of horse-power to run the press, and eventually the business grew until all the modern appliances of a first-class establishment were obtained and steam became the motive power. The *Commercial Advertiser* now has eight editions for as many places in Will County. Mr. Hawley is without a peer as a solici-

tor for advertising and job work, and is what in Western parlance would be called a "hustler."

The enterprise of Mr. Hawley is not confined to the newspaper business, but in 1888 he built a brick building at No. 407 Chicago Street, Joliet, and in 1889 inaugurated the electric light system in Lockport. He introduced the Edison incandescent light, placed the business on a firm basis and then disposed of his interest to Norton & Co. He is now building for himself an elegant home, which, when completed, will be a credit to the city. As he is yet in his thirties and has not yet reached the highest point of man's vigor, it is but natural to suppose that this section of country will hear yet more of his work in years to come.

In 1879 Mr. Hawley led to the hymeneal altar Miss Aretta M. Riggs, of Pontiac, a lady well fitted to assist in building up his fortunes and making a happy home. She is a native of Pennsylvania, descends from an old family, and inherits the proverbial industry of the ancestral race. She worked in the printing-office as long as her assistance was needed, and has by her clear understanding and good advice also assisted her husband in his labors. Mr. Hawley takes no special interest in politics, but is descended from Republican ancestors. He belongs to the lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Masonic fraternity, and to the Universalist Church. The Hawley family have been pillars in that church for years and assisted in founding the university of that faith.



**M**ICHAEL WALTER. No better example of pluck amid discouragements can be found than in the life of this gentleman, who is a prominent groceryman of Lockport. His industry is tireless, his integrity beyond question, and his personal popularity almost unbounded. He is liberal-hearted, generous to a fault, his good traits of head and heart win for him the respect and friendship of all who know him, while in citizenship he is progressive and energetic.

Mr. Walter was born in Kleinwelzheim, Germany, December 6, 1838, but became a resident of

America in 1851. He learned the trade of a shoemaker but after working at it for sometime, he became a clerk in the store of J. S. Finch, subsequently finding employment with N. S. Rafferty, who was engaged in the clothing business. Tiring of indoor life young Walter left Lockport in 1859, and went to Pike's Peak where he endured all the hardships which were to be met with in the rough mining camps. He returned to Lockport with but little to show for his peril and toil, except the experience of human nature which he had gained.

The smoke of the shots upon Ft. Sumter had scarcely disappeared, when at the first call for volunteers young Walter answered by enrolling his name in a Lockport artillery company. The date of his enlistment was April 19, 1861, and the term three months. At the expiration of that time he re-enlisted as a member of Dresser's Battery, and was assigned to duty in Battery D, Second Artillery. During the severe campaigns of that battery he was never absent from his post of duty. The battery was organized at Cairo and mustered into service in December, 1861, beginning their active work at Ft. Dondson, where they participated in the entire siege. They then went to Pittsburg Landing and on the Friday preceding the great battle took up their position, being in constant readiness until the opening of the fierce conflict Sunday, December 6. Battery D was one of those that formed on the advanced line within one hundred yards of Shiloh Church and was not surprised at the first onset of the enemy.

Battery D accompanied Gen. Grant to Corinth and subsequently went with Col. Ben Grierson on his famous raid, after which they did post duty until ordered to join the expedition against Vicksburg. They accompanied Sherman on his march from Vicksburg to Meridian, Miss., and until mustered out of the service November 21, 1864. Mr. Walter took part in all the marches, raids and battles in which the battery participated. His record for bravery and devotion to duty was second to none, and he received the commendation of his superior officers and the good will of his comrades.

At the close of the war Mr. Walter again returned to Lockport and engaged in business, first as a dealer in dry-goods. Disposing of this busi-

ness he went to Lemont to superintend a store and finally on May 25, 1875, he began the business in which he is at present engaged. He was married October 16, 1865, to Miss Margaret Pitts, a native of this county, who bore him ten children, nine of whom are living. Mrs. Walter died in 1881, and Mr. Walter was again married in June, 1887, to Miss Adline Heron. He is interested in the social orders, being both a Mason and Odd Fellow and is Commander of Gooding Post, G. A. R., at Lockport.



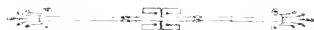
**J**OHAN H. BURKHART, Supervisor of DuPage Township, occupies a pleasant home on section 36. He is a well-informed and enterprising man, has been engaged in some form of agricultural work since boyhood and commands the respect of his fellow-men. He was born in Cook County, October 21, 1858, was educated in the public schools and finished the High School studies at Lemont. Subsequently he attended a business college in Chicago, thus fitting himself for a practical sphere of life.

In 1869, our subject removed with his parents to Will County, here growing to manhood and beginning his personal career which has not yet taken him from the paternal fireside. He is a Republican and has been called upon by his associates to fill several official stations. For two terms he was Justice of the Peace, one year Assessor, and in the spring of 1890 was elected Township Supervisor.

Henry Burkhart, father of our subject, was born in Saxony, Germany, January 25, 1819, to George and Susan C. Burkhart, also natives of that kingdom. He was reared to manhood, receiving a fair education in his native tongue, to which since coming to America he has by personal effort added a knowledge of English reading and writing. In 1845 he emigrated, sailing from Bremen to New York in forty-two days, and going at once to Erie County, N. Y., where he worked as a farm hand for several years. There he was married, October 31, 1848, to Miss Fredericka Dorre, a German lady of fine character and useful knowledge. She bore her part

in the cares and shared in the joys that he encountered until February 4, 1886, when she entered into rest, leaving a wealth of affectionate remembrances.

The family of Henry and Susan Burkhart consisted of seven children, five of whom survive their mother. Emma is the wife of Peter Williams, living in California; John H. is at home; Charles A. lives in Stockton, Cal.; Louisa is the wife of George A. Hills, of Chicago; Amelia is at home. In 1849, the father removed from the Empire State to Cook County, Ill., where he remained until 1869. He then took up his abode in DuPage Township, this county, on the farm that is the home of our subject. It comprises eighty acres, devoted principally to gardening, in which line of agriculture Mr. Burkhart is meeting with deserved success. He began life poor, and by economy and industry has gained all that he has of worldly goods. His political views are like those of his son, in whose public life he rejoices as a fond father will, as a field suited to his talents and inditing the reputation he bears.



**H**ENRY W. OHLENDORF. Among the younger members of the farming community of Crete Township the subject of this notice may be properly mentioned as having achieved success in more than an ordinary degree. He was born July 17, 1857, at his father's homestead on section 35, Crete Township, which is now his property, and where he owns nearly three hundred acres of some of the finest farming land in this part of the State. This is well improved and largely devoted to the breeding of fine stock, Mr. Ohlendorf making a specialty of Holstein cattle and Berkshire swine. He was bred to farm pursuits from his youth, while his natural habits of industry and enterprise ensure his continued success in his undertakings.


The subject of this notice is the scion of a substantial old family, being the son of Henry Ohlendorf, one of the oldest settlers of Crete Township and one of its most successful farmers. The latter

is a native of Hesse Cassel, Germany, and was born September 16, 1829. He was reared in his native Province, becoming familiar with agricultural pursuits and obtaining a good education in the German tongue. About the time of reaching his majority his parents, John Henry and Sophia (Semme) Ohlendorf, accompanied by the balance of their family, emigrated to the United States, setting out on a sailing-vessel from Bremerhaven about 1850. After a nine weeks' voyage they landed in New York City, whence they proceeded directly to Chicago, Ill., and from there to Crete Township.

The grandfather of Mr. Ohlendorf, upon reaching his destination, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of partially improved land on section 35, where he built up a comfortable homestead and remained with his good wife until the marriage of their eldest son. They then removed to another farm in Crete Township, and when their third son was married removed the third time, buying a farm each time a son was married, until the five were all comfortably located. The parents finally settled on a farm on section 19, where Grandfather Ohlendorf died in 1882. He had then arrived at the advanced age of nearly eighty years. His widow, who is now nearly eighty years old, is still living, making her home with her son, August. Both were members for many years of the Lutheran Church.

Henry J. Ohlendorf, the father of our subject, was the eldest of five sons and two daughters born to his parents, all of whom were natives of Germany and five of whom are still living, four of them being in this county. Henry J. was married to Miss Minnie Arkenberg, who was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, and who was quite young when her parents emigrated to America. They likewise settled in Crete Township and died there. Mrs. Ohlendorf is still living and is now past fifty years of age. She has been from early youth a consistent member of the Lutheran Church. To her and her husband there was born a family of four children, one of whom, a son, John, died at the age of eleven years; Henry W., our subject, was the eldest born; Emily is the wife of Henry Trebold, a farmer of Crete Township; Regina lives with her mother in Crete.

The subject of this notice received a careful parental training, attended the district schools in his native township and grew up healthful in mind and body with strength and courage for the battle of life. When reaching his majority, he crossed the Atlantic to visit the scenes of his father's early years and his grandfather's home. This proved not only a pleasant but a very valuable experience, and he returned feeling that the time and money thus employed could not have been spent in a wiser manner. Subsequently he was married, in Crete Township, to Miss Mary Hartmann. Mrs. Ohlendorf was born in this township June 18, 1861, and is the daughter of John and Ellen (Behrens) Hartmann, who were likewise natives of Germany and early settlers of this township, and who are now residents of Crete. Mrs. Ohlendorf is a lady of more than ordinary intelligence, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of four bright children—Agnes, Charles O., Walter and Ida. Both our subject and his wife were trained in the doctrines of the Lutheran Church, to which they faithfully adhere. Politically, Mr. Ohlendorf is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He has been tax collector of his township for the past year and is a man in whom the community has entire confidence. He is reliable in his business transactions and as a farmer, skillful and progressive, and in all respects is proving a worthy representative of one of the leading families of this section.



**HON. FRED KAUKA.** It is probable that no resident of Beecher is more widely known than the Hon. Fred Kauka, a retired farmer and ex-Representative. He was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, November 17, 1823, and lost his father when very young. His mother married again, and she and his stepfather died after our subject became a resident of the United States. He grew to maturity in the land of his birth, receiving an excellent education in his native tongue. He married Miss Mary Hasenjaer, and after the birth of one child the young couple







*Charles Pettigrew*

et sail for the United States, leaving Bremerhaven on the "Gaeta," Capt. Homen commanding. After a voyage of seven weeks they landed in the American metropolis, whence they went direct to Chicago.

Mr. Kanka settled fourteen miles west of that city, remaining there from 1847 to 1854, at which time he became a resident of Will County. He secured one hundred and sixty acres of Government land on section 13, Washington Township, his homestead being surrounded by unbroken lands devoid of habitation. He improved the estate, seeing cultivated fields gradually take the place of the primitive sod, and various improvements spring up about him. The enterprise which he displayed redounded to his credit, and he became known as one of the most judicious and enterprising farmers in this vicinity. After some years he sold his fertile estate and bought five acres on section 21, near the town of Beecher. Here he has made his home since 1881, retired from the arduous labors of farm life, while yet surrounded with all which makes country living pleasant.

Mrs. Kanka was born in Hesse-Cassel, August 25, 1823, and is the daughter of natives of that Duchy, who were of pure German stock. They came to America three years after their daughter, and settling in this county, died here at an advanced age. They were members of the Lutheran Church, as were also the parents of Mr. Kanka. They were the parents of one son and three daughters, three of whom are now living in Illinois and one in Iowa. Mrs. Kanka was the third in order of birth, and like her brother and sisters was carefully reared and well educated in her native land. She is an excellent housewife, a kind neighbor and a devoted wife and mother. She is the mother of seven children, all now settled in homes of their own. Caroline is the wife of Jacob Frahm and lives on a farm in Saunders County, Neb.; Mary is the wife of Henry Letz, who operates a farm in Washington Township, this county; Sophia married Fred Gevcke, who is farming in Fillmore County, Neb.; Lizzie is the wife of Peter Blayne and resides in Beecher; Fred H. married Emma Hattendorf, their home being in Chicago; Ellen is the wife of Thomas Peterson, a mechanic in Chicago; Lavina married Fred Dorman, a milkman in Chicago.

In 1877 Mr. Kanka was elected by the Republicans of this county to represent them in the State Legislature, and was re-elected in 1879. He served on the committees of Agriculture and Horticulture during the entire time that he was in the Legislature, and he also acted on special committees on Mining, Manufacturing and Penitentiary. As a committeeman he was painstaking and judicious, and his friends have no reason to be ashamed of the record which he made in the legislative halls. As a local official he has served in various offices, among them being those of Township Collector, Supervisor, Commissioner of Highways, and Justice of the Peace. In the latter office his term of service amounted to sixteen years. This fact alone is proof that his fellow-men regard him as upright, intelligent, and interested in the best good of his fellow-men. He and his estimable wife attend the Congregational Church of Beecher.



CHARLES PETTIGREW. On the opposite page appears a portrait of this gentleman, who is Superintendent of the Illinois Steel Works. He has for many years been intimately connected with the business interests of Joliet and is recognized everywhere as a man liberal and public-spirited and of more than ordinary ability. He was President of the first Building and Loan Association organized in the place and held the office until the press of other business compelled his resignation.

One of the best countries on the face of the globe claims Mr. Pettigrew as her son, he having been born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, February 4, 1844. His parents were John and Agnes (Histop) Pettigrew, who were likewise of Scotch birth and ancestry; they are both living and are now residents of Scotland. The father for many years was engaged in the grocery trade and was a man noted for his sturdy honesty and reliability. The parental household included eight children; John is a resident of Joliet; Charles, our subject, is the second child; Ellen, Mrs. Scott, lives with her husband in Melbourne, Australia; Isabel remains

in her native Scotland; Gavin, who resides in the city of London, England, is engaged in the mercantile business; Andrew is proprietor of a dry-goods establishment in the city of Glasgow, Scotland. One child, also named Isobel, died in infancy, and Agnes when about twenty years of age.

The subject of this notice spent his boyhood days in his native village of Lanark, and after a brief time spent in school went into the cotton factory of the Lanark Spinning Company, where he remained seven years and until a youth of eighteen. Then, determining upon a change of occupation, he repaired to the city of Glasgow and served an apprenticeship of five years at the trade of a machinist. Not yet satisfied with the condition of his prospects he, in 1867, crossed the Atlantic and making his way to Chicago, Ill., followed his trade there until 1870.

In August of the year above mentioned, Mr. Pettigrew came to Joliet and entered the employ of what is now known as the Illinois Steel Company but what was then the Union Coal, Iron and Transportation Company, of which A. B. Meeker, was President. His fortunes now began to mend perceptibly and here he has since remained. By strict attention to his duties he secured the confidence of his employers and in 1872 was promoted to the foremanship of the machine shop. A year later he was made Master Mechanic with its attendant duties and responsibilities. In 1882 he became Assistant Superintendent and in 1889, was appointed Superintendent, which office he still fills to the entire satisfaction of all.

Upon becoming a voting citizen Mr. Pettigrew identified himself with the Republican party, but he has meddled very little in politics with the exception of serving as an Alderman of the First Ward for two years. He took unto himself a wife and helpmate in June, 1869, Miss Agnes, daughter of Daniel and Agnes (Stewart) Cameron. Mrs. Pettigrew, like her husband, is a native of Lanarkshire, Scotland, and was born in December, 1814. Her childhood home was in the same town as that of her husband. Her parents were of Scotch birth and ancestry and are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Pettigrew there have been born three children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Edith Ste-

art, is the wife of H. H. Delos and lives in Chicago. The other daughters, Agnes and Clara Belle, are at home with their parents. The Pettigrew family occupies a tasteful and commodious residence at No. 709 Collins Street, and is numbered among the first families in the social circles of the city.



**HENRY COLE.** One of the finest farms within the limits of Crete Township is owned and occupied by Mr. Cole, who is recognized as one of its leading citizens. This comprises his father's old homestead, embracing four hundred and ten acres, finely located and improved, well watered, and plentifully supplied with timber. Among its valuable features is a mineral spring which is utilized by both the proprietor and outsiders.

The main points in the history of the subject of this notice are as follows: He is the son of the well-known Erastus Cole, a native of New Hampshire and of English descent. The latter when a child of three years was taken by his parents to Herkimer County, N. Y., where he was reared and educated, and where he lived until forty years old. In the meantime he learned cabinet-making, which he followed in the Empire State until 1838, and in that year he came to Illinois, an unmarried man and secured a tract of Government land, which land is now comprised in the farm occupied by his son Henry, and which he secured at a land sale in Chicago. It embraced a part of Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8, in what is now Crete Township, and there he spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1864, when sixty-six years old.

Erastus Cole was an honest, hard-working man who gained a competence through his own efforts. Possessed of more than ordinary intelligence, and decided in his views, he was first a member of the Whig party, a staunch Abolitionist during the slavery days, and died firmly grounded in Republican doctrines. His religious views accorded with those of the old-school Baptist church. After coming to Illinois he was married in Danville to Mrs. Martha (Boardman) Gilbert. This lady was

born in Rushville Township, Ontario County, N. Y., in 1810, and came of American parentage. She grew to womanhood in her native county, and was there married to Asel Gilbert. They lived in New York State until about 1835, then came to Illinois and settled near Danville, where Mr. Gilbert engaged in farming and died. To Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert were born three children, all of whom are now deceased.

Mrs. Cole proved the true helpmate of her husband in all his worthy undertakings, and contributed by her good judgment and frugality, largely to his success. She survived him a number of years, and died at her home in Crete February 28, 1870, at the age of sixty years. For some time she had been a member of the Congregational Church. Of her union with Mr. Cole there were born three children, two daughters and a son. The eldest, Emma, was married to D. P. Shoemaker, and died in 1880 in LaPorte County, Ind., at the age of thirty-eight years, leaving two sons. Mr. Shoemaker is still living and a resident of Indiana. Miss Ellen Cole is unmarried and a resident of Joliet. Henry, our subject, was the eldest born. He was reared on the farm and completed his studies at the village schools of Crete.

Mr. Cole was married in Crete April 22, 1862, to Miss Lucy A., daughter of O. O. and Lydia (Skinner) Bordwell. Mrs. Cole was born April 5, 1845, in Shelburne, Mass., of which State her parents were also natives and where they were reared and married. They came to Illinois in 1854, settling in Crete, but in 1866 removed to Manteno where they are now living retired from active labor. Mr. Bordwell is seventy-eight years old, while his estimable wife is a year his senior. They are greatly respected in their community, and possess all the traits of character which made them kind and indulgent parents and hospitable neighbors.

To the parents of Mrs. Cole there was born a family of six children, three of whom are living, and of whom she was the fourth in order of birth. She was a child of nine years when her parents came to Crete, where she was reared to womanhood and obtained her education in the village school. Of her union with our subject there have been born six children—Laura E., Willard M., Ada B., Frank

W., Iuez G. and Ray E. They are all at home with their parents, with the exception of Ada, who is the wife of William E. Hall, and who resides at Manteno, this State.

Mr. Cole, politically, is a strong supporter of Republican principles, and has been prominent in local affairs, serving as Township Assessor eight years; Road Commissioner four years, and School Director for many years.



FRANK H. ROBERTSON, editor and proprietor of the Peotone *Eagle*, is a native of the Granite State, and possesses marked characteristics of the Yankee race. He is the second of three children born to John W. and Martha T. (Huntton) Robertson, who were also natives of New Hampshire, and spent all their wedded life therein except two years. During that period they resided in New York, where the husband died in 1855. The widow survived until 1875.

The town of Franklin was the birthplace of our subject, and May 3, 1843, his natal day. He obtained a common-school education, and at the age of eleven years took up the labors of life by beginning the trade of a printer. He finished his apprenticeship in the office of the *Statesman* at Concord, when sixteen years old, spending the following two and a half years in advancing his studies and improving his mind.

Coming to Illinois in 1865, Mr. Robertson worked on the Peoria *Transcript* a year and a half, then found employment in the *Democrat* office, in Henry. A twelvemonth later he went to Iowa, and entered the office of the Bedford *Southwest*, at Bedford, remaining there but a year, and thence going to Mount Ayr, where he bought a half interest in the Ringgold *Record*. After a brief sojourn of eight months he sold out, and removing to Dakota City, Neb., purchased a half interest in the Dakota City *Mail*, retaining it but a twelvemonth, when he again changed his location, first selling his share in the journal.

Madison was the next home of Mr. Robertson, and his enterprise the purchase and publication of

the *Review*, which he sold after a year, buying instead the plant of the old Dakota City *Mail*, and removing it to Stanton. In that town he published a paper two years, then moved the plant to Missouri Valley, Iowa, continuing his journalistic labors there until an accident brought them to a close. A runaway team had caused a fracture of his skull, and six months after beginning his work there Mr. Robertson was obliged to close out his business.

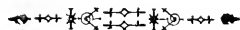
The next newspaper venture of Mr. Robertson was at Gilman, Ill., where he ran the *Argus*, *Crescent City Sun* and *Lalogue News* at the same time, also carrying on an office and publishing a sheet called the *Panhandle Advertiser*, at Piper. The office at Gilman was burned, in 1884, entailing upon our subject the loss of all his machinery, paper and other material. His spirit was undaunted, and he was soon in the possession of the *Gowrie Register*, at Gowrie, Iowa, the plant of which he subsequently removed to Grand Junction, later selling it and returning to the Prairie State.

Entering an office at Kankakee, Mr. Robertson remained there until November, 1889, when he became editor of the *Sunday Hero*, in Chicago, leaving that city to begin an enterprise in Peotone for which he saw a good opening. His work there was begun May 19, 1890, and already the *Eagle* is finding its way into many a household, continually growing in favor. "Ye editor" adds to his native energy the training given by years of experience amid varied surroundings, and such is his financial shrewdness that he wins success where many a man would see nothing but disaster. He wields a facile pen, observes keenly, judges quickly, and judiciously selects matter for publication.

The choice of a companion is an important step in a man's life, and fortunate is he who chooses well. The lady who shares the joys and sorrows of Mr. Robertson became his wife in 1869, prior to which time she bore the name of Sarah Herold. She is a daughter of Amos and Margaret (Gander) Herold, who lived in Ohio many years. The mother was born in that State and the father in Virginia. Mrs. Herold died in 1849, and Mr. Herold afterward went to California. Returning to the States he married again and removed to Livingston

County, Ill., dying there in 1873. His first marriage resulted in the birth of seven children. His daughter Sarah, Mrs. Robertson, was born March 14, 1811. She is a capable housewife, an honored member of society, and a loving wife and mother. She has one son, Willie H., a bright lad who has already been working at the printing business a year and a half.

Mr. and Mrs. Robertson belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and have good standing among its members. He belongs to the Ancient Odd Fellows. In politics he is a Republican, and no man in the party has more abounding faith in its principles, or is more interested in its advancement than he. Although Mr. and Mrs. Robertson have been so short a time in Peotone they have shown the qualities of mind and character that win friends, and are likely to be the center of a large circle as they become better known.



**E**NESHA MEERS, LL. B. The legal profession is represented in Joliet by several men of pronounced ability and erudition in the law, who are an honor to the legal brotherhood and to the community of which they form a part. When a young man assumes a prominent place among them, rising in the esteem of his associates and extending his practice, these facts indicate his possession of a high degree of professional skill and knowledge, and the manners which win success and respect. Such has been the case with the subject of this sketch, who began his practice in the city in the fall of 1876, and whose office in the Masonic Building is pointed out as that of one of the prominent and rising attorneys and counselors of the flourishing town.

The parents of our subject, Dennis and Anna (Holloran) Meers, were born in Ireland and came to the United States soon after their marriage, their first location being in Massachusetts. They afterward lived in other Eastern States, the husband being engaged in railroad work and contracting. In New York City and the State of New Jersey the greater part of his life was spent. In 1875 with

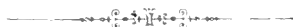
his family he removed to Joliet, Ill., where he engaged in the hardware business. He continued the same until his death, in June, 1888, having associated with him his son Robert, who still carries on the business. Mr. Meers belonged to the Democrat party, and although always ready to cast his vote, had never been an office seeking politician, being always a busy man, whose attention was given exclusively to his personal affairs. He had reached the age of seventy-two years, when he breathed his last; his widow still lives. Both belonged to St. Mary's Catholic Church before the division of the parish, after which they were numbered among the early members of the Sacred Heart Church, and helped to build the church edifice.

The birth of E. Meers took place in Bloomsbury, N. J., February 15, 1854, and his youthful days were spent in his native State and New York City. He was educated at Seton Hall College, a well-known Catholic institution, located at Orange, N. J., and of which Father Corrigan, now Arch-bishop of New York, was President. After completing his studies in that institution young Meers assisted his father in his work of contracting until the removal to the West. He then read law with Messrs. Olin & Phelps, and with the late Judge McRoberts, taking his lectures at the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, where he was graduated in the class of '76.

Returning to Joliet Mr. Meers began the practice with C. W. Brown, a prominent attorney of this city, with whom he remained four years, or until the election of Mr. Brown to the position of States Attorney. He then opened an office for himself, and continuing to practice alone, has proved very successful in acquiring business and in winning cases which have been given into his hands. He is a vigorous pleader, able at will to employ the shafts of wit which are so peculiar to the Irish race, and which so thoroughly impress a point upon the hearers; he is well versed in the principles of equity and in legal precedents, and in all respects a worthy disciple of Coke and Blackstone.

Mr. Meers served two terms as City Attorney, holding the office from 1879 until 1883. He has not run for any other office, although an active

worker in the ranks of the Democrat party. During the Presidential campaigns he has always taken a prominent part in the canvass, making speeches and aiding his party as much as possible. He belongs to the Independent Order of Foresters; Catholic Order of Foresters; Ancient Order of Hibernians; and the Irish-American Club. He belongs to the Church of the Sacred Heart. Mr. Meers is still single, living with his mother in a fine home on Third and Eastern Avenues, a beautiful part of the city, where his father first built.

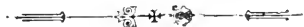


ISAAC HENRY, a worthy citizen of Plainfield Township, where he is engaged in agriculture, came to this county as early as 1856 and cast his lot with its pioneers. He is a Pennsylvanian by birth and his father, Jacob Henry, is supposed to have been a native of the same State. He moved from there to Ohio in 1835, and was an early settler of Richland County. At that time that part of Ohio was sparsely settled, and but few improvements had been made. Deer and all kinds of wild game were plentiful where now are fine farms, thriving towns and cities. Mr. Henry bought a tract of timber land, and after building a log house for the accommodation of his family, entered upon the hard task of clearing a farm from the primeval forests. There were no railroads in those days, and Milan, fifty miles distant, was the nearest market. Mr. Henry lived there sixteen years and then sold out and removed to DeLiance County, and buying land there, entered upon the task of its improvement. His useful career, however, was soon brought to a close, as he died there about one year later. The maiden name of his wife was Christiana Coulser, and she was a native of Pennsylvania. In 1860 she removed to Wisconsin, and after living there a short time, to Grundy County, Iowa, and later to Marion County, Mo., and there died.

The subject of this sketch was five years old when he removed with his parents to Ohio, and there he was reared under pioneer influences to the life of a farmer. When the family removed to

Defiance County he bought a tract of timber land and built there. Thinking to better himself by removing to Illinois, he came here in 1856, and was employed in a cabinet shop for a year. He then went to Michigan City, Ind., but after a stay there of two months returned to his own home, and the following year again came to Illinois. He engaged in farming, working land on shares for eight years, and then purchased the place where he now resides, on section 13, Plainfield Township. It comprises eighty acres of land of exceptional fertility, and he has it under good improvement, and has made here a comfortable and cozy home.

Mr. Henry is, no doubt, greatly indebted to the aid he has received from his capable, helpful wife, to whom he was united in marriage in 1858. Her maiden name was Sarah Smith and she was a daughter of G. Y. Smith, of whom see sketch on another page of this work. The pleasant home circle of our subject and wife is completed by the five children born to them, namely: Mary M., Clara M., Werner L., Laura and Frank. A simple, upright, independent man, Mr. Henry bears a good reputation and is held in genuine respect for his sterling qualities. He has made his way in the world by persistent industry, and by the careful management of his affairs to a place among our substantial citizens.



**G**EORGE H. HARSHBARGER is classed among the leading agriculturists of Plainfield Township, and there is no finer or better improved farm in all the county than his. He was born in Penn's Valley, Center County, Pa., January 27, 1829. His father, John Harshbarger, was of German descent. The grandfather of our subject was a native of that country, and was there reared and married, and subsequently came to America and settled in Pennsylvania, and there passed the remainder of his life on his farm in Penn's Valley.

The father of our subject was bred to agricultural pursuits, and followed farming profitably for many years, until his life was brought to a close in

his comfortable home in Penn's Valley, at the age of sixty-three years. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Rishel, and she was a native of Pennsylvania. After the death of her husband she went to live in Huhlersburgh, Center County, and there passed away in February, 1890, at the venerable age of eighty-five years. She reared six sons and four daughters to good and useful lives.

The son of whom we write received his education in the district school, and was early set to work on the farm and obtained a practical knowledge of agriculture, continuing to live with his parents until 1811. In that year he commenced to learn the trade of a carpenter, which he followed in Pennsylvania until 1817, when he concluded to come West to try life on the prairies of Illinois. He took the most expeditious route at the time, and by foot and stage made his way to Erie, Pa., and from there by the Lakes to Chicago, where he embarked on the canal for Lockport, and from that place he went to Morris, Grundy County. There he found employment at his trade the ensuing three months, and then he took up his residence in Plainfield, continuing here as a carpenter and builder until 1878. He had previously bought his present farm, and he then decided to devote himself entirely to its management. It is pleasantly located on section 8, one mile west of Plainfield, and contains one hundred and twenty acres of finely-tilled land. It is exceptionally well improved, having upwards of five miles of tile, and is amply provided with neat and commodious buildings, and ranks as one of the finest pieces of property in this section of the country.

Mr. Harshbarger has been twice married, his first marriage, which occurred in Plainfield, being to Miss Harriet Baker, a native of Ohio. Her death in 1862 deprived him of a true and faithful wife, and their four children—Taey, Frank, Seldon and Anna—of a good mother. Our subject was again married, taking as a helpmate Mrs. Sophia Hoay, *nee* Barney, a native of New York State, and to them have come two children—Mabel and John. Mr. Harshbarger's daughter, Taey, married Thomas Hayes and resides in Plainfield. His daughter, Anna, married Wilson Davis, and also lives in Plainfield. Mabel is the wife of Frank G. Gaskin,



of Plainfield. Frank resides in Somonauk, this State, and Seldon, in Kendall County, Ill.

Mr. Harshbarger is endowed with a sound understanding, decision of character, and other traits that have enabled him to make his own way in the world without the adventitious aids of fortune and birth to an independent position among his fellow-townsmen. He and his wife are highly regarded in this community, where they have lived for many years, and have the warm friendship of many of their fellow-citizens, as they are social, hospitable people, making their home attractive to all who cross its threshold. They are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and do all they can for the good work in which it is engaged.



**T**HOMAS HILES. Northern Illinois has long been known as a land where fine crops are garnered and fertile fields abound. Among the very productive estates which are included within its borders may be mentioned that of Thomas Hiles, located on section 20, Wesley Township, along the banks of the Kankakee River. A vast amount of labor has been performed here in order to redeem this acreage from its condition as a part of the primeval forest, and prepare the soil to bring forth abundantly to the full extent of its capacity.

Mr. Hiles is an Englishman, born in December, 1827, and as the son of a farmer had fewer privileges in the educational line than are afforded that class in free America. Although his schooling was quite limited and his book learning is therefore somewhat meagre, he possesses native intelligence and quickly comprehends all that is going on about him. At the age of twelve years he began working out for farmers, continuing to support himself in this manner until he had reached his majority. Having decided that in America he would find opportunities for advancement not afforded in his native land, he bade adieu to home and friends and crossed the broad Atlantic.

Mr. Hiles landed at Philadelphia a friendless stranger, with about \$50 as a capital with which to

begin his labors. He came directly to Cook County, Ill., where for nine months he worked on a farm. In the spring of 1850 he came into Wesley Township, Will County, entered the employ of Elijah Freer for two years, and then purchased eighty acres of the land which he has brought to so excellent a condition. He had but few neighbors. He erected a frame house and began clearing the land, doing all the labor of felling trees, etc., himself. From time to time he added to his farm other timbered lands, which he cleared in succession until he now has two hundred and ten acres of improved land, about two hundred acres of which were cleared by himself. This is a record which has been made by few even of our most enterprising farmers, and Mr. Hiles deserves great credit for that which he has accomplished in redeeming the fertile land to man's use. He is engaged in general farming, and successfully pursuing his vocation.

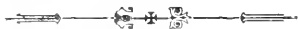
Mr. Hiles and Miss Sarah Carpenter were joined in holy wedlock September 5, 1852, and lived happily together until February 21, 1880, when the wife was called hence. She was a daughter of Charles and Abigail (Milliman) Carpenter, natives of the Empire State, who removed to Illinois about the time of the Black Hawk War. The occupation of Mr. Carpenter was tilling the soil. He and his wife are now deceased. Mrs. Sarah Hiles was born January 17, 1835. She bore her husband six children, the record of the survivors being as follows: Mary, born January 1, 1857, is the wife of Mike Miller, of Joliet, and the mother of six children; Fred M. was born October 21, 1867; Benjamin T. February 15, 1880.

A second matrimonial alliance was contracted by Mr. Hiles February 1, 1881. His bride on this occasion was Miss Aseneth Humblin, who was born May 29, 1832, in Onondaga County, N. Y. She received a good education in the district schools, and upon the foundation thus laid has reared a structure of wide knowledge through extensive reading and keen observation. She is an active worker in the Sunday-school, was constantly engaged as a teacher while in New York, and is a willing worker in the promulgation of every good cause. Her home is not neglected, but is conducted in such a way that the domestic machinery moves

smoothly, and every comfort surrounds the members of the home circle.

The parents of Mrs. Hiles were Abner I. and Electa (Nearing) Hamblin, natives of Massachusetts and Connecticut respectively. They became husband and wife in the Empire State, and there continued to reside until their death. Their home was in Madison County, where Mrs. Hamblin breathed her last August 6, 1863, and her husband March 15, 1875. Both were active participants in church work, and Mr. Hamblin was a farmer. Mrs. Hiles was the ninth of the eleven children born to them, of whom seven survive at this writing.

Mr. Hiles has always taken an active interest in politics, and gives his vote to the Republican party. Before he left his native land he became a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, but has not been identified with lodges of that fraternity in America. He now holds the office of Township Trustee, in which he has served for fifteen years past, and is also a Director of the local School Board. He has served as Pathmaster. He and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**B**ON, AUGUST W. BERGGREN, Warden of the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet, has held several important official stations in other parts of this State, and won a high reputation for his uprightness, good judgment and public spirit. He was appointed to the position he now holds in April, 1889, and took charge on May 1st, following. He is a native of the Scandinavian Peninsula, his birthplace Sweden, and his natal day August 17, 1840. His parents were John and Catherine Berggren, the latter of whom died in their native land, leaving to her husband's care six sons and one daughter.

In 1856 the widower and his family came to America, drawn to cross the briny deep by the accounts they had heard of the "land of the free and the home of the brave," and its opportunities for all who desire to rise in the social scale or improve their worldly condition. A location was selected at Oneida, this State, but the father subsequently

went to Glendale, Iowa, where he breathed his last in 1863. Two of his children have also passed away: Peter Anton died in the Hawkeye State, in 1863; and Anna Christina in Knox County, this State, the year after her arrival in America. The surviving members of the fraternal band are: John Eric, a Methodist Episcopal minister, now retired and living in Iowa; Louis G., a farmer in Polk County, Neb.; Charles, a stonemason in Garrison, Kan.; he of whom we write; and William, a farmer in Pettis County, Mo., who holds the office of Justice of the Peace.

In his native land August W. Berggren was apprenticed to the tailor's trade, serving two years. After reaching the Western Continent he worked at his trade both in Galesburg and Monmouth, this State. His workmanship was always to be relied upon, and his citizenship was equally trustworthy. Ere long these facts were recognized by his fellow-citizens, and while still quite young he was placed in public office. In 1869 he was elected Justice of the Peace, in 1872 became Sheriff, and to the latter station was re-elected in 1871, 1876 and 1878. A still higher honor awaited him, his friends desiring his services in a more important function, to which his intelligence, interest in public welfare, and keen perception of its needs fitted him. In 1880, therefore, he was sent to the Senate, representing the Twenty-second District, composed of Knox and Mercer Counties. Four years later he was returned to the Senatorial body as a member from the same district, then composed of Knox and Fulton Counties. During the last session of his second term Senator Berggren was President *pro tem* of the Senate. His record as a lawmaker is a matter of history and well known to his constituents, whose cordial esteem he has won by his position on the side of all that is elevating and true.

The Hon. Mr. Berggren is quite interested in social and benevolent orders, and is identified with the Knight Templars and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has been President of the Covenant Mutual Benefit Association of Illinois, located at Galesburg, since its organization in 1877, and he is also a Director in the Galesburg National Bank. He chose as his companion in life a Swedish lady,





Yours Truly  
G. W. Chesney, Jr.

Miss Christina Naslund, their marriage being celebrated March 8, 1866. Mrs. Berggren excels in housewifery, is intelligent and refined, and with a character which causes her to be highly regarded by all to whom she is known. The union has been blessed by the birth of six children—Capitola Maud, Guy Werner, Ralph Augustus, Claus Eugene, Jay Valentine and Earl Hugo. The daughter is finely educated, being a graduate of Knox College, and the others have also received excellent advantages proportionate to their years. Death has entered the family circle, removing from its midst the son and brother, Ralph Augustus, who was accidentally killed by a gravel train on the Santa Fe Railroad, on May 20, 1887.



**F**REDERICK WILLIAM WERNER, M.D., bears the reputation of being one of the busiest persons in the city of Joliet. He is in the enjoyment of a large and lucrative practice, and is widely and favorably known throughout Will County, where thus far he has spent his entire life. He was born February 8, 1858, in Joliet, and is the son of William and Barbara (Goebel) Werner, who were natives of Germany. The mother while single emigrated to America, in 1843, and the father a few years later.

The Werner family is of pure German stock, as far back as is known, and possessed in a marked degree the substantial and reliable traits peculiar to that nationality. They were unusually well educated, conforming to the laws of their native land, which required that a child should be placed in school at the age of six years, and pursue his studies until fourteen.

The father of our subject was trained to habits of industry in his youth, learning the trade of a stone mason, developing into a contractor and builder. Upon coming to America he settled in Will County, Ill., and departed this life May 20, 1887. The mother bore the maiden name of Barbara Goebel. The parents were married in Joliet,

and Mrs. Werner now makes her home with the Doctor. The household circle included seven children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Elizabeth died when two years old; Annie Marie died in infancy; Frederick W., our subject, was the third child; Louis Charles Frederick died when about eighteen months old; Frederick Charles is engaged as a harness-maker and living in Joliet; George Washington, a veterinary surgeon of good repute, makes his home in Kansas City, Mo.; Edward Herbert is one of the leading dental surgeons of Joliet. It will be observed that these children were named in honor of the patriots of both Germany and America.

Dr. Werner in his boyhood days attended the city schools of Joliet, and when approaching manhood began the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. A. W. Heise, in the winter of 1876-77. Later he entered the medical department of the Michigan State University, and afterward Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York City, from which he was graduated March 1, 1880. Returning then to his native city, he opened an office, and his career has been one of uniform prosperity.

In politics Dr. Werner favors the principles of the Republican party, but he meddles very little with public affairs, otherwise than those connected with his profession. He served as Coroner of Will County from June, 1880, to December, 1884, first by appointment and subsequently was twice elected to the office. He was County Physician from 1881 to 1888, and City Physician from 1884 to 1887. From 1882 to 1885 he held the office of Treasurer of the United States Pension Examining Board. He is a member in good standing of the Will County Medical Society, the Chicago Medical Society and the American Society of Microscopists.

On the 28th of May, 1881, Dr. Werner was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Fredricka, daughter of C. W. and Marie Agnes (Bertel) Staehle. Mrs. Werner was born in Joliet, and remained with her parents until her marriage, receiving a good education in the common school. Mr. and Mrs. Staehle were natives of Germany, and are now residents of Joliet. Their family consists of seven living children.

In connection with this sketch a lithographic portrait of the Doctor is presented to the readers of the ALBUM.



**H**ENRY BOHL owns and occupies a farm on section 34, Washington Township. A general air of thrift and prosperity is noticeable and even a casual glance is sufficient to show that the land is well tilled and that the buildings which have been erected upon it are adequate to their requirements, while they and the other improvements are well kept in every particular.

The eyes of our subject opened to the light in Mecklenburg, Germany, April 14, 1838. His father, Herman Bohl, was a farm laborer who had married a lady of his own Duchy—Miss Mary Buhrling. They lived in the neighborhood in which they had been reared until after the birth of six children, two of whom died when quite young. The parents with the surviving members of the family set out for America in the fall of 1857, taking passage from Hamburg in the sailing vessel "America" and landing at New York City after having spent four weeks and three days at sea. The family came west together and made a settlement in Du Page County, Ill. After some years the parents, their only son and one daughter, removed to Will County and settled on the farm now owned by our subject, the parents living with him until their death. The father breathed his last in 1883 at the age of seventy-seven years; the widow survived until 1889, reaching the advanced age of eighty-two years. During the last two years of her life she was entirely blind. Both of the parents were life-long members of the Lutheran Church.

Henry Bohl is the third in order of birth in the parental family. He received his education in his native country to which he bade adieu when about nineteen years old. He became of age in Du Page County, Ill., and was there united in marriage with Miss Minnie Schuld. This lady was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, in 1846, and after being

left an orphan she came alone to the United States when she had almost reached womanhood. She made her home in Du Page County where she was married not long after her arrival. She was well skilled in domestic arts, was a consistent member of the Lutheran Church and a woman whose good qualities were recognized by her neighbors and acquaintances. She breathed her last at her home in Washington Township, August 25, 1883, when but thirty-eight years old.

The happy union of Mr. and Mrs. Bohl was blessed by the birth of eight children, of whom Willie, Lena and two infants are deceased. The survivors are: Reeka, Henry, William and John, all of whom yet cluster around their father's fireside. Mr. Bohl and his children attend the Lutheran Church and he is a staunch Republican.

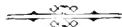


**J**ULIAN E. WHITE. This young gentleman is engaged in the drug business in Joliet in which he made a permanent location in 1885, establishing himself in a business that is rapidly growing. With an upright character, the courteous and pleasing manners of a well-bred gentleman, and an intelligent mind, he has been admitted into the "inner circle" of society, while in business circles he is regarded as one of the most promising young men of the city. He is the third child of E. D. and Margaret (Adams) White who came with their family to Joliet in 1876. The father is now engaged in the music trade here and in addition to pianos and other musical instruments also handles sewing machines. He is a native of the Empire State, while his wife opened her eyes to the light in Pennsylvania.

The subject of this biographical notice was born March 9, 1854, in Mayville, Chautauqua County, N. Y., but his boyhood was spent in Crawford County, Pa. After completing his education he became a drug clerk in his home town where he continued in that employment a year. Being attracted by the accounts he had heard of the Rocky Mountain region, he then went to Denver, Col., but finding no opening in the drug business became a

work in an establishment devoted to the sale of the firm's furnishing goods. For two years he was employed when he journeyed eastward, reaching Joliet in the spring of 1877, his parents in the meantime having located here. He entered the establishment of J. D. Brown & Co., remaining there three or four years after which he went to Chicago. There he engaged with the drug firm of J. C. Stoutenberg & Co., as a traveling salesman and for two and one-half years spent in that capacity. He became an employe of the firm of Fuller & Loper. For the latter firm he worked about three years after which he began business for himself at the time and place before noted.

Mr. White is a firm believer in the principles of the Republican party, which he therefore supports on all occasions. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity, having reached the Royal Arch degree and being Captain in the Chapter. An event interesting to Joliet society and particularly to Mr. White, took place at the residence of Edward Fox, April 23, 1890. This was the marriage of our subject and Miss Jessie Fox, daughter of the host, a young lady whose intelligence, culture, and amiable character have given her popularity in society and endeared her to the hearts of many friends. The wedding ceremony was performed at six o'clock and was followed by an elegant reception participated in by the society people of Joliet.



MICHAEL SHENK is a substantial, well-to-do farmer of Custer Township, and he has borne an honorable part in bringing about the great change wrought by the pioneers and present citizens of Will County that has placed it in the front ranks of its sister counties. His parents were Christian and Magdalene (Wolf) Sherk, natives of Lancaster County, Pa. His father operated a mill there for thirty years, and with his wife was a life-long resident of that part of the county, she dying in 1850, and he in 1824.

Our subject is the only survivor of six children. He was born in August, 1818. His education was conducted in the common schools. He suffered

an accident at a raising when he was eighteen years of age, whereby his right shoulder, ribs and leg were broken, and for four years he was unable to do anything. After that he went to work on a small farm for himself in Erie County, Pa., made improvements upon it, built a house and barn, and made full payment at the rate of \$22 per acre, he buying it of his mother. He remained on that place about fourteen years, and then disposed of it in order to try agriculture in this county, and coming here in 1858, he bought his present farm. The improvements upon it were very meagre, but he has placed it in a good condition. He built his present dwelling in 1875, and also erected a good barn at a cost of \$1,000. He has one hundred and sixty acres in the home farm, all of which is under fine cultivation except thirty acres, and he has adjoining it eighty acres of land that is well adapted to pasturage and is used for that purpose, he having his farm well stocked.

By his marriage, in 1851, to Miss Sarah A. Carter, our subject secured the substantial aid of a wife who, by her good management of their household affairs, has contributed in no small degree to bring about their present prosperous circumstances. Mrs. Sherk is a native of England, born in 1822, and received a good education in the land of her birth. Her marriage with our subject has been gladdened by the birth of eight children, all of whom are living, and are well settled in life. Their record is as follows: John, who is living in Yates Center, Kan., married Sarah Wright, and they have four children; William, a resident of Fairbury, married Alma Robbins, and they have one child; Jerome, of Reed Township, married Belle Morrill, and they have one child; Elizabeth, wife of Harvey Brown, of Chicago, is the mother of nine children; Delia Ann is the wife of Napoleon Leslie, of Braidwood, and has five children; Joseph, a resident of Braidwood, married Ella Rankin, and they have five children; Minnie married John Jilson, who lives on the home farm, and they have three children; Ida married Calvin Whitson, of Pontiac, and they have four children. John Sherk bore an honorable part in the late war as a soldier in the One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, and was slightly wounded at Mission Ridge. William went out

with the same regiment, but came home sick before the expiration of his term of enlistment. He afterward served in a three months' regiment.

Since 1858 Mr. Shenk has been associated with the people to whom Custer Township owes its prosperity, and he has conducted himself in all ways so as to secure the entire confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens. He has taken part in the management of public affairs as School Director of this district, and at one time he was Assessor of Custer and Reed Townships for a period of two years. He votes the Republican ticket. Mrs. Shenk has for many years been a devoted member of the Episcopal Church, and is equally esteemed with her husband.



GEORGE S. BRISTOL represents the flourishing agricultural interests of Plainfield Township, and his farm on sections 33 and 34 is one of the most desirable in this locality as it is under the best of cultivation and is amply provided with good machinery for every purpose.

Our subject is a native of Ohio, born in Perry Township, Franklin County, January 26, 1843, a worthy descendant of an old pioneer family of that State. Corel Bristol, his father, was a native of the same county, born in Sharon Township, May 14, 1810. His father, Eri Bristol was born in Bristol, Conn., a son of Jacob Bristol, who was of English birth. The father of the latter, great-great-grandfather of our subject, emigrated from Bristol, England, about 1776, and settling in Connecticut, bought land in the town of Bristol. He was a clockmaker, and it is said manufactured the finest clocks ever made in America in his day. During the Revolution he proved to be a patriotic citizen to his adopted country and building two ships he placed them at the disposal of the colonists and aided them in fighting the British. Jacob Bristol was ten years old when he came to America with his parents. He became a clockmaker and spent the rest of his life in Connecticut. Eri Bristol, grandfather of our subject, became a member of the Scioto Company that bought sixteen thousand

acres of land in what is now Franklin County, Ohio, and he was thus an early pioneer of the State. In the spring of 1801 each member of the colony sent a son into the wilderness of Ohio; to build log cabins and prepare the way of the others who soon joined them, the removal of these families being made with teams, some of them having horses and others oxen. They were among the first to locate in that part of Ohio, and the grandfather of our subject, settled in what is now Sharon Township, nine miles north of the present site of Columbus, on Whetstone Creek. In that time the State was in a wild and unsettled condition, the dense primeval forests being inhabited by various tribes of Indians, and deer, bears, wolves, panthers, and wild cats were numerous. There were no railways nor canals, and in fact no public roads, all communication with the outside world was by persons passing through the narrow paths or Indian trails on foot or horseback. The people lived in the most primitive manner, obtaining their food from products of the land, wild game and fish, and the women spun and made all the clothing used. The grandfather of our subject resided on the homestead that he hewed from the wilderness, until death closed his mortal career.

The father of our subject was reared, married and resided in the place of his birth until 1870, when he came to Plainfield, and with his sons, bought the farm where our subject now resides. He is still living, is in his eighty-first year, and makes his home with his children. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Annah Ross and she was a native of Westmoreland County, Pa., a daughter of David and Mary (Satcher) Ross. Her death occurred in Franklin County, Ohio.

George S. Bristol received the rudiments of his education in the public schools and then had the advantages of a fine course at Eastman's Business College at Chicago. In May, 1864, at the age of twenty-one years, he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-third Ohio National Guards, for one hundred days, and was dispatched with his regiment to Parkersburg, W. Va., and after remaining there six weeks was sent to Washington, and thence to the James River of Virginia, where he did garrison duty until the expiration of his



form of enlistment, when he was discharged having done honorable service in the cause of his country. After his military experience, Mr. Bristol returned to his native State and remained a resident thereof until the spring of 1868, when he made a new departure and in the vigor of a stalwart manhood came to Illinois to try farming in the Prairie State. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Plainfield in the summer and in the winter utilized his education by teaching. He taught six winter terms and the remainder of the year was engaged as before mentioned. In 1871, he located on the farm he now owns and occupies and has been thoroughly successful in its cultivation. In 1889, he had the misfortune to have his dwelling burned, and he has since replaced it by his present neat and comfortable residence.

The marriage of our subject in 1872 with Miss Osabelle Clark was an important step in his life and he thereby secured an able assistant in his work. She is a native of Plainfield, born in March, 1817, and a daughter of Erastus Clark. Her father was born in Greenfield, Franklin County, Mass., his mother bearing the same name, being also a native of that county, born in the town of Colerain. His father, John Clark, is supposed to have been a native of the same town and a descendant of English ancestry, who were early settlers in that place, and he was here engaged as a manufacturer. Mrs. Bristol's grandfather learned the trade of a woolen manufacturer and established the first spinning jenny, and carried on the business there some years. He subsequently removed to Niagara Falls, established a factory, and resided there until 1836, when he came to Plainfield. He was an early settler here, buying a tract of land about one mile south of the village. He and his son operated a flour and sawmill for a few years and he then went to Kalamazoo, Mich., and there died at the home of a daughter at the advanced age of eighty-six years. Mrs. Bristol's father was young when he came to Plainfield with his parents and assisted his father in operating the mills, finally buying the sawmill, which he operated for a time. He then disposed of it and turned his attention to farming, and resided here until 1878. In that year he removed to Kansas, bought a farm in Reno County and still makes his

home there. The maiden name of Mr. Clark's wife was Caroline Cotton. She was born on the Isle of Wight, a daughter of William and Jane (Brett) Cotton, also natives of that island, who were pioneers of Plainfield. Mr. and Mrs. Bristol's pleasant wedded life has brought to them two children, Mabel J. and Elsie C.

Mr. Bristol is a man of honorable character and high standing in this community, with whose best interests he has earnestly identified himself more than twenty years, and by his manly, straightforward course in all his business dealings and in his social relations he has gained a warm place in the regard of his fellow-citizens. He has a well-balanced, well-cultivated mind and sincere religious views which find expression in the Universalist faith, he and his wife being valued members of the society of that denomination in Plainfield. Politically he is a staunch Republican.



**B**ENJAMIN OLIN. The legal profession of Will County is worthily represented by the subject of this notice who has been engaged in the practice of law at Joliet since June, of the year 1879. He is a native of the Empire State and was born in Allegany County, August 12, 1838. He emigrated to Illinois with his parents when quite young, they settling first in La Salle County, from which they subsequently removed to Kendall County.

Judge Olin received his English education in the common and select schools of La Salle and Kendall Counties and subsequently entered Beloit College, Wis. He commenced the reading of law in the office of Messrs. Gray & Bushnell at Ottawa, Ill., and later studied with John Cruthers, of Oswego, Kendall County.

Upon the outbreak of the Civil War Mr. Olin in April, 1861, assisted in raising Company K, Twentieth Illinois Infantry and was elected First Lieutenant of his company. After about one year spent in the service he was obliged to send in his resignation on account of ill-health. He then

went to Colorado where he spent several months and upon his return resumed his law studies at Chicago with the firm of Mather, Taft & Bates. He was admitted to the bar in 1863 and began the practice of his profession at Morris, this State.

Subsequently Mr. Olin associated himself in partnership with Hon. P. A. Armstrong, of Morris, and they engaged in the practice of law until the removal of Mr. Olin to Joliet in June, 1870. In the meantime he had become prominent in the local affairs of Grundy County, representing his ward in the City Council of Morris and holding the office of School Inspector, besides filling other positions of trust and responsibility. He was looked upon as a man of sound judgment and his opinions were generally respected.

After his removal to Joliet Judge Olin associated himself in partnership with Capt. Phelps in the practice of law, which partnership continued until 1873, when it was dissolved by the election of Mr. Olin to the Judgeship of the County Court. He acquitted himself with great credit, serving his full term and in 1877 was re-elected and held the office the full term of the four years, and one year over on account of a change in the law fixing the time of holding elections. Then after nine years of public service and when his nomination was again talked of, he declined to be a candidate for re-election.

Since his removal to Joliet Mr. Olin has been identified with many of its leading enterprises and has distinguished himself as a liberal and public-spirited citizen. He is particularly interested in educational affairs, having held the office of School Inspector for several years, and was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Joliet Public Library, which office he has recently resigned. As an attorney he has been entrusted with important interests, while his intimate knowledge of the intricacies of law has enabled him to serve his clients in a just and satisfactory manner. His strict integrity and honorable dealings have gained him the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens and both in social and business circles he occupies an enviable position.

Mr. Olin in September, 1865, was joined in wedlock with Miss Julia Schaubert. Mrs. Olin is a lady

of high culture and varied attainments and well fitted to be the partner of such a man as her husband. She was born in Saratoga County, N. Y. The family residence is pleasantly located at No. 102 Young's Avenue. In 1889 Judge Olin associated himself in partnership with George J. Cowling, a young gentleman of fine attainments, who is rapidly rising in his profession.



FRED BOLTMANN. The late Mr. Boltmann was born in Hanover, Germany, June 9, 1816. He was the son of Henry and Sophia (Olenkemp) Boltmann, natives of Hanover, where they were reared and married, and lived for some years thereafter. They came to America in 1853, taking passage at Bremerhaven on a sailing-vessel that crossed the Atlantic at a rapid rate, making the quickest time ever recorded by a sailing-vessel. The hurricane which had speeded it on its course at so rapid a rate nearly caused the destruction of the vessel, and many of the passengers died from fright or sickness in the short space of three weeks and three days. The Boltmann family survived the dangers of the passage, and coming from New York to Chicago, settled on a farm in Du Page County. There they made some improvements ere changing their residence to Will County and settling on section 35, Washington Township.

The elder Mr. Boltmann secured a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, mostly wild land, on which he at once began to make improvements. It is now known far and near as a home of great comfort, where pleasing hospitality abounds and the social pleasures of life are thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. and Mrs. Boltmann are now quite old, having been born in 1812, the former July 19 and the latter September 19. Mr. Boltmann has been identified with the Republican party, and he and his wife have been active members of the Lutheran Church since their childhood. They are particularly well known by the best German families of the county and are respected by all.

The gentleman with whose name this sketch

is introduced, was educated in the public schools of Du Page and Will Counties, and acquired a practical knowledge of agriculture on the parental estate. He was engaged in tilling the soil until after the breaking out of the Civil War, when he entered the Union army as a member of Company H, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry. Going south, the regiment was put under the general command of Sheridan, and under that gallant leader participated in the battles which have made his name famous. Mr. Boltmann also took part in the battles of Atlanta and others of prominence, escaping injury, excepting a slight wound on the knee, in all his arduous and dangerous campaigning. He remained in the field until the close of the war, when, being discharged, June 8, 1865, he returned to his father's home justly proud of his record as a loyal citizen and brave soldier.

Mr. Boltmann continued to occupy himself with agriculture until 1873, when he established himself in business at Beecher, dealing in wines and liquors until his health failed. He closed his eyes in death August 24, 1878, since which time his widow has successfully carried on the business, to the interest of which he had given his entire attention after its institution. The nature of Mr. Boltmann was a thrifty, kindly and capable one, and he was well known for his generosity toward his fellow-men and looked upon as a good business man. He was a member of Blue Lodge, No. 740, F. & A. M., at Grant Park, and had filled the various chairs. He was a sound Democrat in politics and his religious faith coincided with the doctrines of the Lutheran Church, to which he belonged, and to which he gave liberally.

The marriage of Fred Boltmann and Miss Sophia Olenkemp was celebrated in Du Page County, this State. The bride was born in Hanover, Germany, October 9, 1816. She was reared to womanhood in her native land, receiving an excellent education there, and after she came to America acquired good use of the English tongue. In 1866 she crossed the ocean in company with an uncle, the passage from Bremerhaven to New York on the sailing-vessel "Shakespeare" consuming seven weeks and two days. She came at once to Illinois, and for a time resided in Du Page County, subse-

quently making her home in Washington Township, Will County. Her parents were William and Sophia (Herman) Olenkemp, both natives of Hanover and descendants of German stock of the better class. Mr. Olenkemp was a shoemaker. Two years after their daughter had come to America he and his wife made their arrangements to follow her to the New World. They were about ready to start when the husband and father sickened and died when about fifty-five years old. The widowed mother subsequently made the journey with the children who remained with her, and joining her daughter in Will County, spent her last days there. She died July 27, 1879, at the ripe age of seventy-five years, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Boltmann. She and her husband belonged to the Lutheran Church. Their family consisted of four daughters and one son, the latter of whom, Henry Olenkemp, is now running a meat market in Wyoming. He has served five years in the regular army.

Mrs. Boltmann is a shrewd and capable woman, who manages her business affairs with great ability. She belongs to the Lutheran Church and generously supports every good work which is done therein. She is the mother of six children, one of whom, a daughter, Emma, died when eighteen months old. The living are: Tilda, wife of Henry Biefeldt, a lumber dealer of Beecher; Henry and William, who are carrying on the farm in Washington Township, and Alvina, who keeps house for them; and Rosa, who remains at home with the mother.



JAMES C. ZARLEY is the owner and occupant of one of the fine farms of Joliet Township, his home being located on section 28, and comprising three hundred acres of beautiful land, upon which complete and excellent improvements have been made. The place is devoted to the dairy business, from sixty to eighty cows being kept, and three wagons run to Joliet, where the milk is sold. That part of the estate which is under tillage is thoroughly cultivated,

and on every hand are to be seen evidences of the thrift and prosperity of the owner.

Among the very earliest settlers in this county were the late Reason Zarley and his wife. He was born in Kentucky, and in 1814 was married to Sarah Mustard, a native of Ohio. In Sciota County, of that State, they made their first home, coming to Illinois in 1828, and spending about three years in the vicinity of Danville, Vermilion County. In 1831 they removed to this county, settling on the farm now owned by our subject. Here they took up the labors of pioneer life, undimly enduring the arduous toils and severe privations to which they were subject, and braving danger and even death in their efforts to subdue nature and develop the resources which she possessed. On at least one occasion they were obliged to leave their home and seek protection from savage foes in a town where some preparation was made to meet and repulse the Indians. This was during the Black Hawk War, when the Saes and Foxes were terrorizing the settlers upon the frontier. Better times gradually dawned, the country became more thickly settled, the comforts of life more easy to obtain, and the surroundings more pleasant and quiet. Reason Zarley became a highly-respected and influential citizen, and when called hence in August, 1859, he left to his descendants that best of all inheritances—an honored name. He was one of the first Justices of the Peace in this vicinity, having been elected when what is now Will County was still a part of Cook County.

Mrs. Sarah Zarley was a daughter of the Rev. William Mustard, one of the pioneer Methodist preachers in Ohio. She joined the Methodist Church when eighteen years old, and was a member for over seventy-five years. Her death took place August 1, 1887, at the home of her son-in-law, Gabriel Noel, in Jackson Township, this county. Her memory is held in loving remembrance by her descendants, to whom Grandma Zarley was a model of beautiful old age. She had borne her husband twelve children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the tenth. Two of their deceased children were for many years proprietors of the *Joliet Signal*. These were Calneh and Calvin Zarley, the former of whom was born in

Pike County, Ohio, April 21, 1822. In May, 1846, in company with his brother Calvin, whose death occurred many years ago, he began the publication of the *Joliet Signal*, which he edited for forty years. At the time of his death he was in company with R. S. Brown, the publishing firm being known as Zarley & Brown. Calneh Zarley died August 20, 1886. He is well remembered by the citizens of Joliet, and by many outside this flourishing corporation.

The gentleman with whose name this sketch is introduced, was born August 26, 1832, in Danville, to which place his parents had fled for safety during the Black Hawk War. He grew to manhood on his father's homestead in this county, where the greater part of his life has been spent. In 1861 he went to Montana and engaged in mining for ten years, meeting with varying success, but returning to his native State somewhat better off financially than when he had left it. Since that time he has given his attention entirely to farming, becoming an expert in the business, and particularly in the management of a dairy farm.

Personally, Mr. Zarley is well calculated to make friends, being cordial in manner, intelligent in mind, and honorable in his dealings with his fellow-men. He held the office of Supervisor of Joliet Township one term, and has been School Director for a number of years. In the advancement of the cause of education he has always been greatly interested, as well as in other matters which tend to elevate society and increase the prosperity of the county. In politics he is a Democrat. He attends the Baptist Church, of which his wife is a member.

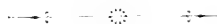
In Joliet, October 3, 1876, Mr. Zarley was united in marriage with Miss Ida, daughter of Jacob and Eliza (Boss) Patrick. Mrs. Zarley is the youngest in a family of ten children, and was born in Aux Sable, Grundy County, October 6, 1815. She is an educated and refined woman, who looks well to the ways of her household, is devoted to husband and children, and full of kindly deeds to those about her. Her father was a native of New York and her mother of Canada, their first home after marriage being in the latter country. Thence they came to this county in an early day,





Respectfully yours  
Andrew J. Miller M.D.

settling in Joliet Township, but afterward removing to Grundy County. They subsequently returned to this township, in which they breathed their last. Mr. and Mrs. Zarley are the parents of five children—William H., Arthur M., G. Noel, Maud H. and Louie E.



**A**NDREW J. MILLS, M. D., the Coroner of this county, is numbered among its prominent and most successful practitioners, and is in the enjoyment of a good business. He is a man in the prime of life, having been born September 19, 1831, and is a native of Essex County, N. Y.

Dr. Mills is the offspring of substantial stock, being the son of William Mills, likewise a native of Essex County, N. Y., and who was born May 2, 1812. The latter grew to mature years in his native county and was there married to Miss Lura A. Fisk. The mother of our subject was born in Rutland County, Vt., May 21, 1811, and was taken by her parents to New York State when a child of eight years. In the year 1836 the family took up their line of march toward what was then the far West, locating in Franklin County, Ohio, where they sojourned until 1851, the father engaging in farming pursuits. That year they decided upon another change of residence and coming to this county, settled near Twelve Mile Grove. The father in 1848 had entered one hundred and sixty acres of land and upon this he took up his residence with his family and prosecuted agriculture until 1861. Then with his estimable wife, retiring from the active labors of life, he left the farm and removed to Joliet, where the father is still living. The mother departed this life August 8, 1887. Both parents had identified themselves with the Methodist Episcopal Church during their younger years. William Mills originally was a Jacksonian Democrat, but voted for William Henry Harrison in 1840, and upon the formation of the Republican party identified himself with it. He however has never been a political aspirant, but is contented to cast his vote at the general elections. He is highly

respected and may be properly numbered among the pioneer residents of this county.

Dr. A. J. Mills, the subject of this notice, spent his younger years in his native State and upon the removal of the family to Ohio, pursued his first studies in the common schools, making good headway and becoming quite proficient at an early age. He began the reading of medicine alone and after entering the army was under the instruction of Dr. Z. P. Hanson, now a noted physician of Chicago. His studies however were frequently interrupted, as he was obliged to secure the means for continuing them.

Upon the outbreak of the Civil War the Doctor entered the ranks of the Union Army, enlisting in the Forty-second Illinois Infantry and being commissioned as Assistant Surgeon of the regiment. He was at the front and in the field hospitals and for four months was on the medical staff of the Artillery Brigade, Fourth Army Corps, going through the Atlanta campaign. He served until the close of the war, receiving then his honorable discharge and being mustered out April 16, 1865.

Upon leaving the army Dr. Mills entered the Miami Medical College at Cincinnati, in the class of 1865 and 1866, from which he emerged fully qualified for the duties which awaited him, having graduated March 1, 1866. It is hardly necessary to state that politically, he is a staunch Republican. He was elected to his present office in the fall of 1888 and is prominently connected with the Will County Medical Society.

Miss Sarah E. Whitmore was wedded to our subject March 29, 1855. Mrs. Mills was born September 26, 1835, in Washington County, Pa., and is the daughter of Francis W. and Frances A. (Webb) Whitmore, who were natives of Virginia and Maryland, respectively. They came to Illinois about 1811, and settled first at Magnolia, Putnam County. Subsequently they came to this county, where they sojourned for a few years, and are now deceased.

The children born to Dr. Mills and his estimable lady are recorded as follows: William F. was graduated from Rush Medical College in the class of 1887, and is now a practicing physician of Manhattan, this county; he married Miss Agnes R.

McDonough, and they have one child, a daughter, Elda A. George W. officiates as the Northwestern Agent for the tobacco manufacturing firm of Wilson, McCallay & Co., making his headquarters at Omaha, Neb.; he married Miss Nellie A. Diamond, and they have three daughters: Merle Ada, Hilma Lillian and Veldene Eloise. Lura Frances is the wife of William M. Mitchell of Rockville, Kaukaee County, and they have one child, a son, Kenneth Mills.

Dr. Mills is one of the oldest members of Wilton Lodge, No. 640, I. O. O. F., in which he has held the different offices and represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge of the State, since its organization in 1877. He also belongs to William A. Webb Post, No. 657, G. A. R., of which he was the first Commander. He takes pride in his practice and aims to excel. The medical profession was one which he chose in his boyhood for his life vocation and one to which he gives his best efforts as the result of his practice indicates. Socially and personally, he is held in high esteem, being numbered among the leading citizens of Joliet.

A lithographic portrait of Dr. Mills appears elsewhere in this volume.



**W**ILLIAM CALHOUN. This great Republic owes a larger debt than she can ever pay to the loyal citizen-soldiers who rallied to her defence in the darkest hours of the Rebellion, and heroically fought and suffered, and never laid down their arms till the glorious Stars and Stripes once more waved over a free and undivided country. As a representative of those heroes it pleases us to give this brief life record of William Calhoun, who with several of his brothers did honorable service in the Union army during the late war. Our subject is a farmer in Custer Township, owning and managing a good farm on section 26.

Abner Calhoun, the father of our subject, was a farmer, and a native of New York. He was a soldier in the Black Hawk War, and received a land warrant for his good services. The mother of our subject was Mary (Hoyt) Calhoun, a native of Ohio

She was married to the father of our subject in that State, and removed to Michigan at an early day of its settlement. They came to Illinois in 1853, and located on the farm now belonging to our subject, and there spent the remainder of their days, he dying in 1855, and she April 19, 1878. They were the parents of twelve children, all sons but one, eight of whom are now living.

The one of whom we write was the sixth child in order of birth, and was born in the month of January, 1836. His educational advantages were very meagre, and consisted of a short attendance in the district school. He was early called upon to assist his father in the farm work, and after the latter's death took tender care of his mother as long as she lived, and did not marry until after her death.

After the breaking out of the war our subject watched its course with patriotic interest, and as soon as possible offered his services to his country, enlisting August 12, 1862, in Company F, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry and served faithfully till August 12, 1865. He took part in many battles, and his officers always found him to be an efficient and trustworthy soldier. He was in the battle of Mobile, Ala., and participated in a large number of severe skirmishes. He served under Gens. Steele, Crocker, Thomas, McPherson, Grant and Sherman. In December, 1862, Mr. Calhoun was sick in the hospital for a short time, and was then sent to the convalescent camp at Memphis, Tenn. From the hospital there he was sent to St. Louis Hospital, in which he remained till after the siege of Vicksburg. He then rejoined his regiment, and while it was on a raid from Natchez he received a sun-stroke, which was very severe in its effects, and for eighteen months he was almost blind, and he lost the entire use of his left ear, and could scarcely hear with his right one. Notwithstanding his terrible condition he never left his regiment all through his sickness, and was finally discharged with it after the close of the war, at Galveston, Tex.

The Calhoun family was well represented in the army, as beside our subject three of his brothers did valuable service in the defence of their country's honor—Ransford, Henry and Albert. The



last named sacrificed his life for the old flag. He was a youth of seventeen years when he enlisted in the same company and regiment as our subject, and in 1864 he received injuries from which he died at his home soon after at the age of nineteen, and his body now lies in the cemetery at Custer Park. His brother, Henry J., enlisted in the same regiment and company at the age of twenty years, and did brave service on many a hard-fought battlefield. He endured the hardships and privations of a soldier's life without a murmur, and is still suffering from a knee which was injured while in the army. He is forty-eight years of age, and in the prime of life has acquired a competence on his farm in Plymouth County, Iowa. He is married and has a fine family of four children.

After retiring from the army Mr. Calhoun quietly resumed farming operations on his farm in Custer Township. He has labored assiduously to place its one hundred and twenty acres under the best of cultivation, and now has it well improved, and supplied with neat buildings, and everything necessary for operating it to good advantage.

December 21, 1883, Mr. Calhoun took an important step in life, which has contributed greatly to his comfort and happiness, as on that date he was married to Miss Ellen A. Bray. Her father, Dominick Bray, is an old soldier, and is now suffering from the effects of his faithful service while in the army. He and his wife have a comfortable home near Jamestown, Cloud County, Kan. Mrs. Calhoun is a native of this State, born in Kankakee County, where she received an excellent common-school education. The pleasant home circle of our subject and his wife is completed by three children—Frank B., William Wesley and Jessie L.

Mr. Calhoun is a man of sterling, self-respecting character, well-balanced mind, and his whole career has shown him to be a patriotic, trustworthy citizen, deserving of all confidence and regard. He concerns himself in the welfare of this township, where he has made his home since boyhood, and when he has been called to office has, by his faithful and efficient attention to the duties thus devolving upon him, materially forwarded its interests. He is Director of this school district, and has

held this position for the last fourteen years, and he has also been Pathmaster. He is a member of Bowen Post, G. A. R., at Wilmington. He is a sturdy supporter of the Republican party, and always votes for its candidates. He began life for himself empty handed, and has attained his present good circumstances by persistent and well directed toil.

**M**ICHAEL J. CUNNINGHAM. It is seldom that a young man reaches a more prominent station than that held by the above-named gentleman, or exhibits so many intellectual and business qualities at so early an age. Mr. Cunningham, although not yet thirty years old, is Mayor of Manhattan and one of its most popular business men, and added to this he has a record of usefulness in pedagogical work, both as teacher and institute worker. He is shrewd and energetic in the prosecution of whatever he undertakes, has mental ability of no mean order, and is full of public spirit and interest in the progress of the country.

Even a brief record of the lives of his parents will suffice to show that Mr. Cunningham is the inheritor of many of the qualities which give him prominence in the community and that he would be unworthy of his parentage were he not enterprising and zealous. His father, James Cunningham, was born in County Longford, Ireland, and became a machinist. He emigrated to America and for some time worked at his trade in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. In 1857, he located in this county, for five years operating a farm in the northern part of this township. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw land in New Lenox Township, placed it under good improvement and successfully operated it until 1871, when he was taken sick. After three years of invalidism, he closed his eyes to earthly scenes, leaving his farm encumbered somewhat by a mortgage.

With wonderful tact and good management, Mrs. Cunningham succeeded by the aid of her children in clearing their home from indebtedness and in so conducting their affairs as to be able to secure

Western lands also. She now owns two hundred and forty acres near Marysville, Kan., and retains possession of the farm in this county which is now rented, but upon which she resided until 1889. She now lives with our subject and her daughter, Katie L. Like her husband, she was born in Ireland, County Kilkenny having been her birthplace. She bore the maiden name of Bridget Ring and is a daughter of Thomas Ring, who, although a farmer, was a graduate of the Latin School of Dublin. She is a sister of the Rev. Patrick Ring, of St. Louis, prominent in the Catholic Church, and with whom she came to America, stopping in the Empire State where she was married to Mr. Cunningham. Both she and her husband have been active members of the Roman Catholic Church and Mr. Cunningham was a Democrat.

The family of which our subject is the sixth member includes also Matthew, foreman for the Nebraska City Packing House; Thomas, a man of leisure, who is traveling a great part of the time; Richard, Mayor of Summerfield, Kan., and engaged in the agricultural implement business; Martin, deceased; Mary E., wife of Nelson Lynx, partner of our subject; Katie L.; and Maggie E., now Mrs. Nugent, of Wilton Township.

The grandfather of our subject was James Cunningham, who followed agricultural pursuits in the Emerald Isle, and who bore a very active part in the Irish Rebellion. Some seven years before his death he had a paralytic stroke, and from that time he suffered more or less.

The natal day of our subject was April 11, 1862, and his birthplace, the township in which he is now so popular. He was reared in New Lenox Township and prior to his seventeenth year attended the district schools. He then entered the Normal School at Valparaiso, Ind., and after completing the scientific course, was graduated in 1881. He adopted the profession of teaching, the first two years of his professional labor being given to the schools in Spencer. He then accepted the Principalship of the New Lenox graded school, retaining the position three years and during the time taking an active part in the work of the county institutes, and in other ways advancing the cause of education. His services were requested at New Lenox

the fourth year, but he resigned the position to which he had been elected in order to embark in mercantile pursuits.

Forming a partnership with Nelson Lynx, of Spencer, Mr. Cunningham began the sale of general merchandise in a rented building in Manhattan. The stock was new and well selected, the proprietors pleasant and courteous, and success attended their efforts. In the fall of 1889 they put up a new store building, 24x72 feet in dimensions, and increased their stock which is now the largest assortment of general merchandise in town. Mr. Cunningham also does a large business for the Home Insurance Company, of New York, and attends to the renting of the home farm and his brother's estate.

During 1889 Mr. Cunningham was Village Clerk and in 1890 he was elected Mayor without exertion on his part. This fact is indicative of his popularity and the reputation which he has. He is an active Democrat and has been a delegate to county and State conventions. He belongs to the Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Joliet.



WALTER B. STEWART, M.D., Ph.C., junior partner of the firm of Curtis & Stewart, is one of the younger members of the medical profession of this county, and located in Joliet May 4, 1888. He was born in Wilmington, this county, February 13, 1866, and is the son of J. W. Stewart, one of the early settlers of this region and now a leading banker of Wilmington. The mother bore the maiden name of Lettie Whitten. The parental family consisted of four children.

Dr. Stewart obtained his preliminary education in the schools of his native place, and completed his studies in Champaign College in 1885, receiving the degree of Ph.C. Soon afterward he commenced the reading of medicine under the instruction of Dr. Curtis, his partner, with whom he continued until entering a course of lectures at the College of Physicians & Surgeons, Chicago, from which he was graduated in the class of '88.

Soon afterward he was appointed House Surgeon of St. Joseph's Hospital, which position he still holds. He makes a specialty of surgery, and has already attained considerable reputation in this branch of the practice, having rare opportunities for study and observation in connection with his duties at the hospital. This institution accommodates over fifty patients, and aside from this Dr. Stewart is building up quite an extensive private practice. His skill and ability are acknowledged facts among the people who have sought his services, and it is predicted that in the near future he is destined to make for himself a reputation as a physician and surgeon of no mean requirements. He is unmarried. Politically, he is a Republican.

**A**UGUST BOEHL, as a farmer of large experience, great capability, sagacious and far-seeing, and prudent in the management of his affairs, is considered one of the most successful of the well-to-do agriculturists who are active in pushing forward the material interests of Will County in general, and of Monee Township in particular. Associating himself with the pioneers of this region, he has tilled the soil to some purpose during the three or more decades that he has lived here, as is shown by the fine appearance of his well-appointed and well-stocked farm, with its neat buildings and well-tilled fields. While doing a general farming business, Mr. Boehl has paid special attention to rearing horses the last seventeen years, and for six years has been a breeder of thorough-bred English Shire horses, and now has a fine herd, among them being some that are imported.

August Boehl is of foreign birth, born in Prussia, Germany, August 13, 1835. His parents, Christian and Christina (Weigand) Boehl, were natives of the same place as himself. They had three children—Christina, Wilhelmena and August. While our subject was scarcely more than a babe, he had the misfortune to lose his good mother, who died in 1838. His father married again, Frederika Cacker becoming his wife, by whom he had

the following seven children: Louisa, Catherine, Christian, George William, Henry and Frederiek. The father was a manufacturer of cloth in his native country, but abandoned that business when he came to the United States in 1857, accompanied by his family with the exception of the eldest daughter. He settled on forty acres of land on section 15, Monee Township, where his earthly pilgrimage came to an end in 1863, at the age of fifty-seven years. His wife survived him until 1885, when she too passed away.

The subject of this biographical review passed the early years of his life in his native Germany, and there received a substantial education. He worked for his father in the old country, and after coming here spent his first six months at employment for which he was paid \$12 a month. He subsequently began life on his own account, and in 1859 purchased eighty acres of the land where he now lives for \$1,000. At different times he has added to this, first a tract of twenty acres, then one of eighty acres, and subsequently one of forty acres, paying \$5 an acre for the timber land. This, by incessant toil, he now has well cultivated, and has all the necessary improvements and appointments to make it one of the best-equipped farms in the township.

Mr. Boehl has not been unaided in his labors, but has had the cheerful co-operation of a capable wife, to whom he was married in the month of May, 1858. Nine children have been born to them, namely: Emma, deceased, who was the wife of Henry Dierckas; Edward, a resident of Minnesota; August, Arthur, Charles, George, Louis, Lilly and Mary.

Our subject has always honored industry in word and deed, and hence he has done well in his life work. A man of roundabout common-sense, wise and careful in the management of his affairs, his fellow-citizens, appreciating these characteristics and his general trustworthiness, have called him to the responsible office of Supervisor, and he represented his township on the County Board for three terms, and has used his influence to promote the best interests of the public. In politics, he favors by voice and vote the Republican party, he having been a member of that

organization since he cast his first ballot for Lincoln. He and his wife are among the most esteemed members of the United Presbyterian Church, and their every-day lives are guided by their religious principles.



**D**WIGHT C. HAVEN. Among the younger members of the Joliet bar, none are more deserving of honorable mention than Dwight C. Haven, who was born in New Lenox, May 10, 1863. The Havens trace their history back to the days when the "Mayflower" was plowing the waters of the mighty deep. In one of her later trips she brought a progenitor of the family to America. The grandfather of our subject was Samuel Haven, who came with his family to this county in 1835, from Chautauqua County, N. Y. He and his sons were very pronounced, outspoken Abolitionists, and particularly was this true of the father.

The parents of our subject were Dwight and Lizzie (Craig) Haven, the mother being a native of Dublin, Ireland, although of Scotch parentage. Of the five children born to them one is dead. The living are: Samuel Rush Haven of Joliet; Edith A., and Bertha A., who are yet at home, and he of whom we write. The father was School Commissioner for Will County, from 1865 to 1868, and the Haven family was one of prominence among the early settlers.

The early life of our subject was passed in his native place, his boyhood being marked with no eventful incident. Being ambitious for the acquirement of knowledge he was sent to the Illinois University at Champaign, from which institution he was graduated in the class of '83. In the military department of the University he received from the Governor of Illinois the commission of a Captain (Brevet) of the Illinois National Guards, for his proficiency in military tactics. He has since taken a great interest in the National Guards and is now Captain and Adjutant of the Fourth Infantry Regiment. He served through two strikes in which the troops were called out, in the years 1885 and 1889.

After his graduation young Haven adopted the

profession of teaching, which is an almost universal stepping stone to other professional work, his knowledge being made useful as an instructor at his own home. He began reading law in the office of Hill & Dibell in 1881, and was admitted to the bar in 1886. He at once began practice in connection with the Hon. Charles A. Hill, M. C., who was one of his preceptors, the firm name being Hill & Haven. It was changed in January, 1881, to that of Hill, Haven & Hill, upon the admission of Alfred M. Hill, son of Capt. Hill, as a partner.

In social circles Mr. Haven stands high, his courteous manners, intellectual culture, and good habits entitling him to esteem. He is a Knight Templar and member of the Independent Order of Red Men. In politics he is a Republican and is President of the Joliet Lincoln Club. He was married April 3, 1890, to Miss Marian Robinson, of Minneapolis, Minn.



**D**C. HALEY. This gentleman, although still a young man, has a fine reputation as a member of the legal profession and a citizen of whose worth no one is in doubt. He was born in Saranac, Clinton County, N. Y., March 17, 1849, and with his parents came to Will County, Ill., in 1851. He attended the public schools and added to his store of learning by a course of study in the University of Notre Dame, at South Bend, Ind. He then read law with T. L. Breckemidge, of Joliet, and took a complete law course in the University, at Ann Arbor, Mich., from which he was graduated in 1871.

The same year Mr. Haley was admitted to the bar and immediately began practice soon having a large and lucrative business. He is a clear thinker, a close student into the details of a case, a logical pleader and has the keen wit and commanding presence that go far to secure the attention of counselors and jurymen. His ability attracted attention and he was elected City Attorney, and he has also served on the Common Council. Such is his fitness for office that no one questions his services. It was natural that he should be selected as the standard bearer for his party in political battles and he has

been the nominee for Member of Congress twice in succession in the Eighth District, nearly overcoming a Republican majority of six thousand and lacking but one hundred and seventy eight votes of election.

It is but natural to conclude that in choosing a companion in life Mr. Haley would seek for a lady with cultured mind and manners, and a character of nobility. Such was the case, and among the members of a prominent family of this city he found the woman he desired as his wife. This was Miss Mary A. D'Arcy, and they were united in marriage December 1, 1875. Mrs. Haley is no less popular than her husband and the home over which she presides is a frequent gathering place for the cultured and accomplished friends they possess.



**CAMPBELL BROS.** This firm comprises James and Alexander Campbell, two of the most enterprising young citizens of Manhattan Township, who operate two hundred and forty acres on section 13, this being their mother's farm, and forty acres adjoining, and whose speciality is breeding full-blooded Clydesdale horses. They have as much money invested in imported equines as any firm in the township, and a lover of horse flesh would be much pleased with the fine animals to be seen on their place. They are also doing a successful farm business, their crops being equal to any in the neighborhood in quality and amount per acre.

A brief space devoted to the more immediate ancestors of the Campbell Bros. will not be amiss, as in this way an insight may be gained into the character which they inherit, and a reason found for their success. Their paternal grandfather, John Campbell, was a native of Scotland, wherein he followed the trade of a mason until his death, also serving for a time in the English army. His son John was born in Blerathel, Scotland, learned the trade of the father, and in 1851, while still unmarried, came to America. After working at his trade in New York City for some time he went South, sojourning during various periods in Ala-

bama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and other Southern States. He finally made his way to Joliet, Ill., where he continued his former pursuits, among the jobs in which he assisted being the Warden's house at the penitentiary. He also worked at his trade in Chicago, although making his home still in Joliet.

About 1859 this gentleman removed to the country, and some two years later left Joliet Township to take possession of one hundred acres of raw land, which forms a part of the present Campbell farm. Immediately after his purchase he began making improvements, hiring help to run the farm while he continued to work at his trade in the two cities before mentioned. He proved a successful manager and overseer, added to his landed estate, and at the time of his death owned two hundred acres. He breathed his last March 18, 1886, when sixty-four years old. For years he did efficient service as School Director. He belonged to the Republican party, and to the Presbyterian Church.

The mother of the Campbell Bros. was born near Glasgow, Scotland, and is a daughter of Sandy Kier, who came to America in 1851. Her father was a mason, who like the gentleman who became his son-in-law, worked at his trade in New York City, and afterward in Joliet and Chicago, making his home in the former place. He invested in land, and eventually became a large farmer. (See sketch of James Kier.) His daughter Grace was reared in Scotland, and was a young lady when she crossed the Atlantic, not long after which she became the wife of John Campbell. She is now living in Hamilton County, Iowa, with her children. She has borne eight sons and daughters, as follows: Kate, now Mrs. McLaughlin, of Hamilton County, Iowa; John, a farmer in the same county; Charles, who died in Will County; James and Alexander, of this sketch; Eliza, who lives with the two brothers just named; Maggie is deceased; and Archie is attending the High School at Joliet.

James Campbell opened his eyes to the light of day May 1, 1863, on the farm which is his present home. He was reared upon it, and educated in the district schools, remaining under the parental roof

until the death of his father, in 1886. He then rented a farm of two hundred and forty acres in Manhattan Township, from his uncle, James Kier, and operated the same until the spring of 1889, when he formed a connection with his brother and returned to his former home.

Alexander Campbell was also born on this farm August 3, 1865. He enjoyed the privileges afforded in the common schools, and remained upon the farm with his mother until September, 1888, receiving wages for his services after he had reached his majority. He then made a journey to Scotland, for the double purpose of improving his health, and buying Clydesdale horses for himself and brother James. Going to New York City he embarked on the Cunard steamer "Imbria," September 15, and six and a half days later landed in Liverpool. Going to Glasgow he made that city his headquarters while traveling somewhat in the land from which his ancestors came, visiting the former homes of his parents, etc. He sailed from Glasgow November 10, on the steamer "Grecian," stopping at Halifax twenty-four hours, and arriving in Philadelphia November 29, whence he came directly home.

While abroad Mr. Campbell purchased five full-blooded Clydesdale horses and an Iceland pony, which he brought with him to America. Soon after his return he rented the home farm and an adjoining tract, and with his brother began the operation of the same. They have all the modern conveniences in the way of buildings, use the latest improved farm machinery, and devote themselves with unremitting zeal to the work they have in hand. About one hundred and ninety acres are planted, principally with corn and oats, and the balance is used as pasture and haying ground. They employ four teams in their farm labors, and in addition to their specialty raise a good grade of cattle and hogs.

The Campbell Bros. now have about twenty-five head of graded horses on their place, while their full-blooded equines include three mares and two stallions. Mabel Eden is a beautiful bay five years old; Betsey is three, and Florence two. These were imported by themselves, as was Sir Burt, a three-year old, registered as No. 600. Prince

Revensworth, also an imported animal, is eight years old, and registered as No. 1700. The Campbell Bros. imported Red Moss Chief, who is now owned by their brother in Iowa.

Neither member of the firm is married, but they have an efficient housekeeper in their sister. James is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Joliet, and both are held in excellent repute in that city, and wherever they are known. James is a Democrat, while Alexander is independent in politics.

THOMAS J. KIRK, whose pleasant home is in Florence Township, is a native of Janesville, Wis. and was born July 18, 1854. His parents, James and Elizabeth (Forsythe) Kirk, were born in the Emerald Isle and married in Ogdensburg, N. Y., whence they removed to Janesville. In 1860 they changed their place of abode to Will County, Ill., locating on a farm in Florence Township, where both subsequently died. The elder Kirk was a cooper by trade and also a farmer. The family consisted of six children—Mary J., now wife of Joseph Whalen, a Dakota farmer; our subject; Elizabeth, still unmarried; Andrew, James and William, farmers in this county, two of them having homes in the same township.

The gentleman of whom we write was reared in this township from about his sixth year, and has followed farming since youth. He owns eighty acres of fertile land, which is carefully and intelligently tilled and bears adequate improvements. At present the attention of Mr. Kirk is divided between his agricultural work, threshing and well drilling. He stands well in the estimation of his fellowmen, being reliable and energetic in his business affairs, kindly in social and domestic life, and useful as a citizen of the county and State.

Mr. Kirk has served five years as Collector of Florence Township and is now acting for the second term in the capacity of Assessor. His political affiliation is with the Democrat party. The order and attractiveness of his home are due to the housewifely skill and pleasing qualities of his wife who bore the maiden name of Fannie Jackson. She

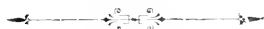




*W. H. Demmon*



was born in Florence Township, August 1, 1855, to Charles and Ellen (Cating) Jackson, and became the wife of our subject January 7, 1880. Four charming daughters have come to bless the union. They are named respectively: Laura E., Ethel B., Alice and Elinor.



**JAMES C. WEESE.** The building interests of Joliet would be but poorly represented in this volume did not its pages contain mention of J. C. Weese, who has been engaged as an architect and builder for many years. In this city he has designed and built many of the best residences, among them being the dwellings of H. B. Scutt, M. Calmer, Dr. Raynor, and others. He has also done much work in Morris, Aurora, Yorkville, and other places. He is a practical carpenter and architect, whose knowledge has not been picked up but was acquired under competent masters and improved by practical labor in both ones.

The Weese family is of German extraction, the grandfather of our subject having been born in the Fatherland. His father, John Marcus Weese and Laura Howell were born in Canada, and after their marriage lived for many years. To them were born thirteen children, eleven of whom are now living, the subject of this sketch being the second. The others are: William, a blacksmith and carriage builder in Plattville, Kendall County; Mrs. Catherine Morden and Mrs. Victoria Lazier, twins; Elias N., whose home is at Minooka, Grundy County; Lorain C. and Wellington, deceased; Mrs. Laura Hurd; Walter; Mrs. Chloe Pierce; and Adeline and John, twins, the latter of whom resides in Chicago; Adeline, the first, is deceased.

In County Hastings, Province of Ontario, on August 30, 1842, the subject of this sketch was born. His father being a farmer, his early life was spent amid rural surroundings, and until the age of fifteen years he shared, as a boy could, in various agricultural labors in the intervals of his school life. He then served his time as a carpenter's apprentice, working at that trade exclusively

for seven years. He next devoted himself to architecture, which he learned in the city of New York, for a period of ten years, and since that time has been designing and building. In 1871 he came to Joliet, which has been his home during most of the years since that date. He now occupies an attractive residence at No. 105, Second Avenue, whose internal arrangements are a model of housewifely skill.

On January 22, 1872, the rites of wedlock were celebrated between our subject and Miss Kittie Farley, a resident of Leland, LaSalle County, Ill. The bride is the daughter of the Rev. A. and Mary (Anderson) Farley, the father having been a minister in the United Brethren Church. During the cholera scourge, which decimated so many neighborhoods, in 1852, Mr. and Mrs. Farley were stricken down with the dread disease, dying within a week of each other. Their daughter was reared by an aunt, and under her loving care grew to womanhood, a noble and refined young lady fitted for any sphere in life.

Mr. and Mrs. Weese are childless, but have an adopted daughter. Mrs. Weese is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Weese is a true blue Republican, whose first Presidential ballot was cast for Rutherford B. Hayes, and who has followed that vote with a steady adherence to the party which he then chose. A reliable citizen, an intelligent and upright man, he is regarded with respect by his fellow-citizens, his wife sharing in their esteem.



**MARTIN H. DEMMOND.** To pay the tribute of honor and respect to those pioneers who went in advance of civilization and hewed a path for the approach of man, is always a pleasant duty. Their self-denial has given us the comforts of life; their perseverance laid the foundations of our large cities and thriving towns. They planted the seed, knowing that they would not live to enjoy the ripened fruit. They worked not for themselves, but for posterity, trusting in faith that in due time the reward

of their patient efforts would be realized. The gentleman whose name introduces this biographical review is numbered among the worthy pioneers of Will County, and though long since passed from the busy scenes of life, yet, like the good man of old, "his works do follow him."

A native of Massachusetts, Mr. Demmond was born March 1, 1803, but early in life removed to Oneida County, N. Y., then located in Herkimer County, where he grew to manhood. He spent the years of his youth in the usual manner, and by study and observation gradually acquired a business education, which he used successfully in after life. After being firmly established in the dry-goods business, he set up his own household, placing at its head an estimable lady who bore the maiden name of Sophia Murray. Mrs. Demmond was born July 26, 1804, in Petersburg, N. Y., whence when she was still quite young her father removed to Cayuga and later to Sharon. After a brief residence there, they went to Whitesboro, Oneida County, and there she grew to womanhood. After the death of her father, John Murray, she went to live in Frankfort, Herkimer County, N. Y., where she met Mr. Demmond and with him was united in the holy bonds of matrimony April 10, 1831. In that place they began their married life.

In October, 1834, Mr. Demmond closed out his business in Frankfort and having resolved upon removing to the promising West, came to Illinois and, settling in Joliet, engaged in the mercantile business. With far-seeing prudence he bought eighty acres of land lying west of the river, and platted Demmond's addition. His business enterprise soon led him into building, and several blocks which still stand were erected by him. He became the owner of a number of fine farms and in the later years of his life was interested in the raising of fine cattle. His busy, useful and successful life came to a close during the cholera epidemic of 1854; he died July 18, of that dread disease after an illness of but twelve hours. His remains were first interred at the old homestead but were afterward removed to Oakwood Cemetery. He was a Democrat until slavery became a party issue, when his views on that subject led him to

join the Whig party. Mr. Demmond was very charitable, but performed his deeds of kindness in a quiet way, not letting his left hand know what his right hand did.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Demmond closed out his business, which left her in possession of ample means. Her mother came to live with her and died at her home. Her household now consists of her sister, Mrs. Eliza Foltz, a daughter of the latter, Mrs. Lafavour, and nephew, Will Lafavour. The latter, a rising young artist, has made a trip through Europe in pursuit of his studies and in search of health. They are numbered among the oldest and most influential families of the city and occupy a spacious residence on Broadway, surrounded by ease and luxury. Mr. and Mrs. Demmond were not blessed by children, but a niece, Miss Catherine Murray, was a member of their household from her youth until her marriage to Col. Bartleson, who was killed during the late Civil War. She afterwards became the wife of Rush Casselberry, of Chicago. A portrait of the late Mr. Demmond is presented in connection with this sketch.



**G**EORGE LIVERMORE VANCE. One of the most elegant business blocks of Joliet stands as a monument to the industry and energy of Mr. Vance, who erected it in 1888, and utilizes all of it for the sale of furniture and other articles in that line. He is one of the leading business men of the city, occupying a good position, socially and financially. He is of staunch New England stock, a Vermonter by birth, first opening his eyes to the light in Caledonia County, Groton Township, March 13, 1840. His immediate progenitors were Aaron and Lucinda (Tucker) Vance, who were likewise natives of the Green Mountain State. They traced their ancestry to England.

Aaron Vance, in addition to being engaged as a boot and shoe dealer, also carried on farming. The parental household included eight children, all of whom are living and of whom the subject of this notice was the eldest born. David E. is a prac-

ting attorney of Winona, Minn.; William A. is the postmaster at Houston, that State; Albert N. is merchandising in Decorah, Iowa; Nicholas W. is a banker in Wolsey, S. D.; Nancy A., Mrs. Dyer is the wife of a merchant in Houston, Minn.; Abby, Mrs. Calvin Vance, is a resident of Money Creek, that State, and Aaron E. lives in Joliet. The parents celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding May 3, 1888, at their home in Money Creek, Minn. The occasion was one of general rejoicing, and at which were convened a large number of relatives and friends.

Mr. Vance was reared to manhood in his native State, acquiring a good education, and upon approaching manhood engaged in teaching district schools four years. Later he went to Rutland and was occupied in the boot and shoe business two years. We next find him in the United States Treasury department at Washington, D. C., where he held a clerkship from 1864 to 1870. During this time he devoted his leisure hours to the study of law, and was graduated from the Columbia in the law department, and was admitted to the bar by the supreme court of the District of Columbia.

Deciding now upon seeking his fortunes in the West, Mr. Vance emigrated to Minnesota and was engaged in the mercantile business at Money Creek until January 1, 1873. During that year he came to Joliet and established himself in the furniture trade, which he has prosecuted successfully and thereby accumulated a competency. Politically, he is a pronounced Republican, and while in Minnesota served as Postmaster and Justice of the Peace.

While sojourning at the national capital Mr. Vance formed the acquaintance of Miss E. K. Fowler, and the mutual attachment which followed resulted in their marriage May 30, 1868. Of this union there were born two children: George A., teller of the Will County Bank, and Grace Fowler, who is attending the High School at Winona, Minn. Mrs. Vance was a native of Virginia, and departed this life at her home in Joliet, November 6, 1873. Mr. Vance on the 19th of July, 1877, contracted a second marriage with Miss Jennie, daughter of William and Keziah Lewis. This lady was born March 18, 1813, in England, and

spent her early years in a comparatively uneventful manner under the home roof, acquiring a good education in the common schools. Of her union with our subject there have been born two children, one deceased, Beulah A. the survivor. Socially, Mr. Vance is identified with the Masonic fraternity, being a Knight Templar, is Prelate therein and also belongs to the Royal Arcanum. For three years he was President of the Young Men's Christian Association, and is now its Vice President. His religious views coincide with the doctrines of the Baptist Church. He is President of the Will County Sunday-school Association, and takes an active interest in the religious training of the young. The various enterprises calculated for the good of the community receive his cordial and uniform support. He has been for some time connected with the Will County Bank, in which he now holds the office of Vice-President.

ALBERT L. GRANGER. There is probably not within the limits of Homer Township a more thorough or substantial farmer than Mr. Granger, who is successfully operating two hundred and eighty acres of choice land on section 32. He has good improvements, including a substantial brick residence, which, with its appurtenances forms a very attractive and inviting home. In addition to general agriculture he makes a specialty of heavy draft horses and highly-bred roadsters, and is conducting this department of his business in a manner which indicates his thorough knowledge of it and his pride in it. As a member of the community he is held in high esteem.

Mr. Granger was born at his present home in Homer Township, September 20, 1813, and there spent his boyhood and youth in attending the district school; later, Knox College at Galesburg, Ill., and the military academies at Fulton, Ill., and Philadelphia, Pa. He was married at St. Johnsbury, Vt., July 17, 1873, to Miss Georgianna, daughter of Horace B. Jones, of Victory, Vt. Mrs. Granger was born in St. Johnsbury, December 10, 1818.

Her parents were natives of Vermont, where they still reside. Mr. and Mrs. Granger are the foster parents of three children—Gertrude R., Lottie K. and Albert L.

Mr. Granger, politically, is an active Republican, and takes a deep interest in public affairs. During the late Civil War he enlisted in February, 1863, in Company F, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and in October following was promoted to a First Lieutenant in the Twenty-ninth United States Colored Troops, serving in that capacity until November, 1865. He went all through the Appomattox Campaign, was present at the siege of Petersburg, and also had the satisfaction of witnessing the surrender of Lee.

The father of our subject was Maj. Alanson Granger, a native of Cortland County, N. Y., born in the town of Preble, November 18, 1802. He was there reared to manhood and was married at Truxton, that county, June 8, 1826, to Miss Mary Perry. The latter was born in Truxton, November 25, 1809, and after marriage the young people settled in Homer, N. Y., where they remained until 1833. That year he emigrated to Illinois and located a tract of land on section 32, in Homer Township, this county, and had the honor of naming the township after his native place. He was joined by his wife the following year, and they continued to live on the same farm the remainder of their lives. Mr. Granger departed hence October 7, 1874. The mother survived her husband for nearly fifteen years, her death taking place July 7, 1889. Mr. Granger held the office of Township Supervisor several terms, and was a man thoroughly respected among his neighbors. The parental household included eight children, three of whom are living, named respectively: Helen M., wife of Wesley D. Jones; Alvan P., of Denver, Colo.; and the subject of this sketch.



**EDWARD P. & HENRY S. LYON.** The Hedge Lawn Stock Farm is a noticeable feature in the landscape of Washington Township, and is well known to stockmen as a place where Hereford cattle are made a specialty.

The estate is located on section 31, and consists of two hundred and forty acres of well-improved land, supplied with excellent buildings, which include everything necessary for the convenience and comfort of the owners, and the housing of the stock and crops which they raise. The subjects of this sketch are associated in partnership, and the two have been carrying on their affairs jointly for more than fifteen years. The farm which they operate was purchased by their father, Caleb Lyon, in 1853, and was the family home until the death of the father in August, 1881.

The Lyons come of an old New Jersey family of Huguenot stock. In Elizabethtown, Caleb Lyon was born in 1808, but was still a child when his father, Caleb Lyon, Sr., removed to Schenectady County, N. Y. The latter was a stage-coach and carriage maker, and was a pioneer in his business. He lived to be more than four-score years old. He had married Martha Lyon, a distant relative, who also died in the Empire State, at the age of fifty-eight years. They belonged to the Presbyterian Church, as did all of the old stock.

The father of our subject was reared in the Empire State, and under the tuition of his father learned the trade of a carriage and stagecoach maker. He married Miss Jeanette Mansfield, and they continued to reside in the Empire State until 1850, in the fall of which they came West and located in the city of Chicago. There the father followed his trade for a time, finally putting his family on the Will County farm, but himself continuing his employment in Chicago for some time longer. He belonged to the Presbyterian Church, and he and his wife were charter members of a society in Will Township, this county, which they assisted in organizing. They were the parents of four sons and one daughter.

Leverett M., one of the members of the parental household, gave his life to his country, being killed by a rebel gunshot at the battle of Chickamauga, September 19, 1863. He had served for some time as a member of Company H, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, and held the rank of Corporal at the time of his decease. His superior officers were Capt. Goddard and Col. Bartleson. He was twenty-four years old when his life was

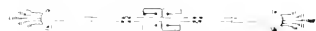
cut short by the civil contest. The living members of the family are: William C., Edward P., Henry S. and Amelia A. William married Margaret Buck, and lives in Coffey County, Kan., where he is engaged in farming; Henry S. married Miss Margaret Crawford, of New York, and has one child, Robert C.; Amelia remains with her mother and her brother, Edward P.

Mrs. Caleb Lyon, who still survives and is now an active old lady eighty-one years of age, lives with her son, Edward P. She was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., June 14, 1809, being a daughter of Leverett and Sarah (Sanford) Mansfield, who were natives of New Haven, Conn. In the city of their birth Mr. and Mrs. Mansfield grew to maturity and were married, going at once to Schoharie County, N. Y., where Mr. Mansfield took up the occupation of a merchant, hotel-keeper and farmer in the village of Esperance. In later life he and his family removed to Illinois, making their home in Princeville, Peoria County. There he and his wife died within a few days of each other, the one being eighty-one and the other seventy-nine years of age. They had been members of the Presbyterian Church from early life.

Edward P. Lyon, of this brief sketch, was born in the Empire State, July 18, 1812, but has spent the greater part of his life on the farm which he now operates. He married Miss Lottie Rose, the wedding ceremony being celebrated at Beecher, October 18, 1879. Mrs. Lyon was reared in this State, and was graduated from the institution at Normal. For some years she was engaged in teaching in the public schools of Chicago. She was deeply interested in educational and literary matters and in all that was elevating and refining. A good mother and a loving wife, she was sincerely mourned by her household and many friends when she was removed by death, December 29, 1885, at the age of thirty-six years. She was the mother of three children—Mary M., Edward R. and Leverett S.

Mr. Lyon has been for some time associated with the Congregational Church, of which his wife was also a member. He and all his brothers vote and work for the cause of temperance. Mr. Lyon is not an office-seeker, but is ever ready to look after

the interests of his party in local matters and is an able worker in the ranks. He is respected as he deserves for his general intelligence, his zeal in the work to which he has devoted himself, and the uprightness of his character.



**A**NDRUS A. INGERSOLL. This name is prominent among those of the public-spirited citizens of Homer Township, as one who has always taken an active part in the promotion of its best interests. Judging from his home surroundings he is more than ordinarily intelligent, industrious and enterprising, having good buildings on his farm, and all the other appliances for the successful prosecution of agriculture. He has been a School Director in his district for the long period of twenty-four years, and most of the time for twenty-five years past has officiated as Overseer of Highways. He takes an active part in political affairs, giving his uniform support to the Republican party.

Mr. Ingersoll is a native of this county, and was born in Plainfield Township, November 29, 1839. In the spring of 1810, his parents removed to Homer Township, where the father secured a farm on section 9, and where Andrus A. was reared to man's estate. His education was obtained principally in the common schools, while his habit of reading and observation have conspired to make him a thoroughly-informed man, with progressive ideas, and an acquaintance with most of the topics of the day under general discussion. He chose farming for his vocation, and with the exception of the time spent in the army, has followed this his entire life.

During the second year of the Civil War Mr. Ingersoll enlisted in the Union service, August 6, 1862, in Company G, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, and served until June 30, 1865, being mustered out on that day. He remained with the regiment until November 6, 1862, when he was detailed for detached service as an artificer, being thus occupied until October 8, 1864. He was then transferred by General Order No. 108, of the War Department, to the First United States Veteran

Volunteer Engineer Corps, with which he served until receiving his honorable discharge. He was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., with the rank of First Sergeant. Upon one occasion while gathering timber in the swamps to be used at Ft. Negley, he was disabled by a shot from the enemy from which, however, he soon recovered.

Upon leaving the army Mr. Ingersoll returned to Homer Township and resumed farming. He has one hundred and sixty-three acres of good land, upon which he has erected substantial buildings, and gathered around himself and his family all the comforts of life. He was married March 28, 1866, in Orland, Cook County, this State, to Miss Fanny M., daughter of Ichabod and Ann E. (Reynolds) Myrick. Mr. Myrick was a farmer by occupation and died at Morgan Park, Ill., August 17, 1872. The mother is still living, making her home at Morgan Park.

Mrs. Ingersoll was the third in a family of eleven children and was born in Orland, Ill., September 19, 1817. Her childhood and youth passed quietly and uneventfully under the home roof where she remained until her marriage. Of this union there have been four children, viz.: Anna A., Walter J., Florence and Percy. The two latter died at the ages of twenty-two months and four days respectively. Mr. Ingersoll has served as a Justice of the Peace for a period of fourteen years, and was Township Clerk one year.

Alonzo A. Ingersoll, the father of our subject, was a native of Vermont, while his mother bore the maiden name of Barbara Weaver, and was a native of Syracuse, N. Y. The latter came with her parents to this county in 1833. Her father was Benjamin Weaver, and the maiden name of her mother was Phebe Paddock. Upon coming to Illinois they settled in Homer Township, where they spent the remainder of their days. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Chester and Lucretia (Burdick) Ingersoll, the former of whom was a Colonel in the Sank War. He came to this county in 1828. Subsequently he was married in Chicago, in 1834, and kept the first hotel in that city, which was familiarly known as the Green Tree House. Mr. Ingersoll's parents were married in what is now the town of Homer, but which was then called

the "Yankee Settlement," October 8, 1838. The father secured land on section 9, Homer Township, and on the farm which he built up he and his estimable wife spent the remainder of their days. Mr. Ingersoll met his death by being struck by lightning, March 19, 1817. The mother died at the old homestead October 5, 1861. There were born to them three children only—Andrus A., Anna A. and Phebe P. The two sisters of Mr. Ingersoll are deceased.



**G**OTTLIEB SEGGEBRUCH. One of the largest farms in Crete Township is owned by the gentleman above named, comprising four hundred and ten acres, and occupying a portion of sections 30 and 31. A portion of it is now operated by the sons of our subject, who, after many years of thrifty and laborious life is content to allow his offspring to relieve him of some of the burdens which he has borne. He is the only representative in America of the parental family which comprised eight children, and is a worthy descendant of German parents who lived to a ripe old age and died heartily respected by those who knew them. They were farmers in the Kingdom of Lippe Schaumbourg, where the eyes of their son, Gottlieb, opened to the light April 19, 1815. He was reared to farm life and became a farm laborer in his own land, where he remained until some years after he had set up his own household.

The wife whom Mr. Seggebruch chose in his early manhood was Louisa Siegmann, a native of Hesse-Cassel, who was reared to womanhood in her native State. After the birth of five children the family, in the fall of 1854, left Bremerhaven for America, landing in New York after a voyage of six weeks. Thence they journeyed to Detroit, Mich., on a boat, and thence to Chicago, two days later coming to Will County and purchasing eighty acres of land. Here Mr. and Mrs. Seggebruch have grown old upon the land where they first settled. The acreage has been increased and the whole placed in a fine condition of improvement and tillage, and well stocked with domestic animals

and adequate machinery, while the dwelling has been supplied with conveniences and the household affairs conducted in the thrifty manner which is early taught to the daughters of Germany.

The happy union of our subject and his companion has been blessed by the birth of five sons and four daughters. One son, Henry, died when seven years old; Caroline is the wife of Henry Dreg, a farmer in Pottawatomie County, Kan.; William married Eliza Brymeier, and operates a farm in Ashgrove Township, Iroquois County; August C., who lives on a farm in Monee Township, his county, married Sophie Miller, who died leaving three children, after which he married Anna Kautz; Amelia is the wife of Henry Arkenberg, a farmer in Crete; John assists his father in working the homestead and resides with his parents; Sophia is the wife of Charles Waggoner, who has a grocery store on South Butterfield Street, Chicago; Louisa is the wife of Fred Miller, a farmer in Pottawatomie County, Kan.; Fred W. is still at home and assisting in carrying on the estate. Mr. Seggenbruch and his sons all belong to the Republican party. The sturdy qualities of industrious, upright manhood and womanhood belong to our subject and his good wife, and they are not only honored by their progeny but respected by neighbors and acquaintances.



**HENRY LANGREDER.** This gentleman ranks among the enterprising farmers of Washington Township, owning a pleasant and well-improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 31. It has been thirty years since he obtained a tract of unbroken prairie from the railroad company, and during this interim he has made of it a fruitful expanse where fields of waving grain take the place of the wild grasses which formerly covered it. The buildings are well constructed and sufficiently numerous and commodious to answer the purpose for which they were designed, and everything about the estate bears the appearance of order which those acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Langreder would expect.

The parents of our subject were Detrick and Grace (Avers) Langreder, both of whom were born in Hanover, Germany, and the latter of whom died there. In October, 1848, the father, accompanied by his three children, set out for the United States, leaving Bremen on a sailing vessel which made a landing at New Orleans, La., after a tedious voyage of nine weeks and five days. The father and son worked about four months in the Southern metropolis to earn money with which to continue their journey, and finally the family reached Chicago, Ill. Two days after their arrival the father died, when somewhat past his three-score years of age. He and his wife belonged to the Lutheran Church and manifested in their daily walk and conversation the virtues which belong to the Christian religion.

The gentleman whose name introduces this sketch was born in Hanover, Germany, July 24, 1828, and is the youngest member of the parental family. He was eleven years old when he lost his mother and about twenty when he bade good-by to his native land. His education was obtained in the Fatherland under the excellent school laws which provide all German children with a fair share of school privileges. Besides himself, the only survivor of the parental household is a sister who is married and living in Minnesota.

After the death of his father the young man went to California, where he spent some years in the mining regions with the varying success which usually attends such experiences. On returning to the States he resided in Cook County, Ill., three years and then, in 1860, became a resident of Will County. He was first married in Cook County to Miss Louisa Riesperkark, who was born in Germany and came to the United States when eighteen years old. She died at her home in Will County when yet in middle life leaving a large family to whom she had been a devoted mother. All her offspring are yet living and all are now married but two sons: William; Henry, married and lives in Beecher; Fred, married and lives in Beecher; Edward, Adolph, Louisa and Emma.

Mr. Langreder contracted a second matrimonial alliance, celebrating his marriage to Mrs. Louisa Swarica in Washington Township. This worthy lady was born in Hanover, Germany, and came to

America alone, following her parents to this country. She is the mother of six children by her present union and two by a former marriage, viz.: Bertie, Mary, Lillie, Anna, Carrie and Detrick.



**J**OHAN C. BROADIE, a son of one of the early pioneers of New Lenox Township, was born at the homestead which he now owns and occupies, September 12, 1868. He is a young man of fine talents and stands well in the community, being possessed of the traits of character which seldom fail to enable a man to become prosperous in business and possessed of the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

The father of our subject was the well-known Robert J. Broadie, a native of Franklin County, Ohio, and born near Columbus, February 5, 1829. The mother bore the maiden name of Ann Cooper, and she was born in Brown County, Ohio, February 28, 1832. The latter was brought by her parents to New Lenox Township when a child three years of age. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Broadie settled on section 28, New Lenox Township, where the father prosecuted farming successfully, and died December 21, 1873. The mother survived her husband for nearly twelve years, also dying at the old homestead, June 7, 1885. Their family consisted of five children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Lydia J., died young; Anna L. also died in early childhood; Esther Ann became the wife of Dr. G. E. Brinkerhoff, and died in New Lenox Township, November 11, 1885; John C., the subject of this notice was the next in order of birth; Sarah A. became the second wife of Dr. Brinkerhoff, and they are living in Oakland, Cal.

The subject of this sketch has spent his entire life at the homestead which he now owns and occupies, and which embraces three hundred and fifty acres of as fine farming land as is to be found in Will County. Upon it is a set of neat and substantial frame buildings, with quantities of fruit and shade trees, while the fields are enclosed and divided with good fencing, and in fact Mr. Broadie

has all the facilities for carrying on agriculture after the most approved methods. He brought a bride to the old roof-tree in 1889, being married September 18, that year, to Miss Mary, daughter of Addison and Pamela (Lynk) Collins.

Mrs. Broadie was the fifth child of her parents, and was born in Homer Township, this county, September 18, 1869. Her father, Addison Collins, was born in Rochester, N. Y., and the mother was born in the same State, near the city of Syracuse. They were reared and married in this State, whence they came to Illinois at an early day, each with their parents, and have since been residents of New Lenox Township. Their family consisted of seven children, three sons and four daughters, five of whom are living.

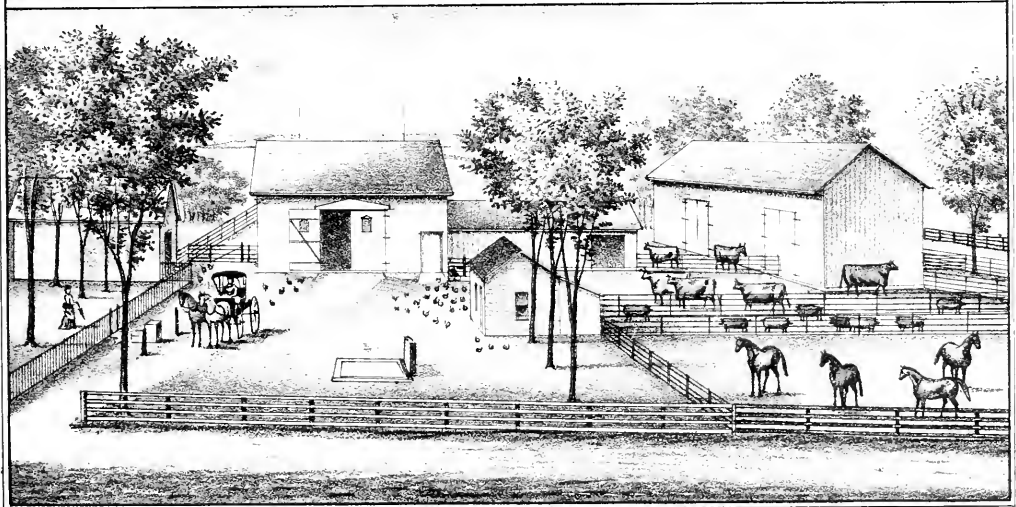
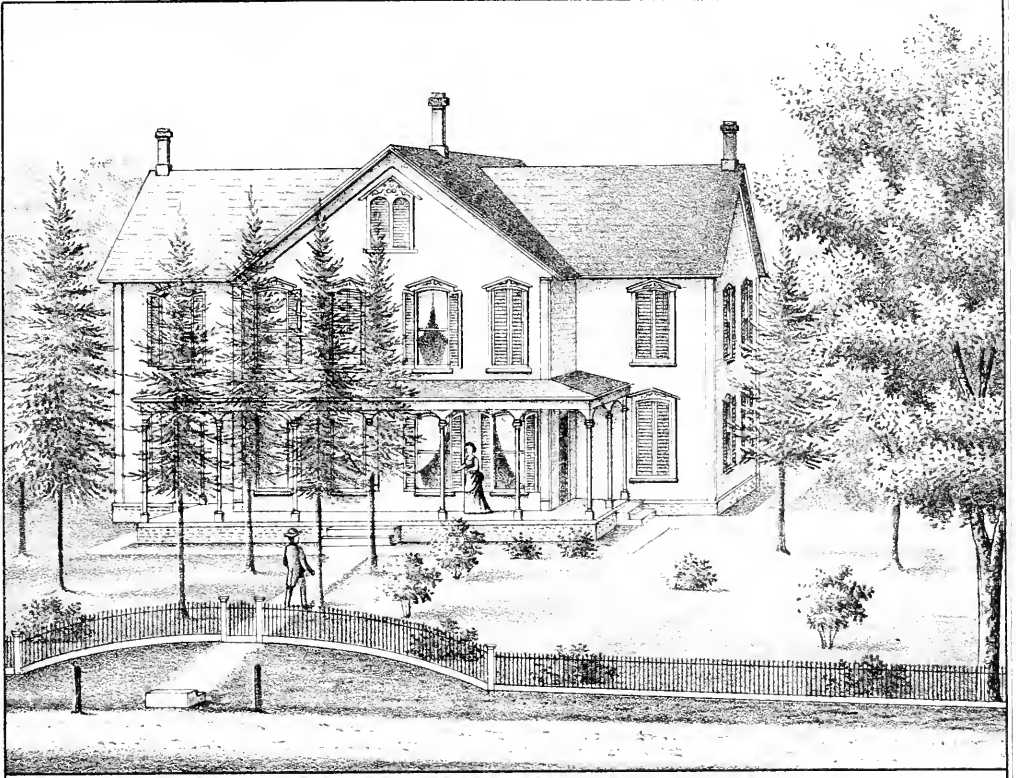
Mr. Broadie was reared by his excellent mother in the doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is now a faithful and consistent member, and gives to his church a liberal support. He is a young man of excellent education, having completed his studies in Bryant & Stratton's Business College, at Chicago, from which he was graduated March 1, 1888. He and his young wife have begun the journey of life together under the most favorable auspices and with the kindest wishes of hosts of friends. A handsome lithographic view of Mr. Broadie's residence is shown on another page of this work.



**P**RENTICE G. STORRS, who is actively engaged in general farming and stock-raising, paying much attention to breeding horses, stands among the most clear sighted, practical and business-like men of his calling in Will County. His farm in Troy, lying along the DuPage River, which flows through the eastern part of it, thus affording a never-failing supply of water for his stock, shows every evidence of careful cultivation and constant improvement.

A native of New York, our subject was born near Plattsburg, Clinton County, November 22, 1834. He remained a resident of the place of his birth till 1860, when he started out anew in life,





RES. AND FARM PROPERTY OF JOHN C. BROADIE, SEC. 28. NEW LENOX TP. WILL CO. ILL.



coming to this State to carry on his calling on this fertile soil. He lived for several years on a farm in Grundy County, and then bought a farm in Manhattan, on which he resided until his wife's death, when he returned to the East for a while. He subsequently sold his place in Manhattan and purchased his present farm in 1882. Here he has one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, all under good cultivation, and finely situated five miles west of Joliet. He is managing his affairs with excellent success, doing a general farming business and paying considerable attention to breeding horses, of which he has about thirty of good grade on his place.

Mr. Storrs has been twice married. He was first wedded to Mrs. Caroline Ingram, daughter of Washburn Storrs, and widow of Mr. Ingram, of Plattsburg. Their married life was not of very long duration, her death occurring in 1857. She left two children, Franklin and Harriet. The former resides at home with his father, and the latter is the wife of Henry Willis, a milkman of Chicago. The maiden name of the present wife of our subject was Clara Comstock, to whom he was united in Plattsburg, N. Y., she being a daughter of Ezekiel Comstock, of Beekmantown, near Plattsburg. Two children have been born of this union, Raymond, and a child who died in infancy.

Mr. Storrs is a fair dealing, straightforward man, possessing the confidence and esteem of all about him, and his energy, persistence and shrewdness have placed him in the possession of a comfortable property. In his politics he sides with the Republican party. Mrs. Storrs is a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**C**HARLES S. SEAVER, successor to the firm of Monroe & Seaver, wholesale dealers in flour, fruits, produce, cigars and tobacco, occupies a prominent business place on La Fayette Street, where he has been established since October 4, 1884. At that date the firm was organized being a continuation of the business of G. Monroe & Son, wholesale grocers. Mr. Seaver then purchased

with George H. Monroe, an interest in the business with which he remained connected until September, 1888, and then became sole proprietor. The building is a fine brick and stone structure, comprising an office and warerooms, a large store and basement. It is located opposite the Rock Island depot, which was built in 1887, and they do a business approaching \$500,000 annually. In addition to his city employes, three salesmen represent his interests on the road. Mr. Seaver is an enterprising, go-ahead man and forms no unimportant factor among the business interests of Joliet.

A native of Orleans County, Vt., the subject of this notice was born August 17, 1852, and is the son of Samuel Stillman Seaver, likewise a native of the Green Mountain State. The latter grew to manhood in his native county and was married to Miss Martha Wright. He was born in 1808, followed farming and merchandising, and spent his entire life upon his native soil, dying in September, 1870, at the age of sixty-two years. The circumstances of his death were very distressing he having been run over by a train of cars, death ensuing in a short time. He was one of the oldest members of the Masonic fraternity in the State and under their solemn ceremonials his remains were consigned to their last rest. The mother being ill at the time, survived the shock only four weeks. In addition to farming, Mr. Seaver dealt quite extensively in live stock, mostly cattle and horses.

To the parents of our subject there was born a family of five children, viz.: Clarendon S., and Charles S., residents of Joliet; Henry Q., in Geneva, Neb.; William W., Walnut Grove, Minn.; and Mattie E., in Milwaukee, Wis.

Charles S., our subject, acquired a good practical education in the schools of his native county and engaged in the mercantile business until coming to Joliet in 1881. In this city he first purchased the retail grocery business of G. Monroe & Son, which was located in the Opera House Building and conducting this until purchasing that which he now owns.

Mr. Seaver was married in September, 1872, to Miss Ella A. Parker, of Orleans County, Vt., and they are the parents of one child, a daughter, Maude E. Mrs. Seaver was born November 27,

1851, in Vermont, and is the daughter of John C. Parker, an old resident of Vermont. Clarendon S. came to Joliet in 1881, and has made this city his headquarters since that time.



**AUGUSTUS C. VAN HORNE.** The mechanical and commercial interests of Joliet would be poorly represented in this volume, were no mention made of the railroad business and the men who have it in their control. Aside from this reason for publishing the biography of the gentleman above-named, it is a pleasure to record the success of the worthy son of a learned and honored father.

The late Cornelius C. Van Horne was a pioneer of Will County, to which he came in 1833, and in which his name is perpetuated by Van Horne's Point. He gained an extended reputation as a teacher, being probably the first in the county; he was an early Postmaster and when, in 1852, he moved into Joliet he was at once chosen Mayor, being the first to occupy that position. He was a man of fine mental attainments, a lawyer and counselor of ability, and his character won him the regard of his associates. In 1840 he married Miss Mary M. Richards, and they became the parents of three sons and two daughters. One of these, William C., is now President of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, with headquarters at Montreal, Canada.

The subject of this notice was born in this county, in September, 1844, his birthplace being the town of Frankfort. He attended the public schools, and being an apt pupil, advanced rapidly in his studies and soon acquired a good education. In the year 1861 he entered the employ of the Michigan Central Railroad, remaining in that service until September 7, 1864, when he became an employe of the Chicago & Alton road. Two years later he changed to the Kansas City and Northern, after which for a brief time he worked for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. Again he entered the service of the Chicago & Alton road, and has labored for it continuously since. From 1871 to

1882 he was an engineer, but at that date he was put in charge of the roundhouse, and has efficiently superintended it since.

An important step in the life of Mr. Van Horne was taken in 1875, when he was united in marriage with Miss Emma A. Hull, of New Lenox, the daughter of an old family in Plainfield. She is a lady possessing many estimable qualities and a consistent member of the Richards Street Methodist Episcopal Church. She presides ably over the elegant home that was erected by Mr. Van Horne in 1885. Mr. Van Horne belongs to the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery of the Masonic fraternity. He stands well in the opinion of his fellow-men, both employers, employed and general acquaintances.



**O. H. P. WARTHEN.** A favorably located and well-tilled farm of two hundred and thirty-eight acres in Lockport Township, is owned and occupied by this gentleman, who finds enjoyment in his chosen calling and the pleasant surroundings of his home. Every detail of the farm work is under efficient oversight, and tilling the soil has proved a remunerative vocation.

In Licking County, Ohio, in the year 1828, a child was born, whose simple record is contained in these brief paragraphs. His early years were spent in attendance at the common schools, and in such home duties as generally fall to the lot of growing lads in town. He is of Revolutionary parentage, being a son of Alvin Warthen, a native of Virginia, who died in 1830. The widowed mother survived until 1888, reaching the advanced age of ninety-two years. She was a hotel keeper for sixty-seven years.

Our subject came to Illinois in 1853 and purchased a farm near Plainfield, which he afterward sold, buying his present estate November 6. In 1851 he became the husband of Miss Charlotte Kendall, who, like himself, is a native of the Buckeye State, and who possesses many of the qualities belonging to honored womanhood. To the happy couple have been born eleven children, nine of

whom are living and six yet under the parental roof. Mr. Warthen is a Democrat of the old school. He is a reliable citizen and an upright man, especially charitable, and the doer of many kindly deeds known only to their object.



**W**ILLIAM STEDT. The sterling traits that make the better class of the Germans desirable citizens are exhibited in the life and labors of this gentleman. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising on section 26, Washington Township, where he owns eighty acres of fertile land. The estate is well-improved and bears good buildings, all erected by the owner and including every needful and convenient structure. Success is crowning his efforts and a competence waits upon his labors.

In the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg, Germany, the eyes of our subject first opened to the light in the year 1840. His parents, Joseph and Reïca (Sass) Stedt, had been born in the same duchy, and therein grew to maturity and united their fortunes. The husband and father was a sheep-herder. In 1856 the parents, with five children, sailed from Hamburg, believing that in the New World they could find larger opportunities than in their native land, for themselves and offspring. After an ocean voyage of six weeks they arrived in New York, whence they came direct to Illinois, settling in Du Page County. They began their life in the new home on rented land, determined to succeed in their intention to become land-owners and people of comfortable finances. The father died in that county when sixty-six years of age; the widowed mother is yet living, her present home being near West Union, Iowa. She is now seventy-seven years old. She has been all her life a member of the Lutheran Church, as was her respected husband. She is the mother of three sons and three daughters, all but one of whom, a daughter, lived to come to America.

The subject of this sketch was about sixteen years old when the family came to the United States. His education was therefore obtained

principally in the land of his birth. He became of age in Du Page County, and was there married to Miss Anna R. Bohl, to whose housewifely skill and domestic virtues he owes the joys and comforts of his home. Three years after their marriage the young couple came to Will County and began their life here on an almost raw prairie, which now stands as a monument to the enterprise that has made it into a fine farm.

Mrs. Stedt was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, November 18, 1813, and came to America with her parents when thirteen years old. The family first settled in Du Page County, afterward removing to Will County, where the father, H. Bohl, died in 1885, when seventy-six years old. He was a member of the Lutheran Church, to which his good wife also belonged. She survived until the spring of 1889, breathing her last when eighty-two years old. Her maiden name was Mary Burling.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Stedt has been blessed by the birth of five children, named respectively: William, Henry, Charles, Herman and Mary. The parents are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Stedt is a thorough Republican. Their upright and industrious lives, their kindness toward their neighbors and all in need, and their desire to aid in the true development of the country, gain for them the hearty respect of all to whom they are known.



**J**OHN THEILER. A stroll through the principal business streets of Joliet will reveal the fact that that city contains many men whose enterprise and ability is manifest at a glance, and who, one is not surprised to learn, have a high standing in business circles. One of the establishments which gives such indications is that of John Theiler & Son, dealers in groceries, provisions, flour and feed, liquors, wines, etc., and occupying Nos. 108, 110 and 112 South Bluff Street. The senior member of the firm is also the owner of Theiler's Hall, which occupies the upper floor of the building in which his business is carried on.

The birth of the subject of this sketch took

place in Switzerland, December 8, 1829. He accompanied his parents to the United States in 1847, their first home being in Chicago, whence they came to Joliet in 1850. Our subject first embarked in life as a farmer, but in 1858 came into the city to begin the business in which he is yet engaged. He opened upon a small scale, enlarging the establishment as trade increased, and in 1873 building the edifice he now occupies, afterward adding to both hall and store. He is agent for the celebrated bottled beer of the Anheuser Busch Brewing Association, at St. Louis.

In Miss Elizabeth Fender, of Joliet, Mr. Theiler found the qualities which he considered desirable in a companion, and after a successful wooing she became his wife May 9, 1853. She presides judiciously and pleasingly over the home, and has carefully reared the children whom she has borne. Five sons and daughters comprise the household band. The first-born, Mary, is now the wife of John Scheit, of this city; John is the junior member of the firm; the other members of the circle are Lizzie, Louisa and Joseph.

Mr. Theiler in former years served two terms as Alderman, and is highly spoken of in the Fifth Ward. He and his family belong to St. John's Catholic Church. His honesty and square dealing in all transactions with his fellow-men, his kindness in domestic life, and his social characteristics, gain for him the respect of his acquaintances and an excellent reputation in business circles.



**R**OYAL E. BARBER. Among the veteran lawyers of Joliet Mr. Barber stands a prominent figure, and has made for himself a fine record during an uninterrupted practice of nearly forty-five years. He possesses in a marked degree the talents and application requisite to success, and numbers among his clientage a large portion of the solid residents of this county. During his long career in the profession he has disposed of a large number of intricate cases, and there are few points in common law which he is not able to handle in an adroit and skillful manner. He is of

staunch New England ancestry, a native Vermonter, and was born in Benson, that State, August 3, 1822.

John and Emma (Perry) Barber, the immediate progenitors of the subject of this notice, were natives of Connecticut, and descended from Puritan stock, their ancestors being among the early Colonists. The mother was a cousin of Commodore Perry, who distinguished himself in the battle of Lake Erie. John Barber was a life-long farmer, and the parental household included seven children, who reached mature years, and three who died in infancy or early childhood.

Royal, our subject, was the second born. In 1831, when he was a lad of nine years, a party of John Barber's neighbors came to the West on a prospecting tour, and sent back such glowing accounts of this section of country that Mr. Barber was led to join them the following year. In the autumn of that year the party chartered a canal boat at Whitehall, N. Y., and a week later reached Buffalo, where they took passage on the steamer "Henry Clay" for Detroit. There they boarded the schooner "Austerlitz," which in one week reached Chicago or near there, anchoring, however, outside of the bar about three miles from shore. The party and the schooner's cargo were thence all transported to the shore in the yawl boats. The steamer which conveyed Gen. Scott's troops to Chicago, in 1832, is said to have been the first craft of its kind which had struck that port.

Landing near Ft. Dearborn the party encountered various thrilling incidents. When attempting to cross the sand bar the yawl grounded, and the sailors jumping out got it off quickly and then jumped in again in readiness for the next wave. The "Austerlitz" was bound for St. Joseph. Later the yawl boat was stranded upon the bar at the mouth of that stream, overturned and the Captain and most of his crew were drowned.

At the time John Barber landed in Chicago, the only buildings were a few log houses and Ft. Dearborn was enclosed with a log stockade. There was one frame building which had been erected that summer by J. H. Kinzie, with lumber which he had hauled from a sawmill at Plainfield, this county. The original plat of the village of Chi-

ago, lying between what is now State and Canal Streets, Madison and Kinzie, was laid out that summer. The agent besought John Barber to buy a town lot, and took him out to what he said was Lake Street, and showed him a lot eighty feet front, and two hundred feet deep, which he offered for \$50. Mr. Barber stepped on to a bog, shook himself, and the earth trembled all around him. He therefore replied that he was "not going to sink any \$50 in that mud hole."

John Barber now hired a team of horses and a double wagon, and gathering together his family and some goods, forded the south branch of the Chicago River, and struck off across the prairie for Naperville, where some of his acquaintances had settled. He made his selection of a farm at what later was named Barber's Corners, this county, and in February, 1833, moved his family into a log house, where the children were reared, and where he and his wife both died. Mrs. Barber departed this life May 1, 1874. Mr. Barber passed away in the winter of 1877. Soon after coming to this county he contracted rheumatism, which rendered him an invalid many years. This was the result of exposure during the cold winters, when engaged in getting out rails for his fences.

The subject of this notice remained on the farm until he found that the labor of harvesting, which was then all done by hand, made him ill every year. So, deciding to abandon farm life, in 1845, he came to Joliet, and became the Deputy Clerk of several courts, discharging the duties of these in connection with the study of law, until his election in 1852, as Clerk of the Circuit Court and ex-officio Recorder. At the completion of his term he compiled the first set of abstracts of records, and then entered upon the regular practice of law, which he has since pursued. With the assistance of clerks he managed the abstract department until selling out to his son, January 1, 1889. In 1876-77 he was Mayor of Joliet, and as School Inspector he performed much labor in behalf of education, holding this office nine years. In 1887-88 he erected the Barber Building, one of the most elegant structures in the city of Joliet.

Mr. Barber was first married, April 21, 1819, to Miss Elizabeth Ellen Crowley. This lady died of

cholera in 1850. Mr. Barber contracted a second marriage, November 7, 1851, with Miss Frances Cornelia House. Of this union there were born five children, one of whom died at the age of three years. There are now living two sons and two daughters. The eldest daughter, Miss Alice Stillman Barber, is engaged in a mission seminary at Beirut, Syria, whither she went in the fall of 1885. Before she had acquired command of the Arabic tongue she was left in charge of the institution for two years. Edward M., the eldest son, is now in the State of New York; William C. is engaged in the abstract business in Joliet; the younger daughter, Emma E., is the only child remaining under the parental roof.



JACOB J. HARTONG is carrying on agriculture very advantageously in Plainfield Township, where he owns a farm, which for fertility and productiveness is classed among the best in this locality. His skill and experience in practical farming have proved of inestimable value to him since coming to this county, and he has done exceptionally well since purchasing his present farm, and is one of our substantial moneyed men.

Our subject was born in Green Township, Stark County, Ohio, August 25, 1830, his father being an early pioneer of that section of the country. Jacob Hartong was a native of Pennsylvania, his father, grandfather of our subject, also having been born in that State, of German parentage. He was a farmer and spent his entire life there. The father of our subject was left an orphan when quite young, and was reared by his elder brother, Philip. He was bred to farming pursuits, and also learned the trade of a weaver. He was married in the Keystone State to Elizabeth Drich, a native of that State. After the birth of five of their children they removed to the wilds of Ohio to build up a new home in that part of Stark County, now included in Summit County. Mr. Hartong bought a tract of land in the primeval forests of that region, and built a log cabin which afterward became the birthplace of our subject. There were but few

settlements in that part of the State, Indians still lingered around their old haunts, and the wolf and the deer, besides other kinds of wild game, often ran by the door of their pioneer home. They lived in the most primitive manner, the mother cooking their food before the fire in the rude fireplace, and making the cloth for their clothes, spinning the flax and wool with her own hands. In the years that followed hard labor was Mr. Hartong's lot, but he thereby improved a desirable farm, which he made his home until he closed his eyes in death. His wife too passed away to the life beyond from the old homestead. They reared a large family of children, seven sons and five daughters, to good and useful lives.

The subject of whom we write was the eighth child in order of birth, and was reared and educated in his native town. He resided with his parents until his twenty-first year, and then married and established a home of his own, and for four years managed his father's property. During that time he bought a farm in Jackson Township, Stark County, and operated it for two years, when he sold it and then lived on his father's farm until 1861. He then left Ohio, to take up his abode in this State, as he was much impressed with the many advantages offered to young men of enterprise and ability, to pursue farming with financial success in the rich farming country of Will County. After coming here he bought a farm on section 15, Plainfield Township, where he resided until 1868. Selling that place, his next purchase was in Manhattan Township, where he dwelt the succeeding thirteen years. Disposing of that place at a good profit, he bought the farm he now owns and occupies, which comprises one hundred and forty-four acres of land under excellent tillage, and supplied with a substantial set of buildings and all needed improvements. In 1890 he bought a desirable residence in the village, to which he intends to remove in the spring of 1891.

In 1850, Jacob Hartong and Mary Beard were united in matrimony. She was a native of Summit County, Ohio, and a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Beard, natives of Virginia, and early settlers of Summit County. After a pleasant wedded life of ten years, death deprived him of her compan-

ionship, and their four children—Mary E., Martha A. and two since deceased—of a good mother. Mr. Hartong was married to his present estimable wife in 1861, and by their marriage they have four children now living—William H., Elias G., Charles V. and Martin F. Mrs. Hartong's maiden name was Magdalena Gardner, and she was born in Wittenburg, Germany, daughter of Martin and Henrietta Dewey Gardner, also natives of Germany. Mrs. Hartong came to America with her parents when she was five years old. They located in Cleveland, and later came to Illinois, in April, 1862, and settled in Lockport Township, where Mr. Gardner bought a farm. They resided there some years, and then removed to Joliet, where the father died, the mother dying in Lockport Township.

Mr. Hartong's life has been guided by principles of honor and integrity, and he is a man of unspotted character. He is well dowered with firmness and stability, which attributes, together with forethought and persistent labor, have been instrumental in bringing about his present prosperous circumstances. He and his wife are members of the Evangelical Association. They are not of those who "hide their light under a bushel," and in the selfish striving for gain forget their duty to others, but they are ever kind and thoughtful in their relations with all about them, and no one is readier to extend sympathy or help to those in distress than they. Mr. Hartong interests himself in the political situation of the day, and sides with the Republican party.



**W**ILLIAM A. STRONG. One would not live in Joliet long, without becoming acquainted with the part that has been played by Mr. Strong in the progress of this thriving municipality. As an able member of a prominent business firm, as the improver of city real estate, as a member of corporations and as a public official he has deserved and won the esteem of his fellow-men for his uprightness, ability and success. No greater proof could be given of the confidence reposed in



him than is shown in the number of estates that have been left in his hands for settlement. Among these were the Bissell, the Moore, the Curry and the Steel, while others are still held in trust by him.

The parents of our subject were J. C. Strong, a native of Northampton, Mass., and A. C. Woodworth, a native of New York State. In the latter State he was born in 1828, his birthplace being the town of Waterloo. He attended the public schools, obtaining a good education, and learned in his uncle, W. A. Strong's store, the habits and methods of successful business men. In the hardware trade, to which he had grown up, he was engaged in his native place from 1845 to 1850, when his uncle sold out and came to Illinois. He became a partner with his uncle, W. A. Strong, in Joliet, the firm name being W. A. Strong & Co. until 1855, when a new co-partnership was formed with Messrs. Brooks and Barrett, and the style became Strong & Co. The business was continued under different firm names, but always as a prosperous institution until 1865.

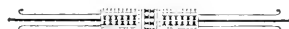
Mr. Strong, of this notice, then retired to become President of the Joliet Gas Company, in which position he still continues, and through his good judgment the success of the corporation was assured.

Mr. Strong had faith in the growth of the city to which he had come, and purchased one hundred and twenty-five acres of land, which he laid out as a subdivision. It is one of the most beautiful parts of the city, and a residence in Glenwood is considered very desirable. The executive and business qualities of Mr. Strong were called into requisition by his fellow-citizens, who elected him to the Mayoralty and to the City Council, in both of which positions he made a good record. He is now a Director in the National Bank, and he was for a few years engaged in the quarry business.

In 1855, at the bride's home in Rochester, N. Y., Mr. Strong was united in marriage with Miss Charlotte A., daughter of Judge Buell, one of the builders of the Erie Canal. Mrs. Strong is universally praised by those who knew her. She was strong in her convictions and steadfast in her purposes, yet possessed rare modesty and sweetness of dispo-

sition, was charitable without display, and withal, a devoted Christian. This peerless woman died in Thomasville, Ga., March 20, 1889. She had borne her husband four children.

One daughter, Mrs. Bodlong, died in January, 1885, leaving a child, Alice, whose home is with Grandpa Strong. Two sons are in business and one daughter at home. The Episcopal Church contains a splendid memorial to the deceased daughter. To that church Mr. Strong belongs, and of it his wife was a member. In a handsome and spacious dwelling overlooking the city, he of whom we write is spending his time in deserved ease, affluence and honor.



**J**OHAN M. SWIGGART. A large portion of the business interests of Joliet is in the hands of its young and enterprising men, among whom Mr. Swiggart occupies a position in the front rank. He commenced comparatively without means, dependent upon his own resources, and about 1884 embarked in the grocery trade, locating at the northeastern corner of Easton Avenue and Cass Street. He has been in business at this point about six years and occupies a fine large double store in the Union Block, with two street fronts, and in which he has a fine and well-selected stock of staple and fancy goods. He owns a one-third interest in this block. He gives his close attention to his business and has a fair outlook for the future.

A native of Scottsville, Mo., our subject was born January 22, 1850, and is the son of John J. and Mary (Fulk) Swiggart, who were natives of Iowa and are now deceased. He spent his boyhood and youth in Hamburg, Iowa, acquiring a practical education in the common schools. He came to Joliet in 1875, and for eight years thereafter was in the employ of the Joliet Steel Company. In the meantime he was recognized as a valued addition to the community, and after filling various other positions of trust and responsibility was, in 1881, elected Town and City Collector on the Republican ticket.

At the close of his term of office Mr. Swiggart established himself in the grocery trade on the southwest corner of Cass Street and Easton Avenue, and by a course of fair dealing and courteous treatment of his customers, his business increased to such an extent that he was obliged to move into more commodious quarters. Then, in partnership with George Monroe and William McDermont, he purchased the ground occupied by the Union Block, upon which they built, and of which they still retain ownership. He now has the largest grocery in the city, building it up from first principles by his own exertions. He is a favorite both in social and business circles, a member of the Masonic fraternity, having attained to the Chapter degree, belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Royal Arcanum. In the latter he occupies the position of Treasurer.

Mr. Swiggart was for a time Vice President of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers of the Fourth District, and President of the Trade and Labor Council, but thought best to resign these positions upon going into business. Mr. Swiggart, on the 23d of September, 1875, was wedded to Miss Isaphine Crouch, who at that time was a resident of Thurman, Iowa. Mrs. Swiggart was born January 21, 1851, and is the daughter of Hiram Crouch and wife, who are now deceased. The young couple immediately after their wedding came to Joliet, of which they have since been residents.

John J. Swiggart, the father of our subject, was born in Ohio, where he was reared to man's estate and married. Thence he removed to Missouri, and from there to Iowa, locating in Hamburg, where he and his estimable wife spent the remainder of their days.



**G**EORGE NAPOLEON POMEROY. A stroll through the prominent streets of Joliet reveals the fact that it contains many business houses of fine appearance, well stocked with the best goods and evidently the centers of a flourishing trade. Such is the furniture store of the

firm of Rocky & Pomeroy, which was established in 1887, and which is now doing a business of \$9,000 per year. The career of the junior member of the firm has been marked with a determination and persistence that could scarcely fail to win success. While working for others he was faithful to the interests of his employers, and in serving others he learned how to be a master. His business is conducted according to honorable principles of square dealing, which, combined with the courteous treatment received by the patrons of the establishment, redounds to his credit throughout the community, and brings custom.

The natal day of our subject was November 5, 1855, and his birthplace Bay City, Mich. His parents were William and Charlotte (Sherman) Pomeroy, and the father was a millwright by trade. He was originally from the Green Mountain State. In the family were seven children, all still living but William, who was drowned in the Saginaw River. The others are: Mrs. Dr. Nash; C. H., of Bay City, Mich.; Mrs. John Jenkins, of Detroit; David and Daniel, (twins), the one living in Detroit and the other farming in Shiawassee County, Mich.; and the subject of this sketch.

The gentleman of whom we write passed his boyhood upon a farm near Howell, Mich., his father being at that time the keeper of a tavern at what was known as the Three-Corners. Pomeroy's Hotel became a popular and well-known place of rendezvous for those engaged in the lumber trade. The family removed from the farm to Ann Arbor, where our subject attended school four or five years. When the father died, February 22, 1874, the family became scattered and George went to Lansing, doing whatever offered in the way of work. Subsequently, after spending a short time in Grand Rapids, he worked on a farm for a time, then realizing the highest ambition of his boyhood by entering a shop as a clerk.

After eleven months of this work Mr. Pomeroy became foreman of a bakery and confectionery shop in Bay City, which he left to take a position in a cracker factory that had been purchased by his brother C. H., and C. C. Whitney. With them he remained three years, attending to the shipping, buying, and similar details of the business. In





*James McGovern*

1884 he was called to Joliet by a telegram announcing the expected death of his mother. His first labor in this city was in a conservatory, his employer being A. R. Sparr. He next entered the employ of George Monroe & Son, first working on a building they were erecting, and then becoming assistant shipping clerk for the firm. He next learned the upholstering trade of E. F. Etmyre, for whom he worked nearly a year, leaving him to establish a business of his own in Kankakee. There he remained but eighteen months ere returning to Joliet to continue the upholstering business here.

In Miss Jennie Rocky, Mr. Pomeroy found united the qualities of mind and heart, the pleasing manners, and useful accomplishments which won his deep regard and aroused in his breast the desire to make her his wife. His wooing proved successful, and on September 26, 1885, the young couple were united in marriage. Mr. Pomeroy is a member of the society known as the Modern Woodmen of America. He is identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, having full fellowship in that religious organization.



REV. JAMES J. MCGOVERN, D. D. The record of the life of this gentleman, whose portrait appears on the opposite page, affords a striking illustration of the results of force and decision of purpose in a man, as well as of the power which an energetic and honorable character exercises upon the lives of others. From boyhood he has unceasingly applied himself to the gaining of knowledge and, as a consequence, is highly cultured and wields a large influence both from the pulpit and with the pen. Although he has been a resident of Lockport only about ten years, he is nevertheless inseparably associated with the most important religious enterprises of Will County in the ranks of the Catholic Church.

Chicago was the native place of Father McGovern and there he was born March 25, 1839. He spent his boyhood in his native city, being among the first pupils attending the Dearborn public school, on Madison Street, and afterward studying classics

in the University of St. Mary of the Lake. When fourteen years of age he was sent to Rome, Italy, where he entered the Propaganda College, remaining there ten years, graduating with high honors and earning the title of Doctor of Divinity. On his return to Chicago he was appointed Vice-President of the University of St. Mary of the Lake, and Rector of the Theological Seminary connected with that institution. When the university ceased to exist he went to Fulton, Ill., where he began the career of upbuilding for which he has since become noted. His efforts secured the erection of a beautiful church and residence, but the energetic priest did not long enjoy the fruits of his labor in that city.

The next location of Father McGovern was Bloomington, Ill., where the large church building which had been in course of construction was demolished by a cyclone April 24, 1868. He took hold of affairs with the characteristic energy which had led to his being sent to this field of labor, and not only rebuilt the church edifice, but also erected a residence and started a boys' parochial school which has since become an educational power in that city. When the new See of Peoria was formed he returned to his native diocese and took charge of the church in Rock Island, Ill., filling the place of the Rev. Joseph P. Roles, who went on a trip to the Holy Land. While occupying the temporary vacancy he was instrumental in the erection of churches at Edgington and Pre-emption, Mercer County.

In 1875, Father McGovern was sent to Lake Forest, Lake County, where he built a church and parsonage and reorganized the parish, so that on his departure to another field of labor he had one of the most flourishing churches in the diocese. Lockport became his home in 1880, and here he has again founded a school which is rapidly gaining in numerical strength and reputation. He has the second largest church in Will County, a fine parish residence that he bought for the church, a devoted people, and his influence is unbounded.

Rev. Dr. McGovern is a man of deep theological knowledge, classical information and literary taste, and has pleasant ways which gain good will and prepossess strangers in his favor. As an author

he has gained wide repute, the chief work which he has written being the life of Bishop McMullen, of Davenport, Iowa, which ranks high among biographical writings. He has always been a liberal contributor to the public and Catholic press, and many to whom his voice is unfamiliar know him well through his writings.



**F**RANKLIN P. FREY. Among the younger business men of Joliet, honorable mention should be given to the above-named gentleman, who has been identified with the coal business for a number of years and who has prospered in his worldly affairs by reason of his square dealing, excellent judgment, and wise management. He does a business of from \$8,000 to \$10,000 a year.

The Frey family is traced back to Switzerland whence the grandfather of our subject came to America at the age of seventeen years. He was a tanner by trade. To him, at his home in Pennsylvania, was born a son, J. H., who after becoming a man turned his attention to mercantile pursuits. J. H. Frey married Margaret Hartong, who was also a native of the Keystone State, and in an early day they took up their abode in Ohio. In 1856, they came to Illinois, locating in Plainfield, this county, whence they removed to Joliet in 1858. Mr. Frey had kept the toll gate on the old plank road, prior to his removal to this city. To this couple nine children were born, their record being as follows: Mrs. Fiannah Peddicord lives in Western Kansas; Daniel R., in Dakota; Samuel M. died in Iowa in June, 1876; Ourias died at Camp Douglas, Ill., in 1863, being a member of the Sixty-fourth Illinois Infantry; Byron S. lives at Lockport; Adam died in infancy; F. P. is the next in order of birth; Mrs. Hattie M. Mapps, lives in York, Neb.; Anna still remains at home.

The gentleman with whose name we introduce this sketch was born in Manchester, Ohio, September 29, 1852, but passed his boyhood in Joliet, having been brought thither at the age of four

years. In the common schools he received a good education and from his worthy parents the moral teaching and habits of industry which have been practiced in his business and social career. He started out in the coal trade by entering the employ of J. Q. A. King, for whom he worked by the month until 1874, when he opened an office for himself. Since that date he has continued a scarcely interrupted business.

The first Presidential ballot of Mr. Frey was cast for U. S. Grant, and his political allegiance has ever been given to the Republican party. He was nominated for Assistant Supervisor in 1890, against his protest, as he had no desire to enter public life. His talents are made available in social and religious matters, and he is Financial Secretary of the Patriotic Order of Sons of America, and Treasurer of Erwin Council, No. 110, of the National Union. He is also Secretary of the Presbyterian Sunday-school, a position he has held eight years, and is numbered among the active members of the church.

The lady whom Mr. Frey wooed and won for his wife, was in her girlhood Miss Minnie M. Hicks. She is a daughter of S. J. Hicks who now resides in Oshtosh, Wis., and is an estimable lady with cultured mind, useful knowledge and pleasing manners. The rites of wedlock were celebrated July 31, 1881, and four bright children have come to bless the union. They are named respectfully—Chester C., Edna M., Lulu M. and Ella Rue.



**T**HOMAS W. BROWN. As a sagacious, practical, industrious farmer, the subject of this biographical review has played an important part in the development of the rich agricultural interests of Plainfield Township, and his well-ordered farm, with its neat buildings and well-tilled fields, compare favorably with the finest in this part of the county. Mr. Brown, though looking after his agricultural affairs himself, does not occupy his farm but makes his home in the village, where a few years ago he purchased a fine residence, which is built in a modern and pretty

style of architecture, and is well and tastefully furnished.

Our subject was born in Fifeshire, Scotland, April 14, 1839. His father, John Brown, is thought to have been a native of Dumfriesshire, his father of the same name, being also a native of Scotland, and of Scotch ancestry. He was a weaver and followed that trade the greater part of his life. The father of our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits, but for a number of years after marriage, operated a stationary engine in a spinning factory. He continued to reside in the land of his birth until 1853, when with his wife and thirteen children he embarked for America in the month of August. Landing at New York he came directly to Chicago and after a short stay there, came to Will County, and settled in Wheatland Township, where he purchased a tract of land a few acres of which were broken and some small buildings were on the place. He was actively engaged in the management of that farm until his life was brought to a close in 1885, and thus passed away one of the worthy pioneers of the county. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Lumsdale. She never came to America but died in her native Scotland, in 1849. The father married a second time. His wife survives him and still resides on the homestead in Wheatland Township. Mr. Brown was the father of eight children by his first marriage and five by the latter.

The son, of whom we write, received his education in the schools of his native shire. He was fourteen years old when he accompanied his parents to America, and he commenced life here as a farm laborer, working by the month. After a few years he returned home to assist his father in the management of his farm and remained with him until his marriage, when he rented land in Kendall County. So well was he prospered that in 1870, he was enabled to become a land-owner himself, purchasing in that year sixty-two acres of land in Plainfield Township and a few years later, buying the seventy acres adjoining, and subsequently becoming the possessor of fifty acres more, so that his farm now contains one hundred and eighty-two acres of unsurpassing fertility whose improvements are of the best. He did not, however, settle on his

farm but lived in Kendall County until 1888, when he removed to Plainfield to his present fine residence.

Mr. Brown has been twice married. In 1859, he was wedded to Marian Vandervort, a native of Vermont, and a daughter of John Vandervort. The following four children were born of that marriage: Marian Elizabeth, Silas A., Florence E. and Dilroy M. Our subject's second marriage occurred in 1879, when he was united to Miss Hannah M. Smith, a native of Kickapoo, Ill. Her father, Daniel Smith, was born in Kent, England, and came to America with his wife and three children. He resided in New York for a time and then, coming to Illinois, was a pioneer of Peoria County. About 1812, he came to Will County and bought a farm in Plainfield Township, on which he resided until his mortal career was brought to a close in 1863. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Bachelor. She was born in England and died in Plainfield.

Mr. Brown is a self-made man in the truest sense of the word; with sound understanding developed by intelligent reading and careful observation, a stable character and industrious habits, he is an influence for good in this community with whose social, religious, and material interest he is associated. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and by their conduct in the every day affairs of life show themselves to be sincere Christians. A citizen of public spirit and always evincing a general interest in the welfare of the township and county, our subject interested himself in politics and is a devoted follower of the Republican party.



**J**OHAN H. OHLENDORF, JR. The late John Ohlendorf was a leading farmer of Crete Township and quite an old settler therein. He was a native of Hesse, Germany, born September 16, 1827, and died at his home in this township, May 25, 1888. He was the oldest of five sons and two daughters born to his parents, and grew to man's estate in his native land. He

received a good practical education in the Fatherland, whence, in 1852, he came to America with the other members of the parental family. Sailing from Bremerhaven in June, they spent seven weeks on the briny deep, finally landing in New York City, and, as a united family, coming west to Chicago, Ill. Soon afterward they all came to this county.

John Henry Ohlendorf, Sr., was reared to farm pursuits in his native Hesse, and was also a local officer there for some years. He married a Hessian lady, Miss Sophia Senne. When they arrived in this county, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on sections 34 and 35, Crete Township, paying \$1,100 for the same. It was mostly wild land at the time of purchase. There the parents of our subject lived for some years, when they purchased another farm and gave their original estate to their eldest son. They subsequently gave their second farm to their second son, and continued this process until all their sons were established in good homes, when they made their home with their youngest son, August. There the father died July 9, 1882, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. His widow is yet living, still making her home with her son, August. She is now nearly seventy-eight years of age. She is a member of the Lutheran Church, of which her husband was also a member, and like his, her life has been characterized by industry and piety.

Realizing that it is not good for man to live alone, he of whom we write led to the hymeneal altar Miss Wilhelmina Arkenberg, the marriage rites being performed at the home of the bride in this township. She was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, November 16, 1835, and is the oldest child of William and Dora (Gisika) Arkenberg. Her father was a shepherd in Germany, that having been the avocation of the family for several generations. After the birth of their four sons and two daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Arkenberg emigrated to America, sailing from Bremerhaven to New York. They came at once to Chicago and later to this county, this being in 1853. Mr. Arkenberg purchased a farm near Goodenow, Crete Township, making of it an estate of considerable value. There he breathed his last in 1880, at the age of

seventy-two years. His widow departed this life four years later when seventy-one years of age. Both were members of the Lutheran Church.

The wife of our subject having been seventeen years of age when she accompanied her parents to America, received the greater part of her education in her native clime. With the devotion of a true wife, she labored hard with her husband to make a home for their family, proving her efficiency in household duties, and as a counselor and sympathizing helpmate wherever woman's work is needed. After the death of her husband, she took up her residence in Crete, where she is still living, with her youngest child. She is the mother of three children—Henry W., whose biography occupies a page in this volume; Amelia, wife of Henry Triebold, their home being on a farm in Crete Township; and Regina, who is her mother's companion. She is a member of the Lutheran Church, to which her children also belong, and with which her deceased husband was identified. The life of Mr. Ohlendorf was one of persevering industry, neighborly kindness, and unassuming devotion to the principles in which he believed, and his death removed from the township a citizen whose worth was unquestioned. Besides leaving a good home to his heirs, he left to them that best of all inheritances, a name and memory which can be thought upon with loving reverence.



**G**EORGE E. SHAW, one of the most prosperous farmers of Plainfield, has been a resident of this township for more than thirty years, and has been closely associated with its agricultural development, helping to make Will County one of the finest farming regions in the State, and during this time he has acquired a goodly amount of property and has placed himself among the substantial citizens of the community.

Mr. Shaw is a native of Elizabethtown, N. J., born February 2, 1815, a son of Elijah Shaw, who is thought to have been born in New York



State. The latter learned the trade of a cooper and followed that calling in Columbia and Dutchess Counties. At his death, in 1822, in the town of Milan, a useful and honorable life was brought to a close. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Catherine Althouse. She is thought to have been born in Dutchess County and spent her last years with a daughter in Westchester County, N. Y. There were seven children born to the parents of our subject of whom the following six were reared: Mary, Jane, George E., Elijah, Phoebe and Helen. The mother of the subject of this sketch was married a second time, becoming the wife of George Shaffer and they reared one daughter, Louisa.

Our subject was but seven years old when he had the misfortune to lose his father and one year later he went to live with a farmer, Philip I. Zink. He was bred to agricultural pursuits, receiving in return for his services his board and clothes. At the age of twenty-one he started out for himself, with empty pockets and in debt for the cloth to make the suit of clothes that he wore. A young man of his willingness and capability to work found but little difficulty in obtaining a situation, and he was soon engaged on a farm in Dutchess County, his wages being \$12 per month for eight months in the year, and during the winter season he was obliged to work for \$8 per month. He labored very hard and prudently saved his earnings, and the following spring invested a part of them in a tract of three hundred acres of wild timber land in Cohecton, Sullivan County, in part payment for it giving eight months more work. He did not locate on his purchase at that time but continued working for a few years, until he was enabled to buy two hundred acres adjoining it, and after marriage he bought a house and three acres of land in Stanford, Dutchess County. The following year (1847) he sold that place and went to Sullivan County intending to settle on his land there, but before building, he embraced a fine opportunity to sell a part of his land for an improved farm in the town of Bethel, the same county, and two years after that he bought the remainder of the first tract he had previously purchased. Hearing much

of the wonderful fertility of the soil of the Prairie State and the various other advantages offered to the practical, wide-awake farmer, he determined to try life here, and selling his farm in New York, he came to this State and two years later purchased the farm where he now resides. Eighty acres of this is located on a part of section 35, and he has besides another eighty-acre tract on the same section, and eleven and one-half acres of valuable timber land on section 27. In the years of hard labor that followed his settlement here Mr. Shaw devoted himself assiduously to the work of his farm, and has brought about a great change in every respect, erecting roomy, convenient buildings, suitable for every purpose, cultivating the land after the best methods and providing himself with the best machinery, so that his place may be regarded as a model in its way.

Mr. Shaw has been married three times. His first wife, to whom he was united in 1841, was Catherine E. Schoonover. She was a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., and a daughter of Richard and Ann Schoonover. Her death, October 31, 1850, deprived him of a good wife. He was next married, September 11, 1851, to Mary A. Colsen, a native of Ireland and a daughter of William and Ann Colsen. After a pleasant wedded life of nearly thirteen years he was deprived of her assistance by death July 10, 1861. To them had been born three children, namely: William E., George H. and Lewis. William married Martha Kennedy, and has three children—Ella, Margaret and Lester; George H. married Estella O'Strander and has one child, Ethel.

The marriage of our subject to his present wife was solemnized May 16, 1869, her maiden name was Anna Coon, and she was born in Milan, Dutchess County, N. Y. Her father, Philip A. Coon, is supposed to have been born in Columbia County, N. Y., and his father, John Coon, was a farmer and died in Johnstown, Montgomery County, N. Y. Mrs. Shaw's father was also a farmer and at one time owned a farm in Milan. He came to Illinois with Mrs. Shaw and died at her home in 1871. The maiden name of his wife was Hannah Link, and she was a native of Milan. Her father, John

Link, is supposed to have been born there, and to have been a descendant of German ancestry. He carried on farming in that town until his death. Mrs. Shaw's mother died in Milan about 1858.

Mr. Shaw is a sturdy representative of our self-made men, as, beginning life in poverty, he has worked his way up to a position of comparative wealth all through his own efforts, he having been well equipped for the struggle with energy, determination, and a good capacity for skillful labor, besides being a man of steady habits, thorough conscientiousness and unswerving integrity. He and his wife are sincere religious people, and the Congregational Church finds in them two of its most faithful members. He was a Whig in former days, but since the formation of the Republican party has been one of its most consistent supporters.



**PETER P. ADLER.** This gentleman is numbered among the prominent citizens of Joliet, where he has been engaged in business for a number of years, manifesting a degree of ability and enterprise that has given him a high standing in business circles and wins for him a flourishing trade. He is a member of the firm of Adler Brothers, stock dealers and shippers, and wholesale and retail dealers in meats. Their market is situated at No. 112 Exchange Street, in the National Block; and their business of shipping stock to the East necessitates the buying by wholesale in Kansas City, Mo., and various other points in the West.

The subject of this sketch owns considerable land in the township and has charge of the estate, whereon horses, mules, cattle, and hogs are raised in considerable numbers. He is known as a general farmer in a large way, while he has also attended to the shipping of the stock of the firm, simply overseeing the business.

Mr. Adler was born in Joliet Township, this county, October 8, 1812, being a son of Michael Adler, whose history will be found in the sketch of Jacob Adler on another page of this ALBUM. He grew to the age of nineteen years on the farm,

after which he learned the trade of a shoemaker in the city of Joliet. After mastering his trade, he engaged in the clothing business, continuing in it several years, but in 1868 beginning the meat business. He bought with his brother Jacob, having charge of the market, and since they extended their business to include the buying and shipping of stock, he has spent much of his time in Kansas City, Mo., or in various parts of the State of Kansas, interested with his brother-in-law, F. G. Rapple. He has an interest in the building in which the market is carried on.

The marriage of Mr. Adler took place at the bride's home, in Joliet, in 1865. She was born in Ohio, in 1844, to Joseph and Elizabeth Flick and was christened Mary A. Her father was a native of Alsace, when it was a department of France, and her mother was born in Pennsylvania, her maiden name having been Seuter. The family came to this county in 1833, and Mr. Flick engaged in the hotel business in the same house the family now occupies. He died in 1873, leaving a widow and four daughters, three of whom now survive, two being at home.

To Mr. Adler and his estimable wife six children have been born, three of whom are living. They are named respectively: Angeline, Lizzie and Peter M. J. The parents belong to St. John's Catholic Church and stand well in the esteem of their acquaintances, their characters and intelligence rendering them useful and agreeable members of society.



**CHARLES C. McCLAUGHRY, A. B.** This young gentleman, who is now filling the position of Chief Engineer of the Illinois State Penitentiary, at Joliet, is a man of more than ordinary ability and strength and nobility of character. He was the recipient of excellent advantages during his boyhood and youth, made a good use of them, and possesses a mind well stored with useful knowledge and capable of grasping with firmness and with acute perception, subjects brought before him for consideration. With

this, he has firm principles and agreeable, courteous manners.

The subject of this brief biographical notice was born at Carthage, Hancock County, April 7, 1863, while his father was in the army. When eleven years old he came to Joliet with his parents, finishing his education at Knox College and being graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in the class of '85. He then entered the machine shops of the Illinois Steel Company in order to acquire the trade of a machinist, which he completed in that establishment. He was afterward connected with the firm of E. R. Brainard & Co., in their machine department in the penitentiary, leaving their employ November 1, 1889, at which time he was appointed chief engineer of the prison. He is a member of the Lincoln Club, an organization of young Republicans, and belongs to the Central Presbyterian Church.

At the residence of W. C. Demmond, of this city, June 28, 1888, the marriage ceremony was performed which united the subject of this sketch and Miss Helen A., daughter of the host. The bride was born in this city, which has ever been her home, and where she has made many friends by her genial manners, intelligence and estimable character. To her and her husband one child has been born, who bears the name of Helen B.

Maj. Robert W. McClaughry, the father of our subject, was Warden of the penitentiary in Joliet for fifteen years. He was born in Fountain Green, Hancock County, July 22, 1839, and remained at home on a farm until 1856. He then entered Monmouth College, being graduated in 1860, and remaining in the institution one year as Professor of Latin. Returning to Hancock County in 1861, he settled at Carthage and became editor of the *Carthage Republican*. In response to President Lincoln's call for three hundred thousand men, he enlisted, in August, 1862, as a private in the One Hundred and Eighteenth Illinois Infantry. He was chosen Captain of Company B, and in November following was elected Major of the regiment. He participated in all the campaigns in the Gulf department, which resulted in the capture of Vicksburg, and in all those in Western Louisiana until June, 1864, when he was transferred to the pay

department as Paymaster and assigned to duty at Springfield, Ill. He remained there until October, 1865, when he was mustered out of the service.

Having been elected Clerk of Hancock County, Maj. McClaughry at once assumed the duties of that office, which he held until 1869. During the next two years he was engaged in the stone quarry business in Sonora and furnished stone for the railroad bridge over the Mississippi at Keokuk, and also for the foundations of the new State Capitol at Springfield. In 1871 he went to St. Louis, Mo., to take charge of the St. Genevieve quarries, but the following year, his health failing, he returned to Monmouth, Ill., and entered the office of Judge Glenn, to attend to a portion of his business. There he remained until August 1, 1874, when he was appointed Warden of the penitentiary of this place. He was married, in 1862, to Miss Elizabeth Madden, of Monmouth, and has five children living.



NICHOLS D. DYER. The flourishing city of Joliet contains many business houses in whose management great tact is displayed, and in which a trade is carried on that gives circulation to thousands of dollars per annum. One of these flourishing establishments is that of the subject of this sketch, who is a dealer in dry-goods.

Fifteen years after the Pilgrims of the "Mayflower" had landed on Plymouth Rock, the first record of William and Mary Dyer, who were first cousins, is found in Boston. Like many others in that day they had left the refinements of an English home, to brave the discomforts of the Western wilderness in order to enjoy the blessing of religious liberty. William Dyer was led by the eloquence of Roger Williams to espouse the cause of the Baptists, whereupon he was disfranchised and like many others compelled to leave the colony. His wife walked out of a meeting of Puritans in company with Mrs. Hutchinson. The banished Dyers bought the little isle—Rhode—Island—then called Aquidnuk or Isle of Peace. Of the new colony who settled "Little Rhody," William Dyer

was selected as Clerk, subsequently becoming Recorder, Clerk of the Assembly and Attorney-General. His wife still adhered to the Quaker belief although opposed to the spirit of intolerance characterising that body, and especially, the unjust law of banishment. Restless under it and firmly believing she had a mission to perform, she returned to Massachusetts to secure a reformation. In this she failed, and was therefore a martyr to her religious belief, and was brought to the gallows for execution as one sowing the seeds of sedition, by direction of Gov. Endicott. Through the intervention of a son she was spared, only to again return to the same mission and become a martyr to her faith. Quite a number of the progeny of these Puritans have become noted in American history. N. D. Dyer, of whom we write, is one of the lineal descendants.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in Lexington, Ohio, January 11, 1811. He is the eighth in a family of five sons and four daughters, born to Daniel H. and Phyla (Beaverstock) Dyer, natives of Vermont, and is the only survivor except his sister, Mrs. Phyla M. Watson, of Iowa City, Iowa. Until thirteen years of age he was with his parents in his native village, after which he accompanied them to Callaway County, Mo., where his father followed farming. The lad was educated in the common schools and, his father having lost his Missouri property, in his youth began working by the month in Iowa. He continued his labors on a farm there until the winter of 1860, when he taught school near Plainfield, Ill. In 1862, he entered the Commissary Department of the army at Pilot Knob, Mo., under his uncle, Col. George Dyer.

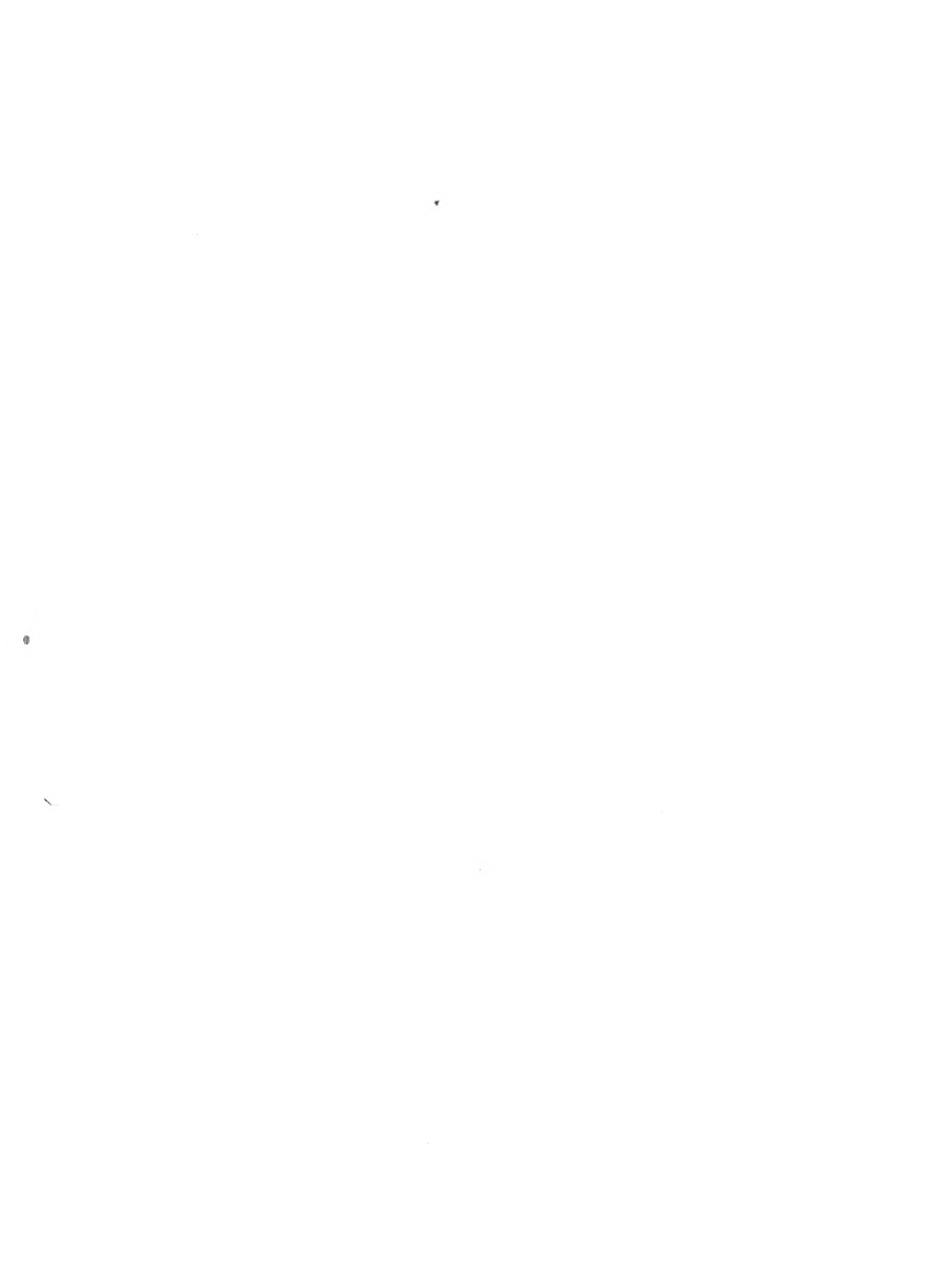
Six months later young Dyer went to Farmington, Mo., and raised a company of Union refugees, whom he accompanied to St. Louis, joining Frank P. Blair's brigade as a Second Lieutenant. They were sent to join Sherman, and took part in the engagement at Chickasaw Bayou, where the Union forces were sadly defeated. They then went to Arkansas Post, where the tide turned and they captured all the artillery. After wintering at Milliken's Bend, where a portion of their time was spent in digging the canal in the vain endeavor to make the Mississippi run up hill, they were sent to

Vicksburg and bore an active part in the siege of that city. There Mr. Dyer acted as Captain. Prior to this he had been made an aide on Gen. Carr's staff, with the rank of Lieutenant, but had declined the appointment because the boys had insisted that as he had started out with them he should remain in their company. The next prominent point at which the young soldier was found was Jackson, Miss., after the capture of which he took part in other conflicts, among them being the noted engagement at Lookout Mountain, where many of our brave boys fought above the clouds. Following this came the battles at Ringgold, Dallas, Peach Tree Creek and Big Shanty. Breaking down in health while en route to Atlanta, Captain Dyer was discharged September 4, 1864, on a surgeon's certificate of disability.

The succeeding two years were spent by Mr. Dyer in recovering his health, and he then engaged in the hardware business in Chicago, continuing it a year. He then went to Iowa, where in the town of Atalissa, September 12, 1867, he was united in marriage with Miss Amanda M., daughter of Thomas Lewis. The same year he went to St. Louis, Mo., where he received the appointment of Deputy City Collector, the place being secured for him by Gov. Fletcher, and held a little over a year. On account of his wife's health they returned to Iowa, where he was engaged in the mercantile business until 1875, at which time he removed to Joliet. His wife was removed by death June 29, 1870, leaving one child, George L., who is now with his father. Since coming to Joliet Mr. Dyer has followed the dry-goods business.

On May 6, 1873, Mr. Dyer contracted a second matrimonial alliance, taking for his companion Miss Juliette Hardy, with whom he lived happily until December 27, 1876, when she breathed her last. She was a daughter of Otis Hardy, of Joliet. The union was blessed by the birth of one child, Florence J. On April 10, 1878, Mr. Dyer was again married, his bride being Miss Amelia A. Hardy, who has borne him two children, now living—Emma Phyla and Marion A.

The first Presidential ballot of Mr. Dyer was cast for Abraham Lincoln, and his allegiance has has always been given to the Republican party. In





*Rev. P. W. Dunne*

the infancy of that political organization his father and brothers desired to vote for Gen. Fremont, but dare not do so in the section of Missouri in which they lived. Mr. Dyer belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic.



**P**ATRICK W. DUNNE, Pastor of St. Patrick's Church in Joliet, although comparatively young holds a high position in the ranks of the Catholic priesthood as one who is doing much to advance the interests of the church in various ways. To him are due the great improvements around the edifice in which his charge meets. Personally he is a genial, whole-souled man, very companionable, and not only dearly loved by his people but highly respected by the community in general for his good qualities of mind and heart. His intellect has been thoroughly cultured and his mind is stored with learning. In charitable work he is ever ready to lend a helping hand and the members of his own charge are treated with the greatest consideration regarding their physical needs, as well as the wants of their souls.

Father Dunne is of mixed ancestry, his father, Edward Dunne, having been a native of Ireland, and his mother, Mary Finn, of Prince Edward Island. Edward Dunne came to Prince Edward Island in 1819, and 1851 went to Watertown, Wis., where he built the first church and first bridge in that place, the latter being over the Rock River. He had been reared to carpentering, his six brothers following the same trade or combining it with ship-carpentering. The seven Dunne brothers came to America, and two—William and Patrick—are now living in Chicago. The youngest brother, Dennis, was a man of wide reputation and high character, who became Vicar General of the Chicago Diocese. He departed his life in 1868. The father of our subject died in Joliet, July 2, 1888. His last work was remodeling St. Patrick's Church, for which he had drawn all the plans and specifications and which he personally superintended. His widow is still living, making her home in Chicago,

where a number of her children reside. To Edward and Mary Dunne nine daughters and six sons were born, ten of the number being yet alive. These all live in Chicago except Patrick and his sister Catherine who is with him in Joliet.

The subject of this sketch was born in Watertown, Wis., March 1, 1852. His education was begun in the College of the Christian Brothers in Chicago. In the spring of 1868, he entered St. Charles College, at Ellicott City, Md., from which institution he was graduated in 1874. Owing to sickness his studies were abandoned for a year, after which he renewed them in St. Mary's Seminary at Baltimore. In that institution he remained four and a half years, completing the line of studies which fitted him to enter the priesthood. On December 22, 1879, he was ordained and sent to St. Patrick's Church, Chicago, where he arrived two days later, celebrating his first mass at midnight of that same day. Father Dunne became the Assistant Pastor of St. Mary's Church in Joliet, February 13, 1880, retaining that position until January 29, 1886, when he was appointed to that which he now fills. Here he became the successor of Father Walter Power, who died January 27, and whose pastorate had extended through seventeen years.

In 1889, the Golden Jubilee of St. Patrick's Church was celebrated, the event being the grandest that Joliet had ever seen in connection with Catholic church work. The occasion was one that will long be remembered, not only by those who adhere to the Catholic faith but by all who witnessed it. The Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by Bishop Burke, of Cheyenne, and Arch-bishop Riordan, of San Francisco, the latter a cousin of Father Dunne, delivered the sermon.

A lithographic portrait of Father Dunne appears in connection with his biographical sketch.



**F**REDERICK HASEMAN. Among the young farmers of the county a high place is merited by the gentleman above named, who successfully operates a tract of land in Washington

Township. This estate comprises two hundred acres of excellent land under careful and intelligent tillage, and has been the home of our subject from his infancy. For six years he has been the owner of the farm that was purchased by his father in a raw state, and by him and his sons brought to a fine condition of improvement and cultivation. The work begun by the parent is ably continued by the son, who is intelligent, industrious and thrifty. He was born near Eagle Lake, in this township, August 12, 1862, and is the youngest child of his parents and the only one born in America. He was but a year old when he came to his present home, where he grew to manhood, was educated and began his own career.

The father of our subject is John Haseman, who was born in Shambourg, Leipsic, Germany, January 25, 1811. He married the daughter of a neighboring family—Miss Mary Pauls—who like himself had been reared under the care of excellent parents. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. John Haseman lived on a farm in the Fatherland until after the birth of seven children. They then set sail for America, leaving Bremerhaven, May 1, 1860, and landing in New York City twenty-three days later. The family came to Chicago, Ill., and thence to Eagle Lake, this county, where they rented a farm, upon which they lived for three years, and where our subject first saw the light of day.

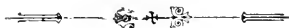
In 1863 the father purchased one hundred and twenty acres on section 8, Washington Township, the next year adding an eighty-acre tract adjoining. Upon this he put up good buildings, reclaiming the land from its primitive state and making a comfortable home in which to spend his declining years. He is still living, making his home with our subject, and is smart and active for one of his years. He lost his companion in March, 1881, she being then sixty years old. She was a lifelong member of the Lutheran Church, and conscientiously endeavored to fulfil the duties which devolved upon her as wife, mother and member of society. Her husband belongs to the same church, and he too has endeavored to act well his part in life.

Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. John Hase-

man we note the following: Anna married Henry Walker, and died at the birth of her first child; Henry married Sophia Meyer, and died leaving four children; Carolina became the wife of William Meyer, and died leaving four children; John, Jr., who is now living on a farm in Will Township, this county, married Louisa Winsenburg; Engel is the wife of Charles Lange, a farmer in Washington Township; Mary is the wife of William Voltner, and they occupy a farm in Lake County, Ind.; Sophia married George Apking, who is a farmer in Crete Township this county; Fred is the youngest son and child.

The latter married Mary Thurner, who was born in Eagle Lake Village, December 18, 1862. She received a good education, and acquired an excellent knowledge of the domestic arts and the kindly offices in which womanhood excels. She is the mother of four children, namely: Lena, Alvina, Albert and Authy. She and her husband belong to the Lutheran Church. Mr. Haseman, of this notice, is a sound Republican, as are his father and brothers.

The paternal grandparents of our subject were John O. and Engel (Nieders) Haseman, who spent their entire lives in Germany. They were consistent members of the Lutheran Church. The husband was a shoemaker by trade, and followed that occupation from his youth until his death, which occurred when he was about sixty-three years of age.



**J**OHAN FAHRNER, M.D., a rising young physician and surgeon of Joliet, obtained his medical education in Chicago, Ill., in the Bennett Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1882. Immediately afterward he entered upon the practice of his profession in Joliet, where he is rapidly building up an extensive business. He obtained likewise an excellent literary and classical education, with the Benedictines of Chicago. He is a member of the Illinois Eclectic Medical Society. Close application to his studies while he had the opportunity, made him thoroughly acquainted with the duties of his chosen



calling, while he keeps himself posted upon the methods which are constantly being brought to the attention of the profession.

Dr. Fahrner was born on the other side of the Atlantic, in the town of Marienbad, Austria, February 11, 1854, and is the son of Dr. Valentine and Mary Ann (Tauber) Fahrner, who were of German birth and ancestry. Valentine Fahrner, also a practicing physician of good repute, followed his profession in his native land several years, then came to America, in 1854, locating first in Chicago. He followed his profession there until 1868, then returned to his native land. Finally he came back to America and located at Mokena, Ill., where he sojourned two years. In 1871 he took up his residence in Joliet, and followed his practice in this city until his death, July 7, 1879. The wife and mother had preceded her husband to the silent land, her death occurring May 28, 1873. They were the parents of three children only—our subject and his sister, Mrs. Lehner, of this county; Anna died aged twelve years.

Dr. Fahrner was married December 28, 1875, in Joliet, to Miss Magdalena Kachelhoffer. Mrs. Fahrner was born in Joliet, and by her union with our subject there have been born seven children, viz.: John, Pius, Angela, Walter, Alphonse, Charlotte and Frederick. Their home is at No. 609 North Nicholson Street. Dr. Fahrner has his office at No. 200 North Center Street.

Politically, the Doctor is a sterling Democrat, and he and his family are members of St. John's Catholic Church.

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**JUDGE SOLOMON SIMMONS.** No citizen of Plainfield has read more extensively, thought more deeply, or is better posted than the gentleman above named. His judgment is keen, and after once arriving at a conclusion he is very positive, and only serious thought and study of pros and cons will change his ideas. Frank and open-hearted, all know the meaning of his words and actions and respect him accordingly. He is liberal in his religious belief, has never even

touched tobacco with his fingers and has always been an ardent advocate of temperance and a believer in prohibition, although not a third party man.

Judge Simmons was born in Claverick, Columbia County, N. Y., March 18, 1812, and is a son of Solomon and Rebecca (Murray) Simmons. The father was born in Germany, January 31, 1762, and was one of nine sons and daughters born to William Simmons and his wife. The grandparents of our subject came to America about the time of the Revolutionary War, and the grandfather died in Rhinebeck, Dutchess County, N. Y., at the great age of one hundred and five years. He owned a tract of land there on which he had been engaged in farming and to the same pursuit his son Solomon was reared.

The father of our subject was in his teens when he came to America with his parents, and in the Empire State when forty years of age he was married. His first purchase of real estate was a farm of one hundred and twenty acres at Rhinebeck and upon this estate he settled after his marriage. He purchased one hundred and thirty acres in Columbia County but lost it by a defective title. He continued to reside in Dutchess County until 1826, when he removed to Penfield, Monroe County, making that his place of abode until he was removed from the toils and cares of earth in September, 1831.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Simmons comprised five children, viz.: Daniel and Jacob (twins), Elizabeth, Rebecca, and Solomon, the subject of this sketch. The mother married the second time and spent the latter years of her life in Penfield, breathing her last there in January, 1833. Her father, John Murray, served in the Revolutionary War and died in the service; he is believed to have been born in Ireland.

The gentleman of whom we write was fourteen years old when his father removed to Monroe County, N. Y., and there he began working on a farm at \$5 per month. When sixteen years old he became a driver on the Erie Canal, following the tow path six months. For five years he continued in the employ of the canal company, soon being placed in charge of a boat. In 1833 he went

to Ohio and bought a tract of timber land in Geauga County, near Bainbridge. There he built a log house; he began cutting down the trees, grubbing out the stumps and otherwise preparing the soil for cultivation. During the year he cleared quite a tract, after which he sold the place and bought another which already had quite a large clearing upon it.

In 1836 Mr. Simmons began boating on the Ohio Canal, but after following that occupation two seasons again turned his attention to the improvement of a farm. In 1839 he explored the northern part of Illinois, purchased eighty acres in Kane County and a claim to eighty more of Government land. It was his intention to remove hither that fall, but money due him could not be collected, and other misfortunes happening, he sold the land and remained in Ohio until 1845. Then, with his wife and children, he started westward, making an overland journey to Illinois, arriving at Plainfield September 19. He purchased a tract of wild land in DuPage Township and two years later eighty acres of improved land near Wheatland. To this estate he added until it amounted to two hundred and forty acres. This he operated until 1863, when he sold it, purchasing another farm which consisted of one hundred and ninety-two acres and cost \$50 per acre. This valuable piece of property was his home until 1880, when he sold it and took up his abode in Plainfield.

It will thus be seen that the persevering efforts of Judge Simmons resulted in the accumulation of a comfortable fortune and the ease to which he is entitled is made possible by his finances. For a time he followed in the footsteps of his father and voted the Democratic ticket, but on removing to Illinois he joined the anti-slavery forces and has been a Republican since the formation of the party. He has filled various offices of trust, and in every position has acted wisely and well. In 1853 he was elected County Judge, in which capacity he served one term. For six years he represented Wheatland Township on the County Board of Supervisors. In 1862 Gov. Yates appointed him enrolling officer for Will County, and President Lincoln subsequently appointed him to a similar position for the Sixth Congressional District where he superin-

tended the draft. In looking back over a long life, Judge Simmons would no doubt see where he has made mistakes, as who can not, but he would have the pleasure of realizing that his aim has ever been toward that which is noble and that the example of his life is one worthy to be followed.

On January 6, 1833, the rites of wedlock were celebrated between Judge Simmons and Miss Mary, daughter of Tifney and Mary (Griswold) Nettleton. Mrs. Simmons was born in Penfield Township, Monroe County, N. Y., possessed many virtues and made a happy home for her husband and children until called from them to the land beyond. She breathed her last April 28, 1886, deeply regretted by a host of friends. She had borne her husband ten children, whose record is as follows: Oliver is now living in Petrolia, Canada; Andrew, in Plainfield Township, this county; Henry E. was born January 20, 1850, and died in Kansas City in 1883. Solomon W. is living in Joliet; Olive, the second child, died in 1840 when but two years old; Malala died in 1858; Mary married George Piekel (see sketch); Rosetta is the wife of C. H. Carson, M. D., of Kansas City; Louisa, wife of C. W. Cropsy, Kansas City; Laura was the wife of Willis Brainard, of Fairbury, Neb. She is deceased.



**S**AMUEL FEWTRELL. Many of the master mechanics who give tone and solidity to the manufacturing industries of our country were born, reared, and educated in their special pursuits, in busy England. Among the number of such, Samuel Fewtrell, Superintendent of the rail department of the Illinois Steel Works is a notable example. Beginning at the early age of nine years in a rolling mill in his native land, and continuing for forty years, step by step advancing in his chosen vocation, he has passed through varied experiences. His busy life is well worth recording and should inspire others to more persistent effort. To have a purpose in life and to work for its attainment is half the battle.

Samuel Fewtrell was born April 20, 1837, and

is a son of Joseph Fewtrell, a miner who was engaged at different times in iron, stone and coal mines. On the 15th of November, in the year of 1858, in a large chapel in Wolverhampton, England, he was united in marriage with Ann Biddle, who has shared his joys and reverses, his home and its cheer. To them have been born eight children, six of whom are living. The eldest, who was christened Tom, is engaged in the steel works with his father. Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Hewlett, Mrs. Ellen J. McCormick, Jessie Edith, Ada Florence and William Henry, are the other surviving members of the family circle.

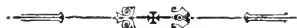
In the year 1871, attracted as thousands of others have been, by the wonderful stories of America's resources, possibilities and rich promises to the industrious, Mr. Fewtrell came hither, locating first at Elmira, N. Y. Vividly does he remember his landing in New York among strangers, with but twenty-five cents in his pocket and seeking a new home with strange associations. He expended the small sum which he possessed for stamps and paper to acquaint those left behind with the fact of his safe arrival, and making his way to Elmira, he at once began the course of perseverance that has ever marked his life. A few months thereafter we find him in Lockport, N. Y., and March, 1873, in Joliet, Ill.

When he arrived in this city Mr. Fewtrell had \$7 in his pocket and a freight bill of \$17 confronting him. He resolutely went to work as helping heater in the old iron mill. When the mill shut down in 1874, he went to California, where he remained about a year, and thence to St. Louis, Mo., where he worked a few months in the Tudor mills. He next returned to Joliet, but in 1877 went to Colorado, where he assisted in starting a mill at Pueblo, known as Fox's mill. He spent a few months in the mining district, where he was introduced to many new phases of life and learned a different vocabulary from that to which he had been accustomed. Paradoxical as is the thought, he can now refer with pleasure to many unpleasant experiences through which he passed.

While in England Mr. Fewtrell was never farther than forty miles from his home, but once breathing the free air of America, he imbibed its

spirit of restlessness to the full and in his travels we can trace him south as far New Orleans, north to North Dakota, and west to the Pacific, and once on a visit back to sunny England. His wife partaking the same spirit has three times crossed the briny deep, each time taking with her four children. Although in his native land Mr. Fewtrell had received wages of \$4 per day and in New York he received but \$2.25, yet he preferred the new home and has never regretted becoming an American citizen.

Mr. Fewtrell is a Republican in politics and socially a member of the Royal Arcanum. He is an earnest, energetic citizen, whose life affords a bright example of what may be won by persistent, patient effort.



**N**ICHOLAS YONKER. One of the finest farms in Florence Township is that owned and occupied by the gentleman above named who has high standing as a man of personal worth and abundant means. The estate is thoroughly improved, the buildings being unexcelled in the township, and the two hundred and forty acres of land made productive by the best means known to modern husbandmen. It affords pleasure to note these facts as the result of persistent zeal and unflagging industry on the part of Mr. Yonker, who was a poor boy, getting his start in life by working on a farm by the month. When he landed in this State in 1854, he had but \$9; now he is numbered among the wealthy agriculturists of the county.

The stock from which Mr. Yonker traces his descent was German and the family had resided in Switzerland for generations. In that famed country he was born February 2, 1833, his parents being Nicholas and Mary (Marte) Yonker, who spent their entire lives in that, their native land. They were the parents of six children named respectively: Nicholas, Benedict, Elizabeth, Mary, Anna Mary and Anna.

The subject of this notice was reared in his native land, which he left on becoming of age, to try his fortune in the United States. Coming to Illi-

nois he spent two and a half years in Mokena, this county, after which he returned to the land of his birth. Ten months later he came again to America and spent the following year in Wilmington, this county. His next place of residence was Milton Township, where he labored five years, going thence to Peotone Township for a sojourn of two years. In 1866 he made settlement on section 14, Florence Township, where he still lives surrounded by the comforts to which his industry entitles him.

The marriage of Mr. Yonker and Miss Anna E. Weyland was celebrated January 7, 1859, at the bride's home near Wilmington. She was born in Switzerland and is the daughter of Benedict Weyland. Her character and attainments gain the respect of those to whom she is known and many friends testify to her worth. The happy union has resulted in the birth of eight sons and daughters, of whom we note the following. Albert married Miss Isabella Gates and is the father of two children—Alpha and Elmer; he resides with his father and is engaged in farming. George and Frederick are deceased. Mary became the wife of William Graimeyer, a farmer of Jackson Township, and they have one daughter—Louisa. Frank is dead. Sarah, Anna and Ollie are still lingering by the parental fireside.

Mr. Yonker is a Republican of the strongest type. He and his family belong to the Evangelical Church and endeavor to consistently carry their Christian belief into their daily practice, winning thereby, the respect even of those who disbelieve the grand truths of the Gospel.



**H**ORATIO N. MARSH. This hale and vigorous old man has spent a long business life in Joliet, by whose citizens he is highly honored and respected. He came to this city in December, 1835, Mr. Woodruff having been here a little longer time, but no other resident of so early a date now living here. Although nearly four-score years old he carries on a business in real estate and loans, his office being in Jefferson Street, opposite the Court House. He is a descendant

from the Marsh family that settled on the Connecticut River in 1635, gradually working up the stream until in 1710 his immediate ancestors located in Montague Township, opposite Deerfield.

On a farm there Quartus Marsh, the father of our subject, was born and there the son also opened his eyes to the light on the same farm. After reaching man's estate, Quartus Marsh married Miss Sarah Holt and reared a family of six children. He was employed as a farmer, first in his native State, and from 1828 to 1835 in Monroe County, N. Y. The family then came to Illinois, making the journey in the customary way, by canal and lake to Detroit, Mich., and driving the rest of the way. This county was not then organized, but the father settled in what is now Crete Township, where he lived until called from time to eternity in 1850. The mother survived her companion about three years. Of the sons and daughters of this worthy couple, Mary Ann and Jonathan died in this county; Edwin, Henry and Francis now live in Kansas.

When the Marsh family came to this county Joliet was a village of one hundred inhabitants. He was the subject of this notice engaged in the cabinet business, having learned that trade in the Empire State. He had been born in Franklin County, Mass., November 15, 18, 2, and was therefore but little past his majority when he began his career in the city that has known him so long and well.

When the Rock Island Railroad was built in 1852, Mr. Marsh took the position of Ticket and Freight Agent, which he held for thirty-two years, or until 1884, when he considered himself too old for farther service in that capacity. For a time he had also transacted the express business. From April, 1863 until 1866, he had been Postmaster, going out under Johnson's administration. When he resigned the position that he had held for more than a quarter of a century, he embarked in the business he now carries on, being too active in mind and body to wish to abandon the ranks of workers in some capacity.

In Monroe County, N. Y., Mr. Marsh was united in marriage with Miss Mary Kile of that county, who died in 1840, leaving one son, William H. The young man gave his life to his country's cause, dying a soldier's death, with his face to the foe, in

front of Vicksburg, and leaving to his sorrowing father the consolation that comes from a knowledge of duty done even at the cost of life.

The second wife of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Mary L. Pond, she also being of Monroe County, N. Y. The union has been blessed by the birth of a son, Frank E., who is representing the Fourth Ward in the City Council. He married Miss Jennie R. Foster, a native of New York, but whose home was in Delavan, Wis., at the time of their marriage. Young Marsh is a well-known grain dealer of this city.

A man so highly respected as Horatio N. Marsh, could not be without opportunities to fill a public office and he has served as the representative of the Fourth Ward for five years. His legitimate affairs have been sufficient to occupy his time fully and politics have had but little place in his career. He belongs to the Presbyterian Church, his probity and life-long honesty are recognized by all, and his genial nature makes him popular wherever he is known.



**D**ANIEL BAILEY and his good wife are among the oldest pioneers now living in Will County. Coming here more than forty years ago, they have witnessed the great change wrought by the hand of man in bringing it from a state of nature to its present condition as one of the richest and most highly developed counties in Northern Illinois, and they may well take pride in what they have done to aid in producing this wonderful result. Mr. Bailey is a farmer and stock-raiser, one of the most prosperous of that class of people who have had the upbuilding of Channahon, where he has had a home since he came to this county, and where he has a large farm from whose broad, fertile acres he derives a handsome income.

Mr. Bailey is a native of Pennsylvania, from which State his parents took him to a new home in the wilds of Ohio, near Cincinnati. He was the fifth child in a family of nine, and when still a boy he came to Illinois with his father and

mother, who located twenty-one miles west of Danville, in 1818. In 1850, our subject came to his present place, which then comprised one hundred and twenty acres of wild prairie, which he had purchased of Jasper Wilson. He put that into a fine state of cultivation by hard and persistent labor, and in time bought more land, purchasing some canal land and now has five hundred acres, the most of which was bought in the raw state, and is now under excellent improvement. Mr. Bailey is one of the substantial, moneyed men of Channahon, he having attained this position by his extraordinary industry, quick judgment, and in the judicious management of his interests. He and his family are well known and greatly respected in this community, which has been their abiding place for so many years, and their kindness, thoughtfulness and genial hospitality, have won them a high place in the regard of the many who know them. Mr. Bailey is a Democrat in politics, but votes for the *man* in the local elections.

Mr. Bailey has been twice married. He was first wedded to Rebecca Boardman. Her parents were from the East, and Dr. A. Comstock was her stepfather. Mrs. Bailey died, leaving one son, Alexander. He is now living in Missouri and is married, and has three children, two sons and one daughter.

Mr. Bailey was married to Mrs. John Brown, his present estimable wife, forty-two years ago. She was the daughter of Ransom and Sarah Zarley, natives, respectively, of Ohio and Kentucky. They were among the earliest pioneers of the county, coming from Pike County, Ohio, where Mrs. Bailey was born. She was married when very young to Mr. John Brown, of Onondaga County, Y. Y. Her husband came to this State with Maj. Bourland, who had married a Miss Brown. This was in the year of the land sale and he bought land for other members of the family, purchasing nine and one-fourth sections in Jackson Township. Her husband died in that place, leaving her a widow with three children, Sarah, Mary and William, who are all living in Jackson. Sarah is the widow of Frank Dooley. She lives near her mother and has eight children, five girls and three boys. Mary is the wife of Seth Gibbon

and they have three children, two sons and one daughter. William is married and has five children, four sons and one daughter; he owns and manages the old John Brown homestead, which his father bought at the Government land sale so many years ago. Mrs. Bailey's marriage has been blessed to her and our subject by the birth of two children; the eldest of whom is Calney, and Ella, wife of Henry Kipp, of whom see sketch. Calney Bailey resides on the homestead and assists his father in the management of his farm land. He is an enterprising, progressive, young man and is well educated. He first attended the district schools, and then pursued a fine commercial course at Jennings Seminary. He was married in September, 1886, to Miss Hattie Barnes, daughter of Mathew and Mary J. (Purdy) Barnes, natives of New York; they were married there and came here in the winter of 1857, and still make their home in Jackson Township.

Mrs. Bailey's parents located on a farm about two miles southwest of Joliet, and the place is still in the hands of the family. Mrs. Bailey can well remember the incidents of the Sauk War when the Indians came through this region and chased them from their homes. This was in the spring of the year when the settlers were putting in their crops with their clumsy tools and ox-teams. While thus working they received word that the Indians were on the war path, and dropping their implements on the field they immediately started with their families and in ox-teams for Danville, all the people in the county leaving excepting three families who were foolhardy enough to stay behind and were all killed by the savages, excepting two young girls who were taken captives but were afterwards recovered from the Indians.

Among the families thus leaving their home were the Scotts, Moores and Crutcherfields. Mr. Zarley and his family went as far as Froquois, where they met the soldiers going in pursuit of the Indians and they returned with them as far as where Joliet now stands, and the soldiers putting up a block house on the west side of the river, they remained with them there for awhile. When the soldiers were ordered to join Scott, the Zarleys returned to Danville, and stayed there until the following

September, when all the families went back to their homes, the men folks having gone there previously to see that everything was all right. During their stay in the block house in Joliet, they had considerable fun over a false alarm which was sent in to try the soldiers, and it found them in a poor condition to receive the enemy. At the time Mr. and Mrs. Zarley put their children under the feather bed in the wagons and told them to lie still, and the old gentleman took his gun and awaited the coming of the Indians. Mrs. Bailey and her sisters are the only survivors of the scare who took refuge in the block house where Joliet now stands, she being about ten years old at the time and her sister but a baby.

That winter the pioneers of the county suffered with hunger as they neglected to lay in sufficient supplies. Mr. Zarley went to Danville and got his supplies for the winter, and his neighbors, the Scotts, Moores, Bilsens, and others borrowed of him with the expectation of paying back when they went for their load, but an early snow came and prevented them from going, and more severe snow storms occurring, no one was able to get to Danville, so that provisions were very scarce. Mrs. Bailey says she can well remember the look of sorrow upon her mother's face as she heard her children crying for bread, almost starving. They had a little corn which they pounded up and each one was given a small allowance. They also had a few potatoes that were baked in the ashes and distributed amongst the almost starving children, the older ones, Mrs. Bailey and her elder brother, generously allowing the younger ones to have their share. After that winter the pioneers got along very well, as there were plenty of deer, prairie chickens and other game, besides fish of a superior quality in the rivers, the settlers catching them with a spear in the old days. The Pottawatomies living in the country then were friendly and John Zarley and his elder brother used to go hunting and fishing with them. While the war was being waged with the Sauks, they kept track of the settlers' cattle and helped to get them together on their return, as they were nearly as afraid of the Sauks as the whites were themselves.

The Zarleys were great Methodists going to

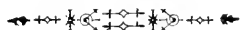




*Aug. E. Barrett*



meeting as often as opportunity offered, often going a long distance. They made a square box and put it on the two front wheels of an ox wagon, in this they put two split bottom chairs and drove to meeting behind a pair of oxen. One of the young ladies who often accompanied them to the religious services, was a Miss Joliet Brown, for whom the city of Joliet was named.



**AUGUST EHRLHARDT.** The leading mercantile establishment of Beecher is that of August Ehrhardt, who carries a very full line of goods, well selected for the needs of country trade. The business was begun in 1880, prior to which time Mr. Ehrhardt had been engaged as clerk for August Schiffer, of Monee, in whose employ he had gained a thorough knowledge of the business. Mr. Ehrhardt is also Postmaster, having received his appointment under the present administration. He is well and favorably known as a man of upright character, more than ordinary intelligence, and an abundance of energy in whatever he undertakes. He is active in local politics, voting the Republican ticket at all times, and his fellow-citizens have called for his services in various local offices. He and his good wife belong to the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Ehrhardt comes of good old German families, the home of both ancestral lines being in Saxony. His father, Christoph Ehrhardt, was reared as a farmer and after his marriage took up for himself that occupation. His wife was Miss Sophia Werner, who was reared in the same neighborhood as himself. To them were born two sons and two daughters, with whom they set sail from Bremerhaven in July, 1851, on the sailing vessel "Susannah." After a tedious voyage of eight weeks landing was made at Baltimore, whence the family came to Chicago. The father chose a location in Monee Township, Cook County, and there the family lived on a small farm for some years. The parents then settled in Blue Island, where both died, the father passing away in 1872, at the age of seventy-six years and the mother surviving until

1889, she being then seventy-eight years old. Both were life-long members of the Lutheran Church in the tenets of which they reared their children. These all survive, are married and have families.

The subject of this sketch is the eldest member of the parental family and was born in Saxony, Germany, April 30, 1810. He received a good education in his native land during his early boyhood, and after accompanying his parents to America, attended schools in this State, acquiring an excellent knowledge of the English language. He was living in Will County when he became of age and was occupied with agricultural pursuits until after the breaking out of the Civil War. In 1862 he was enrolled in Company D, Eighty-second Illinois Infantry, his company and regiment being under the command of Capt. Miller and Col. Hecker. He was mustered into service at Camp Butler, and in October went to the front, first meeting the enemy at Chancellorsville. The next heavy engagement in which he participated was at Gettysburg, and he afterwards bore his part in the terrible conflicts of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. He was one of the gallant sixty thousand who marched with Sherman from Atlanta to the sea and back through the Carolinas to Washington, and with other members of Hecker's regiment was known to officers and comrades as a faithful and plucky soldier. He escaped injury and was able to report for duty every day until the last gun was fired, when he was honorably discharged at Chicago and mustered out of service at Camp Douglas. Coming at once to Monee, this county, he began his clerkship, which he continued until he established the business in which he is now engaged.

The lady to whose fine character and housewifely skill Mr. Ehrhardt owes the joy and comfort of his home life, was known in her maidenhood as Miss Louisa Klein. She was born June 26, 1813, in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, her parents, August and Madeline (Boehl) Klein, being natives of the same province. In 1816 they left their native land to make a home in the New World, sailing from Bremerhaven accompanied by four children. After some weeks they landed at New York City whence

they journeyed by river, canal and lakes to Chicago. Later they located at Blue Island, and still later settled on a farm in Cooper's Grove, where they remained some years. They then purchased a farm in Monce Township, Will County, where they erected a comfortable dwelling in which they lived until after the death of Mrs. Klein, which occurred when she was forty-five years old. Mr. Klein subsequently went to Missouri, dying there when about seventy-six years of age. He and his wife belonged to the Lutheran Church. Their daughter, now Mrs. Ehrhardt, being scarcely more than an infant when they crossed the briny deep, was reared in Cook County, Ill., and there obtained her education. Her happy union with our subject has been blest with the birth of two children—Arthur and Carl—who have been educated in the public schools and who are still living under the parental roof.

As a representative citizen of Will County, we are pleased to present on another page of the album a lithographic portrait of Mr. Ehrhardt.



**N**OBLE JONES. The tastes of men give rise to varied wants and occupations. Some find their enjoyment in the bustle of the busy haunts of men, and some amid the less exciting scenes of rural life, while others combine the two. The latter is the case with the subject of this biographical notice, who spends his days among the bulls and bears of the Chicago Board of Trade and in the turmoil of the great city, while the hours not occupied in efforts to increase his store of worldly goods are given to rural pleasures and domestic joys "far from the madding crowd." His home is in Mokena, whence he goes to Chicago every morning, returning at night, as regularly as clock work, never having been left in thirteen years. For the past decade he has been a member of the Chicago Board of Trade, and has become the largest receiver among the heavy dealers so prominent there. His shrewdness is unquestioned, and minor dealers who could get a "tip" from Noble Jones would consider themselves very fortunate.

The Jones family is of Welsh descent, and the more immediate progenitors of our subject were natives of New England. His grandfather, Wesley Jones, was born in Vermont, whence he removed to Connecticut, in which State his son Wesley, the father of our subject, was born in 1800. The same year the elder Jones removed to Canada, making a settlement in Barnstone Township, County Standstead. He owned and operated a large farm, and the son was reared amid rural surroundings. He learned the trade of a blacksmith, following it in Canada until 1837, when he removed to Arcadia, Wayne County, N. Y., and in that town continued his occupation several years. In 1841 he came to Will County, Ill., locating in Homer Township, where he sojourned but a year ere removing to Orland Township, Cook County. There he purchased and improved an eighty-acre farm, upon which he resided until his death, in 1880, engaged in the peaceful vocation of a farmer.

The mother of our subject was Abigail, daughter of William Barnes, and was born in Hillsboro, Mass. Her father, who had previously kept an hotel in Boston, removed to Barnstone, Canada, during her early life, and engaged in farming there. The homes of Grandfather Jones and Grandfather Barnes were but a mile apart, and when, in 1882, our subject revisited his birthplace, he was able from the descriptions given him to locate both places. Grandfather Barnes and his wife were brought to Illinois in 1854, and both died at the home of his father. Mrs. Wesley Jones was the mother of six children, he of whom we write being the youngest. Cyrus died in New York; Wesley is now living in Wetmore, Kan.; William is farming in Frankfort Township, this county; Wright lives in Portland, Ore.; Abigail, Mrs. Cross, lives in Wetmore, Kan. The mother passed away in Mokena in 1881, at the advanced age of eighty years.

Noble Jones was born in Barnstone, Canada, November 16, 1831, and was therefore about three years old when he accompanied his parents to Arcadia, N. Y. The journey was accomplished with a team and wagon, and during the few years which followed the little lad enjoyed the privilege of attending the common schools. The re-

moveal to Illinois taking place when he was ten years old, is well remembered by him, and the ride on the canal to Buffalo and on a steamer to Chicago were enjoyed as none but a hearty boy could enjoy such a trip. The city which is now the scene of Mr. Jones's labors, presented an uninviting appearance when the family reached it, consisting as it did of a few unpretentious dwellings and places of business, around which stretched the low ground which well deserved the name of mud hole. From Chicago the family came to Will County with teams, and here our subject passed one year.

Cook County then became the home of the Jones family, and our subject was obliged to go three miles to school. The old-fashioned log schoolhouse with slab benches and puncheon floor was the scene of his educational efforts, and the schools were kept up by subscription. Like other farmers' sons young Jones was early set to work, soon presenting the appearance of the "barefoot boy with cheek of tan" who may be seen on many a farm. When thirteen years old he began driving a breaking team, consisting of seven yoke of oxen. Three years later he found work as a teamster for the Rock Island Railroad Company, which was then putting its line to Mokena. He received \$1.25 per day for himself and team, a day's work being twelve hours.

In the spring of 1852, when eighteen years old, Noble Jones and his brother Wright rigged up a mule team and started to California. Making their way to Council Bluffs, they joined eighteen others in a caravan which traveled along the north bank of the Platte River to Ft. Laramie, thence along the North Platte, taking Sublet's Cut-off, and thence through the South Pass to the Golden State. Three times the train was attacked by the Pawnees, who were very hostile at that time, and all considered it wonderful that they escaped being massacred. At Loupe Fork and the two following camping places, only the bold front they presented to the savages presented so dire a catastrophe. As their own animals were wild, and gunshots would have stampeded them, they did not dare shoot, but depended upon their appearance of preparation and fearlessness, which fortunately proved sufficient to save their lives. The only

weapon possessed by our subject during these trying scenes was a long range rifle.

The train arrived in Sacramento seventy-three days after leaving Council Bluffs, and Mr. Jones found work upon a farm, beginning his labors at \$75 per month, and receiving \$125 before he abandoned them. His only experience in mining was during three days, when he was visiting in the mountains. After remaining on the slope two years Mr. Jones returned via the Nicaragua route, the steamer "Sierra Nevada" carrying him from San Francisco to the Isthmus, and the "Star of the West" being his home during the Atlantic voyage. The last named vessel was the first boat fired at Charleston during the late war. Mr. Jones was working on a farm six miles from Sacramento when that city was burned, and also when it was "drowned" by the overflow of the Sacramento River.

Mr. Jones completed his journey from New York to Mokena by rail, the road to the latter place having been finished in his absence. For a short time he carried on his father's place, then bought eighty acres of raw land in Frankfort Township, upon which he broke ground, made various improvements and settled down to farming. He devoted himself to that vocation two years, meeting with an ordinary degree of success, and he then built a steam mill in Mokena, and for two years engaged in flour and saw milling as a member of the firm of Cross & Jones. This venture did not prove successful, but on the contrary swallowed up all the previous earnings of Mr. Jones, and he therefore abandoned it for another field of labor.

In 1858 Mr. C. Rowley engaged our subject to go with him to Pike's Peak, Colo., to start and carry on a sawmill, agreeing to pay him \$50 per month for his services. When the two arrived at Atchison, Kan., Mr. Rowley concluded to start the business on the Missouri River at that point instead of going to the destination which they had had in view. Mr. Jones therefore became Superintendent of the sawmill at Atchison, having charge of the sawing and rafting of logs and every other detail of the business. He was joined by his wife and child, and continued to reside in the Garden

State until 1863, when he returned to Illinois. For a twelvemonth he carried on his father's farm, and then, taking up his abode in Mokena, he began buying grain and shipping it to Chicago. During the next two years he was fairly successful, and he then opened an establishment for the sale of agricultural implements.

The new venture of Mr. Jones proved to be one in which his good judgment and business tact found room, and during the next twelve years he made money. He closed out his large trade at the right time, in 1878, and going to Chicago, engaged in the commission business and secured a membership on the Board of Trade. So successful have been his operations that his name has become well known to all who are interested in the working of the Board. His son and son-in-law are with him as assistants, and six other men are employed by him in his office. His dwelling in Mokena is a commodious one, furnished in a style suited to his means and the cultured tastes of the occupants, and supplied with every means for the added culture and enjoyment of the family.

The lady with whom Mr. Jones was united in marriage, was born in Solon, N. Y., and bore the maiden name of Clarissa B. Farley. Her father, Benjamin Farley, was an early settler in Lockport, Ill., following the trade of a carpenter and joiner. Mrs. Jones was orphaned when a young girl, and early began to make her own way as a teacher. She was educated in Indiana, and in that State began her wedded life, her marriage rites being celebrated July 25, 1855, in the town of West Creek. She is a gifted and accomplished woman, whose charming hospitality is never forgotten by those who once enjoy it. She is the mother of six children, of whom four survive—Charles H., the first-born, died in 1877, at the age of twenty years; Edward S. makes his home in Chicago, being with his father in business; Emma married Walter Metcalf, and their home is in Normal Park, Cook County; Belle and Bertha are still at home. The sons and daughters have had fine advantages, and their minds and manners do credit to the care which has been bestowed upon them, and afford good ground for parental pride.

Mr. Jones was President of the Board of Trus-

tees at Mokena for three years and then resigned the office. In 1856 he cast a Presidential ballot for John Charles Fremont, and since that date has been an active supporter of the Republican party. He possesses agreeable manners, a jovial and friendly nature, and is one of those fortunate men who, when business hours are over, can thoroughly enjoy the comforts and luxuries by which they are surrounded, and the many pleasures which their abundant means can procure. Mrs. Jones is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

GEORGE W. DUNLAP, the son of a pioneer of Will County, who has himself done much pioneer work in the improvement of his fine farm on section 36, Wheatland Township, may well be classed among the pioneers of this part of Illinois. He is a native of Sullivan County, N. Y., and was born April 3, 1815. He is a son of Wilson and Phoebe (Holliday) Dunlap, natives of New York State. The father's family is of Scotch origin.

In 1853, the parents of our subject emigrated to this county and his father farmed here as a renter for a number of years. He finally settled on a farm of his own in DuPage Township, and subsequently removed to Plainfield and resided there a number of years. Later he and his wife retired from active life to the home of his daughter, Mrs. Albert Tyler, of Wheatland Township, and he is still an inmate of her household and is now in his seventy-sixth year. In the month of June, 1888, his faithful wife, who had borne with him the labors of their early years and had shared with him the joys and sorrows of a long wedded life, was removed from his side by the hand of death. By that marriage he became the father of seven children, of whom the following four survive: Eugene, residing in Lockport Township; Mrs. Tyler, of Wheatland Township; Elizabeth, wife of Henry Walker, of Iroquois County, and our subject. The father is a staunch Democrat in politics.

George Dunlap, of whom we write, was a young lad when he came to this county and here he was reared to a stalwart manhood under the influences

of pioneer life. His education was conducted in the district schools of the early days, and he gained a thorough knowledge of farming in all its branches under the guidance of his father, and has always followed that calling.

In the month of August, 1862, Mr. Dunlap was married to Mrs. Affa Eaton, widow of Henry Eaton, of Wheatland Township, and a daughter of J. B. King, of DuPage Township, of whom a sketch appears in this ALBUM. Of their union four children have been born, of whom three are now living: James W., Ida, Affa and Emma J. By her first marriage with Henry Eaton, Mrs. Dunlap had one daughter, Alice.

Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap are highly regarded in this community for their great personal worth and in their home, comfort and hospitality abides. Mr. Dunlap carries on his affairs with wisdom and in his dealings with others is honest and fair. He is sincerely religious and the Methodist Episcopal Church finds in him one of its most consistent and conscientious members. His strong temperance views shape his politics and he is identified with the Prohibition party. He has served as a School Director, and all things that will in any way advance the educational interests of the township or elevate society, find favor with him.



**W**ILLIAM BREDEMEYER. It would need but a casual glance over his estate, even from one unacquainted with the relative value of soils and unaccustomed to farm life, to recognize the fact that the above-named gentleman is a thorough agriculturist. The one hundred and sixty acres in the southwest quarter of section 13, Washington Township, are so well improved and kept in such excellent order as to attract the attention of all passers-by and lead all to agree in their verdict regarding the owner. Mr. Bredemeyer was one of the early settlers in this vicinity, but having come to stay he put forward his best efforts to make of his home one of the best farms in Northern Illinois.

Before outlining the life-history of our subject

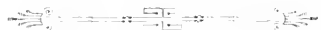
it will not be amiss to devote a brief space to that of his ancestors. His grandfather, Christopher Bredemeyer, and his father, William, Sr., were of old German stock and born in Algesdorf, Germany. There father and son were engaged in farming, and both were noted for their great strength and massive frames. William Bredemeyer was over seven feet in height and of proportionate weight. He lived to be more than four-score years old, while his father reached the advanced age of ninety-three years. Both were life-long members of the Lutheran Church. William Bredemeyer, Sr., married a lady who became the mother of two children, our subject and his sister Mary, who lived and died in Germany. The mother was possessed of remarkable physical strength and a disposition and character worthy of remembrance by her posterity. When in the prime of life she was stricken by a fever and after a short illness breathed her last, leaving our subject motherless before he was eight years old.

The subject of this biographical notice was born June 9, 1824, in Algesdorf, Germany, and passed his boyhood and youth in his native land. In 1845, while he yet lacked some months of having reached his majority, he left Bremenhaven on a sailing vessel bound for New York. After a voyage of six weeks a landing was made and the young man continued his journey to Chicago, Ill. He spent ten years in Cook County, always engaged in farm labor, and at the expiration of that period obtained from the Government the land which he now owns and occupies. A decided change has taken place in its aspect and surroundings since he took possession of it in 1851, and the change is highly creditable to him who has made the desert blossom as the rose.

In Cook County Mr. Bredemeyer made the acquaintance of Miss Sophia Reesen, an industrious and worthy young woman who was gaining a livelihood as a domestic. Her good qualities won his regard, which was reciprocated and they became man and wife. Mrs. Bredemeyer was born in Repen, Germany, February 17, 1827, and began to earn her own living when quite young, having lost her parents. In 1846, she crossed the briny deep alone to make a home for herself in a foreign land. She is the mother of fifteen children, three of whom

died in infancy and the son, Henry, at the age of twenty-six years. The living members of the family are William, Jr., a farmer at Barnsville, Clay County, Minn.; John, who married a lady of Minnesota and is living in Clay County; Sophia, wife of William Hecht, a farmer of the same county; Christoph, who is farming in the same county and in that State married a native of Saxony; Fred, who is still at home and helps to manage the farm; Mary, wife of John Meyer, of Crown Point, Ind., and a traveling salesman; Christ, who is unmarried and working in Chicago; Louisa and Herman, at home; Amelia, who is living in Chicago; and Emma, at home. All the children are self-supporting and inherit the industrious habits and thrifty ways of their parents.

Mr. Breckeneyer is a believer in and a supporter of the principles of the Democratic party. He and his wife belong to the Lutheran Church.



**H**ON. AMOS SAVAGE. Few words are needed in introducing Mr. Savage to the people of Will County, as his name has been familiar to the great portion of them for many years. He has long been identified with the best interests of this section and has fairly earned his title of Honorable by services in the Illinois Legislature, where he acquitted himself with his usual good judgment and efficiency. He is a man of fine talents and that solid strength of character which has gained him the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has had dealings. The friend of progress and education, he has carried out his ideas, especially in his own family, giving to his children the advantages which will fit them for taking their positions in life as good and useful members of the community. The home of Mr. Savage and his surroundings indicates in a marked manner the qualities of character which have shown conspicuously in all the relations of life.

The subject of this notice is the offspring of excellent ancestry, supposed to have originated in England. His father, Deacon Levi Savage, was born in Washington County, N. Y., January 28,

1799, and his mother, who bore the maiden name of Milenda Streeter, was a native of the same county as her husband and less than a month his junior, her birth taking place February 20, of the same year. They were reared in their native county and married at Granville, January 27, 1822. Soon afterward they settled in Clinton County, that State, but only remained there three years, returning then to Washington County where they resided about eight years.

In June, 1833, the parents of Mr. Savage came to this county, locating near Joliet, where they remained until the spring of 1834. The father then took up land on a section 28, Homer Township, from which he constructed a comfortable homestead where he sojourned until his death, which occurred February 14, 1885. The mother is still living and although having arrived at the advanced age of ninety-two years, retains her faculties to a remarkable degree.

Deacon Savage was a man possessing strong traits of character and was not easily turned from his convictions when he felt assured that he was right. He was a staunch Abolitionist, totally opposed to the "peculiar institution" of slavery and for many years was a Deacon in the Congregational Church. His home was the resort of many noted characters, where his hospitality and genuine kindness of heart made everyone feel welcome and at home. The household circle included eight children, five of whom lived to mature years. Hannah W. died unmarried when about forty years of age; Helen L. was the wife of Dwight Haven, a sketch of whom will be found on another page in this volume. Emily is the wife of William H. Lanfear of Homer Township; Edward is a resident of Sioux Falls, S. D.; Amos, our subject, is the youngest born. The elder children died when quite young.

Mr. Savage of whom we write was born in what is now Homer Township, June 18, 1836, and therein he has spent his entire life. His boyhood days were unmarked by anything especially noticeable, he attending the district school and assisting his father in the lighter labors of the farm. He chose agriculture for his vocation in life, as best suited to his tastes and capacities, being

thoroughly imbued with the sentiment that this calling properly carried on, was second in dignity to none on the face of the earth. He remained a member of the parental household until his marriage, which occurred at Lemont, Cook County, this State, February 25, 1861, the bride being Miss Mary L., daughter of Asabel and Catherine (Geddes) Slate.

After his return from the army the young people commenced their wedded life together on their own farm in Homer Township, and Mr. Savage operated successfully as a tiller of the soil while at the same time he grew in favor with his fellow citizens, interesting himself in the enterprises calculated to promote the general good of the community. His first public service was as Supervisor of Homer Township, to which he was elected in April, 1861, and which office he resigned in order to proffer his services in the preservation of the union. He enlisted as a private August 5, 1861, in Company G, Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry, and not long afterward was given the commission of Second Lieutenant which was succeeded July 20, 1862, by his promotion to a First Lieutenant. Still advancing, he was presented July 11, 1861, with a Captain's commission and served in this capacity until October 28, following, when he was obliged to accept his honorable discharge on account of disability. His first experience in actual service was in repelling the raid of Stonewall Jackson upon the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, in January, 1862, where one hundred men of the Thirty-ninth successfully resisted the attack of two rebel regiments, the Third Arkansas and Thirty seventh Virginia. He was also at the battle of Winchester, (Hearnstown) March 23, 1862, where the favorite chieftain of the rebellion was driven from the field with the loss of guns and many prisoners. He was sent with his command to join the Army of the Potomac at the time of the "seven days' fight"; was in the expedition against Charlestown and engaged in the siege of that city from April to December, of 1863, and led his company over the parapet of Ft. Wagner.

Mr. Savage, in 1864, was in the campaign against Richmond, in the Army of the James, leaving the front only when disabled and when his regiment

had been reduced by the casualties of battle and by disease, from a total of seven hundred and fifty, to about one hundred and fifty men in the short space of two months. Upon receiving his discharge he returned to his farming interests in Homer Township, but has never laid aside any of his patriotism or his activity in assisting the projects set on foot for the benefit of the people. He has taken an active part in political affairs and it is hardly necessary to state is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He has been for many years a prominent member of Gooding Post, No. 101, G. A. R. and was once elected to the commandership, but declined. He is independent in his religious views, a man who does his own thinking, who seeks to force his opinions upon none, but who abides by his convictions with the natural tenacity and strength of his character.

For over a quarter of a century and since November, 1861, Mr. Savage has served continuously as Township Treasurer. His leisure hours have been employed with instructive reading, and few men not following the profession of law are better acquainted with its underlying principles. His council is frequently sought in matters of importance and largely in the settlement of estates with which he is often entrusted. In 1860, he took the stump for Abraham Lincoln, in Will and DuPage Counties, rendering signal service in behalf of the Republican candidate for President. In 1867, he was appointed to fill a vacancy as Supervisor of Homer Township, and from that time was continuously elected to the office until 1872, when he withdrew to take his seat in the legislature. He was Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for two years and otherwise rendered efficient service in the various matters which were constantly coming up for consideration. Mr. Savage has taken an active part in every Presidential campaign since 1864. During his eight separate elections as Township Supervisor, he was placed in office five times without a single dissenting voice. He was elected to the State Board of Equalization in 1876, and served eight years.

Notwithstanding his public services, Mr. Savage has distinguished himself as a progressive farmer and has invested a large portion of his cap-

ital in valuable lands, owning three hundred and sixty-four acres in this county, besides land in Dakota. He makes a specialty of live stock, buying and selling extensively and utilizing a large portion of his farm in Homer Township for feeding purposes. He is a prominent member of the Old Settlers Association of this county. His domestic life furnishes a picture pleasant to contemplate, with his family of intelligent children growing up around him and occupying honored positions in society. The eldest daughter, Helen E., was born December 8, 1864, and is the wife of Frank A. Rowley, of Homer Township; Frank M., was born July 19, 1867, and married Miss Emma Halsey of Homer Township; John H., was born June 25, 1870, and is pursuing his studies in the Englewood High School; Williard A., was born September 14, 1872, and Mary A., May 13, 1874. The two younger children are at home with their parents.

The parents of Mrs. Savage died in South Carolina when she was quite young. Her father was born in New England and her mother in New York State. Mrs. Savage was born near Georgetown, S. C., June 22, 1837, and came to Illinois in 1851.



**D**ANIEL FIDDYMENT. It is a pleasure to gaze upon the varied landscape that comprises the beautiful farm of this gentleman, and to note the care with which every detail of its management is overseen, the natural features of hill and valley being unmarred by neglected buildings, tumble-down fences or unsightly fields. The estate comprises one hundred and ninety-two acres of land that is well adapted for stock-raising, and in that branch of agriculture Mr. Fiddyment is quite extensively engaged.

The parents of our subject, William and Hannah (Knivett) Fiddyment, were natives of "Merrie England," and there their son was also born, his natal day being October 6, 1838. The parental family consisted of three sons and one daughter, and they were reared upon a farm, the father being a tiller of the soil. In 1859 they determined to cross the briny deep and seek a better opening for their en-

ergies in the United States. Bidding adieu to the land of their birth, they reached New York after an ocean voyage of seven weeks, and came to Lockport, Ill., by water, traversing the Hudson River, Erie Canal, Great Lakes, and Illinois and Michigan Canal.

For some time the elder Mr. Fiddyment was engaged in the business of distilling, but he finally settled on the homestead now occupied by his widow and her son Daniel. He of whom we write began his personal career as a farmer, and has ever continued in the vocation to which his early surroundings and tastes led him. That it is one to which he is adapted by nature, no one will doubt who visits his pleasant and remunerative farm. The reputation that he bears among the tillers of the soil of this vicinity is that of an able agriculturist and an honest man, and this is agreed to by all who know him.

An important step in the life of Mr. Fiddyment was his marriage, in 1864, to Miss Margaret Wadsworth, a native of Vermont. This lady possesses the strict integrity and regard for duty that characterize the New England women, and with it the housewifely skill and kindness to those in need of attention that are also prominent traits in their character. The union has been blessed by the birth of five children, but three have been removed by the Angel of Death. The survivors—Olive and Daniel—yet linger at the family fireside.

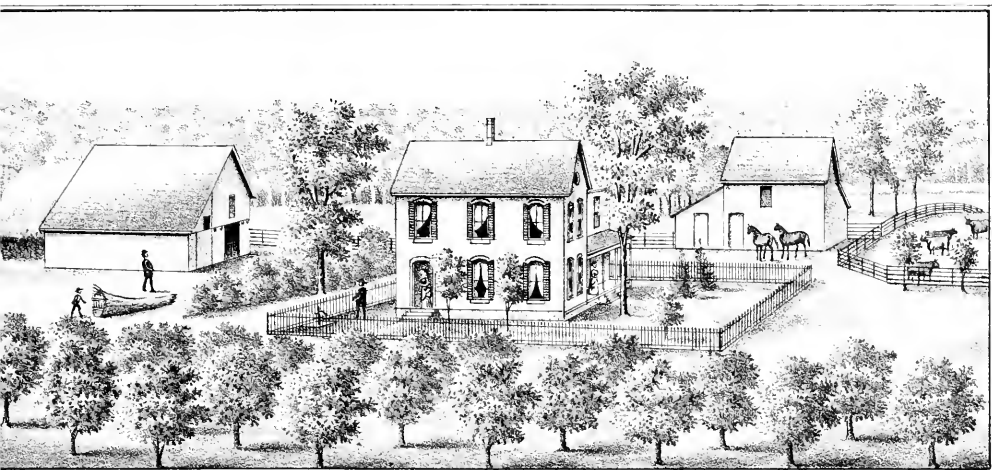
Perhaps the most remarkable feature in a life marked by uprightness and strict attention to his personal affairs, is the fact that Mr. Fiddyment has never been engaged in a lawsuit, either as principal or witness. His wife belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Lockport, and is numbered among the reliable members.

A fine view of the home of our subject and its surroundings, will be found on the opposite page.

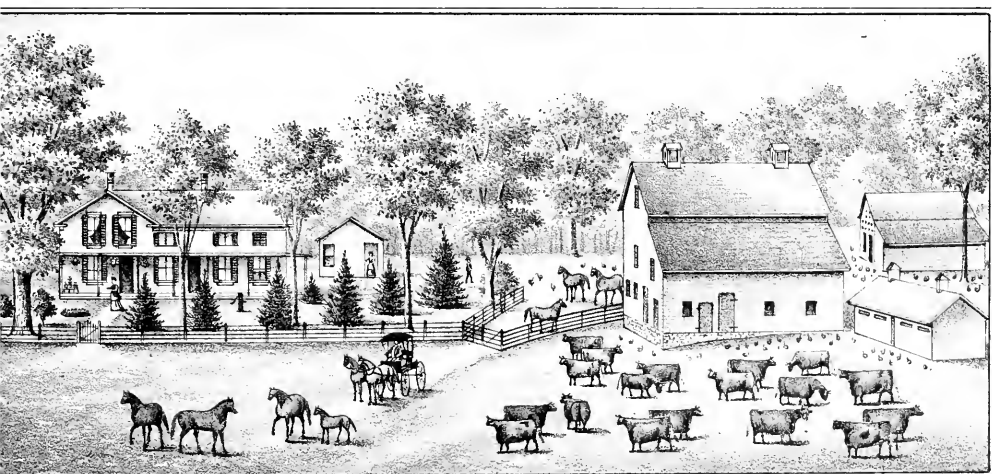


**J**OSEPH KAPS. Among the citizens of foreign birth, residents of Plainfield Township, who have been factors in promoting its farming interests and by sheer force of persistent and intelligent labor have placed themselves





RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH KAPS, SEC. 28. PLAINFIELD TP. WILL CO. ILL.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. HANNAH FIDDYMENT, SEC. 1. LOCKPORT TP. WILL CO. ILL.



among the most substantial members of the community, is the subject of this biographical review, and his farm is one of the finest and best managed in this vicinity. He was born in Shleisien, Germany, near the boundary line between that kingdom and Poland, his birth taking place October 1, 1831. His father, Christopher Kaps, was a native of the same place, while his father, whose given name was John Michael, was born in Austria. After attaining manhood the latter crossed the border and became a citizen of Germany, and there married and reared a family, spending the rest of his days there as a farmer. The father of our subject learned the trade of a weaver and followed that occupation besides tilling the little plot of eight acres of land that he owned. He resided in his native place until 1851, and in that year with his wife and two sons started for this land of promise, setting sail November 19, from Bremen in the sailing vessel "Alfred" and landing December 25, on the shores of America. He located in Cleveland, Oswego County, N. Y., and was a resident of that place till July, 1855. In that month he came to Illinois and located in Aurora, Kane County, and lived there ten years. At the expiration of that time he came to Will County and spent his last years in the town of Troy, dying there in 1875. The mother of our subject departed this life in 1872. The father was twice married and reared two daughters by his first marriage, Mary coming to America and dying here subsequently unmarried. There were four children of the second marriage, two of whom were reared to years of maturity, our subject and his brother John. The latter settled in Troy and later in Plainfield, where he died unmarried.

Joseph Kaps attended school steadily until fourteen years of age and acquired a sound education. He then took up farming as his life work, carrying it on in the land of his birth till 1851. That year marked a turning point in his life as it was then he emigrated to this country. He started out in a foreign land with no other capital than with which nature provided him and he first made money by working for others. He was thus engaged for four years, and then rented land and in 1867 made his first purchase of eighty acres of wild prairie in

Troy, this county. He greatly improved the land and tilled the soil there until 1880, when he sold it at a good advance and purchased his present place of residence on section 28, Plainfield Township, three miles from the village, seven and one-half miles from Joliet, the farm being beautifully located on the banks of the DuPage River. It comprises two hundred and fifty-one acres of land of unsurpassed fertility and productiveness. He has it under the best of cultivation and has erected commodious buildings and has it amply provided with all the conveniences for carrying on agriculture to the best advantage.

The prosperity of our subject is due in a measure to the fact that he has been assisted in his labors by the active co-operation of a capable wife to whom he was united in marriage in 1865. Her maiden name was Mary Seipolt and she was born in Germany, and came to America with her parents, Joseph and Mary M. Seipolt. Their pleasant home circle is completed by the seven children born to them: Matilda, Mary, Francis, Henry, Joseph, Clara and John. The family are members in high standing of St. John's Catholic Church.

It may be seen from the perusal of this sketch that all that our subject has and is he owes to himself, that he is in fact a self-made man. He is well endowed with decision of character, tenacity of purpose, and an active mind, and these with his inherent capacity and traits of thrift and sagacity have pushed him on to success in his calling and the acquirement of a desirable property. He is alive to the value of a good education and gives his children advantages in that direction. A man of his standing is a good citizen and is a help to any community.

The pleasant home and fertile fields belonging to our subject are well represented in the accompanying lithographic view.



FRANKLIN E. BARBER was born in this county in pioneer times, coming of a good old pioneer family, and reared to a stalwart, enterprising manhood, under the peculiar influences that obtained here in the days of his

youth, he stepped to the front to take his part in the great work of redeeming this section of the country from its primitive wildness, and has ever since borne an honorable part in sustaining and pushing forward its extensively agricultural interests as an active farmer and stock-raiser in DuPage Township.

The subject of this notice was born in this county, August 25, 1835. He was a son of John and Emma (Perry) Barber, natives respectively of Vermont and Massachusetts. In 1832 they emigrated from New England with their family to this part of Illinois, and Mr. Barber bought land in this township, on section 2, when the Government sale took place, purchasing both Government and canal land, paying \$1.25 for the former and a higher price for the latter. His land consisted of prairie and timber, and he turned the first furrow and erected a log house and log barn, making a dwelling of the former for a number of years. He resided here till his death, December 19, 1876, which removed from our midst a representative pioneer and a highly honorable useful citizen. The mother of our subject had preceded him in death, dying on May 2, 1874. They were the parents of a large family of children, of whom four are known to survive, namely: Royal E., of Joliet; Caroline, wife of L. B. Anderson, of Michigan; Jane, wife of Milton Elsworth, of Wheaton; and Franklin E. The father was a man of considerable prominence in the county, and served for a time as Deputy Sheriff. He was in early life a Whig, but he afterward cast his fortune with the Republican party. He was successful in life, financially, and left a comfortable estate. Like all pioneers, his early life here was one of sacrifice and often of privation.

The subject of this biographical review was reared in this township, and received the preliminaries of his education in the local schools, and subsequently attended the High School at Joliet for a short time. Since then he has advanced his education by observation and by reading, as he is a great lover of good books. He was trained to the life of a farmer, and obtained a sound, practical knowledge of his calling, which he still pursues very profitably. He owns over two hundred

acres of excellent farming land, which is well cultivated and yields large harvests, and is amply provided with substantial buildings for every purpose.

To the one to whom he owes so much of the comfort and coziness of a good home, he was united in marriage September 2, 1867, the maiden name of his bride being Adelaide Valentine. They have five children, namely: Emma, wife of C. H. Totton; Etta F., Edward, Jessie and Frankie.

Mr. Barber bears a fine reputation in his old home as being a practical man, of staunch principles and stability of purpose, whose word is never doubted; one in whom his neighbors place implicit trust, who, in short, is a credit to his native county and is bearing worthily the mantle of his pioneer sire. He has been Township Clerk, and has held the office of Constable. Politically, he is classed with the most earnest supporters of the Republican party. Religiously, he and his wife are Presbyterians, strong in the faith, and are among the most zealous members of the church of that denomination in this place.

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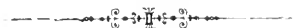
**J**OHAN CAVANAUGH. The estate which this gentleman has secured is a monument to his ability as an agriculturist, and a conclusive proof that persistent effort will be rewarded. It comprises three hundred and eighty-eight acres on section 35, Jackson Township, and it needs but a glance to assure the passer-by that here comfort abounds, while thrift is seen in every detail of the work which is carried on. The estate is thoroughly improved, the buildings being especially noticeable for their size, number and convenience.

In County Sligo, Ireland, about 1829, John Cavanaugh opened his eyes to the light, and in the Emerald Isle he remained until he was almost twenty years old. He then went to England, where he remained until the fall of 1851, when he determined to seek a wider field for his energies in the land across the sea. Taking passage for America he landed in New York, whence he went

to Albany, sojourning in that city three or four months. He then took up his residence in the western part of the Empire State, making Herkimer County his home for some two years. His next removal was to Will County, Ill., where he has since been a resident, and where he has devoted his attention to agriculture.

One of the most important events in the life of Mr. Cavanaugh was his choice of a companion, and he has no reason to regret his selection. His wife bore the maiden name of Kate Maher, and was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, November 15, 1838. She was about twenty-three years old when she left her native isle for America, and at the time of her marriage she was living in Wilmington, this county. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Cavanaugh includes ten living children and two deceased. The latter are James E. and Mathew; the survivors are William, Michael, Thomas P., George, Edward, Mary, Lizzie, Maggie J., Julia and Katie A.

The active intellect and quick wit which are proverbial to natives of the Emerald Isle are not lacking in our subject and his estimable wife, and the religious element of their characters is satisfied with the worship of the Catholic Church, in the faith of which they are devout believers. Mr. Cavanaugh has been Commissioner of Highways, taking the interest which all dwellers in the country should in the improvement of the roads.



**C**HARLES HOLZ. This gentleman is numbered among the leading citizens of Beecher, and indeed of Washington Township, of which he has been Clerk for sixteen years. He has held other local offices and has a high reputation as an efficient public servant, and he is likewise regarded as one of the most successful farmers of this part of the county. He owns a fine estate of one hundred and twenty acres near the village and an excellent residence which he occupies within the limits.

Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, claims Mr. Holz as one of her sons and that duchy was the

ancestral home for generations. Henry Holz, the father of our subject, was a shoemaker who followed his trade in the Fatherland until 1858, when with his wife and family he emigrated to America. They sailed from Hamburg to New York on the "North America" which made the passage in thirty-five days. The family journeyed direct to Chicago, Ill., and thence to Du Page County, from which the parents subsequently returned to Cook County, locating in Proviso Township. There the father died, July 21, 1878, in the sixty-seventh year of his age. He was a Republican, a member of the Lutheran Church, and a good man who was respected by all who knew him. His wife, Mary (Miller) Holz, came to Will County after his death and died at the home of our subject in the winter of 1886. She was then seventy-three years old. She was a life-long member of the Lutheran Church and was a devoted mother, loving companion, and excellent neighbor.

The parental family consisted of two sons and four daughters, the subject of this sketch being the second in order of birth. He was born November 29, 1827, and was nearly of age when his parents came to this country. He reached his majority in Du Page County where he continued to make his home until 1865, being occupied as a farmer and an improver of lands. Upon leaving that county he took up his abode near Beecher and here he has gained a competence and secured an excellent reputation. In his early life he learned the trade of a shoemaker, but he has not followed it since he came to America.

The estimable wife of Mr. Holz was known in her maidenhood as Minnie Oelerking. Their marriage rites were celebrated in Cook County and neither has had cause to regret the union. Mrs. Holz was born in Hanover, Germany, January 9, 1812, received a good education in the land of her birth, and was so instructed by her good parents as to grow to womanhood possessed of a fine character and much useful domestic knowledge. She was nineteen years old when her parents came to this country and she lived in Du Page County until her marriage. Her union with our subject has been a childless one but they have become the foster parents of three children: Henry died when

seven years old; Louisa and Rosa are still with their foster parents, under whose care and training they have been well reared and educated in both English and German schools. Mr. and Mrs. Holz and the daughters belong to the Lutheran Church and have many friends among their associate members, as well as in all circles in which they move.

The parents of Mrs. Holz were Henry and Sophia (Hartmann) Oelerking, who were born reared and married in the Kingdom of Hanover. The father followed the business of buying up butter, eggs, chickens, etc., and selling them in the larger cities, doing in this way a fine commission trade. One son and five daughters were born to the good couple before they emigrated to America. They sailed from Bremerhaven in 1860, landing in New York seven weeks later, and coming at once to the Prairie State, took up their abode on a farm, in Du Page County. There the parents lived for some years, but subsequently became residents of Beecher. Here Mr. Oelerking died in October, 1872, at the age of sixty three years. He was an honest, hardworking man, a good Republican in politics, and a sound member of the Lutheran Church. His widow survived him several years, breathing her last May 21, 1876. She was a good mother, and a kind-hearted neighbor, ever ready to assist those in need. With one exception the members of the parental household are still living.

the time of his election, thus being the youngest of those who have been called to that office in the circuit mentioned.

Judge Dibell is the son of the Rev. J. B. Dibell, a native of Kingsville, Ashtabula County, Ohio, and Louisa (Ward) Dibell, whose birthplace was Ellington, Tolland County, Conn. His own birthplace was Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio. His parents lived in Homer and New Lenox Townships, Will County, Ill., from 1850. The father was a Baptist minister whose sacred calling was terminated by death September 10, 1885. His thirty-five years of ministrations in this county are rich in tributes to his faithfulness in the service of his divine Master. After his death the mother, with her daughter, Julia Louisa, took up her abode with her son Dorrance, in Joliet, where she resided until her death October 17, 1885. The daughter Julia was killed by the cars in that city September 20, 1889.

Judge Dibell was a lad of but six years when his parents settled in the Prairie State and he grew to manhood on his father's farm, attending the public schools in boyhood and subsequently prosecuting his studies in the University of Chicago; beginning his personal career as a teacher he was afterward employed as a telegraph operator at Racine, Wis., and Wheatland and DeWitt, Iowa. At the latter place he began the study of law with the Hon. John C. Polley, further pursuing his professional researches with Messrs. Goodspeed, Snapp & Knox and Parks & Hill, all of Joliet.

On the 23d of August, 1870, the young student was admitted to the bar and formed a partnership with the Hon. Charles A. Hill, now member of Congress from the Eighth District. The firm name was Hill & Dibell, and the connection began September 3, 1870, was not dissolved until November 13, 1880, when the election of Mr. Dibell to the bench severed the oldest law partnership in the county. The firm enjoyed a large and important practice, both members holding high positions among the legal fraternity on account of their acumen and their skill in conducting cases.

During the years of his active practice Judge Dibell was a member of the City Council, and assisted in establishing a great number of the best improvements of the city. He was in the council when the

**D**ORRANCE DIBELL. One fundamental idea has been retained as a common basis for the principal forms of Government.

In the theocracy, the patriarchal system, and the democracy, the principle that the judiciary stands first in importance, has ever been recognized, and, as a logical sequence, to be chosen to discharge that function carries with it a signal honor. Dorrance Dibell was invested with this dignity by being elected, on the 3d of November, 1885, Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, consisting of Will, Grundy, LaSalle and Bureau Counties. Born February 16, 1844, he was forty-one years of age at

change was made from the special charter to incorporation under the general law. The first judicial term of the Judge is drawing to a close and it is well within bounds to say that his record will stand with the purest and ablest.

One who has known Judge Dibell long and intimately says of him: "Judge Dibell is a large-brained, broad-minded, generous-spirited man, who commands the affectionate esteem and confidence of all who know him. Like most students, he is not in any sense a society man, but his equable temper and amiable disposition have made him a prime favorite with his neighbors and friends. The exacting demands and large requirements of his profession have not dulled his taste for general literature. He has gathered a large and valuable miscellaneous library, not for ornament, but for his own use and enjoyment. The great poets and dramatists are represented there, and the specialists of science, philosophy and political economy, have not been neglected nor overlooked. Even theology is not excluded, as is too frequently the case among lawyers. In short, to legal learning he adds a cultivated taste and a large store of general information."

The marriage of Judge Dibell and Miss Sarah M. Snapp was celebrated in 1872. The chosen companion of our subject is the eldest daughter of the Hon. Henry Snapp, at the time of her marriage representing this district in Congress. The only living child of Mr. and Mrs. Dibell is Charles Dorrance, who was born March 19, 1875. Not only is Mrs. Dibell devoted to the interests of her home but she has the culture and disposition that wins friends, and her place in society is an assured one.



**E**BENEZER C. STEPHEN. The man who has a brain to conceive and a hand to perform various kinds of handicraft, may well be gratefully proud of his ability to add to the means by which others can increase their conveniences or opportunities. The gentleman with whose name we introduce this notice comes of a family in which the mechanical talent is conspicuous, several

members having shown high degrees of skill in various lines of construction. His Grandfather Garden was a mill, cart and plow wright, and his Grandfather Stephen was also a first-class mechanic. So, too, was his father, Joseph Stephen, although the latter studied for the ministry and devoted himself to the cause of the Master during a great part of his life. A fuller account of the lives of Joseph Stephen and his wife, Jane (Garden) Stephen, will be found in the sketch of David S. Stephen on another page in this ALBUM.

The subject of this notice was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, July 25, 1838, and accompanied his parents to America in 1843. The voyage and journey to Northern Illinois are recorded in the sketch of his brother David, and it is unnecessary to repeat them here. The lad was reared upon the farm until 1863, having the advantages of the common schools, and when a very young man taught for one term in Green Garden Township. He inherited the mechanical skill of his ancestors, and without having to serve an apprenticeship was able to do almost anything in mechanics.

In 1863 Mr. Stephen opened a machine and repair shop in partnership with his brother, David S., and has continued in the business for twenty seven years. The fraternal connection was finally dissolved in 1889 and our subject has now the bulk of the old business. He is proprietor of a saw, planing and feed mill in Frankfort and does all kinds of general woodwork, repairing and manufacturing. He also deals in farm implements and machinery and in hard-wood lumber and coal. He has a fine set of machinery and tools, and the reputation which he has earned as a first-class mechanic is well deserved. The buildings which he occupies were erected by himself and are situated upon a five-acre tract of land owned by him. He also owns a cozy residence.

When a young man, Mr. Stephen learned the rudiments of farming and was actively engaged in it, acquiring in this way a practical knowledge of all that pertains to agricultural life. Such was his taste and natural ability that while teaching he spent Saturdays working in the shop and was able to wood two plows per day, thus making \$7. Such industry and zeal merited the smiles of Dame For-

tune, and it is a pleasure to his friends to know that he has gained a comfortable financial standing. Mr. Stephen has no political aspirations, preferring the quiet of his home to the tumult of public life, but is ever ready to use his influence and deposit his vote in favor of Republicanism.

The marriage rites of Mr. Stephen and Miss Emma J. Houtt were celebrated in Frankfort, December 31, 1867. The charming bride was born in Edlingham County, Mich., and well educated by worthy parents. The latter were early settlers in Jackson, Mich., where they located in 1836. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen has been blessed by the birth of five children: George G. is a mechanic and engaged with his father; Ida M. is a graduate of the Frankfort schools and now teaching at Hadley, Homer Township, having begun her professional labors when but sixteen years old; Joseph A. is deceased; Robert E. and John O. are still at home and unoccupied, except in useful studies and pursuits.



**G**EORGE W. FLAGG. The family name of this gentleman will ever be held in reverence in Will County as that of one of its early pioneers, who was for many years prominently connected with its interests, and of great assistance in developing its resources and laying the solid foundation of the prosperity that it enjoys to-day. And it is with pleasure that we place before the readers of this volume a review of his life and of that of his honored representative of the present. The latter, a native of the county, is now one of its leading agriculturists, owning and successfully managing a large and valuable farm in Lockport and DuPage Townships, where he has a fine residence and enjoys all the comforts and luxuries of life. He was an officer in the late war and did gallant service with his regiment until ill health compelled him to resign his commission and retire to private life, taking with him the respect of his fellow officers and the men who served under him.

Mr. Flagg was born in Plainfield Township,

July 25, 1837. Reuben Flagg, his father, was a native of New Hampshire, Groton, in Grafton County, being the place of his birth. He was there bred to the life of a farmer, and thence went to Vermont when a young man and there was engaged in the cooper's trade. Two years later he made his way to Baltimore, Md., where he acquired the trade of a stone-mason. After two years stay in that city he returned to Vermont and at one time worked as a stone-mason in Boston. In 1839, he came to Illinois, traveling by Lake Champlain, Champlain & Erie Canal to Buffalo, and from thence by the lakes to Chicago. That city was then composed of two log houses and Indian huts, and there was a trading post there. The captain of the boat wanted him to build a warehouse, thinking it might come in use, though no one else seemed to agree with him. Our subject's father did not like that section of the country, as he thought it too swampy for farming purposes, and he hired a team to take him to Walker's Grove, a little below the present site of Plainfield. At that time there were but three families living in the vicinity, and where Plainfield and Joliet now are there was not a house, and Will County then formed a part of Cook County. All the land was open for settlement and he had his choice in millions of acres, and as he was told he could not live on the prairie he claimed a tract of timber in the northeastern quarter of section 20, of what is now Plainfield Township. At that time deer and all kinds of wild game were plenty, which was fortunate for the early settlers as bread stuffs were scarce, the nearest flour-mill being in Indiana. Mr. Flagg's settlement was made there before the Black Hawk War and there were frequent Indian scares, therefore, the handful of settlers built a stockade of logs and all gathered in it, and at one time lived there three months, the men taking their guns to the field to be ready for the enemy at a minute's warning. Once it was thought the Indians were going to make a raid and all the settlers here went to Ft. Dearborn and stayed there a few days until it was thought safe to return to their homes. Mr. Flagg built a log cabin on his farm and commenced its clearance. Soon after coming here he took a contract to build the race



for Walker's mills in which was sawed the lumber to build the first frame house ever erected in Chicago, and Mr. Flagg drew it there with an ox team. After residing on that claim a short time he sold it and took up a tract of prairie land on section 10, and at once began the work of improvement. He first built a log cabin for the accommodation of his family and afterward erected a more substantial residence, and at the time of his death had improved a valuable farm.

November 9, 1869, this worthy and highly respected pioneer, departed this life. The maiden name of the wife who shared his labors and enabled him to attain success in life was Betsey Kendall. She was born in Hebron, Grafton County, N. H., April 6, 1805. Her father, John W. Kendall, was formerly a resident of Hollis, N. H. and removed thence to Hebron, where he bought a farm, and besides carrying on agriculture he worked at his trade of a cooper in that place until his death. The maiden name of his wife was Betsey Flanders and she was also of New Hampshire origin, and there spent her entire life, dying on the home farm in Hebron. Mrs. Flagg's death occurred February 25, 1872. She was the mother of eleven children, as follows: John W. K., Sarah E., Samantha, Prudence, Frank, George W., Lorain, Henry, William H., Mary and Lucy. Samantha was the first white child born in this county, and she died here February 25, 1872, aged forty-one years and five months. In his early life Mr. Flagg was a follower of the Whig party, but later identified himself with the Republican at the time of its organization and remained true to the party until his death. He was distinguished as being the first Justice of the Peace ever elected here, Judge Caton being his opponent.

Following is an item published in the Chicago *Times* after Mr. Flagg's death, which is of interest and importance. "In the winter of 1831, the Methodist circuit riders of the great west held a conference in the settlement of Chicago, and among the other supplies contributed to their comfort during their session was a dressed hog from the old town of Plainfield, in Will County, thirty-six miles south-west of the place of meeting. This animal was the property of Reuben Flagg, a good

farmer residing near Plainfield, who has recently passed away. He started with the dressed hog on a sled and succeeded in getting lost, somewhere just outside the present city limits. Not arriving in time a delegation of ministers was sent out from the conference to find him. This they were fortunate enough to do, all being much rejoiced, it is said, at the sight of the wandering farmer and especially of the fat porker on the sled. Now the question is whether this dressed hog shipped from Plainfield to Chicago in 1831, is not the first shipment of the article to this market on record, the initiatory arrival of a product which in 1871, aggregated two million, five hundred and twenty-eight thousand, one hundred eight head."

George W. Flagg, of whom these lines are written was reared on a farm and educated in the district schools, of this his native county. He early displayed the patriotism that made him a good soldier and before the war became a member of the Plainfield Light Artillery, and at the time of the first call for troops, in April, 1861, he was Second Lieutenant of his company, which offered its services to the government and was sent to Cairo, and was there organized as Company K, Tenth Illinois Infantry, and mustered in for three months. Our subject served until the expiration of his term of enlistment, and in September, 1861, again volunteered for the defence of his country, enlisting in Company K, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and was mustered in as Second Lieutenant. He was with his regiment until 1862, when he resigned on account of ill health and returned home to resume farming on section 31, of Du Page Township and lived there until 1872. In that year, as his health was not good, he went to Greeley, Col., and there engaged in live stock business for five years. At the expiration of that time he returned to Will County and has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits here. He owns five hundred acres of as fine farming land as is to be found in the county, located in Du Page and Lockport Townships. He has a handsome and substantial residence which he occupies in Plainfield, and is managing his large agricultural interests with more than ordinary success.

In 1861, Mr. Flagg and Marava Colegrove united their lives and fortunes. She is a native of

Wheatland Township, Will County, and a daughter of Lester G. and Lucretia (Ingersoll) Colegrove, of whom see sketch. Two children have resulted from this marriage, George K. and Jerome F. Chester Ingersoll, the grandfather of Mrs. Flagg, kept the first hotel that was opened in the city of Chicago.

Mr. Flagg's loyal course when our country was threatened with ruin, and his straightforward, manly conduct in all the affairs of life, both before and since that time, mark him as a man who is an honor to the citizenship of his native county.



**C**HARLES PAULI, proprietor of the National Hotel at Joliet, counts his friends by the score among the traveling public, and whoever is so fortunate as to sojourn once under his hospitable roof, repeats the experiment at the earliest opportunity. The National is comfortably equipped with all the requisites for rest and refreshment. "Mine host" exerts himself to be courteous and obliging, and is evidently operating with a thorough understanding of his business.

The subject of this notice, a native of the Kingdom of Saxony, was born May 28, 1837, and is the son of an old soldier of the German army. Henry Pauli, who died in Germany, in 1873, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. He had distinguished himself for bravery and fidelity to duty, and for many years was in the enjoyment of a pension from the Government.

In accordance with the laws and customs of his native country, Mr. Pauli was placed in school at an early age and pursued his studies several years, acquiring a good education in his native tongue. He remained a resident of his native place until a man of twenty-eight years, and then resolved to seek his fortunes in America. Accordingly, in the summer of 1865 he set out for the New World on a steam vessel named New York, which in due time landed him safely in New York City. Thence not long afterward he repaired to St. Louis, Mo., and from there migrated to Edwards County, Kan.,

where he sojourned two years. He afterward followed cigar making in Detroit, Mich., three or four years, from 1877 to 1881. In the spring of the latter year he came to Joliet, where he pursued his trade of a cigarmaker until purchasing the hotel of which he is now proprietor.

Upon becoming a voting citizen Mr. Pauli identified himself with the Democratic party. He is eminently social in his instincts, belonging to the Old Soldiers' Society, a German order flourishing wherever there is a large number of German soldiers. He also belongs to the Sharpshooters and the Vocal Minstrel Society of Joliet.

Mr. Pauli took unto himself a wife and helpmate in October, 1880, being wedded to Miss Lena Anhardt. This lady was born of parents who were natives of Germany, and who are now deceased. Of this union there are no children. Mr. Pauli's mother bore the maiden name of Doretta Bock; she is now deceased. The National Hotel is a solid stone building, containing seventy-two rooms and thoroughly equipped for the purposes to which it is adapted. It was the first building of the kind erected in Joliet, and although an old timer, is in a perfect state of preservation and good for many years to come.



**J**ASON L. WILSON. Among the five real-estate men of the flourishing little city of Joliet, is found Jason L. Wilson, who was born in this city, November 11, 1858. He is a son of George and Martha (Eaton) Wilson, both of whom are natives of Manchester, N.H. The father started out in life as a farmer, but learned the carpenter's trade, which he subsequently followed. In 1852 he left the Granite State to find a home in the prairie lands of the Mississippi Valley, bringing with him his family, which then comprised two children. These were John, now cashier of the rolling mills, and Mrs. Jennie McGuire, also of this city. After Mr. and Mrs. George Wilson became residents of Joliet four children were born to them. Two of these, George and Eaton



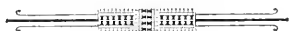


*Yours Truly*  
*William Guider*

are deceased; the living are Charles, a grocery dealer in Joliet, and our subject.

The gentleman of whom we write received a good common-school education and began his active life as a clerk in a grocery store, in which he remained about four years. He then became a clerk in the local office of the Alton Railroad, spending eleven years in the employ of that railroad corporation, four of which were passed in Chicago as chief clerk of the local office there. He returned to Joliet as agent of the Chicago & St. Louis, now the Santa Fe Railroad, continuing in that capacity five years. In 1889 he entered upon the sale of real estate, which he still pursues, having in December of that year formed a partnership with Henry H. McGuire.

In Miss Laura Vandenburg, a cultured and lovable young lady of this city, Mr. Wilson found the qualities of heart and mind which he desired in his life companion. After a successful wooing, the rites of wedlock were celebrated between them July 22, 1882. They have three living children, named respectively: George, Martha and Anita. Mrs. Wilson is a daughter of W. L. Vandenburg, originally of the Empire State. Mr. Wilson affiliates with the Masonic fraternity. He possesses decided business ability, is well informed regarding the world's progress, and is reputed honest, reliable and straightforward in all his dealings.



**W**ILLIAM DAVIDSON. It is frequently said that the pedestrian learns much more of the country than he who travels by public conveyance, as he is brought much closer to the people and has a better opportunity to observe their habits and to learn their characteristics, and also sees, as rapid transit will not permit, the natural beauties or blemishes of the landscape. Did time and space allow of a detailed account of the experiences of the subject of this sketch, much of interest might be learned regarding the appearance of various sections some years since and the manner of life of the citizens. Although his experi-

ences were not always agreeable, yet his labors in life were beguiled by many scenes both entertaining and instructive. The stubborn determination which is so characteristic of the race from which he sprung and the feeling which has been so thoroughly embodied in the well-known expression of one of England's most noted men, that "England expects every man to do his duty," has characterized his life labors and led to his success and present assured financial standing.

The remote ancestors of our subject were Danes, but for many generations they have been numbered among the English race. He of whom we write was born in Tallantire, Cumberland County, England, October 28, 1827, and is one of six sons and two daughters born to Robert and Esther (Howe) Davidson, who were natives of the same county. The father was a farm laborer. Three sons and a daughter came to America, Joseph and William making the voyage in 1850.

An old Englishman had been sent from Connecticut to the Mother Country to secure one hundred and fifty quarrymen, and under an engagement with him the two Davidsons came to the United States, Joseph paying his own fare but William being brought by the company. The latter from early boyhood had longed to cross the ocean and rejoiced in the opportunity presented to him. They landed in New York April 21, 1850, and began their labors in the Connecticut quarry the following day. Previous to leaving his native land young Davidson had been railroading for six years and prior to that time had been a farm hand.

Mr. Davidson worked ninety-nine days in the quarry, paying his passage money and quitting the employ of the company when they owed him \$40, which they have never paid. Borrowing \$7 from his brother, he went to Philadelphia and thence to Baltimore, from which point he started on a tramp with his kit on his back. He went to Little York, Pa., and had worked six weeks when the quarry stopped and he tramped three hundred miles, returning to within a mile of his starting point. There he worked on a canal six weeks, after which he walked to Dalton, Ohio, where he engaged to lay track for the Ft. Wayne Railroad. Nine months were spent in the employ of that company,

during which Mr. Davidson put in the switches and side tracks from Pittsburg, Pa., to Massillon, Ohio. His next change was to Michigan City, Ind., where he took a job of spotting ties on the New Albany & Salem Railroad. The little money which he should have made was lost, as his contract was but a verbal one, and his employers thought he was making too much for an old country man.

After this hard treatment Mr. Davidson left the company and coming to Chicago in 1852 was ill for two weeks, after which he went on the Illinois Central Railroad at Kankakee, before there was a house at that point. He got out all the stone used on the road from there to Cairo, working at it about four years, after which he took up his abode in Joliet, where he has resided for thirty-four years. He came here with Robert Cunningham and the first work he did in this place was to get out stone for the Universalist Church. He began work in the quarry of which he now owns a share, his employers being Wilson Bros. of Chicago, whom he served eleven years as a foreman. He and W. A. Strong then bought the Swalm quarry, and afterward the Wilson, carrying on the two about four years, when our subject bought his partner's interest, besides other property. In 1869 he sold a fourth interest to his brother and, in 1885, taking in Henry Kerber, organized as a joint stock company. The output has been from \$100 to \$150,000 per year.

Mr. Davidson has been four times married. His first wife, Jane Sterling, was a native of Canada and was of Scotch descent; she died about three years after their marriage. Mr. Davidson contracted a second marriage with Ann Finney, a lady of English birth; she was a widow with six children, the youngest of whom was two years old at the time of her second marriage. She bore Mr. Davidson two children, one deceased, while the other a daughter, Etta J., is the wife of John Pierce and resides in Colorado Springs, Colo. After the death of Mrs. Ann (Finney) Davidson our subject took unto himself as a wife and helpmate Mrs. Melissa Dewey, who lived twenty-one years after their union. No children were born of this marriage. Mr. Davidson married his present wife, a most estimable lady, in the fall of 1885. Her

maiden name was Amelia Hegbom, and she is of Norwegian birth.

In connection with this sketch we present a lithographic portrait of Mr. Davidson. Politically, he is a strong Republican. His character as well as his business energy entitle him to respect, and he is numbered among the most reliable citizens of the city in which he has resided so many years.



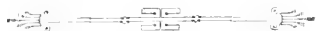
**J**OHN KIEP, senior member of the firm of Kiep Bros., is with his partner conducting a well regulated market occupying No. 117 Chicago Street, Joliet, where he has been engaged since 1875. Mr. Kiep is one of the native-born citizens of Joliet, and first opened his eyes to the light November 24, 1858. His father, Philip Kiep, a native of Germany, emigrated to the United States, in 1856, when a young man, coming immediately to the young town of Joliet, and in due time was married to Miss Helen St. Julian.

The mother of our subject was a native of France and born in 1834. She was thus four years younger than her husband whose birth took place May 1, 1830. They were married in 1857, and Philip Kiep sometime afterward opened a boarding house which he is still conducting. He and his excellent wife are still living, being hale and hearty and in the enjoyment of a comfortable supply of this world's goods. There was born to them a family of nine children, six sons and three daughters, all of whom with the exception of P. Robert, the fourth child, who works in the Elgin Watch Factory, are residents of Joliet. The others were named respectively: John, Joseph, Frank L., Philip D., Josephine, Mary and Theresa, and one, Philip, dead.

The subject of this notice attended the public schools of Joliet and when starting out in life for himself entered the employ of W. C. Wood, who was engaged in the insurance business. Later he was variously occupied until 1875, when he established his meat market in partnership with James McPartlin in 1881. In 1884, selling out he went to California where he remained until April the fol-

lowing year. He was married in Joliet, June 24, 1885, to Miss Mary A. Rappal. Soon afterward, in company with his brother Joseph, he established the present market which is one of the most important institutions of the kind in the city, doing a large business. He has made as fine displays during the holidays as any market man in the State of Illinois, priding himself at this season. He is a fine judge of good meats and is fully appreciated by his patrons who comprise the best people of the city. He gives very little attention to politics, with the exception of voting the Democratic ticket at the general elections.

Mrs. Mary A. (Rappal) Kiep was born June 13, 1864, in Joliet and is the daughter of Michael and Antoinette Rappel who were early settlers of the township and who are still living; they are pleasantly located on a farm two and one-half miles from the court house. The two children born to Mr. and Mrs. Kiep were named respectively Loretta and Ambrose. Being a descendant of a people believing in compulsory education, Mr. Kiep designs giving his children the best advantage in his power. He is a Catholic in religion, belonging to St. Aloysius Society in Joliet.



**H**ERMAN N. DOESCHER, Crete Township is not without its share of the fine farms for which the State of Illinois is noted, and on one of these lives Herman Doescher, a successful farmer and stock-raiser. This estate of two hundred and eighty acres of fine land near Endor has been the home of our subject for fourteen years, and to his efforts is due its present state of improvement. He began his residence in this township in 1854, buying one hundred and twenty acres in the southern part, upon which there was but little improvement. He has since improved the farm and increased the acreage, and made a small fortune by his persistent efforts in agriculture and stock-raising.

In the town of Hanover, Germany, April 28, 1833, he of whom we write opened his eyes to the light of day. He is the second in a family of

eight children, one of whom was born in America, and was about nine years of age when the family emigrated to America, a settlement being made in Lake County, Ind., where he grew to manhood. There he completed his schooling, becoming possessed of a practical education, while under the careful training of his estimable parents, he acquired right principles and useful habits. At Hanover, in that county, he was united in marriage with Miss Amelia Meier, who has been his efficient companion and sympathizing helpmate for many years.

Mrs. Doescher was born in Hanover, Germany, November 3, 1834, and there reared to womanhood. She lost her mother in Germany and subsequently came to America with two of her brothers to join their father, Henry Meier, at Hanover, Ind. The latter afterward went to Iowa, and died at Jefferson, Greene County, when about four score and five years of age. His life work was that of farming. Mrs. Doescher was married about a year after her arrival in this country. She is the mother of twelve children, seven of whom died young. The survivors are Alvina, Lizzie, Bertha; and Edwin and Julius (twins), all at home. Mr. Doescher has been Highway Commissioner some years. In politics he is a staunch Republican. The entire family are attendants at the Lutheran Church, and are regarded with respect by their fellow-citizens as worthy representatives of their nationality and the families from which they are descended.

The parents of our subject were Herman and Johannah (Steffen) Doescher. The father was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, and bred to the trade of a rope maker, carrying on a rope-walk at Bremerhaven for a number of years and until he came to America. The mother was born and reared near Hamburg, and was of pure German blood. After the birth of all of their children but one, they set out from Bremerhaven on a sailing vessel for the United States. After a voyage of seven weeks landing was made in New York City, whence the family at once journeyed to Lake County, Ind. This was in the fall of 1842. The parents purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Hanover, where they began their farm life,

and where they lived for about forty years. There the mother died in 1881, at the age of seventy-eight years. Her husband afterward went to Endor, Ill., and died at the home of his son Charles, December 2, 1887. He had reached the advanced age of eighty-four years. He had been successful in worldly affairs and in gaining the esteem of his fellow-men to whom his honesty and kindness were well known. His wife was an excellent neighbor, ever ready to perform deeds of kindness and both had many friends, particularly among the German residents of the county in which they lived.



**G**EORGE PICKEL is numbered among the industrious, thrifty members of the farming community of Plainfield Township, where he has an excellent farm, that is under good tillage, is provided with comfortable buildings, and yields a good income. Our subject is a veteran of the late war, in which he suffered all the hardships and privations of a soldier's life for the sake of his country. He is a native of New York, born near the town of Albion, Orleans County, July 3, 1839, a son of John Pickel. He was but four years old when he was deprived of the care of his father by his premature death. The mother of our subject married a second time, becoming the wife of William McQuenn, who was a veteran of the War of 1812, and took part in the battle of Plattsburg. In 1848, the family came to Will County, and here our subject was reared amid the pioneer influences that obtained here thus early in the settlement of this section of the State. Joliet was then but a village and the surrounding country was but sparsely settled, giving but little indication of its present prosperous condition. Our subject attended the public schools and obtained a fair education, and when very young entered upon his career as a farmer, gaining a good practical knowledge of agriculture, and he continued to pursue that calling till he entered the army. He had been watching the course of the war with patriotic interest, and August 8, 1862,

in the very prime and vigor of a stalwart manhood, he being then but twenty-three years of age, he proffered his services in the defence of the Stars and Stripes, and was enrolled as a member of Company E, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, and served faithfully from that time until his honorable discharge in June, 1865, with the exception of the time when he was languishing in rebel prisons.

At the battle of Perrysville the regiment was held in reserve, but it took an active and gallant part in the battles of Stone River and Chickamauga. In the latter engagement Mr. Pickel and his comrades were captured, and for more than a year suffered the horrors of life in rebel prisons. After two days in Libby Prison, Richmond, they were taken from there, and were then transferred to Pemberton Prison, where they remained until December, and were then taken to Danville. In the month of April, they were dispatched to Andersonville, were confined there seven months and after that taken to Florence, S. C., and from there to Goldsborough, N. C., thence to Wilmington, and were there paroled after being in the hands of the enemy seventeen long and weary months, when they must have often despaired of ever seeing home and friends again. Mr. Pickel, though naturally of a vigorous constitution, suffered extremely and became so emaciated that whereas he had weighed two hundred and five pounds just after the battle of Stone River, when he was released from captivity he only weighed one hundred and sixteen pounds.

After our subject and his comrades were paroled they were ordered to St. Louis, and thence went to Camp Butler, Springfield, and were mustered out of the service. After his terrible experience in prison, on the march and on the battlefield, Mr. Pickel returned to Will County, and as soon as able resumed his farming operations, that had been interrupted when he laid aside the harvesting instrument to take up sword and rife. He followed agriculture in Jackson Township until 1878, and then bought his present farm, which he is managing with good financial success, and he is a shrewd, skillful farmer. His land is well tilled, his buildings are suitable and convenient, and he



has good machinery to work his farm, and does what he can to promote the highest interests of his adopted township, and as a practical farmer is contributing to its material prosperity.



**H**ON. ABRAHAM CAGWIN. The growth and prosperity of any city depends very largely upon the efforts of a comparatively small number of her residents, to whose faith in the future of the place and wise judgment as to methods by which to secure a rapid development, other citizens owe the benefit which accrue to them. In the city of Joliet an important part in the upbuilding and official work of both city and county has been taken by the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch, and who merits the good will of the citizens for labors which have resulted beneficially to all who then made or now make it their home.

The birth of Mr. Cagwin took place in Verona, Oneida County, N. Y., May 19, 1807, and he lived in his native place until he was nineteen years old. He had learned the trades of tanning, currying and shoemaking in Rome, and going to Brockport, Monroe County, he built a tannery, continuing in business there until 1835, when the tannery was destroyed by fire, entailing a severe loss. The people of the community were very anxious that the owner should rebuild and offered him material assistance, but he thought it would not be for the best, although very grateful to them for their good feeling and generosity. Some leather had been left uninjured by the fire, and this he made up into harness, which he shipped to Chicago, having made up his mind to come West.

Mr. Cagwin left his old home in the Empire State in company with one Hiram Jones, but took on his own account a stock of goods, which he peddled on the way through to Peoria, Ill. He visited a brother in Pekin, and then, having determined to settle at Joliet, which was then in Cook County, he loaded up the goods which he had left in Peoria and set out for this place. He bought a house and lot on the west side of the Des-

plains River and sold out his goods at auction. Just before his settlement he undertook to cross the river in a boat, but came very near being carried over the dam by the current and drowned. He was within twelve feet of the verge when he was rescued by having a bed cord thrown out to him attached to a pole, which he finally succeeded in getting hold of.

In 1835 the land sale took place in Chicago, and Mr. Cagwin purchased eighty acres southeast of Joliet, after which he returned East and bought the necessary equipments for a sawmill, which he shipped to Chicago, and brought with a team from that place to Joliet. He had some time before purchased one hundred and sixty acres of timber land, on which he purposed to begin the lumber business. On his return from the East he purchased a horse in Detroit, Mich., completing his journey from that point on horseback. He began getting out timber for his mill, doing what he could until the following winter, when on horseback he went back to the Empire State, returning in the spring with his family, which consisted of a wife and four children, the journey being accomplished by teams. In the party were four other adults.

Settling on the land east of Joliet, Mr. Cagwin began in earnest to build the sawmill, which was soon completed and in running order. Such mills being few in this section at that date, made sawmilling a lucrative business to those who were engaged in it. Mr. Cagwin did well, and in a short time was able to pay for all his land and purchase several lots in Joliet. He operated the mill until about 1839, when his excellent judgment and discrimination were recognized by his election to the position of Judge of Probate, which office he held four years. During that time he lived in the city, where he built several stores and other edifices, and in various way displayed his public spirit. The first warehouse in Will County was erected by him during his term of office, it being the one now owned by E. Bush. Joliet was the home of Mr. Cagwin until October, 1886, when he removed to his present residence east of the city limits on section 11, Joliet Township. The land which he occupies consists of ninety-three acres,

valued at \$500 per acre, and on it is a full line of excellent buildings adapted to various purposes, the family residence being a model of rural architecture. For a long term of years Mr. Cagwin was engaged in buying and shipping grain, and he is to day extensively known as the veteran grain dealer of this section.

The marriage of the Hon. Mr. Cagwin was celebrated at Brockport, N. Y., many years ago, his bride being Miss Hannah Scribner, a native of Poultney, Vt. She is a worthy woman, possessing more than ordinary intelligence and an excellent Christian character. She has borne her husband ten children, eight of whom are living—Merritt is a farmer in Lockport Township; Helen is the widow of the late Dr. Elvis Harwood; Sarah was first married to a Mr. Hibbard, and is now the widow of the late Dr. Barrett, of Jackson Township; Thomas is a resident of Milwaukee, Wis.; Hamden lives in Joliet; Rose is the wife of Burt Briggs; Nancy is still with her parents; Abijah resides in Ft. Smith, Ark.

Mr. Cagwin's first Presidential ballot was cast for Andrew Jackson, and he has ever been a staunch Democrat. He has held several important public positions, having been the incumbent of various city offices. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and is a Knight Templar. Both he and his wife belong to the Universalist Church.



**E** HELDT. Among the respected enterprising farmers of Washington Township, the name of our subject deserves mention as that of one who in a comparatively short time has accumulated a fine property and secured a good position among the substantial men of the county. He owns and occupies two hundred acres of fertile land on section 27, and thereon has erected a full line of excellent farm buildings, including every convenient and necessary structure. Industrious and zealous in whatever he undertakes, upright in all the relations of life, and manifesting an intelligent interest in the advancement of the section in which he has made his home, Mr. Heldt is highly respected by his fellow-citizens.

The parents of our subject were Christopher and Stenia Heldt, natives of Mecklenburg, Germany, in which Province their ten children were also born. Two sons and six daughters lived to accompany their parents to America, to whose shores they set sail from Hamburg in May, 1856. Their passage was secured on the sailing-vessel "Oregon," which made a landing in New York City after a voyage of seven weeks and four days. The family soon afterward came to Chicago, and then located in Du Page County. They were very poor and at first had a hard time to get along, but they were industrious and determined, and soon their labors were rewarded by their ability to rent land, on which they made a good living. The parents were members of the Lutheran Church, and not only led upright lives, but endeavored to instill into the hearts of their children the principles of right living. The mother died in Du Page County, in September, 1864, when upwards of three-score and ten years of age. The bereaved husband came to Will County some months later, and died at the home of his son, William, in Washington Township, in 1868. He was seventy-five years old.

The natal day of our subject was January 20, 1812. In his native land he obtained the education which Germany ensures to all her sons, and labored with other members of the family as his growing strength would permit. After the removal to America, he settled with the others in Du Page County, Ill., remaining there until 1868. In the meantime he had passed his majority and had taken unto himself a companion in life, with whom he established his home in Will County on eighty acres, which forms a part of his present homestead. To this he added according to his ability, until the landed estate reached two hundred acres and all was placed in a fine condition.

For nine years Mr. Heldt served as Road Commissioner, giving general satisfaction to the traveling public, and particularly to the agriculturists. His political adherence is given to the Republican party. He and the members of his family belong to the Lutheran Church.

The lady with whom Mr. Heldt was united in marriage in Du Page County, bore the maiden

name of Lucetta Stedt. She was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, January 8, 1843, and was fourteen years old when her parents came to this country. She remained with them in York Center Township, Du Page County, until her marriage. She is a woman of intelligence and genuine worth, who looks well to the ways of her household and endeavors to faithfully discharge every duty. (A full history of the family of which she is a member will be found in the biography of William Stedt.) Mr. and Mrs. Heldt have had eleven children and mourn the loss of Rosetta, Sophia, and an infant unnamed. The survivors are: William, a farmer in Washington Township, who married Emma Blevening; Amelia, wife of Henry C. Hansen, whose home is a farm in Crete Township; Charles, Emma, Fred, Ernst, Louis and Robert, who are yet at home.



**J**BLISS SHAW, M. D. The regular school of medicine acknowledges one of its most able followers in the person of Dr. Shaw, one of the prominent physicians of Joliet, who has a finely equipped office in the Barber Building, and who enjoys an extensive and lucrative business. He located in the city in 1884, and gives his entire attention to the duties of his profession. From 1884 until 1888 he held the office of Coroner.

A native of this county Dr. Shaw was born in Joliet, December 1, 1860, and was the son of John K. Shaw, a native of New York City. The latter was reared in the great metropolis, and was married to Miss Martha, daughter of John J. Flack, one of the early settlers of this county. The wedding took place in Joliet, but the young couple returned East afterward, and Mr. Shaw was connected with the Michigan Central Railroad for a number of years. He died, however, when comparatively a young man, and before the recollection of his son, J. Bliss.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Shaw returned to her father's home in Joliet, where she still lives. She was subsequently married to Harvey Downey. Our subject was the only child of

his parents, and was reared by his maternal grandfather, John J. Flack, a native of Oswego County, N. Y. Grandfather Flack came to Illinois in 1840, and for many years was a resident of Joliet, where his death took place in 1876.

Dr. Shaw was a child of two years when he was brought to this county by his mother, and pursued his first studies in the city schools. At an early age he began seriously to think of adopting the medical profession, and entered upon his studies under the preceptorship of Dr. M. B. Campbell. He took his first course of lectures at the Chicago Homeopathic College, subsequently attended and was graduated in the class of 1884, from the Chicago Medical College, the latter being connected with the Northwestern University.

Soon after locating in Joliet the Doctor was elected County Coroner, obtaining the highest number of votes of any candidate on the Republican ticket at that election. This fact is sufficient indication of his standing and popularity in the county. He has thus far made for himself a fine record, and has the wishes of hosts of friends for his continued success. He has a fine library, to which he is steadily adding, and wherein he spends his leisure time, keeping himself thoroughly posted upon the latest methods of practice, while in a literary point of view, he is more than ordinarily proficient, being the master of French, and having a good understanding of the German tongue.

After being graduated Dr. Shaw crossed the Atlantic and spent seven months in the city of Paris, devoting himself to the study of surgery, together with venereal diseases and diseases of the eye and ear, of which he makes a specialty. He there obtained instruction from some of the finest practitioners at the French Capital, among them being the noted Galezowski. Upon returning to his native land he spent a year in the Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago. In Paris he had charge of one of the wards in the Hotel Dieu, the largest hospital in the city.

Dr. Shaw was wedded, February 5, 1885, at the bride's home in West Union, Iowa, to Miss Lida B. Hammon. This lady was born in Joliet, and is the daughter of King J. and Julia B. Hammond, who were natives of New York, but are now resi-

dents of West Union, Iowa. Two bright children have been born of this union, a son and daughter—Arthur B. and Laura H. The Doctor, politically, gives his support to the Republican party, but meddles very little with public affairs, conscientiously devoting his attention to the duties of his profession. Both he and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**C**HARLES FRANCIS PINNEO, one of the energetic grocers of Joliet, is a native of Will County, having been born in Reed's Grove, November 18, 1851. As a farmer's boy he grew up with an anxiety for other and more congenial pursuits, which were realized upon his father leaving farm life and removing to Elwood, where he remained until his death in the spring of 1879. Our subject on leaving the farm went to Verona, Ill., and engaged in the hotel business, where he remained until coming to Joliet in 1881, where he first accepted a subordinate position, which in 1883 was exchanged for the proprietorship of the business he yet maintains.

First class in all its appointments, the grocery of Mr. Pinneo is a model and his business is a thriving one. It is conducted according to the most honorable methods, and with a high degree of energy and tact, and the patrons of the establishment are sure of courteous treatment and square dealing. Politically, Mr. Pinneo is a Republican, as was his father before him. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, endeavors to make his daily walk and conversation consistent with his Christian profession, and so wins the respect of those about him.

Mr. Pinneo has been twice married, his first wife having been Miss Mary A. Grant. Their marriage was celebrated Christmas Day, 1872, and they lived happily together until January 16, 1887, when death removed the wife and mother. Three children had blessed the union, only one of whom, Amy G., is now living. The present wife of Mr. Pinneo was formerly Mrs. Loretta Thornburg, an

estimable woman of intelligence and good breeding, who looks well to the ways of her household, while not neglecting the social duties and the society of her many friends.

The father of our subject was Charles Pinneo, a native of Nova Scotia, whose natal day was March 26, 1808. He was a man of pronounced convictions, an ardent worker in the cause of temperance, a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a most excellent citizen. He died April 27, 1879, lamented by a host of friends. His wife, Mary E., also died at Elwood, her demise occurring March 3, 1888; she was born in Nova Scotia, August 1, 1812. To her and her husband eleven children were born, whose record is as follows: William Simmons is deceased; George Davenport lives in Oakland, Cal.; John Baxter, in Will County; Mrs. Julia A. Elderkin, in Montana; Mrs. Prudence Maria Shiffer, in Joliet; Mary Sophia, Sophronia Eliza, Andrew Wilson and Charles Albert are dead; Mrs. Sophronia Olivia Childs, now a widow, lives in Joliet; Charles Francis is the youngest member of the family. The paternal grandparents of our subject were John D. and Elizabeth Pinneo, also natives of Nova Scotia.



**G**RIFFIN MARSHALL. The subject of this notice is a son of the late well-known George Marshall, who was one of the pioneer settlers of this county, coming hither when a young man and before his marriage. He was a native of New York State, as was also his wife, Margaret A. Paddock. The Paddock family likewise came to Illinois at an early day, and the parents of our subject were married in this county. They settled on section 1, New Lenox Township, but in 1850 the father, seized with the California gold fever, repaired to the Pacific Slope. He started on his return home by the ocean route, died on board ship, and was consigned to a watery grave. The mother is still living, and makes her home in New Lenox Township.

To the parents of our subject there was born a family of seven children, of whom Griffin was the





*Thomas Ferriss*

fifth. He first opened his eyes to the light at the homestead in New Lenox Township, November 30, 1846. He was a mere child at the time of his father's death, and remained with his mother at the old homestead until approaching manhood, in fact has here spent all his life with the exception of six months when he was in the army. He was bred to farming pursuits, and has made these his chief occupation in life. He owns a part of the old homestead, his share being about one hundred acres. The land under careful cultivation is very fertile, and the buildings, without making any pretention to elegance, form a safe shelter for the little family.

When a man of twenty-six years Mr. Marshall was married, December 21, 1872, in Joliet, to Miss Lucy J. Fry. She was born in Joliet, and is a daughter of John and Sarah (Edmunds) Fry, who were natives of Pennsylvania and New York, and are now deceased. This union has resulted in the birth of five children, namely: Edward, Jesse, Maggie, Louisa and Chester. They form a bright and interesting group, all remaining under the home roof.

Mr. Marshall has always taken an active interest in politics, and gives his uniform support to the Republican party. His estimable wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**D**ANIEL FERRISS. It is a blessing which comes not to all, to have parents of whom their children may be proud and of whom they may justly speak as models after which to shape their own lives. The subject of this sketch has the most intense filial feeling, and alludes to his parents in terms of reverent affection that proves them to have been worthy of his heart's best love.

The father of our subject was Thomas Ferriss, born in Washington County, N. Y., in 1789, and son of a surveyor who mysteriously disappeared on one of his trips and was never again heard from. Thomas Ferriss enlisted in the War of 1812 and during a part of the conflict acted as a teamster.

On July 1, 1843, at the bride's home in Pennsylvania he married Miss Desire Lake who was born in Wilkesbarre, in 1790. She was the daughter of Daniel Lake, a Revolutionary soldier who lived to be more than four-score and ten years old. The Lake family was noted for the longevity of most of the members.

About 1818, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ferriss took up their abode in Washington County, N. Y., whence they removed to Jefferson County a few years later and from there to St. Lawrence County. On September 11, 1839, the faithful wife and mother closed her eyes in death, leaving behind her the memory of wise counsels which have left their impress during all the years that have passed since her voice became silent.

In 1844, Thomas Ferriss and his family came to Illinois, locating in Lake County. Five years later they removed to Wesley Township, this county, renting a farm which was the home until 1854. One year after their settlement upon it the father crossed the plains to California attracted by the reports of the successful search for precious metal, and during the four years which followed he was able to save \$1,800 in gold. He then returned to the Prairie State and located on the farm now occupied by our subject, and there he closed his eyes in death May 25, 1875. His son Daniel had promised the mother upon her deathbed that he would always look after his father, and right well did he keep his promise, bearing the burden which would have been too heavy for the father's shoulders and becoming to him a staff in his declining years.

The parental family comprised ten children, four of whom are now living. David, who is now seventy-six years of age, lives in Michigan; Mrs. Rachel Gates is residing in Minnesota, at the age of seventy-four years; Julia, born June 23, 1822, and unmarried, keeps house for our subject, whose home comfort she looks after with tender solicitude.

Daniel Ferriss was born January 20, 1819, in Washington County, N. Y., and even in childhood learned lessons of hard labor. When not yet ten years old he drove a three-horse team all summer. While the family lived in St. Lawrence County he worked in the brass furnaces and forge. His

school advantages were very meagre but his native intelligence and the knowledge which can be gleaned through reading and observation, have taken the place of the education which was denied him.

After the family removed to the Prairie State our subject worked on the farm, assisting his father to pay an indebtedness of \$30, which hung over their heads when they reached here, and afterward improving their own estate, in the payment of which he bore a part. The land which they purchased was nearly devoid of improvements and to the energy and perseverance of our subject its present condition is due. His labors are particularly commendable as he has for many a year labored single-handed in a literal sense. While running a threshing machine, October 24, 1848, his left arm was drawn into the cylinder and torn off at the elbow. He suffered amputation without the use of anesthetics or allowing anyone to hold him, exhibiting fortitude extremely rare.

The one hundred and forty-seven acres on section 27, which comprise the estate of Mr. Ferriss, are adorned by a good stone residence, a full line of substantial outbuildings and various fruit and shade trees. Neatness and order prevail everywhere and it is hard to believe that such a variety of work can be thoroughly accomplished with the use of but one arm, and that even chopping, cradling of grain, and similar work has been done by Mr. Ferriss since he suffered the loss of his limb.

Mr. Ferriss and his sister are honest, God-fearing people, whose lives are spent in consistent endeavor to carry out the Golden Rule and honor the name which they bear. They have never been members of any church, although they lean toward the Universalist denomination, but give their countenance and support to the good work of various congregations. Mr. Ferriss served as Constable of the township for six years. Otherwise he has constantly refused to hold office. He is a friend to Masonry, his father having been a member of the fraternity. He has always taken a lively interest in the political issues of the day and since the organization of the Republican party, has been a firm supporter of it. Prior to that time he had been a Democrat. His father was of the Universalist

faith and this no doubt is one reason why our subject and his sister favor that church. They are entitled to the respect of those about them and receive their due measure.

On another page of the ALBUM is presented a lithographic portrait of the late Thomas Ferriss.



JUDGE DAVID WILLARD. Years after a stone alone remains to tell the story of their lives, the memories of some will be cherished by the generations who follow them, and upon whose lives their efforts have left a lasting impress. There is none so humble but that he exerts some control over those about him, and the influence of a man of great mental and physical activity can only be measured when time shall be no more. One of the landmarks of Will County, and one who during his prime has taken a very prominent part in local affairs, is the subject of this review, who has now practically retired to his farm on section 4, Wesley Township.

The gentleman of whom we write was born June 13, 1818, in Alleghany County, N. Y., being the second child of Daniel and Elizabeth (Sanders) Willard, from whom he inherited sturdy qualities. His father was born in the old Bay State, in 1787, becoming a resident of Washington County, N. Y., when a young man. There, in 1815, he married a native of Ft. Edwards, the young couple removing during the same year to Alleghany County. Daniel Willard was a farmer, and during the War of 1812 had taken up arms in his country's defense. He lived to the advanced age of ninety years, one month and nine days, breathing his last October 21, 1877. His faithful companion survived him a few months, dying July 26, 1878. She also was of ripe age, having been born April 22, 1794.

Our subject was the fortunate recipient of good educational advantages, and made a specialty of algebra and field surveying. Being reared on a farm he took some part in agricultural labors, and during his early years taught school in the winter season. Before he had attained his majority he was put on the ticket as School Inspector, but was



not elected until the following year, when he was a second time nominated. He was afterward elected Constable and Town Collector for three successive years, and still later was the successful candidate for Justice of the Peace, leaving home, however, before the term of office began.

When twenty-one years old Mr. Willard at odd times engaged in the lumber business on the Alleghany River. His first experience was as a raftsman, a position which required a keen eye, quick wit and physical activity. He frequently walked from Pittsburg, Pa., to his home, a distance of two hundred miles, there being no means of transit other than this. In the spring of 1844 Mr. Willard took a companion, with whom he came at once to Illinois, settling on a tract of unimproved land. It comprised the eighty acres on which he is now passing his days in peace and pleasantness. He built a small house which, in 1857, was replaced by the present cozy home, and which was gradually surrounded with the various improvements which a good farmer considers necessary for the successful prosecution of his work, and the comfort of himself and family.

The vocation to which he turned his attention as a means of support was not allowed to engross the attention of Mr. Willard, whose fitness for office was soon recognized by his fellow-citizens, who demanded his services. In 1846 he was given the position of Township School Treasurer, and continued therein for years. Two years later he was elected Justice of the Peace, and in this office he served until 1865. As Township Supervisor and Chairman of the Board he also officiated for years, his service in the latter capacity having extended over the period of the Civil War. He had to assess the citizens for the first money raised to send the township quota for defraying expenses of the army, and many friends were lost by this action. His personal feelings, however, did not deter him from the exercise of his judgment, and the integrity with which he managed the affair was afterward overwhelmingly endorsed.

In 1865 Mr. Willard was elected Judge of the County Court for a term of four years, and being re-elected, in 1869, he continued to serve until 1873. He removed his family to Joliet and made

that city his home during his second term. His strict honor, acute judgment of character, and decisive opinions regarding right and justice, were called into play while seated upon the bench, and the record which he made is one upon which he can look back with pride, knowing that his worst enemy can find no just ground for condemnation of his course. Judge Willard was first identified with the Whig party, and after its disintegration enlisted in the Republican ranks. His first Presidential ballot was cast for Gen. W. H. Harrison, and his last for Gen. Benjamin Harrison, the descendant of the hero of Tippecanoe.

Judge Willard is descended in the seventh generation from Maj. Simon Willard, who emigrated from Kent County, England, to Massachusetts, in 1634. The father of Maj. Willard was Richard Willard, who held a large landed estate in the mother country. The Major was a member of the General Court in the Massachusetts Colony, and a participant in King Phillip's war. He had nine sons, from the youngest of whom Judge Willard is descended.

The estimable woman who for many years has been the cherished companion of Judge Willard, bore the maiden name of Hedah Axtell. She is a native of the Empire State, born October 27, 1822, and is the oldest of three surviving children in a family of twelve. She attended the common schools in her native State, acquiring all the knowledge which an apt pupil could, and at her home was instructed in housewifely arts and the principles of right living, which have made her honored and useful in her home and among her neighbors. Her union with Judge Willard was celebrated May 9, 1841, and has been blessed by the birth of six children. The fond parents have been called upon to part with four of their loved ones. The survivors are: Lois, wife of Albert H. Mapps, of Joliet, and the mother of one child; René, who also lives in Joliet, is now filling the office of County Surveyor, and who took for his wife Miss Cora Sibert; Alice died at the age of three years, from typhoid fever, which was a sad affliction to the bereaved parents. Three children died in infancy unnamed.

It will not be amiss to devote a few lines to the

ancestry of Mrs. Willard. Her father, Chauncey Axtell, was born at Cronman's Patent, N. Y., in 1786, and her mother, Betsy (Morse) Axtell, in Otsego County, in 1796. They resided in the Empire State during the life of Mrs. Axtell, who passed away in January, 1852. The same year the bereaved widower removed to Illinois, locating one mile west of the present home of Judge Willard. There he remained until death, the date of his decease being August, 1861. He was a farmer and lumberman, and respected by all who knew him. Besides Mrs. Willard the surviving members of his family are Axie E. and Betsy M.



JANE CHADWICK has displayed a degree of administrative ability and comprehension of business affairs which would be highly creditable to one of the sterner sex. She is administratrix of the estate of the late John Jones, of Manhattan Township, having full power to manage the five hundred and sixty acres as she sees fit, and is kept busy in attending to the labors which it entails upon her. The farm is rented and Miss Chadwick occupies a pleasant residence in the village, which for comfort and ease is not excelled therein. She is looked up to by everyone and no person in this vicinity has more friends than she.

The father of our subject was John Chadwick, a native of Lancashire, England, who died when his daughter, Jane, was about eight years old. The mother was Jane (Murray) Chadwick, a native of Scotland, who upon being left a widow with nine children, labored so wisely and well that she was able to rear them with fair educations and preparation for future usefulness. She died in Manchester, England, in 1852. She was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church and endeavored to instill the principles of right living into the hearts of her offspring.

The members of the parental family were Mary, Alice, James, Jane, Joseph, Elizabeth, Henry, John and Ellen. Mary and Alice moved to Australia some years after our subject came to America and have since been lost track of. James was in the

Twenty-third Royal Welsh Fusiliers and served through the Crimean War, becoming a Corporal. At the close of the struggle he returned to England, but a few weeks later accompanied the army to China and his sister has never heard from him since that day. She has lost trace of the entire family and is not aware that she has a single relative living.

Miss Jane Chadwick was born in Manchester, England, and reared there with somewhat limited school advantages. It being necessary that she should early in life have an occupation by which she could secure a livelihood, she learned dress-making and millinery, serving a regular apprenticeship from sixteen until twenty-one years of age. From early years she had made her home with an aunt and about the time that she became of age the health of her relative failed and the doctors recommended travel as a means of restoring it.

Miss Chadwick was requested to accompany her aunt and uncle, and having consented, embarked at Glasgow, Scotland, on the steamer "City of Glasgow," which sailed April 1, 1850. This vessel was one of the first ocean steamers and this was her first trip. After a stormy voyage of fourteen days and eight hours, during which Miss Chadwick had been ill continually, landing was made at New York. For three years the party traveled in and through many of the States of the Union, their journeyings ceasing only with the death of the aunt, which took place at Louisville, Ky., in 1853. The bereaved uncle was obliged to return to England and was most anxious to have our subject go with him, but she so dreaded the voyage that she declined.

For some time Miss Chadwick followed dress-making in Louisville and then, having friends in Atchison, Kan., who had come from her old English home, she determined to locate there. She traveled to Atchison by boat and there engaged in dressmaking, making her home with her friends. During those exciting times of border ruffianism which preceded the late Civil War, she saw and heard much of the events which have become historical. The head of the household in which she had found her home, went South and was killed on

board a boat at New Orleans, his murder proving such a shock to his wife that she too died and our subject was again left alone.

In 1858, having been recommended by Atchison friends to come to Joliet, Ill., which was then just starting, Miss Chadwick turned her face eastward. Close confinement to sewing had affected her health and her physician advised her to do housework for a change. Although she knew nothing about housekeeping, she determined to follow the doctor's advice and when she reached Joliet did not even stop to eat her dinner for fear that her courage would fail her, but started out in search of a place. Walking up on the bluff, where she had several amusing experiences, she finally secured a situation at Mr. Furman Maeks. There she remained until she became housekeeper for the late James Jones in Manhattan Township. This gentleman was not the best of managers, although an excellent man, and Miss Chadwick manifested so much ability and good sense that he ere long admitted that she was a better farmer than he, and followed her advice in his business.

Seeing that Mr. Jones was not successful as a farmer, Miss Chadwick advised him to build tenant houses on each quarter section and rent the estate. This he did, the plan working so admirably that he became one of the most substantial men of the township. Miss Chadwick remained with him until his death, when she lost a good friend. Realizing that to her advice he owed his success, Mr. Jones wished to give Miss Chadwick a deed to the farm, but she would not allow this, having no desire to become defendant in a suit which would swallow up the place and cause much hard feeling in the minds of his relatives. She accepted a life annuity, \$300 per annum, which, with the administrator's fees, affords her a comfortable support. Congressman Hill, of Joliet, was appointed by Mr. Jones to assist Miss Chadwick, but she has the supreme power. She remained on the farm a year after the death of the owner, straightening up affairs and selling off eighty acres, leaving five hundred and sixty in the farm.

In 1883 Miss Chadwick bought a half acre in Manhattan upon which she erected three houses, later building her own residence. She is an active and

liberal member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, in Manhattan Township, and a member of the Ladies' Guild, for which she has acted as delegate and otherwise labored. She is a firm believer in the principles of Republicanism and exerts all the influence which a woman of her standing can, in favor of that party.



**JOHN M. DONALD.** No resident of Frankfort Station is better known than this gentleman, who deals in grain, lumber, coal, hay and tile, and who has had an extended experience as a grain merchant. No better judge of grain can be found in the county than John McDonald, and he was probably the largest buyer within it in the early days of Frankfort Station. He still handles large quantities, and is recognized as the old and reliable grain merchant.

The grandfather of our subject was John McDonald, a native of the Highlands, in Scotland, who ran away from his country during a revolution and became a farmer in Ireland. He had previously been an officer in the Scotch Rebellion. In County Tipperary, Ireland, his son John was born, and he also became a farmer, continuing his agricultural occupation until his death. He was also a road contractor. He married Ellen Gleason, a native of the same county, who bore him five children, namely: James, Patrick, Mary, Elizabeth and John. The latter is the only one now surviving, and he alone came to America.

The natal day of our subject was December 11, 1823, and his birthplace in County Tipperary some six miles from Naunah. There he attended school three years, going back and forth every day, and securing excellent advantages by paying seven shillings per quarter. He read Latin and Greek and became well versed in the ordinary branches. He was assisted greatly in his aspirations and labors by the fact the teacher boistered with his parents. The master was very strict, compelling his pupils to polish their shoes, brush their clothes and in other ways make themselves presentable every morning. Mathematics was the

hobby of young John, who, while he was helping on the farm and keeping his father's books, was able to figure anything.

After keeping books for his father two years, the young man, at the age of eighteen years, came to America to see the country. Leaving Dublin for Liverpool in the summer of 1841, he secured passage on an American sailing-vessel and five weeks later was landed in New York among strangers. He had \$2,000, every cent of which he spent in traveling through New York, Pennsylvania and Michigan. He did not engage in any occupation until 1850, when he began work for the Michigan Central Railroad at New Buffalo, Mich., which was at that time the terminus of the road. Subsequently he removed to Chicago, where the road terminated, in 1852, and there he checked freight two years.

In 1854 Mr. McDonald came to Joliet, continuing his employment as a checkman until 1857, when he received the appointment of agent at Frankfort, which was just starting into life. He held the position of agent until 1875, when he resigned. In 1859 he began buying grain for J. L. Heard & Co., of Michigan, and he continued to transact this commission business until 1876. He then embarked in the grain business for himself, but although he desired to build an elevator, he could not do so on account of the lease of the railroad. He was compelled to put his grain through their houses until he caught them using his grain and was able to break their lease. He then built the second elevator in Frankfort, which was 35x50 feet on the ground and had a capacity of twenty-five thousand bushels.

In 1885 Mr. McDonald bought out the other elevator which had been erected in Frankfort, and from that time operated both. On May 24, 1889, the first was burned to the ground, but he did not allow this catastrophe to interrupt his business. That summer he built an elevator on the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railroad, at Frankfort, which has a capacity of forty thousand bushels, is run by steam power and supplied with the Clipper and Cyclone Dust Consumer. He sends grain to New York and other large commercial centers and does an extensive business, mostly in corn and oats, al-

though when he began buying, wheat and oats were his staples. It has been no unusual sight to see teams standing all around town waiting for the use of the scales, the contents of the wagons passing through the hands of Mr. McDonald.

In the earlier days of his career as a grain dealer, Mr. McDonald ran a corn-sheller day and night. In 1881 he began dealing in lumber, and it was not long until he added coal to his stock-in-trade. He has a hay barn and bales that article for shipping, and he likewise does quite an extensive business in selling tile. He is one of those busy men who are always full of affairs and find time for the successful prosecution of various lines of work. He is now the only grain dealer in Frankfort, and in this flourishing agricultural country a large amount of trade passes through his hands. He owns a valuable improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Green Garden Township. In addition to the business which we have noted, he was agent for the American Express Company eighteen years. The success, which first began to crown his efforts while working as a commission agent, has but increased in later years, and he has secured ample means.

The marriage of Mr. McDonald and Miss Elizabeth Doty, a native of Will County, took place in Frankfort in 1859. The union resulted in the birth of four children, of whom the youngest, Elizabeth Doty, died at the age of eight months; Herbert John is a salesman for S. E. Gross, a Chicago real-estate dealer; Edward Everett spent two years in attendance at the University at Evanston, and one year in Souder's Business College, at Chicago; Charles Howard also attended the Northwestern University, at Evanston, and is now engaged in the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Ohio.

Mr. McDonald was Supervisor of Frankfort Township eight years, and held the offices of School Director and Trustee for years. He helped to incorporate the village and was its first President, resigning the office at the expiration of two years. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity, being enrolled in the Chapter and Commandery at Joliet and having a life membership in a Consistory in Chicago. In politics he is a straight





B. A. FULLER.

Republican, and has been from the time he cast his vote for Fremont in Joliet, in 1856. He has served at various times as a delegate to county and State conventions and was a member of the Central Committee eight years.



**R**OBERT W. CROSSEN, proprietor of the R. W. Crossen Carriage Manufactory, occupies a prominent position among the industrial interests of Joliet. This enterprise is located at Nos. 620 and 622, Van Buren Street, where it was established January 1, 1889, having removed from East Jefferson Street, and comprises, besides the main building, a repository 40x80 feet in dimensions, with two floors and an addition of one story, 20x48 feet. Mr. Crossen embarked in business for himself in April, 1883, on Van Buren Street, near Chicago Street, commencing in a modest way, but now gives employment to from ten to fifteen men. This is the largest manufactory of the kind in the place and receives orders from all parts of the country.

Mr. Crossen is a native of Coburg, Province of Ontario, Canada, and was born February 25, 1856. His father, Jackson Crossen, was likewise a native of the Dominion, where he lived until 1865, engaged as a contractor of stone work. During the year mentioned he came to Illinois and located near Joliet, where, with his estimable wife, formerly Miss Van Norman, he still lives and is still engaged as before. Robert W. acquired his early education in the schools of Joliet and entered upon his business career as a carpenter and joiner. Subsequently he served an apprenticeship at carriage-making, which he finished when a youth of eighteen and continuously worked at this until establishing himself in his own business. He had but a small capital at the outset, but by good management and strict economy he soon found himself on the highway to prosperity. The year 1889 witnessed the largest amount of business yet turned out of this manufactory. Twice has Mr. Crossen been obliged to enlarge his facilities, and the experiment will have to be repeated in the near future. He is a

man prompt to meet his obligations and his straightforward business methods command the respectful consideration of all with whom he deals. His extensive business interests prevent him giving much time to public affairs further than supporting by his vote the principles of the Republican party.

Mr. Crossen, on the 12th of May, 1881, took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Mary E. Simpson. Mrs. Crossen was born in 1862, in the Province of Ottawa, Canada, and is the daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Simpson, who were natives of Canada. Mr. Simpson came to this county some years ago and is now a resident of Chicago, officiating in a printing office. To Mr. and Mrs. Crossen there have been born two children, daughters—Nellie and Mabel. The little family occupies a snug home at No. 908 Cass Street, and they have gathered about them many warm friends since their sojourn here.



**B**UEL A. FULLER. The legal fraternity of Will County would be but poorly represented in this volume were not mention made of the gentleman above named, who is one of the oldest lawyers living in Joliet, and whose portrait appears on the opposite page. He has retired from active life after many years of unremitting toil, by means of which he secured for himself a fine footing in the profession and a competence which enables him to spend his winters in the South, and to enjoy all the comforts and even luxuries of life. His home, which is one of the finest residences in or about Joliet, is located just outside the city limits and surrounded by over two hundred acres of beautiful and well developed land. Not only is the dwelling itself an attractive one but in its furnishing it evinces the taste and culture of the occupants. Mr. Fuller is a self-made man, as his life history will show, and as such he deserves the greater credit for his attainments and acquisitions. His nature is a genial one, his character honorable and his mental abilities of a high order. In all his enterprises he is ably assisted by

his wife, who presides over their elegant home with gracious hospitality. She bore the maiden name of Edith Carpenter, and was born in the Empire State to Alfred and Susan (Fargo) Carpenter. She became the wife of Mr. Fuller January 28, 1885.

The natal day of Mr. Fuller was August 8, 1832, his birth having taken place in Edgar County, Ill., about six miles east of Paris. His parents, Hiram and Nancy (Murphy) Fuller, made their first settlement after marriage in the county where he was born, whence they removed to Coles County, and then to Danville. There the father died in 1841, the mother surviving until 1869. They had a family of five children, of whom our subject was the second. The father was born amid the Green Mountains in Vermont and the mother in Miami County, Ohio.

The earliest recollections of our subject are of Danville, where his life was passed till the age of ten years, at which time he went to Perrysville, Ind., and entered a printing office. There he was employed about two years and a half, when he returned to his former home, spending a short time in an office there and going thence to Covington, Ind. In that thriving town he spent some time, leaving it for a position in Peoria, Ill., whence he was driven several months later by the breaking out of the cholera. Returning again to Danville, which was his home during all this time, he after a short sojourn took his departure for LaFayette, Ind., walking the entire distance, having but a small amount of money which he had borrowed to help him along. There he was employed on the LaFayette *Courier* for several months, and being a good type setter, although but a boy, he was able to do a man's work and he received as much pay for his labor as any one in that branch of the business. In that city he was connected with others in publishing the *Wabash Scrapbooks*, which was in great demand during the months of its publication.

We next find young Fuller in connection with Daniel Clapp, of Danville, Ill., publishing the *Temperance Journal and Sons Companion*, an enterprise which was not carried on, however, for any great length of time. New Albany, Ind., was the next abiding place of the young man, who remained in that city nearly a year, next going to

Madison, where he became foreman on a paper, known as the Madison *Banner*, and published by Bright Bros. Several months later, on July 2, 1852, he came to Joliet and purchased a half interest in the *True Democrat*, his associate being Alexander McIntosh. The succeeding summer he sold his connection with the paper on account of sickness and for a time, while regaining his health, he was in a daguerrotype gallery learning the business but not with a view to following it permanently.

Soon after this Mr. Fuller went to Chicago, finding employment in the job office of the *Journal* for a few months and then being transferred to the foremanship of the news department. There he remained but a short time ere entering the office of the Chicago *Democrat*, then edited by "Long John" Wentworth, from which he went to that of the *Democratic Press*. Some months later he purchased a half interest in a grocery store at the corner of Randolph and Greene Streets and embarked in the career of a tradesman, buying out his associate after a year of partnership and removing the stock to Joliet. Here he carried on the business about a twelvemonth when he sold out the stock and fixtures and returned to his former line of labor.

The spring of 1856 found Mr. Fuller the purchaser of the *Democrat* office at Kankakee, and the editor and manager of that sheet for a year, during which period he began reading law. In 1858, he was admitted to the bar and entered into partnership with Judge S. W. Randall and the Hon. Henry Snapp, the firm being known as Randall, Snapp & Fuller. The connection continued about a year when the second member withdrew, the firm thereafter being known as Randall & Fuller, until the admission into it of Royal E. Barber, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. The new firm of Barber, Randall & Fuller continued until the early part of the last decade, when Mr. Fuller withdrew and abandoned the practice of the law. The firm of Randall & Fuller was the oldest law partnership in Joliet, Mr. Barber's connection with them covering a period of about three years.

Since his withdrawal from legal business in 1882, Mr. Fuller has passed his winters in the South and







James Lewis

his summers in various sections to which fancy has led him. On two different occasions he was elected City Attorney, but he has had no particular liking for politics and has not cared to fill public offices. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and has been an Odd Fellow since 1852.



REV. JAMES LEWIS, Pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church at Joliet, was called to this charge in May, 1882, and has since been connected with it. He is a minister of talent, and greatly beloved both as pastor and preacher. Thoroughly educated and alive to the duties of his calling, he has been the rare privilege to pursue a career of more than ordinary usefulness and success. He is a native of Hamden, Delaware County, N. Y., and was born May 23, 1836.

Mr. Lewis comes of substantial ancestry, being the son of Alexander and Rebecca (Crawford) Lewis, who were natives respectively of Peebleshire and Argyshire, Scotland, whence they came to America in 1834. The father was a weaver by trade, and a well-educated man, and after coming to this country occupied himself as a teacher, and also engaged in farming pursuits. The children of the parental household are recorded as follows: William C. occupies himself as a lumberman in Delaware County, N. Y.; James, our subject, was the second born; Alexander, Jr., is assistant engineer of railway construction in that county; Mathew C., who earned the title of Captain by defending the Union in the late war, is a contractor and builder, mostly in the railway service, making his headquarters in his native county; Louis K. is a dyer of Delhi, N. Y., and although nearly blind turns out some remarkably fine work; Celia, Mrs. Smith, died at Delhi, N. Y., in the year 1868; Jennie C. also died at Delhi, in 1865, when an interesting maiden of eighteen years; Margaret, Mrs. Boyd, is a resident of Hays City, Kan., where her husband officiates as Superintendent of Public Instruction; Rebecca died in Hays City, Kan., in 1881. Alexander Lewis departed this life at his home in Hamden, Delaware County, N. Y., in

1886, at the age of seventy-three years; the mother died in Hays City, Kan., March 3, 1890, at the age of seventy-nine.

The subject of this notice spent his boyhood days in his native county, and from the age of ten to seventeen was employed in a woolen factory. He then served an apprenticeship at house painting and paper hanging. In the meantime, however, he kept steadily in view his desire and determination to acquire a thorough education, and now commenced in earnest to put his resolution into practice. When nineteen years old he began to prepare for college under the instruction of Professors Sawyer and E. G. Cobb, with each of whom he remained one year.

In 1857 young Lewis became a student of Amherst College, wherein he took the full course and was graduated in 1861. For one year afterward he was employed as a teacher in the academy at Ithaca, N. Y. The Civil War now being in progress, he deemed it his duty to lay aside his personal plans and interests, and entered the Union service, September 27, 1862, as Captain of Company C, One Hundred and Forty-fourth New York Infantry. In July, 1863, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and after commanding his regiment in this capacity ten months, was presented, in November, 1864, with the commission of Colonel. He remained in the army until the close of the war, and was mustered out in July, 1865. He was present at many important battles, including the sieges of Suffolk and Charleston, in 1863, the battles of John's Island, Honey Hill, Beveaux Neck, James Island and in several skirmishes. Although experiencing some hairbreadth escapes, he was neither wounded nor captured, being permitted to return home in safety.

Soon after leaving the army Col. Lewis entered the Union Theological Seminary in New York City, from which he was graduated in 1868. Then, as one of a band of nine home missionaries, he repaired to the Western frontier, and soon organized a church of six members in Humboldt, Kan., of which he continued the pastorate seven years. In the meantime he had charge of all the Home Missionary work in that section, the Presbytery in-

cluding Indian Territory. He was called from that field of labor to take charge of the Presbyterian Church in Howell, Mich. where he remained until coming to Joliet.

The marriage of the Rev. James Lewis and Miss Mary Coe Farrand, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents in Detroit, Mich., November 17, 1869. Mrs. Lewis was born in Hudson, Ohio, August 16, 1842, and was the eldest child of Jacob S. and Olive C. Farrand. She became the mother of four sons and one daughter, and departed this life at her home in Joliet, December 3, 1889. The sons of Mr. Lewis are named respectively: Jacob Farrand, James Lang, Alexander and William Mather. They are all at home with their father. The only daughter, Olive Farrand, died at the age of seventeen months.

Mrs. Mary Coe (Farrand) Lewis was a lady of rare loveliness of character, and proved to her husband an invaluable assistant in his struggles and labors in the Master's vineyard. She was reared with the best advantages of education and amid the choicest endearments of society and home. She went bravely with her husband into a new country, cheerfully leaving the luxuries to which she had been accustomed, and by a modest and humble demeanor sought with all her influence to win souls to Christ. She constantly kept in view the work to which her husband was devoted, and in all ways sought to commend herself and his ministry to the good opinion of all with whom she came in contact. The manner in which she accomplished this was fully attested by the great influence which she exerted, and the love and reverence in which she was held by all.

Two of the most revered pastors who ever worked among Joliet people, or preached to Joliet congregations, repaired from their respective charges to the scene of their former labors to add their testimony to the beauty of character which had so impressed all who ever enjoyed the personal acquaintance of Mrs. Lewis. Probably there had never gathered in Central Church an audience impressed with a deeper or more tender sentiment than that which gathered to render its tribute of respect to the memory of a lovely Christian woman. After the usual opening exercises of song and

prayer, the Rev. A. H. Dean, D.D., of Monmouth, Ill., former pastor of the Central Church and an early friend of Mrs. Lewis, delivered an eloquent and beautiful tribute to her memory. The Rev. J. W. Conley, a clergyman of the Baptist Church, and who had known Mrs. Lewis intimately during the years of her residence in Joliet, paid a fitting tribute to her virtues, high Christian character and efficient service in the Master's cause.

Mrs. Lewis was possessed of rare conversational powers, and many love to remember the words of encouragement spoken to them by her during seasons of depression, and when they most needed the counsel of a disinterested friend. She was warmly attached to her husband, her children and her home, and in addition to the duties connected therewith, she still found time for a vast amount of work in all departments of the church. In October, 1881, she united with other ladies in organizing the Woman's Home Mission Society of Chicago Presbytery, of which she was chosen Recording Secretary. At its annual meeting in 1885, she was elected Corresponding Secretary, and held that office until her death, in addition to doing her full share of work as a member of the Executive Committee.

Multitudes attended the obsequies of Mrs. Lewis, but not from curiosity. Her mortal remains were borne to rest in the city of her youth, and old and young mingled their tears over her grave. She desired there should be no floral or other display at her funeral, but the sincere sorrow manifested upon the occasion was a nobler tribute to her memory than anything of a perishable nature.

Mr. Lewis was a delegate from the church of this country to the established Church of Scotland, in 1873, in the General Assembly held in Edinburgh. In 1878 he was one of the Board of Visitors at West Point, appointed by President Hayes, and he delivered the address in behalf of the Board to the graduating class. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and a Trustee of Knox College at Galesburg, Ill. As a speaker, Mr. Lewis is clear, forcible and logical, holding the attention of his audience, and presenting his subject in a concise and lucid manner, clothed in choice language.

We present to the readers of this volume a lithographic portrait of the Rev. James Lewis. He has been permitted to accomplish a large amount of useful work, and it is hoped that he may yet see many years in his chosen field of labor.



**JOHN BRINCKERHOFF.** The well-regulated homestead of Mr. Brinckerhoff, and which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of prime land on section 34, stands as a worthy monument to his thrift and industry. The fields are neatly laid off with substantial fencing, the buildings are convenient and in modern style of architecture, while the latest improved machinery is employed in the cultivation of the soil. The proprietor is looked upon as one of the most public-spirited and progressive men of the township, the friend of morality and education, and who has given especial attention to the training and education of his children. He commenced in life dependent mainly upon his own resources, and the necessity which compelled him to adopt habits of prudence and industry has proved to him invaluable all through life.

The subject of this notice was born at his father's farm near Albany, N. Y., May 15, 1836, and was but two years old when his parents came to this county. They located in Homer Township, where he grew to man's estate, becoming familiar with the various employments of farm life and acquiring a practical education in the common school. With the exception of two years spent in the grocery business in Chicago, he has followed farming all his life. After reaching his majority he was married in New Lenox Township, August 19, 1858, to Miss Rebecca Breckenridge. This lady was born in Canada, December 7, 1839, and is a daughter of John and Margaret (Eaton) Breckenridge, who were natives respectively of Canada and Scotland. The mother died in Cook County, in 1882. Mr. Breckenridge is still living, making his home in Cook County.

To Mr. and Mrs. Brinckerhoff there has been born a family of seven children: The two eldest

sons—Clarence E., of Chicago, Ill., and George E., in Oakland, Cal.—are successful practicing physicians; Martin S. is farming in Lockport Township, this county; John J. is pursuing his studies in the Michigan State University at Ann Arbor; Howard H., Gertrude R. and Elmer E. remain at home with their parents. Mr. Brinckerhoff, politically, is independent, giving his support to principles rather than men. He keeps himself thoroughly posted upon current events, and will at once be recognized as a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and with whom an hour may always be spent in a pleasant and profitable manner.

The father of our subject was Martin B. Brinckerhoff, also a native of Albany, N. Y., and who married Miss Eliza, sister of George Van Duser, of New Lenox Township, this county. After marriage the parents settled on a farm near Albany, whence they came to this county in 1838, settling in Homer Township on the farm now owned and occupied by our subject. There they spent the remainder of their days, the mother dying in 1873, and the father April 30, 1889. The parental household consisted of seven children, of whom John was the fifth in order of birth. Two of the others are living. The family forms a part of the highly respectable element of this section.



**JARVIS C. THOMPSON.** The Thompson family, who have been residents of Joliet since 1865, occupy no unimportant position among its leading citizens. John Thompson, the father of our subject, departed this life June 13, 1860. His mother, Mrs. Ann (Miller) Thompson, now stands at the head of a noted family, foremost of whom is her son, Bishop Hugh Miller Thompson, of the Episcopal Church in Mississippi. She was born in County Derry, Ireland, in 1812, where she was reared and married. She came to the United States with her family in 1836, they locating first in Essex County, N. J., where Mr. Thompson operated as a contractor and builder, and where they lived until 1844. Thence

they removed to Cleveland, Ohio, where the father followed his occupation and died, as before stated, June 13, 1860, leaving a family of seven children. Five of these are still living, viz.: Hugh M., William G., John R., Rufus F. and Jarvis C. Thomas J. served in the Union Army during the Civil War, and met death on the battlefield of Stone River.

Mrs. Thompson after the death of her husband came, in 1865, to Joliet, where she has since resided. Jarvis C., our subject, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, February 26, 1852, and was thus a lad of thirteen years when the family came to Illinois. He attended the public schools of Cleveland, and later was a student at Nashota, Wis., having a private tutor. When completing his studies he returned to Joliet, and engaged with Messrs. King & Truby, in the lumber trade. Subsequently he was with King & Bishop. He next entered the employ of the William A. Wood Reaper & Mower Company, having charge of their lumber-yard at Youngstown, Ohio, and was in the employ of this firm three years. Prior to this time he had been a car reporter in the employ of the Michigan Central Railroad. After returning from Ohio he re-engaged with John Lyons, with whom he still remains. He votes with the Democratic party. Hugh Miller Thompson, the brother of our subject, is a self-educated man—one who started out in life dependent upon his own resources. He studied theology at Nashota, Wis., and was first placed in charge of a parish at Madison. Later he was the pastor of churches at Milwaukee and Chicago, being in the latter city Rector of St. James. He remained there until the great fire, when all his property was destroyed.

Bishop Thompson later went to New York City and other places, and succeeded in raising a large sum for the rebuilding of his church in Chicago, which now stands at the corner of Huron and Cass Streets. This completed, he received a call to Christ's Church in New York City, where he remained a number of years. Thence he went to New Orleans as Rector of Trinity Church, where he remained until elected Assistant Bishop. Subsequently he was elected Bishop of Mississippi, and is now familiarly known as the Right Rever-

end Hugh Miller Thompson, and bears a fine reputation as a Christian gentleman and a scholar of rare attainments. He was married to Miss Anna W. Hinsdale, sister of Robert G. Hinsdale, formerly President of Hobart College, New York. They have four children, the eldest of whom is a Chaplain in the United States Navy at Mares Island.

William G. Thompson is an architect by profession, and engaged in business at Mt. Vernon, Ill.; John R. is a planter, making his headquarters, especially in summer time, at Horse Cove, N. C.; Rufus F. is engaged as a contractor, builder and architect at Youngstown, Ohio. The sons, like their parents, were reared in the doctrines of the Episcopal Church. Jarvis C., our subject, is a member of Christ's Church, Surplice Choir of forty male voices, one among the finest body of singers in the United States.



**J**AMES KEIR. Our country is indebted to the lands across the sea for many worthy citizens, and a high place should be accorded the Scotch, who are ever industrious, frugal and strictly honest. The sturdy virtues seem highly developed in all dwellers in mountainous regions and it is easy to trace a comparison between the rugged hills and the men who inhabit them. The Scotch character not only possesses these sterner traits, but is adorned with domestic virtues, as the landscape is by the blossoms of the heather and gorse, and the devotion to home and kindred is frequently so strongly manifested as to cause thoughtless remarks regarding the "clannishness" of the Scotch. Clannish they may be in their love for those of their own blood, but this does not prevent their appreciation of and love for all that is worthy in those about them, and their manifestation of kindness of heart to all in need.

The subject of this sketch is a fine representative of the race which has produced a Bruce, a Wallace and a Burns, and a worthy descendant of two good families. His father, Alexander Keir, left his native land in 1852 to make a home in America, be-

ing followed in a few months by his wife, who had borne the maiden name of Catherine McNeil. Two years were spent by them in New York City where their son was already residing, and they then came to Illinois. Settlement being made on a farm in Joliet Township, this county, they spent the remainder of their days here. Their family consisted of twelve children, the subject of this sketch being the second.

The natal day of James Keir was April 27, 1830, and his birthplace, Perthshire, Scotland. He grew to manhood there, improving his time by gaining information which would fit him for usefulness and a knowledge of work which would be available in his future life. In the spring of 1851 he crossed the briny deep and, landing in New York, found employment as a stone-cutter. In that city he remained until 1854, when with his father's family he came West, finding employment for five years in Chicago at the same occupation in which he had previously been engaged. He then settled on the homestead in this county, where he has since resided, giving his attention to farming.

Beginning in life without means Mr. Keir has secured a competency, now owning two hundred and eighty acres in Joliet Township, two hundred acres in Jackson Township, and four hundred and fifty acres in Manhattan Township. The home farm is made attractive by an excellent set of farm buildings, including every necessary and convenient arrangement which will further the work of the estate and add to the comfort of the occupants. The other land owned by Mr. Keir is also well improved and valuable. The possession of a large amount of real estate is one of the best monuments to the zeal and thrift of our subject, whose life affords a striking example of the success which may be won by persistence.

Mr. Keir chose for his companion in life a lady of his own land and name, and amid the scenery of Scotland in September, 1861, he was united in marriage with Ellen Keir, who shared his fortunes until June 20, 1876, when she was called from time to eternity. Mrs. Keir was a notable housewife, an affectionate and devoted mother, and a wife whose price was far above rubies. She bore her husband seven children, all yet living but George, the

youngest, who died in infancy. Agnes is now the wife of Charles Richards; Alexander, is a farmer in Jackson Township; Catherine is the wife of Robert Morrison, of Joliet; Ellen, James and David, yet remain under the parental roof.

The office of School Director has been held by Mr. Keir, his work therein having been acceptable to the patrons of the school and creditable to himself. In politics he generally acts with the Republican party. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, as was also his wife, and he carries out in his daily life the principles of his faith, winning respect and gaining good will.



WILLIS A. STRAIGHT, proprietor of the tile mill at Manhattan, is numbered among the most enterprising members of the community. He is doing an excellent business in the sale of drain tile, manufacturing all sizes from three to eighteen inches, and shipping to all stations along the Wabash Railroads, and selling to home trade. He keeps eighteen or twenty men constantly employed, and getting out seven or eight thousand tile per day. He has large dry-houses, and four kilns, at least three of which are taxed to their full capacity each week.

Grandfather Straight was a farmer in New York, whence he removed to Livingston County, Ill., at an early day, continuing his former occupation. His career has been a successful one and he at one time owned two farms. He is now living in Fairbury and he and his trusted companion are the only inmates of their home, being able to do their own work, although the one is eighty-seven and the other eighty-five years old.

In the family of the couple above mentioned was a son, Rufus C., who was born in the Empire State and who came to Will County, Ill., from the East. For two years he was engaged in the service of his uncle, Daniel Cropsy, of Plainfield, after which he bought land in McLean County and devoted a few years to agricultural pursuits there. Selling his estate he bought other farm lands near Fairbury,

Livingston County, and was so successful as to acquire some eight hundred acres from a beginning that was made with \$150. He first engaged in farming and stock-raising, and then embarked in the tile business, which proved successful. From 1877 until 1883 he ran a tile mill and also bought and shipped stock. In politics he is a Republican. He has been a member of the School Board for years. He is now occupying a fine residence in Fairbury and at the age of fifty-seven years is able to enjoy the comforts of ease and plenty, secured by his former industry.

The mother of our subject was known in her maidenhood as Miss Francisca Abbey. She was born in Cora, Pa., and is the daughter of a farmer who died in the Keystone State. She is a noble woman, a member of the Presbyterian Church, a devoted wife and mother and a kindly neighbor. She has borne her husband eight children, namely: Willis A., Lee S., Lizzie, Nellie M., Guy H., Stella, who are now living; Lena, who died at the age of ten years and an infant who died unnamed. All the living members of the family are at home except our subject and Lee, who is in the tile business at El Paso.

The subject of this brief biographical notice was born in McLean County, near the large and noted Sullivan farm, August 5, 1859. He was reared in Livingston County, obtaining his fundamental instruction in the district schools and further having the excellent advantages furnished by the Fairbury High School. Like most lads whose home is in the country, he was early set to work on the farm and acquired an understanding of agriculture. He remained at home until of age and then began life for himself by going to Chicago and finding employment in the paint and oil store of B. F. Fitch. After remaining there some eighteen months he returned to Livingston County and with his brother Lee carried on the large tile factory at home for a year, their labors proving quite successful.

On January 1, 1883, the brothers came to Manhattan, purchased twenty acres of land and set about the construction of a tile mill, preparatory to embarking in manufacturing here. It required \$10,000 to start their business, which they carried

on in partnership until 1886, when our subject bought out his brother's interest and the latter opened a similar establishment in El Paso. Our subject has since continued the business alone and such has been his enterprise and business tact that he has increased the capacity of the establishment, which now makes from three to eighteen inch tiles, which was not formerly done. Besides his town property, Mr. Straight owns eighty acres of improved land in Livingston County, which is rented.

On October 25, 1885, the interesting ceremony was performed which transformed Miss Nellie M. Jones into Mrs. W. A. Straight. The bride was born in Buchanan County, Mo., July 6, 1864, and was educated at Mokena and Normal Park, this State, becoming a highly intelligent and cultured woman. Her father W. D. Jones, was formerly engaged in farming in Frankfort Township, this county, but is now living in Wetmore, Kan. He is an old Californian miner and was also at one time engaged in the lumber and sawmill business. To Mr. and Mrs. Straight one child has been born, an interesting little maiden called Natalie.

Mr. Straight was President of the Village Board of Trustees one year, and with the exception of a twelvemonth has been a member of that body since the incorporation of the village. His political adherence is given to the Republican party. He is looked upon with respect by his fellow-men, as an honorable citizen and kindly man, while the lovable disposition and pleasing manners of his wife win many friends.

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**A**LFRED NASH, M. D. A residence of over ten years in the city of Joliet, during which he has conducted a successful practice, has fully established Dr. Nash in the esteem and confidence of the people. He took up his residence here in 1879, and was at once recognized as a valued addition to the community. He is a member of the American Public Health Association, the American Medical Society and the State and county societies, and at one period was President of the



latter. He was also prominent in the Medical Society of Michigan prior to his removal hither. Politically, he is a pronounced Republican, a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and a pillar of the Presbyterian Church. In business and social circles he stands second to no man in his community.

The Province of Ontario, Canada, was the early tramping ground of Dr. Nash and where his birth took place August 12, 1828. Thomas and Hannah (Swetman) Nash, his parents, were natives of England, and crossed the Atlantic in 1820, locating in Kingston, Canada. The father occupied himself as a merchant and with his estimable wife is now deceased, he dying in 1837 and the mother in 1845. The household circle included eight children, seven of whom are living, one dying in infancy.

Dr. Nash started out in life equipped with thorough education, obtained in the college and Normal School at Toronto, and finally, in 1854, entered the famous Oberlin College in Ohio. Not content with the acquirements hitherto gained, he next repaired to Ann Arbor and entered the Michigan State University, from the medical department of which he was graduated in 1856. He made good use of his time and commenced the regular practice of his profession at Wyandotte, Mich., continuing there until after the outbreak of the Civil War.

In July, 1861, Dr. Nash entered the army as Assistant Surgeon under the commission of Gov. Blair. He was with the First Michigan Cavalry until January, 1863, and was then promoted as a Surgeon of the Ninth Cavalry in which he served until receiving his honorable discharge by order of the Board appointed to examine these invalid officers, in December, 1864, at Cincinnati, Ohio. Upon leaving the army he located at once in Lapeer, Mich., where he followed his profession until coming to this county in 1879.

Dr. Nash was married to Miss Anna J. Cornelius, in September, 1861. She was the daughter of Rev. Samuel Cornelius, of Ann Arbor, Mich. By her he had four children, viz.: Jesse, the wife of Robert Berger, of Peoria, Ill.; Miss Maud, a short-hand reporter residing in Chicago; Claud, a resident of Joliet; and Anna at home. Mrs. Nash died at their home in Lapeer, Mich., in August, 1875. Dr.

Nash was married to his second wife in July, 1879. Her name was Mrs. Charlotte P. Richards. The Doctor and his wife have a comfortable home on Cass Street.

When first entering the army Dr. Nash was assigned to the Army of the Potomac and was captured at the second battle of Bull Run. He received an order from Lee's Medical Director to remain on the field and take care of wounded rebels and for this service was tendered a pass to Washington from Fitz Hugh Lee. The "Johnnies" traded boots, hat and coat with the Surgeon and thus accoutred he appeared in the presence of Lee, who said, "that pass shall be honored." The Doctor has this document still in his possession. As he left the lines a guard remarked to a comrade, "this is one of Pope's officers, let's shoot the d—d cuss." The Doctor expected they would carry out the suggestion, but they did not and he finally reached the Union camp in safety, at Arlington Heights.

Dr. Nash in 1864, was made Brigade Surgeon under Gen. Israel Gerrard. In December, 1863, he had charge of the surgical department in the hospital at Knoxville, where he remained six months. He joined his regiment as it was starting from Camp Nelson, going with Sherman to Chattanooga and was under the command of the hero of Atlanta until after the fall of the city.

Dr. Nash was appointed Pension Examiner on the board for this district in 1889, and is Secretary of the Board.



**F**RANK E. MARSH. This young man is a well-known grain dealer of Joliet, in which city he was born in 1849. Here he grew to manhood, enjoying the privileges of her excellent public schools, and after finishing the course in them, taking a term in the Chicago University. In 1868 he became ticket agent and telegraph operator, continuing in that position until 1871, when he embarked in the business which he is now following. He buys at different points on the line of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railroad, and such suc-

ness has attended his efforts that he has continued to carry on the trade.

In 1873 Mr. Marsh led to the hymeneal altar Miss Kate Richmond, with whom he lived happily until 1879, when she was called hence, leaving three children—Richmond, Loren and Kate, the latter of whom died when two years old. In 1882 Mr. Marsh contracted a second matrimonial alliance, the lady who now shares his joys and sorrows having borne the maiden name of Ida Pierce. They have one living child, Ralph L.; and lost a daughter, Agnes, in infancy.

Mr. Marsh was elected Alderman in 1885, and has since been retained as a member of the City Council. The subject of this brief biographical notice is a son of the Hon. H. N. Marsh, one of the representative men of Joliet, whose life history is found on another page in this ALBUM.



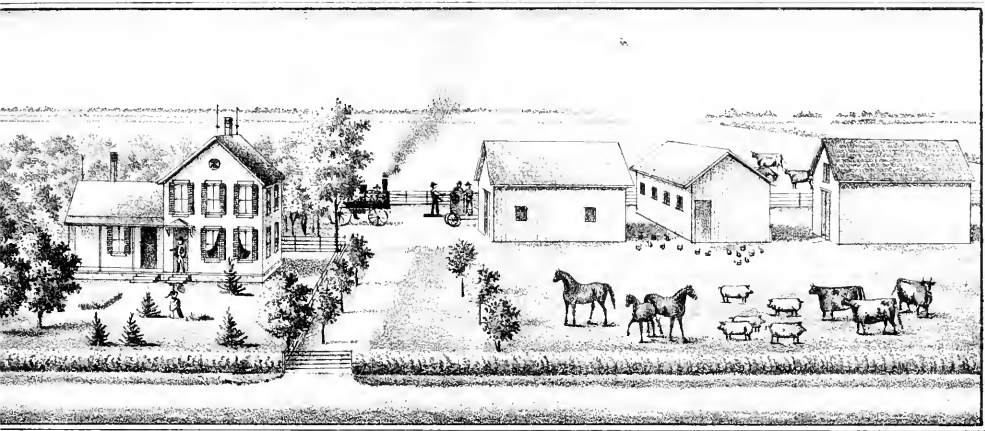
**DUNCAN MACLAREN THOMSON.** This gentleman is one of the few men who came to Will County independent in financial resources, and whose life here has not been the struggle which many have experienced. He owns and operates over four hundred acres on sections 16, 17, 20 and 21, Frankfort Township. His land is all enclosed, and is marked with excellent improvements, which not only include buildings, orchards and others of the usual order, but much which is not usually found on farms. The dwelling is situated on section 21, and is not only of beautiful design, but is pleasantly located, well furnished and gives evidence of the presence of a woman of refinement at the head of the establishment. Among the farm buildings are three barns and other structures which suffice to shelter all the stock and grain. The agricultural and domestic labors are simplified and made easy by the use of a windmill and tank, a horse-power grinder (it being under cover), corn-cutter and other improved machinery, and Mr. Thomson also has a silo, the first and only one in Frankfort Township.

The land includes valuable timber, pasture land watered by Hickory Creek, and fields of great fer-

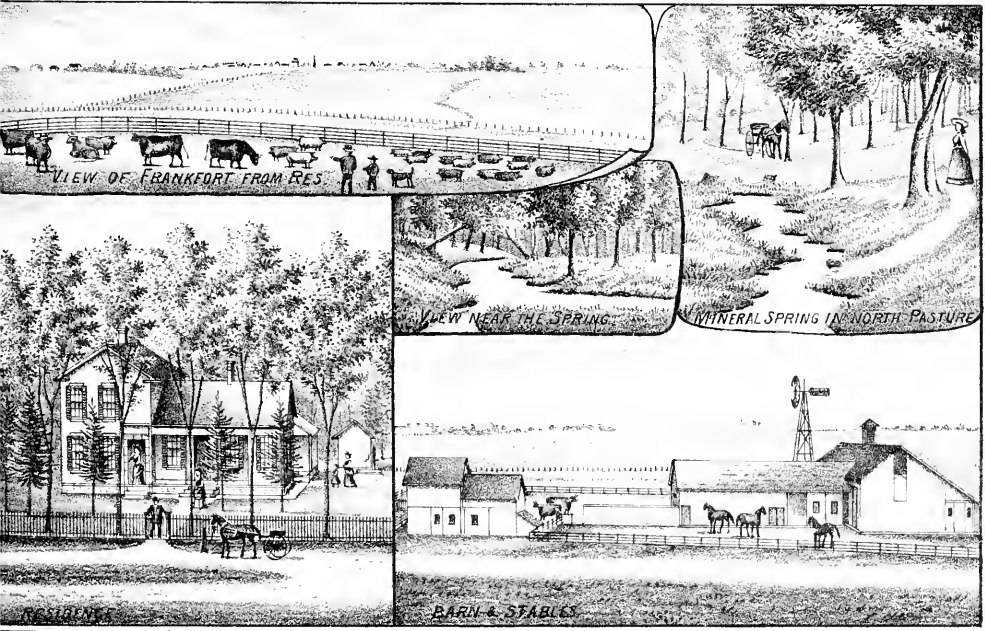
tility. Full-blooded and graded Short-horn cattle are raised, as well as fine hogs, roadsters and draft horses. About fifteen head of horses are to be seen on the estate, and the herd of cattle numbers from one hundred and thirty to one hundred and fifty head. Mr. Thomson ships his own stock, and in addition to that raised upon his place feeds about two car-loads of cattle per annum. Besides his fine estate here, he owns two hundred acres of land near Emmetsburg, Palo Alto County, Iowa.

Mr. Thomson is a Scotchman of a lineage honorable and influential. His paternal grandfather, John Thomson, born in Stirling, Stirlingshire, was a carriage manufacturer in his native city, which was his place of abode until his death. He left three sons and two daughters. The sons were: John Thomson, D.D., of Paisley; George, the father of our subject; and William, also engaged in carriage manufacturing. His son George succeeded him in the business, enlarging it and engaging extensively in the manufacture of carriages, stagecoaches and railroad carriages. He made the carriages for the first railway in Scotland. He was known far and wide as an influential and wealthy citizen, and a pleasant and agreeable man. The following incident is a good instance of his prominence: As two travelers were passing through Stirling one asked the other the name of the city, and being told, inquired what it was noted for. The second traveler responded, "For its castle and George Thomson's carriage works." Mr. Thomson was a member of the Town Council and a Hammerman. He was a Liberal in politics, and a Presbyterian in religion, serving as Elder in his church. He died in 1867, at the age of fifty-six years.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was Maj. Duncan MacLaren, a native of Perthshire. He belonged to the Twenty-fifth Regiment, "The King's Own Borderers," until he retired to Stirling, where he died in 1819. His daughter, Mary A. C., was born on the farm Dundurn, at St. Fillan's, Perthshire, but reared in Stirling, and there married to George Thomson. She breathed her last July 15, 1879, at the age of sixty-three years. She was the mother of six children, namely:



RESIDENCE OF ADAM TUCK, SEC. 33. NEW LENOX TP. WILL CO. ILL.



RESIDENCE OF D. M. THOMSON, SEC. 21. FRANKFORT TP. WILL CO. ILL.



Isabelle B. Mrs. H. M. Douglas, who died in Scotland; John, who died at Frankfort Station, this county; our subject; Mary, now Mrs. M. N. Parkhurst, of Green Castle, Ind.; George, who died in Pernambuco, Brazil; and James, who is proprietor of car works in Scotland.

The gentleman with whose name we introduce this sketch was born in Stirling, Scotland, March 25, 1843, and had excellent school advantages. After being graduated at the High School in Stirling, he spent a year at Mt. Greenan Academy. When fourteen years old he was apprenticed at carriage-making under his father, and at the age of twenty years took charge of the shops. When his father died he took entire charge of the carriage works, managing them until the youngest son became of age, when the property was divided.

In May, 1875, our subject came to America on a visit, sailing from Glasgow on the steamer "Victoria," and twelve days later landed in New York. Thence he came at once to Chicago, and after remaining there some three months, spent about the same length of time in traveling in the State of Illinois. He finally determined to locate in Will County, and purchased one hundred and sixty-eight acres of land where he is now located, making a cash payment of \$62.50 per acre. He engaged in farming and stock-raising, increasing his landed estate until it reached its present acreage, and making nearly all the improvements upon it. He has displayed the sterling qualities which belong to the Scotch character, and is looked upon as a farmer and citizen who is a credit to the county in which he has made his home.

On January 3, 1871, the rites of wedlock were celebrated between Mr. Thomson and Miss Isabelle Hunter Paton. This accomplished lady was born in Leith Edinburgh, July 24, 1842, and is a descendant of families whose members have acquired fame during the historic times of Scotland. She was educated under private instruction, modern classics and music being included in her course of study, and the graces of manner being by no means neglected. When she had arrived at womanhood she possessed a cultured mind, the charming manners of a well-bred gentlewoman, and the virtues of character which make and keep friends.

Her happy union has been blessed by the birth of nine children, of whom the following survive: Lizzie A. Hunter, Charlotte, George, Duncan M., Jr., and Gladys May. The deceased are: Walter Paton, who died at the age of seven and one-half years; Isabel Beatrice, who died when one year old, and two who died unnamed in infancy. The surviving children still remain under the home roof, and display a marked degree of intelligence and quickness of perception.

The father of Mrs. Thomson was Capt. Walter Paton, a native of Edinburgh, whose father had died when he was a babe. His mother's father, Andrew Bell, was a Jacobite, a follower and active supporter of Prince Charles Edward Stuart, the Pretender. He was a topographical engineer, and surveyed the battlefield of Prestonpans on the night before the battle. He was subsequently taken into favor again by the reigning house, and became quite intimate with the Prince of Wales. He did engraving for his royal friend, being considered the foremost engraver of Scotland. He was the originator of the Encyclopedia Britannica. The Bells trace their ancestry back through some of the noble families of Scotland to the Scougalls of Scougall, who were personal friends of King James VI of Scotland or James I of England. Scougall was a fine artist, and did the painting for the royal families.

The father of Mrs. Thomson was a sea captain, first having charge of a merchant vessel and afterward becoming an officer in the Royal Navy. He was surveyor for Lloyd's and also for the Board of Trade, and Master of the Trinity House, Leith, holding the latter office until about four years before his death. He then retired to Stirling, where he remained until a few months before his decease, which occurred while on a visit to his daughter at Greenock, in 1875. He was then eighty-four years old, having been born in 1789. He had conducted and commanded the vessel which conveyed to Germany King Charles X. of France, who had taken refuge in Scotland.

The mother of Mrs. Thomson bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Hunter. She was born in Cupar-Fifeshire, and was a daughter of Hugh Hunter, an excise officer in Greenock. She was the second

wife of Capt. Paton, to whom she bore but one child, now Mrs. Thomson. She entered into rest in 1866. She and her husband belonged to the United Presbyterian Church.

The first marriage of Capt. Paton was blessed by the birth of three children, viz.: Mrs. Ann Gilkison, Mrs. Euphemia Stephenson and Walter. The latter worked his way from cabin boy to captain, reaching the latter position when twenty-one, and becoming Commodore when twenty-five. He commanded the first mail steam packet that went to Canada, and was two years in the Crimean War as Commander of the steamship "Cleopatra," which carried troops to and from the seat of war. He had retired from the sea when he was impounded to take command of the "Great Eastern," and reluctantly consented, sailing as her Captain for about three years. He then retired the second time, making his home in Liverpool, where he died. His sisters are also deceased.

Duncan M. Thomson is Master Mason in the Bruce and Thistle Lodge, Bannockburn, No. 312; Stirling Rock, Royal Arch Chapter, No. 2, in Stirling, Scotland. In politics he is a Democrat. He belongs to the Free Church of Scotland, which is one of the branches of Presbyterianism. Personally, he is jolly and openhearted, and his friends are many.

On another page of this volume appears a view of the pleasant homestead of Mr. Thomson.



**A**DAM TUCK. A book filled with the records of the lives of good men is suggestive of the most precious and important truths. As was said by one famed in English literature, such a book is the "precious life-blood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life." They serve as potent examples to each succeeding generation, and teach them how to make life a success. As a prominent farmer of Will County, Mr. Tuck deserves representation in a volume designed to perpetuate the names of her leading citizens. His pleasant home, a view of which appears in connec-

tion with this brief biographical review, is situated on section 33, New Lenox Township. The farm consists of eighty acres of fertile land, and bears such improvements as are usually found upon the estate of an enterprising man.

Coming of worthy German ancestry, Mr. Tuck is a son of the late William Tuck and his wife Mary Schroder. This estimable couple grew to maturity in the Fatherland, where they remained for some time after their marriage. They emigrated to America in 1852, making their first home in Chicago, but after a short sojourn in that city removed to Will County. In Joliet Township, they resided until the spring of 1867, when they settled in New Lenox Township, where our subject is now living. Here the father departed this life December 7, 1881; his widow is yet living and is now making her home in Joliet.

The subject of this biographical notice is the youngest of the eight children comprising the parental family, and was born in Joliet Township, December 1, 1861. He received a good practical education in the common schools, and has been chiefly engaged in farming during his years of maturity. He has always resided in this county.

At the home of the bride in Carrolton, Greene County, October 20, 1885, Mr. Tuck was united in marriage with Miss Kate Kaffer, a worthy young lady who was born in that county. She is a daughter of the late Frank A. Kaffer. Mr. and Mrs. Tuck are the parents of two bright children, Frank A. and Florence L. In politics Mr. Tuck is a Democrat, and socially, both he and his estimable wife are highly respected.



**R**OSSITER RUDD is numbered among the progressive farmers of Joliet Township, his farm being on section 24, which has been his home since his infancy. It comprises sixty acres of valuable land, which has been brought to a high state of productiveness by means of a proper rotation of crops and the use of the best fertilizing agents, while the improvements which it bears are adequate for the purposes for

which they were intended. In the fall of 1887, Mr. Rudd embarked in the coal business in Joliet, which he has since carried on in connection with his agricultural enterprise. He has been useful to his fellow-men in public capacities, manifests great kindness in his relations to humanity, and in his own pleasant home is the soul of hospitality and good fellowship.

In Rutland County, Vt., the Rudd family had a foothold many years ago, and there Erastus Rudd, the father of our subject, was born and reared. He married Miss Harriet Hill, of Onondaga County, N. Y., their first home being in Syracuse, whence they removed to Patriot, Ind. In 1813 they emigrated to the Prairie State, settling in what is now New Lenox Township, but afterward removing to Joliet Township, and the farm now owned by our subject. There the mother died September 3, 1872, the father surviving until June 22, following. The latter had in early life been engaged in boating, and after coming to Illinois he operated the first boat that was run on the canal, being connected in that enterprise with Abijah Cagwin. He was the father of three sons and four daughters, our subject being the fifth child.

Rossiter Rudd was born in Patriot, Ind., November 2, 1813, but was reared to manhood in Will County, Ill., after his father's death taking possession of the old homestead. He was married in Bloomington, August 23, 1863, to Miss Jane Gregg, whose intelligence of mind and worth of character had won his deepest regard. Her parents, William and Margaret (Lenox) Gregg, are natives of the Emerald Isle, in which they grew to maturity and were united in marriage. They at once emigrated to Canada, where their daughter, Mrs. Rudd, was born November 23, 1835, her birthplace being the town of Brook. Several years after her birth the family came to Will County, Ill., settling on a farm in Joliet Township, where the parents still reside. Their family comprises one son and ten daughters, Mrs. Rudd being the second in order of birth.

An interesting family has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rudd, the living children being Hannah L., Fayette, Harriet, Freeman and Mansfield; they have buried one son, Harry, who died when about

a year old. Mr. Rudd has held the offices of Road Commissioner, School Director and Superintendent of Mound Cemetery. In every position to which he has been called he has manifested a degree of intelligent interest and good judgment which have redounded to his credit in the eyes of the community. In politics he is a Republican. He and his wife belong to the Universalist Church, and in all the vicinity round about are held in high esteem for their many good qualities.



**S**TEPHEN GLIDDEN. A history of the men who have had the making of Will County, would be incomplete without a sketch of this pioneer, who has been so long and so closely connected with its highest material and social interests, and we are glad to be able to represent him on the pages of this volume. He stands foremost among the leading farmers and stock-raisers of Channahon, is one of its most extensive land-owners, having a large and valuable farm in this township, and has taken a leading part in making this portion of Illinois one of the richest farming regions in this section of the country.

Mr. Glidden comes of fine old New England stock but is himself a native of the Empire State, born in Essex County, September 15, 1820. His parents were Levi and Sarah (Glidden) Glidden, who were of very old American families, who came to this country many years prior to the Revolution. Mr. Glidden, of barb wire fame, is a representative of this family, and second cousin of our subject.

Our subject was reared in the place of his nativity and followed farming there and also the lumber business, getting out timber from the pine woods till he was twenty-eight years of age. Then in the flush and vigor of a strong manly manhood he came to the Prairie State in 1848, and with the \$600 which he had accumulated in New York as his capital, he started on a new life here, by investing it judiciously in a piece of land lying along the Desplaines River, on which was a mill. He operated that for five years very profitably, and then the railroad coming through spoiled the busi-

ness. After that he purchased one hundred and eleven acres of land and gave his attention to raising and feeding stock and has always been engaged at that. He has added to his farm till it is now one of the largest in the county, comprising eight hundred and eighty-five acres of as good farming land as lies in the township.

In 1819 our subject returned to New York for the young lady who had plighted her troth to him, Miss Mary L. Barnett, daughter of Asa and Hannah (Lampson) Barnett, of Essex County, and their marriage was solemnized July 4, 1819. Accompanied by his young bride, who had left fond parents to cast her fortunes in with him whom she loved best in all the wide world to assist him in building up of a home, our subject returned to Chamnahton. They established their dwelling on the east side of the river, living there until 1878, when he erected his present fine residence on an eminence commanding a beautiful view of the valley of the Desplaines River and also of the DuPage, about two and one-half miles away, and of the village of Chamnahton on the river. In the management of his extensive agricultural affairs Mr. Glidden has shown large enterprise and fine business and executive ability, which traits have brought him wealth. He generally votes the Republican ticket, but takes no further part in elections or politics.

September 12, 1887, the shadow of a great grief fell over the household of our subject; Death crossed the threshold of his home and removed the wife and mother from her loved ones, who hold her dear memory in sacred remembrance. She was a woman of a beautiful and noble character, who met the grave duties and responsibilities of life with firmness and serene patience, and fulfilled them faithfully. She was greatly beloved far beyond the limits of her home circle, her constant kindness of disposition endearing her to all who knew her.

"Blessing she was; God made her so,  
And deeds of week-day holiness fell from her noise  
less as the snow."

Eleven children were born of the marriage of our subject, six of whom grew to maturity, four of whom are still living: Pamela, with her father; Sarah Jane, the wife of Henry Hasiland, of Cham-

nahton, now a resident of Kansas, where he owns a farm; Melissa, with her father; Harry, a young man of twenty-two, who lives with his father, and is ably managing the farm. Since the mother departed, the family has been called to mourn the death of a loved one, Ella F., who had just blossomed into womanhood, died February 21, 1888, at the age of twenty-two years. Adelbert, a young man of great promise, in his eighteenth year, was the victim of an accident by which he was killed December 2, 1877. While on a duck expedition he threw his gun into the boat, and the hammer striking on the seat, was discharged, the shot taking effect in his abdomen and he lived but a few hours. We reverently believe that the lives thus uncompleted have but entered upon broader fields of action and duty, where nobler struggles shall task the strength and more precious crowns reward the victor, where the hopes and dreams of earth shall be turned to sight and the broken circles of life be rounded to the perfect orb."



**D**AVID B. GEISS. In this county are to be found several farmers who have reached a high degree of prosperity by the persistent pursuit of a chosen calling, and the exercise of prudence and foresight in the conduct of their affairs. Among these none deserves the notice of the biographical writer more than the gentleman whose cognomen forms the heading of this sketch. He began his career in life with but the talents bestowed upon him by nature and the knowledge of milling learned from his father; he now ranks among the wealthy residents of Wilton Township, where he owns a valuable estate and is enjoying merited repose after years of toil and activity.

The parents of our subject were George A. and Susan (Bright) Geiss, natives of Berks County, Pa., who died in Lebanon County, at an advanced age. The father was a hard-working man, who made milling and farming the work of his life. The father belonged to the Lutheran Church and the mother to the Reformed Church. Their family comprised twelve children—Mary, Sarah, Dan-



iel, Elizabeth, John, George, David B., Kate, Matilda, Peter, Reuben and Susan. Of this large family there survives at this date John, George, Matilda, Susan, Kate and David B.

The subject of this sketch was born April 16, 1812, in Lebanon County, Pa., and reared in that and Berks County, his time being spent in the mill and on the farm, of both pursuits gaining a knowledge in early life. After learning the trade, he carried on the milling business successfully for twenty-five years, both in Berks and Center Counties. In the latter he made his home twenty-two years. After a quarter of a century devoted to that calling, he discovered that his health required him to adopt some occupation that would keep him in the open air much of the time. He therefore turned his attention to farming, and in 1868 came to Will County, Ill., and bought his present farm. It consists of one hundred and ninety-six acres on section 6, Wilton Township, and was conducted successfully by the owner for several years. He improved it until it is ranked among the finest estates in the township, and is a home of which any man might well be proud. Owing to his advanced age and feeble health, Mr. Geiss now rents the farm, living in retirement in the midst of the adornments he has put upon the face of Nature.

Mr. Geiss has been twice married, his first wife having been Sarah Kerlin, of Berks County, Pa., who shared his joys and sorrows until December 7, 1859, when death took her. She was the mother of eleven children. Of these, William F. lives in Chicago; Alison is deceased; David lives in Center, Center County, Pa.; Susan is deceased; Daniel lives in Joliet; Sarah is deceased; Jacob, Mary J. and Anna C. complete the circle of survivors, and the roll of the dead includes two infants unnamed on earth.

For his second companion Mr. Geiss chose Katharine, a sister of his first wife, with whom he was united October 1, 1860. Prior to this union she had been twice married, her first husband having been William Schreller, by whom she had two children—Mary and William. After his death she married William Runkle, by whom she also had two children—Sarah and Jacob. Mrs. Geiss is now eighty years of age. Her life has been a useful and up-

right one, and she merits the esteem of her acquaintances and the "good report" that follows her. Mr. Geiss is one of the most intelligent and well-read men of the community, and in his company an hour can ever be spent in a profitable manner. His energy of character, the manner in which he carved out a fortune from adverse surroundings, and the upright life that has been led by him, alike gain the high regard of all who know him, and all rejoice in his prosperity. He is a staunch Democrat. Both he and his good wife hold membership in the Lutheran Church. Mr. Geiss has twenty-six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



**T**HOMAS VARLEY. Among the pioneers whose names are identified with that of Wheatland as its builders, none occupy a more honorable position than that of this gentleman, who for many years has been a tiller of the soil in this locality and has thereby secured a competence, his farm on section 28, being a most desirable one in ever respect.

Our subject is of English origin, born in Yorkshire, June 27, 1824, a son of William and Mary Varley. He was reared to manhood in his native country and has been employed in farming pursuits from early boyhood. He had but a rudimentary education in the schools of England, but after he came to this country he attended school two winters and during the two months of each season applied himself closely to his books and rapidly improved in scholarship. He has always been fond of reading and aims to keep well posted on affairs of general interest. In 1850, in the prime of early manhood, he determined to seek his fortunes in America, and taking passage to Hull on a sailing vessel, after a voyage of about seven weeks landed in New York City. He came directly to Will County from there and when he arrived here found that he had but two shillings left, and as he was suffering with a felon on his hand he was obliged to pay out that money to have it removed. He thus started in life here under discouraging circumstances. Nothing daunted, however, with characteristic British

pluck and tenacity of purpose he immediately sought work and soon became employed as a farm hand. He saved his money and in time had earned enough to send for his wife and children, who joined him in 1851. After the arrival of his family he farmed as a renter for about four years and then bought land in Wheatland Township. He subsequently purchased his present farm in 1865, and since has built up a substantial home by hard and persistent labor, aided by his faithful wife. The two hundred and forty acres comprising his farm are under excellent cultivation, and neat and conveniently arranged buildings adorn the place, and everything about it shows the care of the owner.

Our subject was married in England, March 5, 1841, to Martha Cravan, a native of that country. Six children were born to their union. Margaret, John, Charles, Mary, wife of Peter Cheese, of Colorado; Jane, wife of Edward Levee, and the mother of three children—Harvey, Frank and Nelson; and Martha, wife of Robert Pennington, of Kane County, Ill.

May 23, 1878, the wife who had been our subject's helpmate for so many years, departed this life, leaving behind her a wealth of love and affection and many warm friends who mourn her loss.

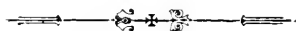
"Her work is compassed and done;  
All things are seemly and ready,  
And her summer has just begun.

"But we cannot think of her idle;  
She must be a home-maker still;  
God giveth that work to the angels  
Who fittest the task fulfill.

"And somewhere, yet, in the hill tops  
Of the country that hath no pain  
She will watch in her beautiful doorway  
To bid us a welcome again."

In a career, honorable alike to himself and to the community, Mr. Varley has shown those valuable traits of character without which success is unattainable; and the perusal of this biographical sketch leads one to feel that he is a man of sound intelligence and high worth, whom his fellow-citizens may well hold in respect and esteem. He is classed among the oldest pioneers of the neighborhood and while witnessing the gradual growth of

the country from its primitive wildness to its present high state of cultivation, he has done much pioneer work to forward its improvement. He has served as School Director and has been Road Commissioner of the township for several years. He long since identified himself with the Republican party and has remained a true supporter of its principles.



**J**OHAN G. LONGSHORE, one of the enterprising farmers of Wilton Township, has demonstrated the fact that perseverance and zeal will prevail to conquer circumstances and gain a competence for him who exercises those qualities. He now owns two hundred and forty acres of fine land on sections 28 and 33, his residence being on the former. All the improvements—and they are many and excellent—have been made by the present owner of the farm and reflect credit upon his judgment and thrift. Mr. Longshore is the only survivor in a family of four children born to Thomas and Jane (Gain) Longshore, of Bucks County, Pa. He is the second on the roll which includes the names of Sarah, Mary and Susan.

In the county that was the birthplace of his worthy parents, John Longshore was born June 9, 1820. He was reared on a farm, his father operating one in connection with work at his trade of a wagon maker. In 1837 the family removed to Reynoldsburg, Franklin County, Ohio, where the parents died. There our subject remained until 1849 when he came to Will County, Ill., and entered two hundred acres of land in Wilton Township. Since coming to this State he has followed farming, but previously he worked at the trade of a carpenter and cabinet-maker several years.

Mr. Longshore has been a member of the Odd Fellows fraternity since about 1817 and holds good standing in Lodge No. 640, at Wilton Center. He has held some minor township offices, and affiliates with the Republican party, in the principles of which he firmly believes. An honorable man, a

reliable citizen, and a kind neighbor and father. He wins respect from his associates and has many friends throughout the vicinity in which he has so long resided.

The first wife of Mr. Longshore was spared to him but five months when the Angel of Death called her. She bore the maiden name of Ann Van Camp. Miss Sydney Pugh was the second choice of our subject and with her he lived happily several years. She bore eight children, of whom Lane, Charley, John and Eddie are now living. In June, 1862, Mr. Longshore was again married, making as his companion Miss Matilda Hurting, of Rockville, Kankakee County. This worthy woman was born in Pennsylvania about 1830, and is still living. Her father was Samuel Hurting. To her and her husband six children have been born, named respectively: Henry, Mary, Samuel, George, Ida and Julius. Henry and Mary have been removed from their sorrowing parents by death.



**L**ANSON E. ROSS. A pleasantly located and fertile tract of land on section 4, Joliet Township, is owned and occupied by the subject of this sketch, who is now giving his attention to the purchase and sale of real estate. His farm being just northwest of Joliet, combines the pleasant features of town and farm life in such a proportion as to be pleasurable to any except the most fault-finding. The career of Mr. Ross has been marked by a careful attention to the matters he had in hand and the exercise of tact and good judgment, producing a favorable effect upon his finances and in the minds of those with whom he has to do.

In the first quarter of the present century Elijah Ross, a native of Kentucky, and Mary L. Houston, a native of Delaware, became husband and wife. Their first home after marriage was in the Buckeye State, near Springfield, whence they removed to the vicinity of Piqua, where the husband closed his eyes in death. The widow subsequently became inmate of the home of a daughter near Elk-

hart, Ill., and there departed this life. Their family comprised ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the seventh, he having been born in Clark County, Ohio, June 15, 1832. He was an infant of about twelve months when his parents removed to Piqua, and he grew to manhood in the contiguous village of Rossville, which was named in honor of his father and uncle. He remained in that place until 1856, when he came to the Prairie State, making his first location near Morris, Grundy County.

After a residence there of about one year, Mr. Ross bought land in Livingston County, and settled down to the life of a farmer in Nevada Township. Some nine years later he sold the farm and engaged in the grocery and hardware business in Dwight, continuing it for about two years, when he sold out the business and made another change of base. Coming to Joliet, he bought the land upon which he now resides, and which has since been his home with the exception of a short time spent in Dakota.

The first marriage of Mr. Ross was celebrated at the home of the bride, in Dwight, the lady whom he had chosen for his companion being Miss Esther Thompson. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church, possessed many good qualities, and was devoted to the interests of her husband and children. The union was blessed by the birth of seven sons and daughters, their record being as follows: Mary L. is the wife of William Eaton; Alma E. married John Belsy; Marion died when six months old; Frank H. is in the nursery business in Joliet; L. Edgar is a clerk in a store there; Robert W. is a student at Jackson, Mich., where Jessie E. is also studying. The mother of this family departed this life in November, 1887.

Mr. Ross contracted a second matrimonial alliance, September 5, 1889, the marriage ceremony being performed at Marseilles, La Salle County, and the bride Miss Vaneh Gardner. This educated, cultured, and Christian woman was born in Amboy, Lee County, July 11, 1813. She has not been content to sit with folded hands since the studies of her girlhood were completed, but has ever been on the alert to find use for the talents which have been given her, and in her own womanly way to make

the world better for her presence in it. She finds an outlet for her religious nature in the work and worship of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which Mr. Ross also belongs. As a member of society she is highly regarded, while in her own home "her price is far above rubies." Mr. Ross formerly acted with the Republican party, but is now a Prohibitionist. While living in Livingston County, he satisfactorily discharged the duties of Township Treasurer and School Commissioner.



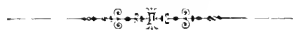
**JOHN McFADDEN, JR.** This gentleman, who is proprietor of the well-known McFadden Livery on Ottawa Street, is recognized as one of the leading men in this business in Joliet. He has a fine outfit, comprising some of the best horses and vehicles and enjoys the patronage of a large portion of those who are dependent upon this method of getting over the country. He has a life-long interest in the welfare and progress of the city of Joliet, which is his native place. He was born April 17, 1856, and is the son of John and Bridget (Hafferty) McFadden, who came hither about 1850. The parents of Mr. McFadden were natives of Ireland; the mother is deceased and the father resides in Joliet.

The subject of this notice received a good education in the city schools and in early manhood became a member of the Fire Department, driving the first steam fire engine which was brought into the city. He remained connected with this for a period of six years and then in 1879, established his present livery business on East Van Buren Street from which he removed in 1883, putting up his present fine barn which occupies one of the most desirable locations in the city, being just west of the court-house and near Hotel Royal and the depot.

In addition to his livery business Mr. McFadden deals quite extensively in horses from which he enjoys profitable returns. While having extensive business interests, he has found time to devote some attention to city politics, in which he

is independent. He was elected to represent the Second Ward in the City Council in 1889, and still holds the office. He was reared in the Catholic faith of his forefathers and is prominently connected with St. Mary's Church, in Joliet. A man upright and honest in his transactions, he is highly spoken of by all who know him. He commenced at the foot of the ladder in life and has accumulated a fair share of this world's goods through his own unaided efforts. He enjoys the acquaintance of a large circle of friends.

Mr. McFadden on the 25th of October, 1881, was united in marriage with Maria Duggan. Mrs. McFadden, also a native of Joliet, was born in 1857 and was the daughter of Edward and Mary Duggan, who were natives of Ireland and are now residing in Joliet. Of this union there were born two sons and one daughter—Charles, Frank and Mary. Mrs. McFadden departed this life at the family residence in Joliet, November 23, 1889.



**THOMAS CROWE**, Superintendent of the Converting Mill of the Joliet works of the Illinois Steel Company, and having his headquarters in this city, forms no unimportant factor among its industrial interests. The works give employment to four hundred men in that department alone, all of whom are under the supervision of Mr. Crowe. He is apparently well fitted by nature and training for the responsibilities which he has assumed.

A native of Toronto, Canada, Mr. Crowe was born December 21, 1851, to William M. and Mary (McHenry) Crowe, who are also natives of the Dominion and are both of Irish extraction. The father was engaged in the boot and shoe trade and is now in London, Canada. Thomas acquired his education in the schools of his native city and remained a member of the parental household until a young man of twenty years. Then repairing to the oil regions of Pennsylvania during the times of the greatest excitement there, he occupied himself variously in that region until April, 1872. Thence he emigrated to Chicago and engaged with the con-





*Geo. A. Buck*

verting department of the North Chicago Mills, for the purpose of learning the business. He started as ladleman and was thus employed until May, 1882, after which he filled various positions until he became foreman of the mill. By this time the works were located at South Chicago and Mr. Crowe was appointed Superintendent, which position he occupied until the latter part of 1884.

On the 10th of March, 1885, Mr. Crowe came to Joliet and entered upon the duties of his present position which he has since discharged in a manner creditable to himself and satisfactory to all concerned. He is a man generally well informed and is justly proud of the fact that he has always voted the straight Republican ticket. Socially, he belongs to the Royal Arcanum and the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

Mr. Crowe was married July 3, 1886, at the bride's home in Chicago, to Miss Mary Gibbs. This lady was born March 1, 1855, in McHenry County, Ill., and is the daughter of Walter and Annie (Frisbie) Gibbs, the latter of whom died when her daughter Mary was but two years old. Mr. Gibbs remained a resident of McHenry County until his death, which occurred in 1875. Of this union there have been born four children, two sons and two daughters: William Joseph, Thomas Edward, Nellie and Mamie. The little family occupies a snug home in the southeastern part of the city. Mr. Crowe, although but five years a resident in this county, has fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of its people and is numbered among its most reliable and substantial citizens.



**G**EORGE A. BUCK. The city of Joliet is sufficiently large to afford to its residents an opportunity for every reasonable pleasure, congenial companionship and comfort which heart can desire. To it have been attracted many men who, after years of industrious labors, have secured a competence and are enabled to spend their declining years in merited repose and the enjoyment of all that is best in life. Among this number is the gentleman above named, whose portrait is

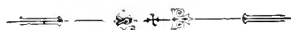
presented in connection with this sketch, and who is a retired farmer, having large property interests in this vicinity. He has been a townsman since 1883, and is numbered among the best citizens of the city, as he formerly was among those of the adjacent country. In politics he is a sound Democrat. His fitness for public service has been recognized by his fellow-men, who have imposed upon him the duties of various offices. Among these were the positions of Town Clerk, Supervisor and others, the last-named office having been held by him five terms.

The old Bay State claims Mr. Buck as one of her sons, and his parents, Asabel and Sophia (Mason) Buck, were also born within its limits. To them were born six children, as follows: Aelsah and Sarah, deceased; George A.; Mrs. Harriet Linn, living in Manhattan Township, this county; Truman, whose home is in Omaha, Neb.; and Laura, deceased. The father departed this life August 16, 1880, at the age of seventy-eight years, his death taking place in Poulney, Vt. There the widowed mother is still living, having now reached the advanced age of eighty-seven years.

The subject of this brief biographical sketch was born September 10, 1829, at Lanesborough, Berkshire County, Mass. His father having been a farmer, his early years were spent upon a farm in acquiring such knowledge of its management as is always secured by a bright lad, and in obtaining as good an education as the schools of the vicinity afforded. At the age of twenty-three years he became a merchant at Cheshire, but after three and one-half years spent in mercantile pursuits returned to farming as an occupation more congenial. In 1856 he came West, determined to make a home in the Prairie State, selecting as his first location Waukegan, Lake County. There, after a few short months of happy wedded life, his companion was removed from him, breathing her last April 16, 1857. Their marriage had been celebrated May 12, of the previous year, the bride bearing the name of Helen C. Wolcott. Not long after the death of his wife Mr. Buck came to this county, locating near Five Mile Grove, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until he abandoned them to become a resident of Joliet.

Mr. Buck contracted a second matrimonial alliance March 22, 1859, taking as his companion Miss Sarah H., daughter of Jariah E. and Elmira Baker, natives of Rensselaer County, N. Y. The Baker family became residents of this county in 1856. Mrs. Buck possesses all the qualities of a motherly woman and is devoted to her husband and family. She has not, however, neglected neighborly and social duties, and has many friends throughout the community.

Of the family of Mr. and Mrs. Buck we record the following: Helen C., born December 4, 1859, is now living in York County, Neb., and is the wife of John Cogle; Josephine S., born May 18, 1861, died October 19, 1866; Sophia M., born November 28, 1862, died October 5, 1865; Mrs. Laura E. Tenny, whose home is in St. Louis, Mo., was born August 2, 1865; George A., Jr., born June 22, 1867, died June 30, 1870; Werden, born February 9, 1869, is at home and engaged in the grocery trade; Jennie T., born March 18, 1871, is bookkeeper in her brother's store; Kate F. was born November 19, 1872; Paul Revere, born November 12, 1875, died March 22, 1877; Fred A., born May 7, 1877, passed away December 16, 1889; Lucy Mason was born February 19, 1882.



**P**ATRICK V. SCULLY is accredited one of the solid and enterprising citizens of Joliet and owes his prosperous and honorable position entirely to his own industry and integrity. His career in life has been a somewhat remarkable one and the example he has set of persevering pursuit of a natural bent, is one worthy of being followed by others who have a decided predilection for a certain kind of work.

Mr. Scully was born on the Emerald Isle, February 15, 1845, to Edward and Elizabeth Scully. The former died about 1870 and the latter afterward came to America and is still living in Joliet, happy in the possession of a prosperous and dutiful son, not the least of whose admirable qualities is a filial heart. Patrick Scully early in life evinced marked inclination toward mechanics and at the remarkable

age of eight years was employed in light work in Sheffield, England, to which place his mother had removed. He was successively promoted in that great steel center until he was recognized as one of the best workmen there.

At the request of a syndicate, Mr. Scully left England and started into successful operation the first rolling-mill in Steeltown, Pa., near Harrisburgh. He remained there until 1871, and was then engaged for a brief period in steel works at Troy, N. Y., thence coming to Chicago, Ill., to act in the capacity of instructor in the Union Mills. In 1873, he was specially requested to start the rolling-mill in that city, from which has grown the Illinois Steel Company, one of the leading plants of its kind in America, and since that date he has been in continuous service with this company.

In 1882-'83, Mr. Scully sought a respite from his toil in a trip abroad, and traveled over the European continent, re-visiting Sheffield, the scene of his early labors, and enjoying a banquet with his old friends and associates there.

Soon after his return from Europe, in June, 1883, Mr. Scully was united in marriage with Miss Agnes D'Arcy, a daughter of a prominent Will County family. Mr. and Mrs. Scully have four children, and are justly proud of the quartet, who are named respectively: Arthur, Florentine, Marguerita, and George T. The dwelling occupied by Mr. Scully on the West Side was destroyed by fire in 1886, and he built the pleasant residence on Collins Street, in which the family now dwell, and where the tokens of the presence of a refined womanhood are manifest to all who enter.



**G**AY M. BRUNSON. Joliet is the home of many young men of fine natural abilities, thorough education and business energy, who in various fields of industry are acquiring fine reputations and building up successful business enterprises. Among these Dr. Brunson deserves mention, as he combines the intelligence, energy and moral character which merit respect and win success. He is engaged in the practice of dentistry



and has no reason to complain of his worldly success, as he has built up a fine practice in the short time since he opened his office.

The subject of this sketch is the youngest son and child of Cyrus M. and Plethymnai L. (Gay) Brunson, the other members of the family circle being Eugene E. Brunson, M. D., who is practicing his profession at Ganges, Allegan County, Mich., and Dora E., wife of Dell D. Smith, of Joliet. The father was a native of Yates County, N. Y., and was brought to the Prairie State in 1833, when a boy of thirteen years, Grandfather Brunson locating about eight miles north of Joliet, on the Chicago road, when the country was yet a wilderness.

The natal day of our subject was February 23, 1860, and he was born in this county, receiving his early education in the district schools which he attended until about fourteen years of age. He spent the next two winters in attending the Lockport High School, assisting his father in the intervals of study, and next spending the greater part of two years at the Northwestern College in Naperville, Du Page County. Still unsatisfied with his attainments he entered the institution at Lombard, and three years later he was graduated in the class of '84, having taken the Latin Scientific Course.

We next find young Brunson studying medicine in Bennett Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1886, and where he won a life-scholarship by having the highest standing in the qualifications required for that gift. Subsequently he was offered a professorship in this institution but his heart was set on dentistry, and after a short time spent in the practice of the medical profession he began to fit himself for that which he chose to follow. Going to Philadelphia, he entered the Dental College, and after his graduation located at once in Joliet, where he has already become well established as a thorough workman and holds a high place as a gentleman of broad culture and most worthy character.

Dr. Brunson belongs to various societies, chiefly college fraternities, among them being the Delta Tau Delta and the Erosophian Literary Society, in both of which at various times he occupied each of the Chairs. In church work he is an active participant and during the three years in which he

has been Superintendent of the Universalist Sunday-school, he has awakened the interest and built up the school to one of goodly numbers. On November 6, 1889, Dr. Brunson was united in marriage with Miss Rose Pilcher Stopp, of Plainfield, who presides with charming grace over his cozy home at 1204 Western Avenue.

JAMES B. KING is a prominent citizen of DuPage Township, where for nearly forty years he has been actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, and to his sturdy enterprise is it greatly indebted for its present substantial prosperity. He was born September 17, 1820, amid the pleasant scenes of the pretty New England town of Benson, Rutland County, Vt. He came of sterling New England stock, his ancestors having come from old England to that part of the country in early Colonial times. His parents, Eli and Eliza (Johnson) King, were natives of New England, and his paternal grandfather, Eli King, bore an honorable part in the Revolution that set the Colonies free from the mother country, serving through the entire war, and the father of our subject was also a patriotic soldier in that contest.

Our subject was the oldest son of a family of five children, and was reared to man's estate on a farm among his native hills. He received his early education in the district schools, and by careful reading has added to it, and to-day is an exceedingly well-informed man. He began his career in the calling to which he had been bred on his native soil. In 1854 he embraced the fine opportunity offered him to locate on the farm where he is now living to better his fortunes. Here he and his wife have a well-appointed farm, supplied with a substantial set of commodious buildings, with farming machinery of the most approved manufacture, and the whole place bears an air of neatness and thrift that make it attractive, and show that it is under the management of a master hand and mind.

Mr. King was married October 28, 1840, in his native State, to Diana Branch, who bore him two

daughters: Eliza, wife of E. A. Bartoo, of Indiana; and Affa, wife of George Dunlap, of Plainfield, Ill. Mr. King married for his second wife Laura Branch. They had no children. Our subject was married a third time, November 3, 1856, taking for his wife Miss Mary A. Alden.

Mrs. King is a native of this county, born June 21, 1839, a daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Alden, who were of good old New England stock, and were natives of Massachusetts, and she is a descendant of the famous John Alden, the scholar of the "Mayflower," who was a successful rival of Miles Standish in his courtship. Mrs. King's father was a prominent pioneer of this county, coming here in the fall of 1832. Mrs. King's mother did not come until the spring of 1835. Mr. Alden squatted on the land before it was in the market and when the land sale occurred he secured a patent from the Government, which parchment is still owned by Mrs. King and was signed by President Tyler. Her parents were among the earliest settlers of DuPage Township, and at the time he came here the country was in a very wild condition. Indians were still living here and a portion of the farm, on which Mr. King now resides, was covered with Indian mounds or graves, and it is supposed to have been an old Indian battle ground. They had to endure many of the hardships of pioneer life and to live without the enjoyment of many things they had thought to be necessities in their old home, but by years of toil and struggle, they succeeded in accumulating a comfortable property and at the time of his death, Mr. Alden left an estate of three hundred and eighty-seven acres. Both he and his wife died of consumption, his death occurring October 17, 1850, and the mother dying February 28, 1857. They were the parents of six children, two of whom are now living, Mrs. King, and Martha, wife of O. S. Smith, of Cheboygan County, Mich. Their other children were Franklin, Judson, Hattie and Angelia. Mrs. King's father was a sincere Christian and a member of the Baptist Church. In his death the county lost one of its most enterprising pioneers, who was doing his full share to promote its growth. Mr. and Mrs. King's wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of one son,

Charles. They have also an adopted daughter, Hattie, whom, in the kindness of their hearts, they have taken to their home and are giving her every advantage as if she were of their own flesh and blood.

Mr. King came here in pioneer days, and it may be his pride that he has had a hand in shaping the prosperity of the county. He is a sagacious far-seeing man, of excellent business capacity, is friendly and obliging in his relations with his neighbors, and is in every way a man of irreproachable character. His fellow citizens, fully cognizant of his worth, have called him to office at various times, and he has served as Supervisor of DuPage Township two terms, and has been district School Director for a number of years, and as a public official shows himself to be honest and progressive. In his political affiliations he is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Congregational Church at Naperville, and are identified with its every good work. They are people of high social standing, and their home is the center of that true hospitality where host and hostess vie with each other in entertaining and making comfortable all who cross its threshold, be they friends or strangers.



WILLIAM GLOVER is a fine type of the native-born citizens of this State, who have since attaining manhood stepped forward to aid in carrying on the work so well begun by their fathers, in developing and sustaining the great agricultural interests in this part of the country. He is engaged in farming and stock-raising on the very farm that his father evolved from the wild prairies in the early settlement of this region.

Our subject was born here May 3, 1846, and is a son of John and Harriet (Robey) Glover, natives of England. His father, now a resident of Naperville, was formerly a well-known pioneer of this township. He emigrated from his native land in early manhood and coming to Illinois identified himself with the early settlers of DuPage County.

He rented a farm there for two years and then coming to this county, settled in what is now DuPage Township, on the farm now occupied by our subject. It was then in a wild uncultivated condition, with the exception of four acres that were broken. He toiled busily early and late in cultivating and improving the place and made of it a choice farm. He was a man fairly-well educated and during his residence here was looked upon with respect, and was often solicited to take office, but never cared to do so, although he favored all the schemes for public improvements. He is a sturdy Democrat in his political faith. He is in his sixty-eighth year, and still retains his mental and physical faculties in a marked degree. His wife did not come from England until after he came. By her death in 1887 he sustained a great loss. She was a truly good woman and a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church. She bore him five children, as follows: William; Sarah, a resident of Naperville; Mary, wife of John Murr of DuPage Township; James, living in Missouri, and Ada, wife of Julius Highland.

William Glover, of whom this biographical sketch is written, was about two years old when his parents brought him to this county, and here he was reared under the influences of pioneer life and has been an eye witness of the greater part of the growth of the county from its primitive condition. He received his education in the district schools of this township, which at that early day did not offer the children of the pioneers the fine educational privileges that the children of the present generation enjoy. He was a diligent scholar, however, and gained all the knowledge possible in school, and since, by reading and observation has added to it so that he is now a well-informed man. He devotes himself to the management of his land which comprises one hundred and forty-three and forty-four one-hundredths acres of land, mostly under cultivation and supplied with comfortable buildings, and every needed improvement.

Mr. Glover is a man of upright habits and sound principles, and is sagacious, careful and thrifty in the management of his affairs. He has thus placed himself amongst the solid men of the township, and his traits of character are such as to

command the respect and regard of his fellow citizens. In his political views he is a firm believer in the policy promulgated by the Democratic party and is a faithful supporter of its principles. All things that will in any way improve township or county meet with his cordial favor. He has served acceptably as School Director in District No. 3 for two years. Mr. Glover was married March 9, 1885, to Mrs. Matilda Butstround, whose maiden name was Burgess, a native of England. By her union with Mr. Glover she is the mother of one son named John. By her first marriage she has one daughter and one son, Elizabeth and Albert.



**W**ILLIAM CAMPBELL STAGE. This gentleman was born in Morris, Grundy County, Ill., December 11, 1858, but became a dweller in Joliet, in boyhood. His father, William Stage, was born in Indiana, December 19, 1831, and his mother, Ruth Ann Smart, in Dayton, Ohio. The latter was descended from old Knickerbocker stock. In 1856, Mr. Stage engaged in the business of contracting and building in Morris, and during the decade following constructed many of the most noted buildings of that city. Among them are the Streeter Block, the high-school building and the engine houses. He was also engaged in farming at the same time, his farm being five miles north of the city.

When Joliet was having a boom, Mr. Stage saw a chance to exercise his power and he therefore in 1868, commenced to operate here but still made his home in Morris until 1882. He was immediately engaged to superintend the building of the Steel Works. After the great fire in Chicago he put up some of the well-known buildings of that city, one of which is the Batchelor & Whiting Block, corner of Randolph and Clark. The parental family consisted of the following children: Will C., Mattie, Alexander, George H., Charles B., Clara, May and Maggie. Mattie, Alexander and Maggie are now deceased.

After the death of his father, William Campbell

Stage continued the contracting business at which he was very successful. In 1885, he embarked in the manufacture of wire, but the business not proving profitable, he returned to contracting and building in stone and masonry, which suited the natural bent of his life. In a brief time he has shown that he is a true son of his father. He has recently purchased an extensive quarry two and one-half miles west of Joliet, which contains stone of unsurpassed quality.

Mr. Stage was educated first in the schools of Morris, afterwards taking a course in the Commercial College, at Dayton, Ohio, and is therefore well versed in practical knowledge. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 12, of Joliet, and is a most devoted Republican. In religious faith he is a Methodist. He is universally esteemed and looked upon as a rising man, his energy in business giving promise of a high degree of worldly success and his traits of character making him one of the most popular members of society. He has an extremely cozy home, among its many improvements being an artesian well, three hundred and forty-six feet deep.

The pleasant dwelling is presided over by a capable and loveable woman who became the wife of our subject January 14, 1880. She bore the maiden name of Julia Luella McCowan, and belongs to a family which is classed among the pioneers of Will County. The happy marriage has been blessed by the birth of four children: Nettie Emma, born in 1880; Alfred Campbell in 1883; Alma Ethel, in 1885; and Jesse W. in 1889. They form a bright group in whose growing intelligence the parents take great delight and the older son already evinces musical talent of a high order.



**A**DAM DRUMM, coming to Plainfield Township a quarter of a century ago, and placing himself among its sturdy, practical and wide-awake farmers, has managed its agricultural interests with such success that he acquired a handsome competence and was enabled to

retire from active business when scarcely past the meridian of life. He is of foreign birth, born in Germany, near the River Rhine, June 5, 1831. His father, Adam Drumm, was from the same place, and his grandfather, also bearing that name, was born in the same Province. He was a miller by trade, and spent his entire life there. The father of our subject learned the trade in his father's mill, but after marriage he turned his attention to farming, and always followed that occupation, spending his entire life in the land of his nativity. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Baum, a native and life-long resident of the same place as himself. They had four children, of whom our subject was the only son, and the only member of the family who ever came to America.

Mr. Drumm received a solid education in the schools of his native land, which he attended steadily until he was fourteen years of age. He then assisted his father on the farm, and remained an inmate of the parental household until he was nineteen years old. At that age he started out in the world to make his own living, and ambitious to see what life held for him in America, he turned his face toward this country, and setting sail from Havre the 15th of June, 1853, on the good ship "Isabella," landed at New York, after a long voyage of fifty-three days. He went directly to Ohio, and when he arrived at his destination found that he had but 83 in his pocket, and as he was an entire stranger and had no knowledge of the English language, his prospects were discouraging. Nothing daunted, he sought employment, and soon engaged to labor on a farm at \$10 a month, and was thus employed for two years. In 1855 he took an important step in life, as in that year he came to this county, to take up his residence in this region. With wise economy while working on a farm here he saved his earnings, and finally was enabled to become more independent by renting land. He did so well in its management that in 1865 he had enough to buy land and make a purchase of forty acres on section 17. Three years later he sold that and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 32. This was wild prairie land, though it was fenced and a few acres were broken. Mr. Drumm completed a house that

was partially built, and later erected a substantial barn, corn-cribs and other needed buildings, and was assiduously engaged in tilling the soil until 1885, when he rented the farm, and coming to Plainfield, has since lived retired in one of its attractive homes.

In 1857 Mr. Drumm was united in marriage with Miss Esther Arter, a native of Cumberland County, Pa. Her father, John Arter, was a native of the same State, while his father, Philip Arter, is thought to have been born in Germany, though he spent the last years of his life in Cumberland County. Mrs. Drumm's father was reared and married in the Keystone State, and subsequently moved from there to Stark County, Ohio. In 1851 he left that State, and coming to this county, he bought a farm in Plainfield Township, on which he lived some years, and then came to the village where he has since lived retired. The maiden name of his wife was Ellen King, and she was born in England, and died on the farm in Plainfield Township. Mr. and Mrs. Drumm have had four children, as follows: William H.; Sarah, wife of Edward Huffman; Jessie N. and George E. The great grief in an otherwise happy wedded life has been in the death of their daughter Jessie, who died at the age of eighteen years.

Mr. Drumm has a keen, resolute nature, and by prompt, systematic methods and other excellent business habits, has acquired a valuable property, and is one of the moneyed men of the place. He is a man of earnest religious feeling, and in him and his worthy wife, the Methodist Episcopal Church has two of its most active members.



**D**AVID G. WHITSON. Manhattan Township contains many rural homes, where comfort abounds and many of the luxuries of life may be found, among them that of David G. Whitson on section 18. The owner is an early settler of Will County, which has been his home since he was twelve years old, and much information can be obtained from him regarding the growth of this section, and indeed of the en-

tire State, as he is well informed and possesses the happy faculty of conversing well. His nature is a genial and energetic one, the latter quality being well proven by his financial success and equally well by the services which he rendered his country during the late war.

Mr. Whitson is the fourth in a family of nine children, whose parents are mentioned at length in the biography of his brother, John H. Whitson, found elsewhere in this ALBUM. He was born April 7, 1841, in Lawrence County, where the first twelve years of his life were chiefly spent. His surroundings were such as were common to most farmers' sons, and even in his boyhood he was given his share in the duties of the home, acquiring skill in various lighter labors of the farm. His school privileges were somewhat limited, as the system then in vogue was that of subscription schools which were open but a portion of the year. The temple of learning was an old fashioned log building, with a large, open fireplace, puncheon floor, slab benches and small windows. One of his early recollections is of a trip to Iowa, which was made with teams, the Mississippi River being crossed at Burlington; this occurred when he was ten years old.

The family sojourned in Iowa about a year and then returned to their former home where, not long after, our subject and his brother William were left in charge of some forty head of cattle, while the father came with the rest of the family to Will County. Two months after their removal the brothers drove the cattle to the new home, our subject taking a man's place upon the farm. During the winter he attended school, adding to his store of knowledge, and at other times becoming more and more thoroughly acquainted with agricultural life.

When he had reached man's estate Mr. Whitson began life for himself upon rented land, in Kankakee County, near Rockville. He began his labors there in the spring of 1862, but in August, not being able longer to continue peaceful pursuits while his country's needs cried to him for the strength of his right arm, he left valuable machines standing in the field and dropping everything entered the army. He was enrolled in Company I,

Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, mustered in at Kankakee City and sent South, two months later becoming a Corporal. From Cairo the troops went to Columbus, Ky., where for a short time they were in camp and whither they took their way to Bolivar, via Holley Springs, engaged in skirmishing daily. They were next sent to Memphis and on the way thither were engaged in skirmishes, several of which amounted really to battles. Our subject was at this time acting as Sergeant over thirty-six men, doing provost and patrol work under Gen. Hall, Commander of the Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Seventeenth Army Corps.

At Memphis the troops took boats for Vicksburg, landing at Young's Point, around which they marched to bear their part in the famous siege. Mr. Whitson had the good fortune to see Gen. Grant receive the sword of Gen. Pemberton when the latter surrendered. The next heavy engagement in which he took part was the battle of Jackson, following which was that of Clinton, a return to Vicksburg and the Yazoo expedition. The Red River expedition soon followed and then the removal to New Orleans, where they camped at Sedgwick Hospital. Only those who are familiar with army life can fully realize the danger and toil which filled the intervals between the battles and expeditions mentioned, and know all that the boys in blue endured on tented field, in weary marches and in the heat of battle.

Breaking camp, the troops of which our subject formed an integral part, embarked on the "Peabody" with Gen. Hall. The boat was disabled on account of the rudder chain being broken by the force of the breakers, and it became necessary to throw three hundred and fifty mules, twenty-five horses, all the provisions and many other stores overboard, in order that the boat might be able to reach New Orleans, to which they were obliged to return. They then took the Lake Pontchartrain train to Pensacola, where they were in camp four weeks, marching thence to Spanish Fort which they captured, thence proceeding to besiege Ft. Blakely. Here Mr. Whitson received a serious wound which necessitated his being sent to the hospital and remaining there three months. After he had gotten

inside of the rifle pits a shell struck the back of his right shoulder, taking off the flesh and injuring the shoulder blade. At Clinton he had received a slight scratch from a musket ball, which passed between his first and second fingers. At Sedgwick Hospital, September 6, 1865, he was mustered out of the service and honorably discharged after a valiant army life of over three years.

Returning to his home Mr. Whitson again engaged in farming, the following year traveling through Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska with teams. Returning again to the parental home he farmed his father's place until 1868, when he purchased eighty acres of raw land, at \$33 per acre, and located upon it. He placed it under thorough cultivation and excellent improvement, and it now forms a part of his fine estate. In 1876 he paid \$16 per acre for the eighty belonging to his brother John, and putting up a house removed to that part of his land. The entire quarter section is tillable, is divided by good fences into fields of convenient size, is beautified and made more valuable by a good orchard and all the buildings necessary for the proper housing of crops and stock and the convenience of the dwellers upon it. A modern barn, 46x16 feet, was built in 1889. Good grades of Clydesdale horses and Poland-China swine are kept, and in addition to those raised upon the place Mr. Whitson feeds at least a car load of swine per year.

The lady who for a number of years ably presided over the home of Mr. Whitson, bore the maiden name of Mary Etter, and became his wife in Joliet, February 24, 1869. She was a native of the Buckeye State and member of a family of which further mention is made in the sketch of John H. Whitson, occupying another page in this ALBUM. She was removed from the scenes of time in April, 1883, leaving behind her a sorrowing household and friends whose name is legion. To Mr. and Mrs. Whitson eight children were born, named respectively, E. Charles, Elizabeth, Laura, Louis, Mary, Edith, Arthur and William.

Mr. Whitson has been an efficient laborer in the cause of education, and has been called upon to serve as School Director during nearly all of his mature years. He still occupies that position. He is a





*Benj' Shaffer*



devoted adherent of the principles of Republicanism, has served his party as a delegate to county conventions and been appointed to represent the interests of this section in a State convention, although he did not attend this meeting. He has sat upon both grand and petit juries. He supports and attends the Methodist Episcopal Church.

his attention to the coal business for fourteen years, abandoning the grocery department soon after engaging in it. In the meantime he had associated with him his son and they operated together five years under the firm name of B. Shaffner & Son. Mr. Shaffner retired from the coal trade in May, 1881.

By a course of uprightness and honesty, together with courteous treatment of his customers, Mr. Shaffner built up an extensive patronage and accumulated a competence. He has a fine home at the intersection of Mound and Sherman Streets, and also owns a share in the Shaffner Bleek, on Washington Street, also a half interest in the coal business of E. L. Shaffner, his son, who is represented elsewhere in this work. The coal-yard is amply equipped with sheds, a large ice-house and a good sized office, and lies between the Chicago & Alton and the Santa Fe Railroad tracks, on Washington Street.

**B**ENJAMIN SHAFFNER. A career of plodding industry followed through many years has placed Mr. Shaffner in a position of independence financially, and he is now living retired from active business amid the comforts of a pleasant home in the city of Joliet. He was born in Cumberland County, Pa., November 19, 1825, and is a son of John Shaffner, also a native of the Keystone State. The mother bore the maiden name of Susanna Bowers, and after marriage the parents settled on a farm in their native State.

Mr. Shaffner, politically, votes with the Republican party. Besides the two children born to him and his estimable wife, they have an adopted daughter, Miss Carrie, a maiden of twenty years. Eph L. is one of the promising business men of the city of Joliet; Eldon P., a moulder by trade, has held the same position with the Rolling Mill for the long period of fifteen years—which is a sufficient indication of his worth and ability.

Sojourning in Pennsylvania until 1826, the parents of our subject then took up their line of march for Ohio, locating in what was then Stark but now Summit County, where they sojourned for a period of twenty years. Thence they removed to New Lennox Township, Will County, where the father constructed another home and there spent the closing years of his life, dying at the advanced age of eighty-one. The mother survived her husband five years.

Jesse Larkin, the father of Mrs. Shaffner, only lived three months after coming to Joliet, surviving his wife only three days, and they left a family of seven children among strangers in a strange land. A short time prior to this they had emigrated to America from Cranbrook, Kent County, England.

The parental family consisted of seven children. Mr. Shaffner remained a member of his father's household until twenty-one years old and then took unto himself a wife and helpmate, being wedded January 20, 1852, to Miss Caroline Larkin. This lady was born in Cranbrook, Kent, England, May 18, 1832, and came to America with her parents, Jesse and Sophia Larkin, when about seventeen years old. Mr. and Mrs. Shaffner after their marriage, settled on a farm in Jackson Township, where they sojourned until 1862. Removing then to Joliet Mr. Shaffner engaged in carriage and wagon-making and also in carpentering. Later he embarked in the grocery and coal trade and gave

The reader will recognize in the portrait of Mr. Shaffner, which appears on another page, one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Joliet.

**H**ARPER BOVEE, of Wilmington Township, came to this section of country about the year 1870, and in due time purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 14, Wilmington Township, where he has

since given his attention to the various pursuits of farm life. His land is mostly prairie, easily tilled and highly productive, and there is an air of comfort about the premises which gives indication of the oversight of a man enterprising and industrious—one who has surrounded himself and his family with all of the comforts of life, and who has accumulated a sufficiency of this world's goods to insure him against want in his old age.

A native of Wyoming County, N. Y., the subject of this notice was born June 25, 1825, and is a son of Harper and Lydia (Nichols) Bovee, who were natives of New England and the father a farmer by occupation. The latter emigrated to New York State early in life, where he spent many years as a resident of Wyoming County, coming West about 1850. He died of cholera in St. Louis, Mo., in 1852. Although not a money-getter, he provided comfortably for his family and was a man esteemed in his community, being prominent in local affairs, and holding the minor offices. After his death the family removed to Rockville, Kaukaee County, this State, and the mother came to Wilmington with her family and died there.

The parental family of our subject comprised the following children: The two eldest, Roby and Norman, both died after marriage and left families; Mary is the wife of Solon Billings, of Springfield, Erie County, Pa.; Harmon is farming in Washington; Harper, our subject, was the fifth child; Olivia died in childhood; Alexander is farming in Union County, Dak.; John is farming in Wilmington Township, this county; Charles died after his marriage in Peoria. Harper, our subject, was reared to man's estate in his native county, whence he removed with his parents to Chautauqua County, and later to Erie County, Pa. His early years were spent uneventfully under the home roof, obtaining such education as was afforded in the common school and assisting his father and brothers around the farm. He lived in Pennsylvania until 1870, coming that year to this county.

New Year's Day, 1873, was appropriately celebrated by Mr. Bovee in his marriage with Miss Lora Tilden, who was then a resident of Custer, this county. Mrs. Bovee was born March 5, 1839, in Williamstown, Orange County, Vt., and is a

daughter of Martin F. and Sarah A. (Kimball) Tilden, who were likewise natives of the Green Mountain State. They emigrated to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1840, where they lived nine years, then moved on further westward to this county, settling in Custer Township. The father secured a farm and is still living there. The mother died at the homestead about 1883. The six children of the parental family were named respectively: Lora, the wife of our subject; Sarah, who is a widow and living at home with her father; Martha; Lewis and Hannah deceased; Martha (2d), also deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Bovee have no children. This is the second marriage of our subject, his first wife having been Miss Marietta Linn, a native of Crawford County, Pa. Of that union there was born one child, a son, Odell, who died in infancy. Mrs. Marietta Bovee died about 1856 or 1857, in Pennsylvania.



**E**MIL HAASS, M. D. The confidence which is bestowed by the people of Frankfort and vicinity upon this gentleman is not misplaced, as he is thoroughly skilled in the medical profession, is well read in general topics, has been a keen observer of life in its various phases, and has borne himself as a man of breeding and fine character in all the scenes through which he has passed. He opened his office at Frankfort Station in the fall of 1877 and was not long in securing a large practice which includes a wide extent of territory in Will and Cook Counties. He has been very successful in alleviating suffering, and well deserves the honor which he receives as a member of a profession which is exceeded in its benefits only by that of the ministry, and which in many respects stands side by side with the priestly calling.

The family of which Dr. Haass is so worthy a member has given the world professional and business men of high standing, and women of great intelligence and worth of character. His paternal grandfather was Prof. George Haass, a native of Alsace, France, and a graduate of the Strasbourg

Seminary. He engaged in the profession of teaching until the first French Revolution, when he removed to Baden, remaining there until his death, which occurred at the ripe age of eighty-four years.

The father of him whom we write was also called George and was born in Baden, Germany. He was graduated from the famous university at Heidelberg and became a minister of the Evangelical Church, having a pastorate at Bishopsheim and later at Milheim. At the latter place he became Deacon and had the supervision of the ministers of the district, a position of high authority in the Church. He entered into rest in 1865, at the age of sixty-five years. He was twice married, the first union resulting in the birth of three children: Charles, who died in New York; Sophia who died of yellow fever at Memphis, Tenn.; and Emil.

The mother of these children was Caroline Masque, who was born in Strasbourg and was a daughter of Dr. Conrad Masque. The latter was born in France, studied the profession of medicine and practiced in Strasbourg until his death. His daughter received a fine education and taught in the royal families of the Duchess Amelia of Coburg, the Princess of Baden, and other branches of the nobility prior to her marriage to the Rev. George Haass. Her death took place in 1829.

The second marriage of the father of our subject was blessed by the birth of four children, of whom we note the following. The oldest son, George, entered the ministry and labored faithfully in the Master's vineyard until his death, which occurred in Germany. Maximilian came to America and during the late Civil War was Adjutant-general in Sherman's army under Gen. Osterhaus; he is now engaged in the drug business in Mendota, Ill. Theodore is a millionaire and owner of a castle at Baden-weiler, in the Duchy of Baden. Matilda resides in Amsterdam, Holland.

The subject of this sketch opened his eyes to the light of day in Strasbourg, Germany, August 5, 1827. Soon after his birth his father removed to the Duchy of Baden and the lad was reared to the age of eleven years in Bishopsheim. He then went to live with an uncle in Paris, France, and there attended the Academy Royal until 1844. He next entered the world-famous university at Heidel-

berg and after a year in that institution, went to Freiburg, where he continued his studies until 1846.

The following spring he returned to the French capital, entering the medical department of the Academy Royal and continuing his studies there until the schools were closed on account of the Revolution of 1848, when Louis Philippe was dethroned, a Republic instituted and Louis Napoleon Bonaparte made President. The young student remained in the capital during the Reign of Terror but as soon as it was possible to leave the city he returned to Baden. About the time of his return to the parental home an attempt was made by German Revolutionists to found a Republic in Baden, and the ardent young man joined the forces, taking an active part in speechmaking and other efforts to accomplish their purpose. He was associated with Charles Shuttis and other leaders whose names and deeds are historical. He held the position of Assistant Surgeon in the Revolutionist army, and being captured with the others when they were overpowered by the Royalists, he was court-martialed and sentenced to six years labor in the fortifications or to banishment.

Accepting the latter alternative Mr. Haass returned to Paris and completed his medical course; being graduated in December, 1849. After practicing a couple of weeks at Lauchemaux, near the capital, he made arrangements to come to America. From his mother he had inherited some property which was luckily in France and could not be confiscated by the German Government, and this he disposed of. His father also sold some property in Germany and the young man therefore had a small capital with which to embark. About the middle of December, 1849, he left Havre, France, on the sailing vessel "Gallia," and after a pleasant voyage of three weeks landed in New York City January 6, 1850.

One of the faculty in the academy at Paris had given Dr. Haass a letter of introduction and recommendation to a physician in Philadelphia and to that city he at once went. After consultation with the gentleman to whom he had been introduced, he concluded to begin his practice in the country and therefore located at Plainfield, where he sojourned nearly a twelvemonth. While in that town he was

one of the committee appointed to receive the Swedish songstress, Jenny Lind, when she visited the place. The Doctor had previously heard her in Europe, as he had other famous singers of that period. The Doctor has a decided taste and love for opera, which he acquired while making his home in Paris.

After a comparatively short sojourn in the Keystone State, Dr. Haass removed to Illinois, his first location being at Peru, where he practiced for two years. He then removed to Mendota, of which he was one of the first practicing physicians and where he not only worked up a fine business, but was also engaged in the drug trade. In 1860 he determined to remove farther west and selected Booneville, Mo., as the scene of his future labors. He was a strong Abolitionist, but realizing that it was not politic to announce his views, he kept them to himself during the period immediately preceding and following the breaking out of the Civil War.

However, as a strong Union man he helped to organize the Home Guard and after Gen. Lyons had defeated the rebels at Jefferson City, they were mustered into the service by Gov. Jackson and the band, two hundred strong, became attached to Lyons' force. Dr. Haass held the double position of First Lieutenant and Surgeon, and with his comrades participated in many skirmishes and the species of warfare known as bushwhacking, during the ensuing six months. The Home Guards were then disbanded, some to join the Fifth Cavalry, and our subject was ordered to take charge of the post hospital at Booneville as head surgeon. He performed the duties of that office until the hospital was abandoned, and he was mustered out and honorably discharged in July, 1863.

We next find Dr. Haass sojourning again for a short time in Mendota, Ill., whence he removed to Morris, Grundy County, and with that city as his headquarters, successfully labored at his profession until 1877, in the fall of which year he came to Frankfort Station. Here he has added to his professional reputation and has made hosts of friends, everyone having a good word for him. He has been useful in the municipal affairs of the village, serving on the Board of Trustees four years and now filling the position of President of that body

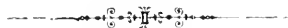
for the second year. He belongs to the Evangelical Lutheran Church of this place. He belonged to the Odd Fellows lodge at Mendota but is not now identified with that fraternity. In politics he is independent.

Dr. Haass has a fine residence and lots, his home being sufficiently commodious, convenient and well furnished, displaying evidences of good taste in all its arrangements, but without ostentation. It is particularly well supplied with the literature of the day and the best works of classical writers. While living in the French capital, Dr. Haass had every advantage to observe life in its various phases and he there made the acquaintance of members of the different professions and leading lights of the day. It is a pleasure to converse with him and to hear him relate incidents of his meetings with men in the different walks of life, and describe the scenes through which he passed during the Reign of Terror and the revolution in his own land. He is indeed a man whom any community may be proud to claim as a citizen.

The marriage of Dr. Haass and Miss Eliza Hess was celebrated at the home of the bride's mother in Mendota, April 25, 1855. Mrs. Haass was born in Neider-Eckenheim, Baden, Germany, May 26, 1835, to John and Anna B. (Volmer) Hess. Her parents were natives of the same duchy and her father was a farmer in excellent circumstances. He died in his native land and the widowed mother with her daughter came to America in 1853, dying in Mendota in 1861. The parental family consisted of three children—Marie, John and Eliza, the latter being the only one now living. John participated in the Revolution in Baden and being compelled to leave the country, emigrated to America, settling in Pennsylvania and subsequently sending for his mother and surviving sister. They crossed the ocean on the "William Tell" and after remaining in the Keystone State a year, took up their residence in Illinois.

Mrs. Haass received excellent home training, was well educated, and grew to womanhood with a character which won for her many friends wherever she was known. She is a model housekeeper, a sympathizing companion, and a kind and considerate mother. Her happy union has been blessed by

the birth of seven children, viz: Emil who died in Morris; Charles who is employed in the grain elevator in Frankfort; Emma, Maximilian, George, Alice and Albert, all of whom still abide under the parental roof. George is the tonsorial artist at Frankfort. All the children are bright and promising, well advanced for their years and are all that parental love could desire.



**CAPT. IRA W. SMITH**, farmer and stock-raiser of Custer Township, proprietor of one of the largest farms in the county, was an officer in the late war, in which he won a distinguished record for bravery, superior tact, and cool daring, and showed other high soldierly qualities as a leader that gained him an enviable reputation in military circles.

The father of our subject, who bore the same name as himself, was of New England origin and birth, a native of the State of Vermont. His paternal grandfather, also of the same name, was a soldier both in the war of the Revolution and the War of 1812. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Louisa Beckwith, was also of Vermont birth. She was married to the father of our subject in their native State, and thence they removed to Ohio in pioneer days and subsequently came to Illinois in the month of November, 1811, and cast their lot with the early settlers of this county. His father became much prospered there and improved a good farm which remained his home until his death in 1872. His wife died in 1847. They were the parents of six children, five of whom are now living.

Our subject was the eldest of the family, and he was born in Huron, Loraine County, Ohio, November 27, 1832. He attended school but ten months before his twenty-first year. He was, however, a lad of naturally good mental capacity, was fond of his studies and he managed to improve his education, working hard and obtaining money by which he was enabled to attend Oberlin College. He was a student there for nine months and by constant attention to his books he acquired more knowledge

in that time than many a student who pursues a full course. He had not money enough to take him through college, and he came back to Illinois and found employment by the day and month until 1857. In that year he engaged with his father as superintendent of his farm. The breaking out of the war found him thus employed. He had watched with great interest the progress of affairs that led up to the Rebellion, and as soon as he could manage it, he offered his services to his country, enlisting September 26, 1861, in Company D, Fourth Illinois Cavalry, as a private. He served three years, then re-enlisted as a veteran in the company known as the Veteran Battalion of Illinois, commanded by Maj. A. T. Search. This company was afterward consolidated with the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry under Col. Hasbrook Davis, afterward General. Our subject proved himself to be especially adapted for a soldier, and his valor and able services won him deserved promotion, and he rapidly passed through all the grades until he was finally the ranking Captain of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry. His nerve and undaunted courage pointed him out to his superiors as one who would make a good scout and he served for seventeen months in that capacity.

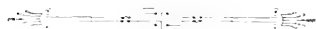
Our subject took an active part in the following battles: skirmish at Columbus, Ky.; was present at the siege and capture of Fts. Henry and Donelson; engaged at Savannah, and he was at Shiloh both days. His troop was the first to receive the enemy's fire the night before the battle of Island No. 10, and was in the front at Ft. Pillow and at Memphis. Capt. Smith took part in Grant's raid down the Mobile & Ohio Railway, and he did gallant service before Vicksburg. While on detached service as a scout he operated from Columbus, Ky., to New Orleans, on both sides of the Mississippi River. He crossed the State of Mississippi six times and the length of it twice. He collected the data for the Engineering Department to construct maps of West Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri and the Southern part of Arkansas to the foot hills. This was a very laborious service and required especial tact and ability to get all the facts about the roads, etc. The Captain was relieved from scouting at his own request in 1865, and then

rejoined his regiment and remained with it until his discharge. In 1861, during the months of July and August, he was in sixty skirmishes. At the battle of Champion Hills, his company of forty-eight men lost at one volley twelve of their number. Our subject was wounded three times and had three horses killed under him and two wounded. At one time he made a desperate charge with eight men into a rebel ambush and one of his men fell dead, pierced with seven bullets, and his horse was completely riddled. The other seven men did not escape unscathed, but had twenty-four wounds amongst them and their horses were also equally wounded. Their gallant Captain cut his way through the enemy and got back to the Union lines unharmed. He served under the following Generals: McPherson, John A. Logan, Davis, Ashboth, Wilson, Grierson and Braggman. Our gallant Captain had the honor of serving as escort to Gen. Grant at Vicksburg, and he was also with him at Yazoo City. His last service was in Texas and he was mustered out December 15, 1865, having been in the army four years and four months. Returning to his old home he has since been engaged on his present farm, tilling the soil and raising stock. He owns one of the largest farms in this section of the country, comprising seven hundred and fifty acres, all lying in a body, of as fine farming land as is to be found in this locality.

Mr. Smith was married in June, 1866, to Miss Ella Hanson. Her father, David Hanson, was a member of the Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry, and was killed near Richmond. Mrs. Smith was born in 1842, and received the advantages of a good common-school education. She is the mother of six children, of whom the following three are living: Frank, aged nineteen years; Katie, fourteen years old; and Ira W., four years old. Mrs. Smith and her children are members in good standing of the Episcopal Church.

Capt. Smith is very systematic in all that he does and manages his extensive farm after improved methods, and its many acres of fertile soil make it a very desirable piece of property. During the late war, the worth of Mr. Smith's citizenship was thoroughly proved, and his course since then as a private citizen has sustained his well-earned repu-

tation for loyalty, truthfulness and honor, and Custer Township holds him as one of her best citizens. He has taken part in the public life of the place, has been a Director of this district and is now Highway Commissioner. He is a staunch Republican and has always been a hard worker for his party. He was a delegate to the last State Convention, but received injuries from the kick of a horse so that he was unable to attend. He is a member of the Masonic order, belonging to Blue Lodge Chapter and Commandery. In remembrance of his army life he is identified with Bowen Post, No. 17, G. A. R., of Wilmington.



CHESTER H. MARSHALL. Among the leading families of New Lenox Township may be properly mentioned Mr. Marshall and his amiable and accomplished wife, both of whom take an active interest in all of the progressive movements of the day. They are readers and thinkers, more than ordinarily intelligent and well informed, and have one of the pleasantest homes in the township where often gather for social intercourse the friends whom they have drawn around them by their genial natures and kindly hospitality. They stand high in social circles and are active in church work. They are numbered among the chief pillars of the Baptist Church at Hadley, of which Mrs. Marshall, who is possessed of rare musical talents, has been organist for twenty-five years.

The immediate progenitor of our subject is the well-known Deacon Rollin Marshall, who was born in Camillus, Onondaga County, N. Y. The mother bore the maiden name of Ann Burrill, and she was a native of the same county as her husband where they were married. Thence they came to this county in 1831, and settled in New Lenox Township, where the father built up a good homestead, and where the mother died about 1842.

Deacon Rollin Marshall, after the death of his wife continued to live for a time in New Lenox Township and then removed to Mokena, which is still his home. He was married a second time to

Mrs. Belinda (Ingersoll) Parker, widow of Silas Parker, who died in Plainfield, this county, many years ago. Of the first marriage of Deacon Marshall there were born three sons, the eldest of whom, George N., entered the Union Army during the late war as a member of Company M, Fourth Michigan Cavalry. He went to the front with his regiment, was captured by the enemy, and suffered the horrors of Andersonville prison, within which he died about 1864. Chester H., our subject, was the second born. Jacob B. went to California after reaching manhood and was killed by a snow-slide in the mountains.

Deacon Marshall was a man ambitious and energetic during his younger years and prominent in the affairs of his community. He contributed his full quota to the growth and development of his adopted township, was strictly honest in his transactions with his fellow-men, a kind man in his family and much respected by his neighbors. His name will be held in high remembrance long after he has been gathered to his fathers. He is now eighty-four years old. By his second marriage there was one child, Adaline, who is single and at home.

The subject of this sketch is the only surviving child of his father's family by his first marriage. He was born in New Lenox Township, October 18, 1835, and has spent the greater part of his time within its limits. He acquired a practical education in the common school, together with those habits of industry and frugality which have contributed to his success in life. He was married at the residence of John M. Reynolds in New Lenox Township, November 19, 1859, to Miss Clara M., daughter of Mr. Reynolds, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Marshall was born at the farm where she now resides, October 29, 1840. In connection with her studies, which she prosecuted in the common schools, she began receiving musical instruction at an early age and evinced more than ordinary talent as a singer and performer. She has proved in all respects the suitable companion and helpmate of her husband and with him enjoys the friendship of a large circle of acquaintances. Mr. Marshall votes the Republican ticket and always keeps himself posted upon the

march of public events. He has officiated as Road Commissioner and School Trustee, also as a Clerk in the Halley Baptist Church. In 1881, he was elected a Justice of the Peace, which office he has held to the present time. For a period of sixteen years he was Secretary of the New Lenox Fire Insurance Company, and managed the affairs of the company in a manner creditable to himself and satisfactory to all concerned.

MATTHIAS L. COOK, a member of the firm of Bennett & Co., liverymen, makes his headquarters at No. 108 Van Buren Street, Joliet, and holds a good position among the business men of the city. He is a veteran of seventy-three years, having been born September 2, 1816, and is a native of Morris County, N. J. He comes from a good family, being the son of Jabez and Sarah (Burrett) Cook, who were natives of New Jersey, and spent their last years in that State. The parental family consisted of six children, two of whom are living.

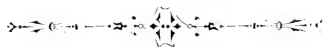
The subject of this notice grew to mature years in his native place, and when approaching manhood began an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, which he followed probably until 1837. When a young man of twenty-three years he determined upon seeking his fortunes in the Great West, and making this county his objective point, arrived in Joliet in the fall of 1839. Two years later he became interested in the livery business in company with O. W. Stillman, and they established the first enterprise of the kind in the embryo town. Mr. Cook had his first stable on Benton Street. He was successful from the start, and has continued so up to the present time, covering the long period of over fifty years. In the meantime he has dealt quite extensively in horses, and is perhaps as good a judge of the equine race as can be found in this part of the country.

After having established himself fully in business Mr. Cook took unto himself a wife and helpmate, being married in November, 1843, at the bride's home in Joliet, to Miss Flavilla Seeley,

This lady was born in 1824, in Susquehanna County, Pa., and was the daughter of Justin and Mrs. Seeley, who were natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Seeley emigrated with his family to Illinois about 1836, and thereafter occupied himself in millwright pursuits. He had learned millwrighting in early manhood, which he followed until 1860. The parental family consisted of two children; the parents spent their last years, the mother in Illinois, and the father in Iowa.

Mrs. Cook attended the common schools during her girlhood, and was trained by a careful mother to all useful household duties. She remained under the parental roof until becoming mistress of her own home. Of her union with our subject there were born three children, only one of whom is living, a son, Oscar, who is now in Topeka, Kan. Mrs. Cook departed this life April 11, 1881.

Mr. Cook cast his first Presidential vote for Van Buren, and maintains his allegiance to the Democratic party. He has been somewhat prominent in local affairs, serving heretofore as a member of the City Council in the old Fourth Ward, but is now Alderman from the Second Ward. He owns and occupies a comfortable home in the central part of the city, and enjoys an extensive acquaintance among its leading residents.



**C**HARLES BESEKE. An excellent example of the results of frugality, persevering industry, and prudent management, is to be found in the life of the above-named gentleman, who is numbered among the well-to-do farmers of Washington Township. He is the owner of the northeast quarter of section 29, and the southeast quarter of section 20, in that township, together with ten acres of good timber land in Yellow Head Township, Kaukaee County, and one hundred and sixty acres in Jackson County, Minn. All this has been accumulated by him since he came to this county in 1863 and established himself on his first farm on section 20. The land of which he then

took possession was in its primitive condition but is now one of the most productive estates in the county, marked with all needful improvements, as is the farm on section 29.

Mr. Beseke came to this county from DuPage County, in which he had lived for seven years and in which he began his life in America as a farm laborer at \$90 per year. His earthly possessions at that time consisted of his clothes and \$15 in money. With this capital and the education and training which he had received, he began the career which has resulted in the attainment of the property noted above and an assured standing in the financial circles of the county.

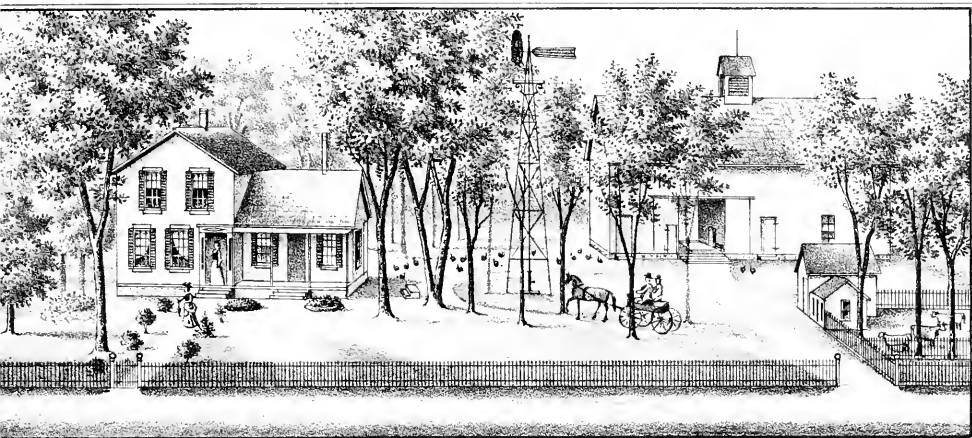
In the kingdom of Hanover the eyes of our subject opened to the light of day October 18, 1825. He began life for himself when about of age and in 1856 determined to seek a home in the New World, which he thought afforded better opportunities for an energetic young man of small means. Taking passage at Bremerhaven on a sailing vessel, he spent eleven weeks and three days on the broad Atlantic and after this tedious voyage landed in New York City. He at once came west to Chicago, and securing employment in DuPage County took up the labors whose result is so inspiring to others who are compelled to depend upon their own efforts for worldly success.

The parents of Mr. Beseke spent their entire lives in Hanover, Germany, living to quite a good old age. Their family comprised four sons, Charles being the only one who came to the United States. The others are yet living in their native land where they have acquired considerable property. One of them is an old soldier and an officer of rank.

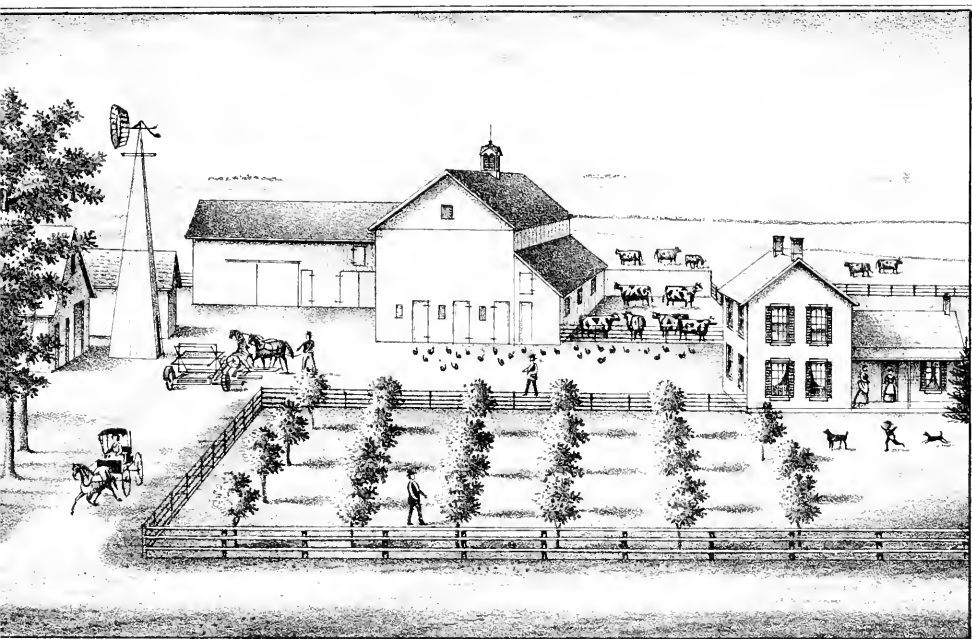
In DuPage County, Ill., Mr. Beseke led to the hymeneal altar Miss Laura Wagoner, an estimable young lady who was born in Baden, Germany, in the fall of 1837, but was quite young when her parents emigrated to the United States. They settled in DuPage County in early days, but after some years removed to Will County where they died when near the age of four-score. The two daughters born to them are now living in Will County.

To our subject and his wife eleven children have been born. Five died in infancy and a daughter





RESIDENCE OF MICHAEL BINZEN, ONE MILE SOUTH OF JOLIET, ILL.



RESIDENCE OF CHARLES BESEKE, SEC. 20, WASHINGTON TP. WILL CO. ILL.



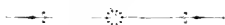
Ellen after her marriage. The living members of the family are Conrad, who married Ellen Land-grader and lives in Yellow Head, Kankakee County, where he carries on a mercantile establishment; Lena, wife of Louis Kerhoph, a merchant and farmer of the same town; Charles, George and Henry, who still reside under the parental roof.

In connection with this personal sketch of Mr. Bescke, we present a view of his pleasant homestead to which we invite the readers' attention. Within his cozy residence, the many friends to whom years of close intercourse have bound himself and wife, are frequently entertained and are always sure of a hospitable welcome.

engaged in the liquor traffic. A few years thereafter, in 1881, he purchased a farm which he has since successfully managed.

The marriage of Mr. Binzen and Miss Catherine Meyer was celebrated January 23, 1856. Mrs. Binzen is a well-informed woman with many useful accomplishments and is a notable housewife. The happy union has been blessed by the birth of eight children, named respectively: Mary, wife of James Cushing; Joseph, Michael, Jr., John, Cato, Emma and George (twins), and William.

In connection with this sketch, is given a lithographic view of Mr. Binzen's pleasant homestead.



**M**ICHAEL BINZEN, Highway Commissioner at Joliet, was in the spring of 1890, elected for the second time to the position which he fills to the general satisfaction of the community. In politics he is a decided Democrat and is recognized as a great worker in the ranks. He belongs to the social and benevolent order of Odd Fellows and has many friends by whom he is highly regarded. He was born in Prussia, January 29, 1836, being a son of John and Annie (Hirschen) Binzen. His father was a cooper and distiller, and became expert in distilling grapes, plums, juniper berries and cherries, a business which he followed many years. Of the children born to him there are now living three sons. Joseph resides in Troy, N. Y., and is engaged in the manufacture and sale of shoes, employing fifteen men; Jacob and Michael reside in Joliet.

The gentleman of whom we write came to America in 1852, making his first stop at Albany, N. Y., where he found employment in a brewery. We next find him in Hudson, where with a brother-in-law he opened a brewery, which was destroyed by fire in 1868. Thence he went to Pittsfield, Mass., where he engaged in the liquor traffic, coming West in the latter part of the same year and after remaining a year in Chicago, taking up his abode in Joliet. For the first two years of his residence here he worked in a brewery, after which he again

**J**OHIN H. DOIG, the occupant of a snug farm on section 4, New Lenox Township, was born in Washington, D. C., March 13, 1844. He is of Scotch parentage, his parents being Andrew and Isabella (Fife) Doig, representatives of honorable families in Farfarshire and Fifeshire. A history of their lives will be found in the sketch of Thomas Doig, a brother of our subject, whose biography is found elsewhere in this volume.

The gentleman of whom we write was scarcely more than an infant when his parents took up their abode in this county, where he received his early education. When about seventeen years old he went to Chicago, remaining in that city until the spring of 1890, when he returned hither, purchased eighty acres of land on Maple Street, and is now numbered among the agriculturists of New Lenox Township.

While living in the Queen City of the Lakes, he was engaged in a music store, in mercantile pursuits, the sale of real estate, and in building. His whole business career has been marked with a high degree of the "go ahead" spirit, so characteristic of dealers in Chicago and men of affairs in other communities, and he has been identified with men of similar public spirit in various movements which would benefit mankind and add to the prosperity of the section in which he lived.

The marriage of Mr. Doig took place in Minneapolis, Minn., March 21, 1872, the bride being Miss Jennima Macdonald. This lady is a daughter

of Alexander and Caroline (Porteous) Macdonald, the former of whom died in Chicago, July 5, 1881. She was born in Montreal, Canada, April 1, 1851, and grew to womanhood, possessing such noble qualities of character, such intelligence and good breeding, and so thorough a knowledge of useful arts as to deserve the love which she has won. The first part of her life was spent in the city of New York and the latter part in Chicago. She is a member of the Episcopal Church. She has borne her husband one son, a bright lad, who bears the name of Alvin H.



**H**UGH M. BOLTON, who is a representative of the native-born citizens of this county, sons of its stalwart pioneers who are now important factors in carrying on the work so well begun by their fathers in developing its resources, is successfully engaged in farming in Plainfield Township, the place of his birth. He was born here April 3, 1818, his father, Hugh Bolton, being an early settler in this region. The latter is a native of Belfast, Ireland, his father of the same name, also having been born there, a descendant of Scotch ancestry. He was reared on his native isle, came from there to America to spend his last years with his children in New Jersey, and died there at the remarkable age of one hundred and nine years.

The father of our subject passed the early years of his life in the land of his birth and in the prime and vigor of active manhood came to this country, seeking to better his condition. He located in New Jersey and was there employed on a farm until his return to Ireland three years later. While revisiting that country, he was married, taking as his wife, Miss Eliza Miller, who was born in the same locality as himself. After he was wedded he came back to America with his bride and again took up his residence in New Jersey, remaining there until 1847. In that year he came to Illinois, and bought a small place near Plainfield on which he lived a few years, and then purchased the farm which our subject now occupies. He was actively

engaged thereon many years, constantly improving it and from tilling the soil acquired a comfortable competence, and now lives in retirement in Joliet, making his home with his daughter. In December 1887, he had the misfortune to lose the good wife who had shared with him the hardships and privations of a pioneer life and lived to enjoy prosperity with him. Of their happy wedded life five children had been born, three of whom are now living, as follows: Nancy, wife of Thomas H. Hutchings, of Joliet; Archie, who lives in Cherokee County, Iowa, and our subject.

The latter was reared on the home farm and obtained a fair education in the district schools and since attaining manhood has devoted himself exclusively to farming. This farm which is located on section 24, of Plainfield Township, contains one hundred and sixty acres of land under excellent cultivation and good improvement, is provided with substantial buildings and all necessary machinery for operating it to the best advantage.

Mr. Bolton enjoys the comforts of a pleasant home and to the lady who presides over it, he was united in marriage in 1871. Mrs. Bolton's maiden name was Jane Snider, and she is a native of Tennessee. Her marriage with our subject has brought them three children—William, John and Jarvis.

Mr. Bolton is a practical farmer, tilling the soil after the most desirable methods, so as to gain the best results, and managing his affairs with the thrift and prudence that will ultimately place him among the most solid men of the township. He is well regarded in this community where his entire life has been spent, as he is fair in his dealings and upright in his character.



**H**ARMON R. BURLINGAME, contractor and builder in Joliet, has a business which is all that he can handle, his contracts sometimes running as high as \$50,000 a year. He makes a specialty of dwelling houses and has built a large number of the best homes in the city. He is himself a practical builder and there-

fore the more competent to take charge of work, and being a man of honor his business is conducted in a reliable and straightforward manner, and his word may be relied upon in matters pertaining to it.

Ira Burlingame, father of our subject, was a professor of music in New England. He married Miss Mary Whipple, and to them on August 11, 1828, the son was born whose life it is our purpose to outline. As a boy the lad was handy with tools, and he early made choice of the trade of a carpenter, which he learned in his native Green Mountain State. In 1855, he came to Illinois, first locating at Lockport, where he worked at his trade until 1865, when he became foreman of an establishment for the manufacture of organs. In the fall of 1868 he removed to Sterling, Whiteside County, and four years later came to Joliet and entered upon his life work of contracting and building, with the result mentioned above.

In Lockport Mr. Burlingame served as Town Clerk two terms. He has been urged to accept various nominations that at different times have been tendered him, but has never been an aspirant for office. His judgment concurs in the principles of the Republican party, which he therefore supports on all occasions. He is a man of more than ordinary intelligence, combining in his manners the energy of the Yankee and the good breeding of the cosmopolitan gentleman. In his domestic relations he is kindly and considerate, in society a pleasing companion, and in all his dealings with mankind both just and generous.

The marriage of Mr. Burlingame was celebrated June 17, 1850, his bride being Miss Olive Corlesta Ames, of the widely-known Ames family of New England. She is an educated and lovable woman, regarded with the most reverent affection in her own home and looked upon with deep respect far beyond the family circle. She has borne her husband two daughters—Mrs. Amy French, now of Channahon, this county, and Lettie L.

Miss Lettie L. Burlingame enjoys the distinction of being the only female representative of the legal profession in Will County. She was graduated from the Joliet schools in 1879, after which she engaged in teaching three years, laboring in the inter-

mediate and high school departments in this place. Choosing the law as her field of labor in life, she studied with the firm of Pithian & Avery, and then entered the law department of the Michigan University at Ann Arbor. She was graduated in the class of '86 and permission to practice her profession was granted by the Supreme Court of Michigan. She, however, did not at once assume her legal work, but remained at Ann Arbor a year, taking a special course in order that she might be still better prepared for her vocation. In May, 1888, she opened an office where she is still located, and is securing a fair practice. She has taken quite a prominent part in the cause of woman's suffrage of which she is an ardent advocate. She also manifests considerable interest in temperance work but declines to enter upon it as a party measure, believing that the cause can be best subserved when work is done independent of political affiliations. Were the right of suffrage hers, her ballot would be cast with the Republican party.



WILLIAM W. STEVENS, editor and proprietor of the *Joliet Record*, assumed the duties of his present position in the spring of 1880, at which time he purchased the business and plant of the *Record*, which was established in 1870. The *Record* is a bright and newsy paper, devoted to the interests of this county, is intelligently conducted and has unquestionably become a permanent institution.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Maine, and was born in Oxford County, July 11, 1832. His parents were Bernard C. and Esther A. (Lufkin) Stevens, and the father was born in Salisbury, N. H., which was the birthplace of Daniel Webster, and with whom he attended school in his boyhood. The father of our subject was born in 1800, and remained under the parental roof until reaching 13's majority. He was the son of Jonathan Stevens, an early pioneer of that part of the Granite State, and upon his death he went to Rumford, Oxford County, where he met and married Miss Esther A. Lufkin, in 1825. They set-

tled upon a farm and Mr. Stevens confined his attention to agricultural pursuits until 1831. He then removed to Dover, and subsequently to Springfield, N. H., where his death took place in October, 1874. With the exception of a short time spent in Maine, he passed his entire life in his native State.

Five children were born to the parents of our subject, three of whom are still living: James D. was a soldier of the Mexican War, and was killed in 1847, at the storming of Chapultepec, Mexico; the eldest, Mary, is the wife of Dudley Folsabee, of Joliet; William W. is the next in order of birth; Reuben F. is also a resident of Joliet; Vina, the first wife of Dudley Folsabee, died in 1880. The wife and mother was born in 1793, and was the daughter of Benjamin Lufkin, a Revolutionary soldier who received an honorable wound at the battle of Bunker Hill. Mrs. Esther A. Stevens died April 19, 1849, at her home, in Springfield, N. H.

The subject of this sketch remained with his parents in Dover and Springfield, N. H., until a man of twenty-three years. He received a good education, completing his studies in Andover Academy in the class of 1851. Subsequently he engaged in teaching three years, in the meantime having, in October, 1855, emigrated to Joliet, Ill., where he taught two years. In March, 1857, he entered the law office of Parks & Elwood, of Joliet, and confined his attention to the study of law until admitted to the bar in 1860. Soon afterward he associated himself in partnership with Benjamin Richardson and they practiced together for three years, after which Mr. Stevens followed his profession singly and alone. In the meantime, in 1863, he was elected City Attorney, and held the office several terms by re-election. He also operated as an insurance agent from 1868 to 1873, when he sold out the business which he had built up in this line, and thereafter devoted his time and attention exclusively to his law practice until 1880, when he turned his attention to newspaper work.

While keeping himself thoroughly posted upon current events, Mr. Stevens has never been an office-seeking politician, although filling many positions of trust and responsibility. For three or

four years he officiated as School Inspector, at the same time being Secretary of the School Board, and exercised a perceptible influence in the encouragement of educational matters. In 1856 he identified himself with the Masonic fraternity, and for six years was Master of Mt. Joliet Lodge; he is also a Royal Arch Mason, having been High Priest of the Chapter for six years, and is also a member of Joliet Commandery No. 4. In the Commandery he has held most of the offices, being Prelate for ten years altogether.

On the 6th of September, 1859, the subject of this notice was joined in wedlock with Althea H. Hawley, and they are the parents of seven children, all living. Ada H. became the wife of C. M. Becker, who died leaving one child, a son, Claude W.; Kate E. is at home; Will H. is Route Agent on the Chicago & Milwaukee Railroad; Ella V. is the wife of Will S. Hamm, of Chicago; Jennie M., Frank M. and Winnie Wallace, remain under the home roof.

Mrs. Althea (Hawley) Stevens was born in this county just outside the city limits of Joliet, April 13, 1839. She was the daughter of Judge O. L. Hawley, one of the earliest pioneers of this county and who came here about 1834. Judge Hawley was one of the prominent men in the early days, presiding over the county court. He is now deceased, having died November 8, 1861. Miss Hawley was given a good education, completing her studies in Lombard University, at Galesburg, and remained with her parents until her marriage. Her mother bore the maiden name of Nancy A. Burdge, and she was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., August 18, 1819. The Judge was a native of New York State, and was born in Schoharie County, in 1809. He was the son of Iyman Hawley, who came to Illinois in 1835, and subsequently laid off the town of West Lockport, building the stone gristmill, the first of its kind in this region. He engaged in milling and farming until resting from the active labors of life. Judge Hawley assisted his father in the mill during his early manhood and, in 1849, was elected County Clerk, when he removed to Joliet, discharging the duties of this office two terms. He was next elected Judge of the Probate Court, which office

he held until his death. The mother of Mrs. Stevens was his first wife. Of this marriage there were two children, a daughter, Mrs. Stevens, and Martin J., a resident of Bloomington, Ill. The two children of the second marriage are Alice C. and Antonia E., who are now residents of Lockport, Ill. Judge Hawley was a member of the Universalist Church, and for many years prior to his decease, was identified with the Masonic fraternity. In politics, he was first a Whig, and after the abandonment of the old party, wheeled into the Republican ranks, where he remained until his death. Mr. Stevens, politically, is a Democrat, and the *Review* naturally reflects his political sentiments. He is ably assisted by his wife, Mrs. Stevens, who is associate editor, and who gives personal attention to the general make up of the paper.



**J**AMES S. BOYD is the owner and occupant of a well-tilled farm on section 28, Joliet Township. A visitor to the pleasant estate would find upon it a full line of excellent improvements which include all necessary and convenient buildings, fences, fruit, etc., and would at once conclude that the owner possesses an energetic spirit, industrious and prudent habits, and an intelligent appreciation of the needs of the home. Such a conclusion would be in no sense amiss, and a personal acquaintance with Mr. Boyd would develop the further facts that his intelligence and enterprise are not expended upon his own home, but lead him to participate in movements for the good of the community and display in behalf of his fellow-citizens a large amount of public spirit.

Two fine Irish families are represented by the subject of this sketch, his parents having been of old County Antrim stock. Thomas and Elizabeth Boyd were married and first settled in their native county, whence they emigrated to America in 1850, taking up their abode in the Keystone State. In 1864, they came to this county, and some time afterward died at the residence of our subject. Their family comprised four sons and four daughters, of whom James S. was the seventh in order

of birth. The maternal grandmother of our subject was Mary McKeen, a native of County Antrim, who lived to be nearly one hundred years of age. She belonged to the sturdy old Presbyterian stock, which a few centuries ago left Scotland on account of religious persecutions, and settled in the North of Ireland, whence many of their descendants have come to America and are numbered among the best citizens of our free soil. Mary McKeen had a brother Thomas, who in the eighteenth century became a citizen of the Colonies and received a captain's commission from Gen. George Washington. Subsequently Andrew Jackson bestowed upon him a Colonel's commission. His last vote was cast for James Buchanan in the old court house in Easton, Pa., that was built by King George in 1751. The McKeens were second cousins to the poet James Montgomery.

In County Antrim, Ireland, July 22, 1836, James S. Boyd first saw the light of day. His native country was his home until April 18, 1852, when he came to America and taking up his residence in Northampton County, Pa., attended school two and a half years. He then learned the trade of a tinsmith in Etica, N. Y., and then coming to Joliet, was employed by W. S. Brooks four years. He then became foreman for W. F. Barrett, filling that position eight years, after which he re-entered the employ of Mr. Brooks and for about eight years acted as a salesman of agricultural implements for that gentleman.

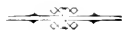
Mr. Boyd has traveled for four different firms as a salesman and was also engaged with his brother, T. C. Boyd, in the plumbing business in Chicago. He settled on the farm where he now lives, in March, 1868, and for some time has devoted himself entirely to agricultural work. In this employment he simply carries out the motto which epitomizes his earlier efforts in other lines of business—"what is worth doing is worth doing well."

On May 6, 1861, in Fairfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., the rites of wedlock were celebrated between our subject and Miss Mary E., daughter of James and Nellie (Peacock) Young. The bride was born in the town in which her marriage took place, March 28, 1840, and is the tenth in a family consisting of eight sons and three daughters. Like

her husband she has in her veins the blood of old families from Northern Ireland, her parents having been natives of County Antrim, whence they emigrated to America in an early day. After having lived many years in Herkimer County, N. Y., they came to the Prairie State, locating in Stephenson County, where both breathed their last.

Mrs. Boyd possesses the natural abilities of the race from which she sprung, and has had them strengthened and developed by careful home training and good educational advantages. She is therefore a woman of ripe intelligence, well skilled in useful domestic arts and fitted for a sphere of usefulness. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church and has carefully instilled into her children the principles of right living. Her family includes the following living children: Alexander C., Margaret W., Estella M., Nellie J., J. Harry, Elizabeth, Fred C., Mary M., Lee E. and Belle C. L. One child is deceased. Estella M. is now the wife of Charles Scharf, of Joliet.

In politics Mr. Boyd is a strong Republican, firmly convinced that the principles of that party are best fitted to the needs of American citizens, and ever ready to support them with his ballot and his endeavors to convince others that his views are correct. He has held the office of School Director, in which his intelligence and good judgment have benefited the schools. His reputation is one of which any man might well be proud, providing, as in his case, the character is equal to the opinions of men.



**A** MASA RICHARDSON. This venerable gentleman has for many years been associated with the farmers and stock-growers who have been instrumental in the up-building of the thriving farming township of Wesley. Associating himself with the pioneers of the county in 1836, while aiding them in the work of developing its resources, he has acquired a comfortable property, and now, as the shadows of a long and busy life are falling around him, he can take his ease, free from the cares and burdens that he bore in the heat of the day, in his cozy home in

the enjoyment of the companionship of her who assisted him in fitting it up and who is still the home-maker and devoted helper.

The father of our subject, William H. Richardson, was a native and a farmer of Vermont. His mother, whose maiden name was Mary Starke, and who was a niece of Gen. Starke of Revolutionary fame, was also a native of that State, and there she and her husband spent their entire lives.

The subject of this biographical review was the only child, and he was born June 23, 1805, among the pleasant hills of Vermont. He received his education in the common schools, and at the youthful age of twelve years began to care for himself. He worked out by the month for others until he was twenty-three years old, and then began his independent existence as a farmer on his own account, buying at that time a farm in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. He operated it until 1856, and then rightly thinking that he could do better still on the rich virgin soil of Illinois, he came to this county and settled on the farm where he has since made his home. The land, comprising one hundred and seventy acres, ten of which was in timber, was already under cultivation when he purchased it, and he has since added many improvements, making it a valuable estate, with its neat, well-kept buildings, productive fields and general appearance of good management.

Mr. Richardson and Miss Martha Goodwin united their lives and fortunes in August, 1828, and have had a peaceful and happy wedded life of more than three-score years. Mrs. Richardson's parents were Joseph and Olive (Hatsell) Goodwin, natives respectively of New Hampshire and Vermont. They married and settled in New York State, where they resided until death closed their mortal career, she dying in 1828, and he dying some years afterward. They had a family of nine children, two of whom are now living. Mrs. Richardson was born November 15, 1810, in New York. She is the mother of nine children, six of whom are now living—William, Levi, Hiram, Alfred, Mary and Franklin. William, a lawyer, married Addis Westcott, and they make their home in Kankakee City, and have one child; Levi, a resident of Troopois, married Laura Cosett, and they have three



children; Hiram is a lawyer in Kankakee; Mary is the wife of Henry Kahler, of Florence Township, and they have eight children. Their son Lewis and daughter Olive are deceased, the former dying in Dakota. One son, Joseph W., gave up his life for his country in the late war. He was First-Lieutenant in the Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry, was a brave and efficient officer, and his death, November 17, 1861, of typhoid fever, at Williamsport, Md., where he lies buried, was a loss to the service. Two of their sons manage the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Richardson have led useful lives, whose record entitles them to the great respect and affection in which they are held by all. In their labors they have not been too busy to be unmindful of their duties to others, and in their thoughtful kindness they have often extended help and sympathy to the needy and afflicted. Mr. Richardson has been School Director for years, and for twenty three years has acted as Justice of the Peace. He has taken but little part in politics, but the last few years has given his support to the Republican party.



**C**HARLES CLEMENT WILCOX, City and Town Clerk of Joliet, was born June 2, 1861, being a son of Edmund and Sarah M. (Green) Wilcox. On another page of this volume will be found a biographical notice of his father, from which the ancestry may be learned. Suffice it say in this connection that no more honorable family is known in Joliet than that from which our subject sprang. Young Wilcox was educated in the Joliet High School, and began his business career at the age of eighteen years, finding his first employment with G. Monroe & Sons, wholesale and retail grocers, with whom he remained two years. The three succeeding years he spent in connection with Wilcox Brothers, dealers in lumber, and while in this connection he established a trade in carriages, from which has grown a depository whose attractions draw a colossal trade.

In 1881 Mr. Wilcox became a member of the firm of Smith & Wilcox, jobbers in oil. For a

brief period the energetic young man was with a Chicago firm. He was then brought before the people as a candidate for Collector of Internal Revenue, and after a vigorous contest, in which his opponents were some of the most popular men in the district, he received the votes which placed him in office. At the end of two years he turned over his books to his successor with an unsurpassed record for efficiency and honesty in the duties connected with his public trust. In the spring of 1889 he was elected City and Town Clerk against a strong opposition, his majority being two hundred and eighty-four. In the city his majority was five hundred. The spring election of 1890 found him so strongly entrenched in the confidence of the people that no opposition was offered to his re-election as Town Clerk.

The handsome West Side residence of Mr. Wilcox is presided over by a charming lady of high culture and estimable character. She was formerly known as Miss Ida M. Weeks, is a daughter of George Weeks, Esq., of this city, and a niece of Judge Weeks. She became the wife of our subject in the fall of 1882, the fruit of the union being a beautiful daughter, now about fifteen months old, who has been christened Evalene. Mr. Wilcox is a Democrat of the best type, and a total abstainer from intoxicants of all kinds. He abounds with life and energy, and bids fair to reach a still higher place in business and political circles than that to which he has already attained.



**D**AVID FRY. The fine farming country embraced in Wheatland Township has ever been an attraction to the eye of the solid, practical farmer and stock-raiser, and fortunate is he considered who owns one of the rich, finely improved farms that may be seen on every hand. The subject of this biographical review is the fortunate owner of one of these, his fine farm lying on section 27.

Mr. Fry is a native of Wayne County, Ohio, born December 7, 1850. He is a son of Jacob and Catherine Fry. His mother departed this life in

the month of February, 1886, at a ripe old age. His father is now in his seventy-fourth year. Both he and his wife were natives of Pennsylvania, and were pioneers of this county, coming here in 1853. They became early settlers of Wheatland Township. Six children were born of their marriage, of whom the following four are living: Jacob, Zachariah, Martin and David. Mr. Fry is a sturdy supporter of the Democratic party, and religiously, he is connected with the Lutheran Church as one of its most faithful members. He has sought in whatever way he could to advance the moral, educational and material interests of the township. He is a man of some education and has a good command of both the English and German languages.

David Fry, of this sketch, was scarcely three years of age when his parents brought him to this county, and here he was reared and educated, attending the local district school in Wheatland. He has devoted his time principally to agricultural pursuits, and occupies an honorable place among the farmers and stock-raisers of the community.

Mr. Fry was married the first time, in 1871, to Miss Amelia Fraunhoof. The maiden name of his present wife to whom he was united December 19, 1873, was Maria Bupp. Of their pleasant wedded life five children have been born: Katie M., George J., Martin, William and Samuel D.

Our subject possesses many sterling traits of character that make him worthy of the esteem that is accorded him as a man and a citizen. He is industrious, shrewd and thrifty, and has managed his affairs wisely so that he now has a goodly bit of property. In him the Democratic party finds a zealous follower. Religiously, he is identified with the Lutheran Church as one of its leading members.



**J**ACOB SOLTERMAN. If a man's true character may be determined by the opinion of those around him, that of Mr. Solterman is irreproachable. By his habits of industry and prudence he has built up a good home for himself and family and acquired a competence for

his declining years. He is progressive in his ideas, liberal and public-spirited, and is blessed with an intelligent family, his wife being a most estimable and worthy lady and his children unusually bright and interesting. In noting his surroundings and the respect in which he is held in this community, it must be admitted that he is in the possession of a large share of all that makes life desirable.

A native of the Province of Alsace, then belonging to France, but now to Germany, Mr. Solterman was born October 15, 1820, and is the elder of two children, the offspring of Joseph and Anna M. (Gertzler) Solterman, who were likewise natives of that Province. They emigrated to America about 1828, and settled in Erie County, N. Y., where they spent the remainder of their days. Jacob lived with his parents until 1838 and then sought his fortune in the Prairie State, settling on the canal, and being employed on the canal for about three years. Later, he engaged in farming near Palos, Ill., where he made his home until 1850. The California gold excitement then drew him to the Pacific Coast, and locating there, he was engaged in mining for about seven years.

Upon coming back to Illinois, Mr. Solterman commenced farming on the land which he had purchased in 1853, returning in the meantime partly for this purpose and partly with the object of taking into himself a wife and helpmate. This latter was accomplished January 3, that year, the bride being Miss Mary E., daughter of Richard and Jane M. (Wilson) McCaloughary. Afterward he returned to California, where he remained until 1857, then came back to Homer Township and gave his undivided attention to the development of his farm. This comprises two hundred and fifteen acres of good land, which through the careful management of the proprietor has become valuable.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born nine children, viz: Jane, who died at the age of nine and one-half years; Charles H., Delos C., Matthew S., Mary E., Melissa, Catherine A.; Jacob, who died when about two years old, and Clara F. Mr. Solterman affiliates with the Democratic party. He does not seek public office, but prefers to confine his attention to his farming in-





Truly Yours  
E. L. Stevens

terests, avoiding the responsibilities of office, although he is ever ready to give his time and attention to those projects calculated for the general good of the community.

Mrs. Solterman was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., August 5, 1833. Her parents were also natives of that State. The father died in Palos, Ill., about 1855. The mother subsequently came to Homer Township, where her death took place in 1858.



**E**LIAS L. STEVENS. The rural districts of Illinois are dotted with attractive homes, which in architectural design, neat and tasteful surroundings, and thrifty management are models of comfort and homelikeness. One of this class is located just outside the limits of the flourishing city of Joliet, and was for some years the home of the recently deceased Elias L. Stevens, that gentleman, as a contractor and builder, was capable of designing a dwelling which combined an attractive exterior and a convenient interior, while his wife possessed the housewifely skill and prudence without parsimoniousness, that insured to its inmates all the comforts of life in a true home.

The natal day of Mr. Stevens was April 28, 1828, and his birthplace Saratoga County, N. Y. When about twelve years of age he went to Massachusetts, in which State he grew to manhood, and completed his education. In Sturbridge he wooed and won for his wife Miss Pamela Childs, of that place, where their marriage was celebrated, he having first made her acquaintance in Holyoke, Mass, where he learned his trade. In a short time however, they removed to Wisconsin, locating in the vicinity of Kilbourne, where Mr. Stevens engaged in farming. The breaking out of the Civil War, roused him from the peaceful pursuits of that occupation to a desire to assist in upholding the Union, and he left his home for a life on the tented field.

The name of Elias L. Stevens was placed upon the muster-roll of Company E, Twelfth Wisconsin Infantry, and until the cruel war was over he served faithfully and gallantly, patiently enduring

the hardships of campaign life and the separation from those he loved. When his services were no longer needed by his country in contest with her enemies, he returned to his home and to civil life. Ere long he removed to the Prairie State, some time being spent in Morris and Henry, and then a settlement being made in Joliet.

A residence was erected by Mr. Stevens on Union Street, which was his home for several years, and until his removal to the beautiful place before mentioned, outside the city limits. He engaged as a contractor on the Rock Island Railroad, afterward taking other contracts and continued in that line of business until his death. He erected several blocks in Joliet, among them being the Stevens Block on Chicago Street. Besides attending to many large contracts on the Rock Island Road, Mr. Stevens found time to attend to a few large contracts for masonry on other railroads. In the fall of 1883, in partnership with George Alexander, of Blue Island, he contracted to build seven immense piers for a bridge over the Ohio River at Louisville, Ky., for the Chicago, Louisville & New Albany Railroad Company. The average height of the piers was one hundred and fifteen feet, and it required seventeen thousand cubic yards of solid masonry. The great floods in the spring of 1884 interfered with the work somewhat, but in 1885 it was completed. The cost of the masonry alone was \$300,000. Subsequently Mr. Stevens had large contracts for changing the tracks and rebuilding the bridges on the Rock Island Road. These contracts extended from the main line to many branches, and cost the company nearly half a million dollars. He secured the respect and esteem of his neighbors and fellow-citizens, his dealings with mankind ever being honorable and straightforward, and his personal habits such as to entitle him to their good opinion. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and the B. M. A., of Joliet. The loss which his own family suffered when he was called hence, September 11, 1889, can only be estimated by those who have had a similar bereavement.

Mrs. Pamela Stevens died at their home in Joliet, in March, 1876, leaving a daughter, Jessie F., who is the wife of A. C. Dillman. In 1880, the

widower contracted a second alliance, celebrating, in Joliet, his marriage to Mrs. Frances Learnard, a sister of his first wife. This lady was born in Sturbridge, Mass., and was married, in Brookfield, to Walter Learnard, who was also a native of the old Bay State. The union resulted in the birth of one son, Guy M., who is now a book-keeper for the Joliet Stone Company. In 1876, Mrs. Learnard left her Eastern home, and a few years later became the wife of our subject, to whom she bore one son, Roland E. Mrs. Stevens still occupies the home in which her lately deceased husband died. She possesses more than ordinary intelligence, is amiable and companionable, and in the management of household and business affairs displays the prudence which might be expected of one born and bred in New England. She has many friends, in whose companionship she finds relief from the sorrows and cares of life, though her chief delight is in the rearing of her young son, and the society of the older members of her family.

A portrait of the late Mr. Stevens appears in connection with this sketch.



**WILLIAM STELLWAGEN.** One of the most attractive locations in Green Garden Township is occupied by the farm of the gentleman above named. The mistaken townsman who believes that country life is devoid of attractions will find conclusive proof to the contrary on this estate, which is beautiful to behold, the source of a fine income, and the scene of a happy home life.

Philip Stellwagen, a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and a shoemaker by trade, came to America in 1810. He found employment in the Keystone State and practiced frugality until he had saved money enough to bring his family to this country, when he returned to his native land for them. Again crossing the broad Atlantic, he located in Wilkesbarre, Pa., in 1812, and spent two years at his trade. He then started out to buy land in the West, thinking to make Wisconsin his

future home, but when he reached Northern Illinois he was so well pleased with the country that he determined to locate here. His journey had been made with a team and he had, therefore, been able to form wise conclusions regarding the country through which he passed.

Buying eighty acres of Government land in Frankfort Township, this county, Mr. Stellwagen put up a log house and, as fast as possible, made other improvements on the place. He was successful in the new career in which he had embarked and accumulated two hundred and forty acres, which he operated until his death, November 20, 1889, when he was nearly eighty-five years old. He was strong in his belief in the principles of Democracy, and was an equally devoted member of the Evangelical Church. He was twice married, his first wife being Emily Jacob, a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, who died in Frankfort Township in 1846. She was the mother of four children, viz: Mathias, who died in 1888; Jacob, whose home is in South Englewood, Cook County; William, of whom we write; and Philip, a harness-maker at Mokena. The second marriage of Philip Stellwagen resulted in the birth of two sons—Henry and Adam, both now deceased.

The gentleman whose life history forms the subject of these brief paragraphs was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, December 13, 1838. He has no recollection of the land of his birth, as he left it in the spring of 1842, sailing with his parents from Bremen to the United States. Eleven weeks were spent upon the ocean, but the tediousness of the voyage made no impression upon the little lad. During the two years in which the family remained in Pennsylvania he spent some little time in school. The journey to their Western home being made with teams and the party camping out every night, it was almost a continual picnic to the boy, who enjoyed the out-door life and continual change of scene as only careless childhood can. In crossing the mountains eight days were consumed in making the ascent, and seven weeks of travel covered eleven hundred miles on their journey.

The new home was in the midst of a wild prairie, twelve miles from the nearest house, and deer

and wolves were abundant and rattlesnakes plentiful. Our subject hunted some and was early set to work on the farm, also attending school as soon as one was opened in the old-fashioned log school-house which was at that time the temple of learning. He learned to drive oxen, five yoke of which were attached to the breaking plow, and by means of which also goods were hauled to and from Chicago and Joliet, which were the market towns.

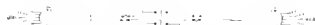
Mr. Stellwagen remained an inmate of the parental home, working for his father, until he was twenty-seven years old, when he set up his own household in Rockville Township on a rented farm. For two years he operated four hundred acres of land, raising both grain and stock, and then purchased eighty acres in the northeastern corner of Frankfort Township. Upon that farm he remained until 1872, at which time he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of partly-improved land, which forms a portion of his present estate. Here he continued the improvement which had been begun by breaking the virgin soil, and ere long added one hundred and twenty acres adjoining, making up the amount which he now owns and operates.

The estate includes eighty acres on section 21, eighty acres on section 20, and one hundred and twenty acres on section 16, all tillable land. It has been tiled wherever under drainage would be beneficial and is fenced with wire and hedge, the latter being kept neatly trimmed, and so adding to the beauty of the land. Mr. Stellwagen has set out groves and orchards, has erected a cozy and attractive dwelling, and a barn, 70x36 feet, together with other adequate outbuildings, and he has likewise put up a windmill and tank, by means of which water is conveyed wherever it is needed. The principal crops which he raises are corn and oats, and his stock includes high-grade cattle, roadsters and draft horses. Of the latter he generally has from twenty to thirty head, while three teams are needful to carry on the work of the estate.

The estimable woman who presides over the household economy of our subject was known in her maidenhood as Miss Louisa Neckrauer. She was born in Bayren, Germany, and came to America with her parents in 1816. Her father, Jacob

Neckrauer, is a shoemaker, who worked at his trade in his own land, and in Frankfort Township, this county, but in later years engaged in farming. He is now living at Frankfort. The wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Stellwagen took place at the bride's home, March 25, 1865, and their happily married life has therefore extended over a quarter of a century. They are the parents of two children—Philip, who still remains at home, and Katie, who married G. J. Lanckman, a farmer in Green Garden Township.

Mr. Stellwagen has been School Trustee for the township and is now Director of his district. He is independent in politics, voting for the best man or for the principle which, in his judgment, is the prominent issue during any campaign. He has served on both grand and petit juries, where his intelligent understanding of the cases presented and his keen sense of right and justice make him useful. He belongs to the Evangelical Church, at Frankfort, and by the other members of the congregation, as well as by the citizens in general, he is respected as his good qualities deserve.



**J**AMES FELL, Postmaster at Green Garden, is a substantial and enterprising farmer, whose estate on section 30, bears every mark of careful and intelligent tillage and constant improvement. The farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of tillable land which is divided into convenient fields by well-kept hedge and other fencing, and which is supplied with a full set of farm buildings and a comfortable residence. The land is fertilized by living water and both grain and stock are raised to advantage. Probably the most noticeable feature of the estate is the garden in which the owner takes great delight and which is by far the finest and best kept in the township. It has proved the source of a considerable revenue since this branch of horticulture was undertaken by Mr. Fell. A fine, large orchard also adds to the value of the farm.

Appleby, Lincolnshire, England, was the birth-place of our subject and also of his father, John

Fell, who was a farm laborer. The latter was twice married, his second wife being Mary Houst, a native of the same shire and daughter of Jonathan Houst, a shoemaker in Ludington. The mother of our subject died in England and the father was brought to Canada by his son, breathing his last in the Dominion in 1860 when three-score and ten years old. Of the children born to this worthy couple he of whom we write is the only survivor. Jonathan, John and Mary A. are deceased.

The natal day of James Fell was September 8, 1826. He was reared in his native village with but limited school advantages which consisted of an uncertain attendance during some three years. The English Testament was his reading book. When eight years old he began the labors of life by being employed to keep sparrows and other birds out of grain fields. He received seventy-five cents per week for his labor, and as he grew older took up farm pursuits, boarding at home until thirteen years old, when he hired out by the year.

The opportunities afforded a farm laborer in England were not sufficient to satisfy the ambition of young Fell, and he determined to emigrate to America, hoping to better his condition. He was twenty-four years of age when, in April, 1851, he left Hull on the sailer "Meteor." Smallpox broke out on the vessel and upon reaching Quebec it was quarantined a week. Mr. Fell had had the disease, but in a very light form, and as soon as a landing could be made he was able to begin work. He labored at different occupations in Canada and in Rochester, N. Y., for some time, among his employments being that of a tenant for a store-keeper. In 1853 he removed to Chatham, County Kent, on the shores of Lake Erie, where he operated a farm for eleven years. Following this were various means of gaining a livelihood until March 9, 1866, when he located near Joliet, Ill.

There Mr. Fell operated a rented farm a year, after which he bought forty acres in Green Township, section 19, and putting up a small house made it his place of abode. He cultivated his own land and rented adjoining acres several years, finally purchasing eighty acres of his present estate. This was improved land to which he subsequently added

eighty acres adjoining, bringing up his landed estate to two hundred acres, from which he subsequently sold forty.

Six years since Mr. Fell received the appointment of Postmaster, and he is still the incumbent of the office. For three years he proved his efficiency as a School Director. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in the ranks of the Democratic party he is ever found ready to cast his vote for its candidates. He has served on the grand and petit juries. As a citizen, interested in the true welfare of the community, as a farmer of energy and progressive ideas, and as a man of high principle, he is alike respected by those who enjoy his acquaintance.

The lady who presides over the pleasant home of Mr. Fell was born in Gresby, Lincolnshire, May 11, 1829, and bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Ramthorp. The ceremony which made her Mrs. Fell was performed in England, January 21, 1851. The happy union has been blest by the birth of nine children, of whom we note the following: John and Robert each operate eighty acres of land in Manhattan Township, this county, the former making his home in the village; Thomas is farming at Blue Hill, Neb.; George is working out in the same State; James, Jr., is assistant Postmaster under his father; Edward resides at home and operates the farm; Mary A., married Cornelius Fennick, a farmer in Nebraska; Odessa is the wife of Dr. Goodrich, of Peotone; Ann still remains under the parental roof.



**M**UNGO PATTERSON is a typical representative of the hardy, industrious, intelligent Scotch pioneers of Will County who have been so useful in developing its rich agricultural resources. Coming here in the early days of the settlement of Wheatland Township, he identified himself with its farmers and stock-raisers, and is still living on the farm he then bought from the Government when it was a tract of wild land.

Mr. Patterson was born in Dumfriesshire, Scot-



land, September 22, 1814. He was a son of John and Jane (Hall) Patterson, natives of Scotland. He is the oldest son of his father's family and has two brothers, James and Daniel, living in Wheatland Township. Our subject passed his early life on his native heath and gained his education in the local school. In 1841, desiring to make more of life than he could in the land of his birth, he emigrated to America, taking passage at Liverpool, and after an ocean voyage of six weeks landed in the great metropolis of this country. From there he proceeded to Wayne County, N. Y., where he spent the ensuing years until the spring of 1844, when he made his way to Illinois. He came to this county and bought one hundred and twenty acres of land from the Government, paying therefor \$1.25 per acre. He settled on it before there was a furrow turned or any improvements had been made. It took many years of hard and persistent labor to bring it to its present fine condition, with its well-tilled fields and ample buildings, and all things necessary for its successful management. He has added to its acreage, and it now contains one hundred and ninety acres of valuable land.

Mr. Patterson was married in the State of New York, in 1842, taking unto himself for a wife Miss Agnes Clow, who was, like himself, born in Scotland. Her father, Robert Clow, was an early settler of Wheatland Township. By his marriage our subject became the father of six children, of whom the following five are still living: John, in Indiana; Robert, in Du Page Township; Sarah, wife of Robert Wightman, in Wheatland Township; William, in Du Page Township, and Adam, in Wheatland Township.

In January, 1890, Mr. Patterson met with a great loss in the death of his wife, who had been his devoted wife and companion for nearly half a century. She was a woman of high character, whose great kindness of heart and other sterling qualities gained her the warm affection and the sincere respect of all who came in contact with her, and many mourn the loss of that lovable woman.

Mr. Patterson has not been an idle spectator in watching the growth of the county, but has done his full share of the pioneer labors necessary to

redeem it from the hand of Nature. The weary days of toil, privation and hardship that he then endured long ago came to an end, and now, in the decline of life, he is reaping his reward in the comfortable home that he has established and in the enjoyment of the ample competence that his shrewd management of his interests has brought him. He inherited in a large degree the excellent traits of character for which the Scotch are noted, and these have made him a good citizen, and a kind neighbor, and have made his domestic relations felicitous. A truly religious man, whose life is an exemplification of his Christian views, he is a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church and is esteemed by all who know him. Mr. Patterson has served as a School Director and has done what he could, in various ways, to promote the educational, moral and material well-being of Wheatland Township. In his political views he is a staunch Republican and has long affiliated with that party.



WILLARD WOOD, founder of Crete, bears the distinction of being one of the oldest settlers in this part of Will County. He came to this region about 1836, and first secured the southeast eighty acres on section 8, and the southwest eighty acres on section 9, which is now all included in the village limits and he likewise purchased other land. He encouraged people to emigrate hither by free donations to private parties and gave a lot to the Methodist Episcopal and the Congregational Churches, besides assisting in erecting the church buildings. He has been interested in the growth and development of the town since its organization and has proven no unimportant factor in promoting its material interests.

Mr. Wood assisted in building the first school-house in Crete Township, and officiated as the first pedagogue in this township, in the year 1838. He served as a Justice of the Peace from 1838 until sometime in the '50s and has been for the last four years a Police Justice, serving as such since the incorporation of the town in 1884. For fifty years he has been an attorney-at-law, being ad-

mitted to practice in Illinois, at Joliet, about forty-seven years ago. He was for a number of years the Postmaster of Crete, receiving his first appointment through the influence of the late Long John Wentworth, of Chicago, who was then serving his first term in Congress.

About 1818 Mr. Wood erected the Crete Hotel, which was the first frame building of its kind in the place and the first public house in this part of the county. Within it he had a public hall in which at the opening of the house were entertained many of the notable men of Chicago, including Henry B. Clark, also Col. Fake, Dr. Allen and Robert Duncan of Joliet, together with their wives. The original hotel was later supplanted by the present one, which, with the exception of a few years, has also been conducted by Mr. Wood and is located on land which he purchased from the Government in 1838. At that time he was without means, and secured the land through the kindness of Mr. Charles Walker, a merchant of Chicago, to whom he paid 33 1/3 per cent. interest for three years. He has since owned considerable land in Crete Township, and has now one hundred acres besides property in the village.

The summer of 1836 witnessed the first advent of Mr. Wood into Will County, to which he emigrated from Morristown, Vt., where he was partly reared and obtained his education. He studied law and taught school about five terms before his marriage. His native place was in Randolph, Vt., and the date of his birth August 28, 1808. He is therefore approaching the eighty-second year of his age. He comes of staunch New England stock and ancestry, being the son of Thomas Wood, a native of Massachusetts. His paternal grandfather, also named Thomas Wood, was born in Vermont, and came of English ancestry. He followed farming all his life and died at Randolph at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

Thomas Wood Jr., the father of our subject, grew to manhood in the Green Mountain State and after attaining his majority engaged in farming on his own account. Upon the outbreak of the War of 1812, he was one of the first patriots to enlist for a service of five years, if necessary, and he participated in many a hard-fought battle. About

the close of the war, while in the Burlington Barracks at Colchester, Vt., he contracted a fever from which he died in 1815. He was then in the prime of life, only about forty-three years old and presented a fine specimen of manhood both physically and mentally. By trade he was a blacksmith and worked at this in and around Middlebury, Vt., in partnership with a Mr. Denison.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Ruby Newland. She was a native of Massachusetts and after the decease of her husband was married to John Moxley and they settled in Morristown, Vt., where Mr. Moxley died at the age of sixty-seven years. He served as Quartermaster in a Connecticut Regiment during the Revolutionary War. By trade he was a tailor, which he followed before entering and after leaving the army. After his death Mrs. Moxley came to Illinois with her son Charles, and died at his home in Will County after attaining her three-score and ten years. Like Mr. Moxley she was a Universalist in religious belief.

The subject of this notice was the youngest but one of five sons and one daughter. He and his younger brother, Charles, the latter of Faribault, Minn., are the only survivors of the family. William was first married in Morristown, Vt., May 4, 1845, to Miss Diantha S. Boardman, a sister of the late Judge Boardman, formerly of Joliet. Mrs. Wood was of New England parentage and ancestry and English descent. She was born, reared and educated in Morristown, Vt., and for several terms was a teacher in the public schools of her native county. For a time during the earlier years of their acquaintance, she was a pupil of her husband. She accompanied him to Illinois and assisted him in gaining a foothold remaining his faithful and devoted companion until her death. This occurred at her home in Crete, in 1865, when she was fifty-four years old, having been born in 1811. Her brother, Judge Boardman, also died at the home of Mr. Wood, his decease taking place after that of his sister.

Mrs. Diantha Wood was the mother of seven children, all of whom are living, married and have families. Sabina D. is the wife of Robert B. Miller and they live on a farm in Crete Township;

Fidelia L. married Daniel E. Hewes, a Justice of the Peace and Notary Public of Crete; Lydia M. is the wife of Congressman Charles A. Hill, of Joliet, representing the Eighth District; Marian is the wife of A. H. Smith and they live on a farm in Crete Township; Williard S. married Miss Molly Moore, a fruit grower of Glendora, Cal.; William Irwin married Miss Elvia Hewes, the present proprietor of the Wood Hotel at Crete; Marcus M. married Miss Jessie Wood and is clerk and correspondent for an engine and mining machinery manufacturing company in Chicago.

In 1869, Mr. Wood contracted a second marriage, in Batavia, N. Y., with Mrs. Eliza (Selleck) Northrup, widow of Normal Northrup, who died in Monee, where he was engaged in trade. Mrs. Eliza Wood was born in Connecticut. She grew to womanhood in her native place acquiring a common-school education and was there married to Mr. Northrup. The two children born of that union are both deceased. This lady died at her home in Crete when nearly seventy-five years old. In religion she was a Universalist, belonging to the Church at Blue Island. Mr. Wood is liberal in his religious views and in politics an uncompromising Democrat. He preserves his faculties in a remarkable degree, being able to read without the aid of glasses and being remarkably bright and active for one of his years. He takes pride in the fact that he has twenty-three grand-children and two great-grandchildren.

**P**ETER W. SPANGLER, is prosperously engaged in the livery business in Plainfield. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born at Centre Hill, Centre County, April 4, 1836. His father, John Spangler, was a native of the same county, while his grandfather, Peter S. Spangler, is thought to have been born in Lancaster County, in the same state, and was reared, married and spent his entire life in the Keystone State. The father of our subject was reared to farming but afterwards learned the trade of cabinet making, which he did not follow long, however, but

went back to his first vocation, buying a farm after his marriage, at Centre Hill. He resided there till 1816, when he emigrated to Illinois with wife and twelve children, coming overland with a pair of horses and a wagon and a carriage drawn by one horse, the journey consuming three weeks and three days. Mr. Spangler had been here before prospecting, and had bought two farms located in Plainfield Township, the one on which he settled being well-improved, and provided with good buildings. There were no railways in Illinois at that time, and Chicago was the nearest market. He lived on his farm some years and then retired to Joliet, where he resided till his death, he having accumulated an ample competence that sufficed for all his wants. The maiden name of his wife was Catherine Stemm, and she was born in Centre County, Pa., and was a daughter of Adam Stemm, a native of the same state. She died on the home farm some years before her husband. They reared a family of fourteen children, nine sons and five daughters.

Peter Spangler was ten years old when he came to this country with his parents, and he was here reared to agricultural pursuits. At eighteen years of age he commenced to learn the trade of a plasterer at Plainfield, and worked at that here for a time, and was then engaged at it in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for a while. He returned to Plainfield before the war, and joined a company of light infantry, which was sent to Cairo by the governor at the first call for troops, and was there mustered into service as Co. K, 10th Illinois Battery. Our subject proved that he had good soldierly qualities, and he did faithful service in defense of the Union during the three months that he was in the army, that being the length of the term of enlistment of his regiment. At the close of that time he was obliged to abandon military life on account of ill health, and for nearly two years thereafter he was unable to do any manual labor. He subsequently resumed his trade, which he soon gave up to give his attention to farming, and was thus engaged in farming on his father's farm during the following five years. At the end of that time he returned to Plainfield, and three years later entered upon his present business as the keeper of a livery stable and a trader in

horses, his dealings extending to all points between here and Chicago. He has quite an aptitude for this calling, being a good judge of horse flesh, and possessing the requisite shrewdness and sagacity necessary for the business. His livery stable is well managed and well patronized.

Mr. Spangler has had the good fortune to secure a good wife, whose maiden name was Mary Lee, and to whom he was united in marriage in 1870. Two children complete their household circle, Roy and Merton.

Mr. Spangler is a sturdy Democrat in politics; socially, he is identified with the A. F. & A. M., as a member of Plainfield Lodge, No. 536. He possesses good business qualifications, is enterprising, and knows how to conduct his transactions to the best advantage. He is kind hearted and generous, ever ready to do a favor, and is well-liked by his neighbors.



**N**ATHANIEL BARNES. In all the broad expanse of the Mississippi Valley, no finer farms can be found than the Prairie State can boast. The agriculturists of this State are generally men of unbounded energy and good judgment, under whose careful management, the fertile soil yields abundantly of golden grain and various fruits in their season. In this county, Joliet Township is not behind other sections in attractive and remunerative farms. One of these is owned and occupied by the subject of this sketch and comprises one hundred and sixty acres on section 34.

In the Empire State many years ago a babe was born, who grew to womanhood bearing the name of Rachael McGinnis. In the neighboring State of Connecticut was born and reared Isaac Barnes, who met and married the worthy young woman, making a home in Rockland County, N. Y., where they reared a family of twelve children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the sixth.

The gentleman of whom we write was born in Haverstraw, in the county above mentioned, June 18, 1818. He grew to manhood on his father's

farm, early becoming thoroughly acquainted with the details of agricultural life and the enterprises connected therewith, and assisting as his strength would permit in the work of the home. He also obtained a good practical knowledge of the more important branches of education. Two years were spent by him in the State of Virginia, but with this exception he continued to make his home upon the parental estate until he was thirty years of age. During this time he was engaged in farming and stock dealing, and for nine years in the butchering business.

In the spring of 1858, Mr. Barnes turned his footsteps westward and reaching this country, purchased a farm and identified himself with the citizens of Illinois. Here he has since lived, successfully carrying on his chosen work and while securing to his family the comforts of life laying the foundation for ease in his declining years. His farm contains all the improvements which mark the homes of the better class of farmers, the buildings comprising a full set of adequate and substantial structures, and a good supply of improved machinery and implements being found in use thereon.

An important step in the life of our subject was taken in Westchester County, N. Y., October 1, 1849, when he led to the nuptial altar Miss Mary E. Thiell. This lady was born in Rockland County in 1829, and is a daughter of Jacob and Susan (VonBuskirk) Thiell, who were natives of the same county, where the father died. The mother breathed her last in Newburg, Orange County. Mrs. Barnes is a woman of exceptionally fine character, strong, tender, and true, "whom to know is a liberal education." She has been an able assistant to her husband, by her wise economy and prudent management aiding in the accumulation of their present means, while to her children she has been a devoted mother, rearing them to useful and honorable lives. The affairs of her own household have not taken her entire thought, but she has been ready for neighborly deeds of kindness and sympathizing interest in all worthy movements.

To Mr. and Mrs. Barnes ten children have been born, of whom George Julian, Rosalia, Grace, Nathaniel Jr., Lizzie, John and Blanche are yet

living; Emily A., Isaac and Edward are deceased. In politics Mr. Barns is a Democrat and to the party of his choice he never fails to give his vote and personal influence. He has held the offices of School Director and Assistant Supervisor, faithfully discharging the duties imposed upon him, and manifesting a deep interest in the public welfare. As a good farmer, a reliable citizen, and an honorable man, he is regarded with respect by his fellow-men, particularly in this section where so many years of his life have been spent and where he is so well known.



**C**HARLES RUGE. Although the life of a farmer may be devoid of the excitement and many of the hazards of city life, it is a field for the exercise of as high a degree of tact, keenness of judgment, and foresight as any pursuit in which man can engage. The sight of "green things growing," which he has sown and cultivated, affords a pleasurable sensation, to which is added the knowledge that sustenance is at hand whatever limits may be furnished by "corners" of speculators, to the price the agriculturist receives for that which has cost him so much labor.

The gentleman with whose name this sketch is introduced is a Prussian by birth and ancestry. His father, Christ Ruge, died at the age of sixty years from overwork while cradling grain, the sad event occurring when our subject was nine years of age. The widowed mother, formerly Miss Christina Trouf, followed her son to America four years after his arrival on the shores of the New World, and died in Chicago, Ill., at the age of eighty-three years. She belonged to the Lutheran Church.

The natal day of Charles Ruge was September 2, 1829, and he is the youngest of the four children, comprising the parental family. He was reared and educated in his native land of Prussia, and when twenty-four years old left it to seek a broader field for his energies in the United States. He took passage at Hamburg on the "New Dover," a sailing-vessel, which anchored in New York Har-

bor, after an ocean voyage of five weeks and three days. He at once came to Chicago, Ill., where he landed \$5 in debt, but filled with the determined spirit which has secured for him a comfortable fortune.

Mr. Ruge secured work in Du Page County as a farm laborer, and four years after his arrival there took a companion and set up housekeeping on rented property. He farmed as a renter five years in Bloomingdale Township, after which he removed to Will County, and purchasing one hundred and twenty acres of land in Washington Township, began his well-directed efforts to secure a home and fortune. By subsequent purchase he added eighty acres to his landed estate, which is located on sections 35 and 36, and now has two good sets of buildings upon it. His efforts were ably seconded by his wife, and with her assistance and that of the family in later years, Mr. Ruge has succeeded in making a fine farm. His pleasant dwelling is situated on section 35, and is supplied with an abundance of good cheer.

The lady who presides over the domestic economy bore the name of Minnie Zerzow. She was born in Prussia, April 9, 1810, and is a daughter of Fried and Friedrich (Wagner) Zerzow, who were natives of the same Kingdom as the daughter. The father served his country as a soldier for some time, and died when but thirty-five years of age from disease contracted while in the army. Mrs. Ruge, who was the youngest child, was a year old at the time of her father's decease. She obtained a good education prior to her eighteenth year, when she bade adieu to her native land and set forth alone to gain a maintenance in America. Leaving Hamburg in November, 1857, she landed in New York City after a long sea voyage on the "Louis Napoleon," and at once came to Chicago and secured employment as a domestic.

Mr. and Mrs. Ruge are the parents of thirteen children, whose record is as follows: Henry, Robert and John died in childhood; Charles, who married Carrie Grabe, is a clerk in a grocery store in Chicago; Eva is the wife of Herman Hack, who lives on a farm in Iroquois County; Herman, who operates a part of his father's farm, married Anna Meyer; Bertha married Henry Meyer and they

live on a farm in Lake County, Ind.; William clerks in a dry-goods store in Chicago, his wife having borne the maiden name of Dora Meyer; Alvina is the wife of Otto Knuth, a machinist in Chicago; Emma and Minnie, twins, also live in Chicago; Henry and Amel are at home.

In his political views and in the casting of his vote Mr. Ruge is strictly independent. He and his wife belong to the Evangelical Church of North America. They have the respect of their acquaintances for the industry and good principles which have characterized their lives and the kindness they manifest toward mankind.



**C**ONRAD C. BRAUN, now deceased, was born in Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany, January 17, 1835, and in his native land was reared to manhood. From his father he learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed until he came to America in 1856. His first sojourn was made in Buffalo, N. Y., where he remained but a short time ere removing to Milwaukee, Wis., in which city he was employed at the marble works about a year. He then came to Joliet, Ill., where he continued the same occupation for a time as an employe and then engaged in the marble business on his own account, following it about ten years. He next became foreman in the stone shops at the penitentiary, holding the position four years.

We next find Mr. Braun in the employ of the Solar Stove Works for two years as an ornamental pattern maker. His next enterprise was the purchase of the Chicago House and the employment of his faculties as the landlord of that hostelry which he conducted four years. He then bought a tract of land just east of Joliet upon which he started a grapery. From that time until his death, which occurred May 2, 1888, he was engaged in viticulture. He met with a marked degree of success in the business to which he devoted his later years and owned one of the most beautiful graperies to be seen in a large extent of territory. It affords a charming feature in the landscape during the summer season and when the vines are loaded

with their rich fruit. It is near Oakwood Cemetery, on land well adapted for the purpose, and pleasantly located.

The first wife of Mr. Braun was Helen, daughter of Andrew Smith. She was the mother of three children but one of whom is living. This is a son, George C., who is engaged in the marble business in St. Louis, Mo. Mrs. Helen Braun died in Joliet, May 18, 1861. Mr. Braun contracted a second matrimonial alliance, marrying Miss Catherine Bactemuller who died in Joliet, October 1, 1864.

Mr. Braun was again married, in Joliet, the ceremony taking place December 8, 1864, and the bride being Mrs. Antonia (Sartori) Mutz. This lady was born in Baden, Germany, on New Year's Day, 1829, and at the time of her marriage to our subject, was the widow of Hugo Mutz. Her first marriage resulted in the birth of five children, the only one now living being Josephine, who is the wife of William Kuhn. To her second husband Mrs. Braun bore three children—Rudolph L., Nettie M., and Conrad M.; Nettie is now the wife of Christian Pasold. Since the death of Mr. Braun the widow and her eldest son have taken charge of the place, and are successfully carrying on the enterprise begun by our subject.



**H**ARMAN DEUTSCHMAN. There are many rural homes in Will County so attractive that they clearly disprove the idea held by some residents of cities, that farm life is surrounded only by what is rude, uncultivated and unpleasing. The estate of the gentleman who is the subject of this brief sketch, is one of these well regulated farms, upon which a complete line of improvements is to be seen, the buildings being first class in style and construction, and sufficiently numerous to fill all the wants of the owner. The home farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres on section 31, Jackson Township, and another quarter section in the same township is owned by Mr. Deutschman.

The natal day of the subject of this sketch was February 25, 1851, his birthplace was the Empire

of Germany. In the spring of 1865, he crossed the Atlantic and joined his father, William Deutschman, in Illinois. The father had come to this country in 1855, and lived in Joliet and Jackson Townships, in the latter of which he departed this life in 1875. His son Harman remained with him until his death, engaged in agricultural pursuits, and gaining in intelligence and ability year by year.

In the fall of 1870, our subject led to the hymeneal altar Miss Sarah, daughter of Abraham Gockley, of Jackson Township, whose biography occupies another page in this ALBUM. The bride was born in Lancaster County, Pa., September 25, 1853, and was well educated and reared to useful habits and with the best of principles. She belongs to the German Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Deutschman have eight children living, namely: Clara, Franklin A., Ella, Anna, Wallace J., Minnie, Josephine and Viola. They lost a son, Aaron, in his infancy. Mr. Deutschman has not sought official honors but is ever ready to cast his vote in the interests of the Democratic party. He has served as School Director. He has so conducted himself as to win respect as a citizen, neighbor and private individual.



**J**OSEPH HUNTER, Sr. is one of the oldest settlers of Frankfort Township, the owner of a large landed estate and an extensive agriculturist. His home farm is the south-east quarter of section 13, on which is a fine large residence and other substantial and commodious buildings, among them being a windmill and tank, and a barn 72x100 feet, which is capable of holding three hundred tons of hay. Mr. Hunter owns six hundred and forty acres in this township, all well fenced and supplied with tenant houses, feed yards, orchards, and all improvements which characterize the estates of enterprising farmers. In Cook County he owns three hundred and twenty acres, and his entire landed estate is tillable except forty acres of timber land.

Mr. Hunter was born in County Donegal, Ireland, near Ramelton, December 23, 1817, and

reared on the parental farm with but limited common-school advantages. He remained at home until nineteen years of age and then going into Scotland on a visit was offered a situation in the custom house at Glasgow. His father, however, advised him to emigrate to America and he made preparations to do so. In May, 1837, he left Londonderry on the sailer "Regatia" a slow vessel which occupied eight weeks in crossing the Atlantic. Young Hunter was sick during the entire voyage. He landed in Quebec and remained in Canada a few months, working on a farm. He was not pleased with the country as it was too heavily timbered to suit his taste and the same fall he made a trip to Illinois.

Accompanied by his brother John, he crossed to Detroit, Mich., on a boat, then went on foot to St. Joseph, whence he crossed the lake to Chicago. Thence they traveled on foot to the Yankee settlement near Lockport, this county, which is now in the Township of Homer. The young men had about \$100 in gold, and had to change a \$5 piece every morning to pay the bill at the inn. The change they received was "wild cat" money which others refused to take and when our subject reached Will County he was virtually empty handed.

Young Hunter had learned something of the mason's trade in his native land and he found employment at it for a time and then engaged on a farm by the month. The best hands received but \$120 a year for farm work. In 1840, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land at \$1.25 per acre and located upon it six years later. He put up a log house shaping the logs himself and completing the structure, being only able to get one man to help him raise it. He was the first settler upon the prairie within a radius of many miles. He had taken cattle in payment for farm work so that he had a good herd and he let men take care of them on various terms. He killed some and sold beef among the few settlers and also disposed of some of the animals alive.

Mr. Hunter broke prairie with oxen attached to a clumsy plow, and the soil being tough and the implement unwieldy, six yoke were necessary. The cattle fattened readily on the prairie grass

and grain grew well on the newly-broken soil. The latter was hauled to Chicago, a distance of thirty miles, the trip consuming two days. During those early years, large herds of deer were to be seen in this vicinity and wolves were numerous, often following Mr. Hunter in his journeys. Unlike the most of the early settlers, he did not engage in hunting but devoted himself exclusively to his agricultural pursuits in which he was very successful. He added to his real estate from time to time, paying \$50 per acre for some eight hundred acres of that which he now owns.

The estate of Mr. Hunter is managed systematically, two hundred and fifty acres being devoted to oats, three hundred to corn, and three hundred to hay and pasture. He raises full blooded Short-horn cattle of all grades, keeping about two hundred head. He feeds three or four car loads of cattle besides, and raises about as many car loads of hogs per year. He has the largest horse ranche in the township and has been quite successful with draft horses and roadsters. He has about fifty head of the latter and raises about twelve colts per annum.

The marriage of Mr. Hunter and Miss Jane Gamble took place at the bride's home in Jo Daviess County, near Hanover, in June, 1816. The bride was born in County Donegal, Ireland, November 10, 1810, being a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Malseed) Gamble. Mr. Gamble was a farmer who died in the Emerald Isle whence his widow emigrated to America with her family in 1832. They left Londonderry on the sloop "Crainge" and after a voyage of five weeks, landed at New Castle and took up their residence in Philadelphia. In 1837, they came down the Ohio River to its junction with the Mississippi and thence up the latter river to Galena, Ill., going from there to Hanover, Jo Daviess County, by wagon; there Mrs. Gamble remained until her death. She belonged to the Presbyterian Church and reared her family with fine principles and useful habits. Her sons, Samuel, Joseph and James are now deceased, and Daniel is living in Jo Daviess County. Mrs. Hunter is the only daughter.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Hunter has been

blest by the birth of three sons, of whom the first-born, James, died when twenty-one years old; Joseph Jr. is at home assisting in the farm labors; Daniel G. is married and living on the adjoining section.

Joseph Hunter, Sr. has been School Director nearly every since he came to this section. He was Supervisor of Frankfort Township, for two years, and at the last election received every vote in the township except one. He was Commissioner of Highways seven years, has served on grand and petit juries, as a delegate to political county conventions and a member of the County Central Committee. He is a true-blue Republican and at an early date identified himself with the anti-slavery movement, his being one of the three votes cast in the town of Homer for James G. Birney. He maintained his belief amid the scoffs and taunts of many, but finally had the satisfaction of seeing his cause triumphant. His religious faith is expressed by the Presbyterian creed and he is identified with the church at Bloom, Cook County. He was formerly Elder of the society at Frankfort. He has helped to build the school-house and has borne his part in every movement which would increase the material, intellectual and moral welfare of the community, and has made many friends by his agreeable manners, thrifty and energetic habits, and upright life.



**C**HARLES H. SUTPHEN. This veteran of eighty-four years bears the distinction of being one of the oldest citizens of this State, to which he came as early as 1831. He was born in Cherry Valley, Otsego County, N. Y., February 15, 1806, and is the son of Gilbert and Mary (Higginbotham) Sutphen, the former of whom was a Captain in the War of 1812 and died two days after a battle, from exposure and over-exertion.

The father of our subject was likewise born in Cherry Valley, N. Y., where he was married to a maiden of his own village. The earlier progenitors had been residents of New Jersey. Charles H., our subject, grew to manhood in his native town,



and completed his education in the Academy. Having influential friends in the United States army, he was given a position in the General Paymaster's office, under Gen. Townsend, of Boston, and in that city he was married to Miss Dowe. Finally, deciding upon seeking his fortune in the Far West, he came to La Salle County, this State, in 1831, and entering a large tract of Government land, engaged for some years in the live-stock business.

Selling out finally his interests in La Salle County, Mr. Sutphen came to Joliet, and since 1871 has lived retired from active labor. Mrs. Sutphen departed this life at her home in La Salle County, in 1870. The living children of Mr. Sutphen are: Albert, who took kindly to his books and is now principal of an academy in California; Charles is a resident of Santa Cruz, Cal.; George E. is a practicing attorney, of Aurora, Ill.; Frederick is engaged as a merchant at that place; William is living in the State of Washington; Jane is deceased. Mr. Sutphen's children received excellent educational advantages, and hold good positions in society.

Our subject cast his first Presidential vote for Jackson and gives his unqualified support to the Democratic party. He has held most of the township offices, serving as Supervisor and Clerk, also as County Treasurer and Recorder. In religion he is a Universalist, belonging to that church in Joliet. He has accumulated a comfortable property and employs his time in looking after it.



**JEREMIAH A. KINSELLA**, a native of Illinois, is one of the leading farmers of this section of the State, and is extensively engaged in stock-raising, owning two large and valuable farms, one in this and one in Grundy County, he making his home on his estate in Troy Township. He was born in the township of Dresden, Grundy County, June 7, 1858, his birthplace being but a few miles from where he now lives in Will County. His parents were James and Eliza (Kinsella) Kinsella. They came to Illinois in 1843, when the canal was being built, and Mr. Kinsella, with his father, Andrew Kinsella, made contracts

to assist in its construction, and the State still owes them for part of their work. At the time the scrip which was issued to them in payment was good for nothing only to secure them public land, and as they already owned thirteen hundred acres they did not care for more and allowed the scrip to go to waste, or be destroyed, as it had no special value. After their death our subject made fruitless efforts to collect the sum owing them, which amounted to \$20,000.

The mother of our subject died when he was but four years of age, and his father died a year later. Thus, unfortunately deprived of his parents, he fell to the kindly care of his uncle, Garrett Kinsella, his mother's brother, who reared and educated him as his own, and at the time of his death left him his beautiful and valuable farm of six hundred and twenty-two acres, in addition to the homestead in Grundy County, of three hundred and fifty-six acres which he inherited from his father. His uncle died in 1880, leaving behind him a name and memory that will ever be revered in this county, where he was so well known. He was a man of more than ordinary ability and business tact and accumulated a goodly amount of property. He was greatly respected by his neighbors, and although he cared but little for public life, still he took an active part in the management of local affairs, and was Supervisor for several terms. He was a leading man among the Democrats of this vicinity.

Our subject was reared in Minooka and there laid the basis of a solid education, being a bright and active scholar. At the early age of twelve years he was admitted to Manhattan College, from which he was graduated with honor in 1876, after after having pursued a fine course of study. After the completion of his education he returned to Troy to live with his uncle. He received from him a careful training in the management of the property which he was to inherit, and has since become one of the foremost stock-raisers in the county, making a speciality of buying and feeding cattle, devoting the large amount of grain he raises wholly to that purpose. He ships his stock to the Chicago market, and often ships as many as nine car-loads a season. He rents his father's homestead

to good advantage and derives a fine income from that and the proceeds of the other estate.

Mr. Kinsella was married March 9, 1886, to Miss Kate C., daughter of John and Mary (Carroll) Smith. Her father was a native of Lockport, N.Y., and a son of Thomas Smith. Our subject and his wife have two children—Norine and Evelyn. Mr. Kinsella is a Democrat in politics, and a Catholic in religion, being a valued member of St. Mary's Church, in Minooka. He is a frank, open-hearted man, contributing generously to the support of the church and anything that will benefit the public, besides being liberal in the use of his money for charitable and other purposes. Inheriting a large property, he has shown himself to be fully equal to its management, bringing to its work a well-trained and cultured mind, and by sagacious and systematic methods has greatly improved its value.



**R**OBERT S. WASHBURN owns and occupies a fine farm on section 30, Peotone Township, and an adjoining tract on section 31.

The land is under thorough cultivation and it needs but a glance to assure a visitor that the years which Mr. Washburn has spent in tilling the soil have given him a thorough knowledge of the details of that occupation. His hard service in the Union Army has left its effects upon his system and he is afflicted somewhat with rheumatism and other ailments, but still attends to his farm and bears his part in local affairs.

Mr. Washburn is the only survivor of three children born to Seth and Louisa (Hewitt) Washburn, who died during his childhood. He was born in Cook County forty-six years ago, came to Will County when about ten years old and became a resident of Wilton Township. He was thrown upon his own resources at a tender age, had very limited schooling and has always worked on a farm. When nineteen years old his spirit was roused by the attempts against the life of the Union and he enlisted in Company H, Twelfth Cavalry. The regiment was equipped at St. Louis and sent to New Orleans, thence took part in the Red River expedition under

Gen. Banks. The marches, skirmishes and battles of that expedition are recorded in history, but only those who took part can fully realize the gallantry and endurance of the boys in blue. After that expedition the company was stationed at Donelsonville, doing picket duty.

In August, 1864, a squad of four men was sent to carry a dispatch to another fort on the Mississippi River, a day's ride from their station. They were surprised by the enemy, one man wounded, two captured and the fourth made his escape. Mr. Washburn was one of those taken prisoner, and after spending two weeks at Bayou La Fourche, La., was marched through to Tyler, Tex., and there placed in prison. At one time there was about eleven hundred Union soldiers imprisoned there, and a pound of beef, nearly all bone, and a quart of corn meal constituted a day's rations. There was a dead line and Mr. Washburn has seen men shot down there. When guarded by regular Confederate soldiers, prisoners received fair treatment, but when militia and boys were their watchmen they were often mistreated. Mr. Washburn was afflicted with scurvy nearly all the time he was in prison and still suffers from its effects.

Mr. Washburn was released from prison in June, 1865, went to New Orleans, and thence to Baton Rouge where his regiment was encamped. He then came North on a thirty days' furlough, after which he returned to his regiment, joined Gen. Custer's command, went back into Texas and remained until June, 1866. He then returned to Springfield, Ill., where he was mustered out and honorably discharged. During his term of service he had been promoted to the rank of Corporal and won a good record for faithful and gallant conduct.

Resuming the agricultural labor in which he had spent his youth, Mr. Washburn also secured an interest in a threshier and corn-sheller, and through industrious efforts gradually accumulated means with which to purchase a home. Eight years ago he secured the deed to one hundred and twenty acres of his estate, and last winter purchased the adjoining seventy-four, making up a good farm of one hundred and ninety-four acres. The land is improved and produces fine crops of various kinds.

The wife of Mr. Washburn was known in her

maidenhood as Miss Sarah Allars and became his wife March 23, 1881. She is a daughter of William and Maria (Godson) Allars, both deceased, her father having been killed by a load of lumber falling upon him. He was an old settler of Kankakee County. Mrs. Washburn is thirty-eight years old, is industrious, amiable and kind-hearted, making a happy home.

Mr. Washburn votes the Republican ticket, taking a deep interest in politics. He is Director of School District No. 9, and anxious to advance the cause of education. He belongs to William A. Webb Post, No. 657, G. A. R., of Peotone. He receives from his fellow-men the respect to which he is entitled for his virtues and habits.



**THOMAS W. JONES.** In giving honor to whom honor is due, we should not neglect T. W. Jones, who began life empty-handed, and has accumulated a good property by dint of energetic and well directed efforts. His home is located on section 22, Wesley Township, and consists of one hundred and fourteen acres of well improved land, the neat home being well supplied with all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, and the entire estate indicating prosperity and a wise use of the conveniences which add to the value of farm labor.

Mr. Jones is of Welsh ancestry and the son of natives of Pennsylvania. His parents, John T. and Sarah S. (Radisill) Jones were married in Ross County, Ohio, and resided there until 1850. They then removed to Will County, Ill., and settling in Wesley Township, remained here during the rest of their lives. The mother crossed the river of death in 1877, and the father March 11, 1889. They were the parents of sixteen children, eight of whom are now living.

The subject of this sketch was born in Ross County, Ohio, April 11, 1831, and received a fair education in the district schools of his native county and Will County, Ill. His father being a farmer, in his early life he acquired a knowledge of all that

is necessary to make tilling the soil profitable, and laid the foundation for the industrious habits which have made his life a success. On the afternoon of the day on which he became of age he split two hundred rails.

Young Jones became a renter for about three years, of the John Richey farm, and he then bought forty acres of land, fenced it, broke the soil on a part of it, and began to make for himself a home. On August 1, 1858, he was united in marriage with Miss Emily A., daughter of Chesley L. and Harriet L. (Caldwell) Mills, natives of Tennessee and Illinois respectively. Mr. Mills died in February, 1844, but Mrs. Mills is still living. They were the parents of five children, four of whom survive. Mrs. Jones was born February 26, 1833, is an intelligent and Christian woman, and has been a faithful companion and helpmate and a devoted mother.

The first year of their wedded life was spent by Mr. and Mrs. Jones in Morgan County, whence they returned here, taking up their abode in Wesley Township for three years. They next occupied the farm now owned by Frank Williams, in the same township, and in 1870 took possession of the old homestead, where they have since resided. Mr. Jones has added much to the appearance of the house and other buildings, and has made general farming the means of securing a competency. At one time he was interested in raising full-blooded Berkshire hogs.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones are the parents of three children, whose record is as follows: John W., was born April 2, 1860, married Miss Lydia Dungee, and lives in Gosper County, Neb.; Carrie, born February 16, 1863, is the wife of William M. Henion and the mother of three children, her home being in Ritchie; Arthur, born September 16, 1872, will attend college this fall. All the children have been carefully reared, given good advantages, and are doing honor to the family name. Arthur is now Secretary of the Methodist Episcopal Sunday-school, in which his brother and sister were active workers in past years.

Mr. Jones is one of the three Trustees under whose charge the schools of Wesley Township are, and in advancing the cause of education he ex-

hibits sound sense and good judgment. At present he holds the office of Township Assessor, and he has been Road Commissioner. In politics he has taken a deep interest, affiliating with the Republican party. He has been a member of the Sons of Temperance. He, and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he is Class Leader, Steward and Trustee; he is also actively interested in the Sunday-school, and has been for many years, serving as Superintendent or teacher almost continuously.

Mr. Jones is the fortunate possessor of one of those sunny dispositions which cause a man to be liked by all whom he meets, while his character is upright and moral, and his citizenship such as to afford a worthy example to his own progeny and the entire community. He is thoroughly respected, and in the esteem of the community his estimable wife has also a large share.

Alonzo Jones, the brother of our subject, became a member of Company A, 100th Illinois Infantry, and gave his life for his country during the late Civil War. He was killed at the battle of Chickamauga, September 19, 1863.

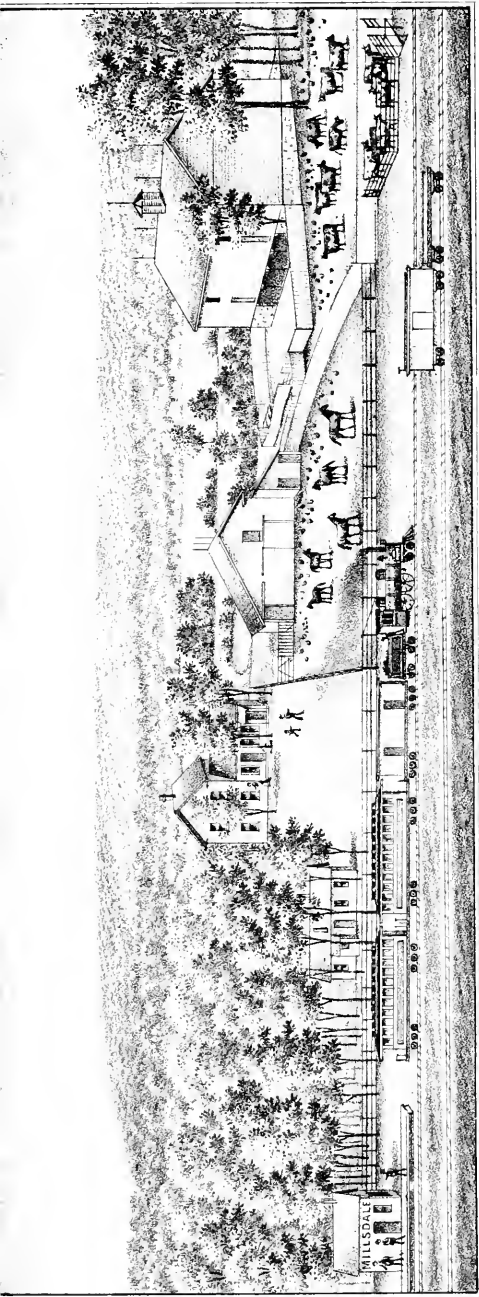


**THOMAS OSCAR MILLS.** In this gentleman Will County has a fine representative of its native-born citizens, one, who, by his enterprise, progressiveness and marked ability is materially forwarding its financial welfare in several ways. He is variously identified with its interests, as a skillful agriculturist, making a speciality of feeding cattle; as a tile manufacturer, owning the largest factory in the county; and as proprietor of a well-appointed store at Millsdale Station. He was born on the old homestead where he now lives, August 27, 1850, and is the son of James Mills, a pioneer of this region. The maiden name of his mother was Eunice Glidden, she being a sister of Stephen Glidden, of this township. Both her family and her husband's were originally from New Hampshire, and removed to New York, where the parents of our subject were married in 1814. They lived a

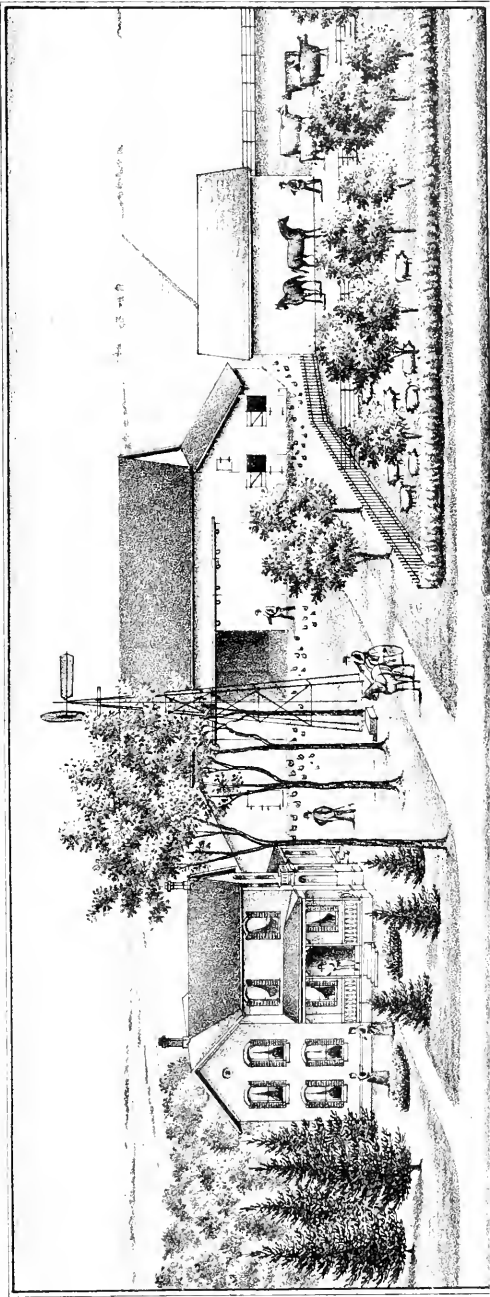
while in Ohio, and moved to Joliet about 1817. After a year's stay in that city they moved on to the place where our subject now lives, and where the father died in 1852. Until 1878, the mother lived with her brother Mr. Glidden, who was part owner of the farm. At the time of her son's marriage she became a member of his household, and remained a welcome inmate of his home until her death, November 27, 1887.

Our subject was reared in the place of his birth and received excellent educational advantages, obtaining the preliminaries of his education in the local district schools, afterward pursuing a fine course of study in Joliet, and finishing his schooling in Channahon, his own township. He early gained a practical knowledge of farming, and at the time of his marriage took charge of the homestead, which he still owns and occupies, and which is represented by a view elsewhere in this work. With characteristic enterprise he has carried on his business so as to make a financial success of it, and has greatly increased the value of his farm and added to its acreage. It now comprises three hundred and eighty-four acres, all lying on section 11, with the exception of eighty acres. Our subject has by no means confined his operations to stock-raising, but has been engaged in other industries. In 1884, he built near his place a tile factory, one of the largest in the county, costing about \$10,000, and adapted to the making of a fine grade of tile, but at the present time the works are not in operation. The Santa Fe Railroad and the Chicago & Alton run side by side through his farm. Our subject has a life pass over the former road, which in 1887 opened a station on his land. Here he has built a store, which is well arranged and suitably stocked.

October 9, 1878, Mr. Mills took unto himself a wife, in the person of Miss Anna E. Miller, daughter of James and Eliza (Fowler) Miller, natives respectively of Scotland and Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Her father was reared in the city of London coming to this country in early manhood and was married in New York. From there he came to this county, and purchased the place in Troy Township which was known as the old Rock Run house previous to 1853, when he purchased it.



RESIDENCE OF THOS. O. MILLS, MILLSDALE, ILL.





There he lived until his death in 1866. His widow is still living there, and has now attained the venerable age of seventy-eight years. They were the parents of seven children. Mr. and Mrs. Mills have a very pleasant attractive home, and their happy household is completed by their four children: Arthur J., a lad of ten years; Erna A., Oscar Leroy; and Warren, the baby. Mr. Mills is a typical American, thoroughly wide awake and full of enterprise, possessing more than ordinary capacity, energy and decision of character, and in him his native county has a citizen who is doing much to promote its general prosperity. In politics he is identified with the Republican party, but being a man of independent views he takes the liberty to vote as he chooses in regard to local affairs.



**E**ZRA E. JAYNES. The results of good management find no better illustration than in the life of this gentleman whose fine farm is situated on section 29, Manhattan Township. The estate comprises one hundred and sixty broad acres which are devoted to the purpose of general farming, about an equal share of attention being paid to grain and stock-raising. Two teams are required to operate the estate and they are found to be fine English draft horses. Holstein and Galway cattle and Poland-China swine of high grade are kept, and another paying part of the establishment is the poultry yard where about 8300 worth of poultry are raised every year. A fine residence with all necessary outbuildings, such as barns, granaries, corn cribs, etc., together with a beautiful orchard, add to the value of the land and make of it one of the most attractive places for many a mile. It is surrounded by hedge and divided into fields of convenient size. A view of this comfortable home will be found on another page.

The gentleman of whom we write is a direct descendant of one of three brothers who came from England to America in 1617. His grandfather,

Elijah Jaynes, was born in Franklin County, Vt., devoted his attention to agriculture and became the owner of several farms; he was a soldier in the War of 1812. Chester Jaynes, the immediate progenitor of our subject, was born in the same county and also became a farmer. During the Aroostook War he fought against the savages six months, obtaining a land warrant for his services and is now a pensioner of the Government. He secured land four miles east of Lake Champlain, but subsequently bought and now resides upon the homestead on which he was born. He has been engaged in sheep raising and in the dairy business, but now, in the ninety-first year of his age, is resting from his labors and enjoying merited repose. He belongs to the Baptist Church and votes with the Republican party.

Chester Jaynes married Eliza Dec, daughter of Gen. Washington Dec, who won fame in the War of 1812. The old Bay State was the birthplace of Gen. Dec, but when he was a boy his parents removed to Vermont where the latter became Colonel in the Home Militia. When the Colonists a second time determined to fight for release from British tyranny, he raised a regiment and joining the army, soon became Brigadier-General. He served until the close of the struggle, fighting on the lake and at Plattsburg and retiring with the title of Major-General, while his brother, who had gone out in his regiment as Major, came home as a Brigadier-General. This was the War of 1812.

Mrs. Eliza (Dec) Jaynes was born in Franklin County, Vt., and became versed in all the useful arts which were considered a part of a young lady's education. She has now reached the ripe age of eighty-eight years. She is a worthy member of the Baptist Church. The subject of this sketch is the third of the nine sons and daughters whom she has borne. In addition the family roll includes the names of Homer, now a resident of Kansas; William who died in the Green Mountain State at the age of twenty years; Halbert, of Neosha County, Kan.; Mrs. Charlotte Hurlbert, of Franklin County, Vt.; Sarah, who married H. G. Williams and is living in Iowa; Addison, whose home is in Kansas; Mrs. Helen Caswell, of Vermont; and Mrs. Addie House, of Joliet.

Our subject was born in Georgia Township, Franklin County, Vt., June 25, 1835, and being reared on a farm early took up his share of the labors thereon. He received a good common-school education under the free school system of his native State and also attended Georgia Academy from which he was graduated at the age of eighteen. He then went to Delaware County, Ohio, and engaged in teaching for a year, after which he came to Chicago and secured a clerkship in a store on Kinzie Street. Six months later he went to Galena, thence up the river to Hudson City and there embarked on a boat for St. Croix, Wis., where he taught two terms of school.

The next location of young Jaynes was at New Richmond where he embarked in the sale of general merchandise, having his goods shipped to Hudson and then hauling them seventeen miles. He was a member of the Home Guard, being Sergeant of the company, and at the first meeting after Ft. Sumter had been fired upon, the whole company determined to enter the Union Army. On April 18, the name of Ezra E. Jaynes was placed upon the muster roll of Company F, First Wisconsin Infantry, and after being mustered in at Madison he was sent to join the Army of the Potomac. Three months were passed in skirmishing and other duties, when, the term of enlistment having expired, Mr. Jaynes was mustered out about the 1st of August and returned to Wisconsin. He settled up his business during the early fall and in November returned to his native State where on December 2d he again enlisted, becoming a member of Company F, Eighth Vermont Infantry.

The regiment was mustered in at Brattleboro, assigned to Gen. Butler's Brigade and sent to New Orleans on a sailing vessel which landed them at Ship Island. An expedition was fitted out in the spring of 1862, the transports reaching the Southern metropolis and investing it the 22d of May. Mr. Jaynes served on police duty in the city some thirty days, until affairs became somewhat settled and he was then sent across the river to Algiers where he operated on the Opelousas railroad a year. During these months he took part in battles and skirmishes against "Old Dick Taylor" and the Texas rangers, participating at Franklin on the

Atchafalaya River, etc. He had been mustered in as Corporal, but for two years acted as Sergeant.

The next departure of Mr. Jaynes was toward Natchez, the march taking in Natchitoches and the Salt Works. He was one in the first expedition up the Red River and upon the return crossed to Ft. Hudson, May 22, 1863, and participated in the attack on the breastworks on the 27th. Still later, on June 14, he and his comrades crawled over trees, logs and dead bodies until they had reached a point within four rods of the breastworks when he was severely wounded in the right shoulder and side. He was leaning forward when one or more balls entered the shoulder at the top coming out below the arm and causing paralysis. He was also struck in the side by a shell, which seriously mutilated the flesh. Not able to stand, he fell back on two dead men, lying there unable to move. Toward evening the band came that way and one of them recognizing him, he was carried back to a sugar camp on a stretcher. There they were taken prisoners by the rebels, but their captors had time to parole but a few ere Col. Grierson effected the rescue of the others. All the surgeon did was to wash out the wound and remove from it a few maggots, after which Mr. Jaynes was hauled to the river, over fourteen miles of rough corduroy road in an army wagon. A steamer conveyed him to New Orleans and he was placed in the hospital, but the fare which he received was so limited or unpalatable that he nearly starved. To add to the horrors of the situation his wound was not properly cared for and for three weeks it was a nest of insects.

Mr. Jaynes was laid up in the hospital from the 20th of June until late in the fall, when he obtained a furlough and made his way as best he could to his home. He was scarcely able to walk even with the aid of a stick, was without money and nearly naked, but made his way up the Mississippi River and finally reached home and friends nearly dead. With better care he began to recover and having his furlough extended two months he gained so rapidly that he was enabled to report at New Orleans before its expiration. He was, however, not fit for campaign duty and was therefore placed in the Veteran Reserve Corps, One Hundred and



Sixty-fourth Battalion, which did guard duty at the Mechanics Institute Hospital. He acted as Sergeant in the Veteran Corps until the spring of 1865, when he was ordered to Brattleboro, Vt., was mustered out and honorably discharged. He had been ill before the battle of Port Hudson and the doctor had told him not to go out as he was unfit for duty. He, however, felt that he might as well be shot as to die of disease and he had therefore joined his comrades with the result above related.

After spending a few days in the enjoyment of the comforts of home and the society of his friends, Mr. Jaynes came West, feeling that his desire to obtain a small piece of land whereon to make a home would be more likely to reach fruition in a newer country than Vermont. He rented land in Wilmington Township, this county, for four years and in the fall of 1868, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie upon which not a tree was to be seen, paying \$10 per acre. The following spring he located upon it, doing the best he could to cultivate and improve it, but being obliged to hire most of the labor done, as he was seriously crippled from his wound and army exposure. He was able to do some plowing with a riding plow, and to do some of the grain cutting and hay raking.

Prudent management, wise plans and frugal economy conquered the circumstances which seemed untoward, and Mr. Jaynes succeeded in placing his land under excellent improvement and making it pay so well that he is now independent in finances. During the past seven years his sons have done the work of the place, carrying out his wishes fully and reaping a due reward.

Mr. Jaynes is the best read man in the township, having ever found a recompense for his inability to enjoy physical recreations, in the society of the right minds, which books afford. He belongs to Seneca Lodge No. 40, F. & A. M. at Milton Falls, Vt. He is a Republican of the staunchest sort and it has been the desire of the members of his party that he would represent them in county conventions, but he has refused the appointment on account of his crippled condition. To all who love their country he is an object of great respect for the service which he rendered in her time of

need, while his excellent management, high degree of intelligence, and personal character win him many friends and give him high repute over an extended territory.

The first marriage of Mr. Jaynes occurred in Wilmington Township, January 17, 1866. Upon this occasion he led to the hymeneal altar Miss Jennie Rockwell, a native of Franklin County, Vt., with whom he lived happily until she was called hence in 1870. She was a daughter of Stephen Rockwell, an early settler in this county and the owner of a large property. The union was blessed by the birth of two children—Stella, who died in 1879, and Arthur, who lives in Wilmington Township with his uncle.

A second alliance was contracted by Mr. Jaynes, March 12, 1871, at the home of the Rev. W. G. Renfrew in Jackson Township. The lady who there became his wife was Miss Mary, daughter of Elias Klingler, who came from Pennsylvania to Will County in 1867. Mr. Klingler was a farmer but has now retired and makes his home in Manhattan. Mrs. Jaynes is a native of the Keystone State, is well informed, skilled in housewifely arts, and possesses the happy faculty of making a home in more than name. She had borne her husband five children, namely: Lester, Oscar, Chester, Edith and Alfred. All are at home but Oscar, who is attending the Normal School at Valparaiso, Ind., and in the intervals of study joining the home circle in their pleasures and duties.



**WALTER GRAY.** This gentleman's early identity with the farming and stock growing interests in this part of Illinois entitles him to representation in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM as a pioneer of the county. His home is in Wheatland Township, where he located many years ago. He has retired from the more active life of his early years, and though still having an interest in the farm that he developed from the wild prairies, he has turned over its management to his sons, retaining but ten acres of it for his own use.

Mr. Gray is a native of Lanarkshire, Scotland.


and was born in the month of September, 1819. He was a son of Charles and Ellen (Watts) Gray, likewise natives of Scotland. He was reared on a farm principally and received but limited educational advantages. He is, however, quite a reader, and keeps posted on matters of general interest.

Our subject married in his native land January 3, 1839, taking as his wife Jane Wilson. She was also of Scottish birth, born September 22, 1819, and a daughter of John and Janette (Anderson) Wilson, natives of Scotland. Four of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Gray are now living as follows: Charles, in Leedville, Col.; John and Walter, in Wheatland Township; Jeannette, wife of Alexander Martin, of Ottawa, Kan.

In 1849, desirous of improving his prospects in life and of being able to build up a home for himself and family, our subject emigrated to this country, taking passage at Glasgow, on a sail vessel and after a voyage of about twenty-six days, landing in Quebec, Canada. For a short time he lived in the Province of Ontario and then coming to the "States," he took up his abode in Will County, and has been an honored resident here ever since. He began life here under adverse circumstances, having but fifty cents when he landed in the country. However, he was well endowed with brawn and muscle, and with sturdy, persevering, industrious qualities, inherited from Scotch ancestry, and setting to work with cheerful courage, in the years that followed by persistent toil evolved a fine farm from the tract of wild prairie that he purchased. He first located in Plainfield Township, was there some three years and then took up his abode in Wheatland Township, having secured a tract of wild land. He did not become prosperous without having to pass through the trials and hardships of early pioneer life here and the endurance of many privations and self-sacrifices. His farm comprises two hundred acres of land, finely improved and provided with excellent buildings, and is under the management of his two sons, John and Walter, he retaining a life interest in it. He has here a comfortable home and has the use of ten acres of land. He has been greatly assisted in his labors by his devoted companion, who may well be described in

the following words, as: "The housewife, clean of heart and conscience, the buckler and helpmate of her husband."

By his life of industry and uprightness Mr. Gray has won not only worldly gain, but the affection and confidence of all about him. For many years a Presbyterian, he has never wavered in his adherence to his faith, and is one of the most consistent members of the United Presbyterian Church in Wheatland, his wife also belonging to that church. In politics he is a sturdy supporter of the Republican party. He has been a School Director for a number of years and has always favored all schemes for the educational and moral elevation of the community.



JAMES DOUGLAS BROWN, as his given name would partially indicate, traces his ancestry back to a family that has been historic for centuries. The Douglas name figures largely in Scotch as well as in American history. The origin of the family, their original coat of arms, and early achievements, are wrapped in mystery although many traditions are extant, some of which doubtless have solid foundation in fact. Efforts have been made by members of the family in recent years to snatch from oblivion and gather from traditionary and legendary lore, all that is worthy of preservation. Such efforts have resulted in a work, liberally subscribed for by many who boast the Douglas blood, which shows the connection of our subject and his family with the name by direct lineage.

James D. Brown was born in Raymertown, Rensselaer County, N. Y., March 12, 1826, and received his academical education in the Lyman Cross Academy in Troy. He completed the course of study at the early age of sixteen years when he engaged in the drug business with an uncle at Lansingburg. The business has now engaged his attention for over forty years. In 1846 he came to Joliet, Ill., and established himself in that line of trade, in which he is still interested. In 1869 he associated with himself a brother, J.

II., since deceased, and more recently his sons, Horace H. and Eugene C. Both of the young men are graduates in pharmacy, Eugene C. having completed a course of study in the Chicago College of Pharmacy in 1881, and Horace in 1885.

The trade of the firm above mentioned is an old and firmly established one and patrons of the establishment are sure to receive reliable drugs, to have prescriptions carefully compounded, and to be treated with due courtesy and honor. The family is numbered among the best class of citizens, being earnest, enterprising, and reliable in their duty as members of the community, honorable in all their relations in life, and possessing the intelligence, culture and excellent character that win the respect of their fellow citizens.



**D**ANIEL C. MASON. Among the estates of Will County which present an appearance of comfort and home-likeness, none are more attractive than one which occupies a portion of section 5, Joliet Township, and is the home of Daniel Mason and his good wife. Without having any pretensions to elegance, everything about the place bespeaks good taste, prosperity, and a care which is as far removed from parsimoniousness as from a reckless disregard of appearances and results. The dwelling is a pleasant one, set in the midst of surroundings which are quite in keeping with the neatness and order which prevail under its roof. It is conveniently near to the city of Joliet, affording to its inmates the best of the enjoyments which are to be found in city life, while avoiding the confusion, restricted quarters, and dust of the town. Mr. Mason is now living a retired life and renting his estate, which originally comprised two hundred and fifty acres and bears all needful structures for the carrying on of farm work.

The old Bay State has the honor of being the birthplace of the parents of our subject, who in their early life dwelt in Cheshire, Berkshire County. In the pleasant New England village Arnold Mason and Mercy Coman had opened their

eyes to the light and spent their school days, becoming thoroughly acquainted with each other's disposition and character, and having their early friendship ripened into a regard which led them to unite their lives and fortunes. After their marriage they settled in New Hartford, near Utica, N. Y., where they spent their happy wedded life and reared a large family. Thirteen children were born to them, eleven living to mature years.

The subject of this biographical notice is the seventh child born to his parents, his natal day having been January 12, 1811. He grew to manhood in New Hartford, remaining under the parental roof until he was about twenty-one years old, in the meantime having acquired such a knowledge of the ordinary branches of study as afforded him a good equipment in business. Upon leaving the home of his boyhood he went to New Jersey to work on the Delaware & Raritan Canal under his father, who had a contract for building a portion of that highway. After working there a year, he joined his father in a contract for excavating through Bergen Hill for the old New Jersey Central Railroad, and also the contract for digging the Morris Canal from there to Jersey City.

After the completion of these contracts, father and son took one for building two sections of the Croton Water Works, at New York City. The senior Mr. Mason was one of the three contractors that built the well-known High Bridge over the Harlem River. After completing his work on the water works, our subject returned to his native place, near which he engaged in farming, remaining there until the fall of 1869, when he removed to his present home where he continued his agricultural labors for some time. Honest industry, persevering efforts, and prudent management, have been crowned with success in the career of Mr. Mason, whose efforts have been ably seconded by his companion, whose housewifely ability and wise economy have prevented the expenditures from reaching a figure beyond what could be well afforded, and has thus been instrumental in the accumulation of their comfortable means.

On April 16, 1844, the rites of wedlock were celebrated between our subject and Miss Cornelia H. Kellogg, who was born and reared in the town

which was the early home of her husband, and to whose union the same words will apply which are suited to the marriage of his parents. Mrs. Mason is the second in a family consisting of two sons and two daughters, born to Truman and Melinda (Marsh) Kellogg, both of whom were natives of Oneida County, N. Y., in which they died. Mr. Kellogg was a farmer and the family were of the Quaker faith. Mrs. Mason opened her eyes to the light June 8, 1821. Blessed by nature with many fine qualities, her character was strengthened and developed by careful training, and she is to-day a fine type of the gentlewoman with motherly qualities. Her happy union has been blessed by the birth of two children—Truman A. and Cornelia M. The latter is now a widow, having married Stephen Manson Sherwood, who died in April, 1876, leaving two children—Arthur M. and Louis A., who with their mother are making their home on the estate with Mr. and Mrs. Mason.

Although reared in the Quaker faith, Mrs. Mason is now a member of the Central Presbyterian Church. Mr. Mason is independent in his political views, giving his ballot to the candidate whom he thinks best qualified to carry out the measures in which his judgment concurs. It would be hard to find a man more highly respected or more deserving of the good opinion of his fellow-men than he, and it affords the biographical writer pleasure to insert this account of his life and that of his wife.

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**J**OSEPH BARTHELME. The thrifty German American element of Joliet Township finds a worthy representative in the subject of this notice, who owns and occupies a well-tilled farm on section 5. Here he has pursued the even tenor of his way since 1885, making a speciality of minding his own concerns and living at peace among his neighbors. Mr. Barthelme is a native of this county and was born in the city of Joliet, May 6, 1857, to Joseph and Mary (Wiles) Barthelme, who were natives of the Province of Alsace, formerly of France but now of Germany. The parents came to America with their respective

families at an early age and were married in Joliet, after which the father, for a time, ran a boat on the canal and later was variously employed until securing land and engaging in agricultural pursuits. He farmed for a period of twenty years and then retiring from active labor, made his home in Joliet where his death took place April 4, 1883. The mother is still living making her home in Joliet. There was born to her and her husband a family of eleven children, seven sons and four daughters, ten of whom are living and of whom Joseph was the fourth in order of birth.

Mr. Barthelme lived with his parents until reaching manhood and when they removed to Joliet he settled on the farm owned by his mother, in Joliet Township. He is now successfully cultivating seventy acres where he has good buildings and other improvements. He was married November 22, 1882, to Miss Mary, daughter of John and Margaret Flynn, who were natives of County Cork, Ireland, where the father spent his entire life, dying in 1870. The mother subsequently came to America and is now a resident of Iowa City, Iowa. The parental family consisted of five sons and three daughters of whom Mrs. Barthelme was the third in order of birth. She is a native of County Cork, Ireland, and was born May 22, 1859. She was eighteen years old when coming to America and has been a true helpmate to her husband, keeping her house in order and practicing the industry and economy which have so much to do in the happiness and prosperity of a home. The household circle comprises three bright children, viz.: Joseph E., Margaret H. and John W. Mr. Barthelme votes with the Democratic party and both he and his estimable wife are prominently connected with the Catholic Church, attending services at Joliet.

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**J**AMES E. HOLMES. In speaking of the public-spirited citizens of New Lenox Township, the life and labors of this gentleman should by no means be omitted. He is the owner and occupant of an estate on section 22, which forms a home of comfort and good taste,

such as might well satisfy any but the most ambitions of men. The farm comprises one hundred and forty fertile acres on which excellent buildings have been erected and other appropriate improvements made, and the agricultural labor to which Mr. Holmes has given his attention for over forty years, is conducted according to the most improved efforts. Nearly the entire life of this gentleman has been spent in this county, to which he came with his parents in his eighth year. The history of his progenitors may be found in the sketch of J. S. Holmes, which occupies another page in this ALBUM.

The gentleman of whom we write was the first born in a family of six children. His natal day was June 25, 1827, and his birthplace in Chautauqua County, N. Y. His parents becoming early settlers of Will County, Ill., he grew to manhood in New Lenox Township, which he has made his home from boyhood. After passing his school days he followed carpentering and blacksmithing for seventeen years, having a general repair shop. The most of the time he carried on this work on his farm although for a time his shop was in Spencer. About 1865, he abandoned the trades and gave his attention exclusively to farm labors for his personal avocation.

On December, 18, 1850, in New Lenox Township, Mr. Holmes was united in marriage with Miss Susan S. Elsworth, who survived only until April 15, 1853. She bore two children—Levi A., who died when about twelve years old, and Rosetta J., who died in infancy. Mr. Holmes contracted a second matrimonial alliance January 8, 1851, the ceremony being performed at Mokema, and the bride being Miss Mary E. Stiller. This lady was born in Miami County, Ohio, January 29, 1838, being the only child of Jacob and Cynthia (Anway) Stiller. Her father died in the Buckeye State about 1840, and the mother still lives. Mrs. Holmes possesses a large amount of intelligence, pleasing manners, and a noble Christian character, and the duties which devolve upon her as wife, mother and neighbor are cheerfully and carefully performed. She has borne her husband four children: Rosella, who died in infancy; Delia J., wife of Isaac M. Gillett, Jr.; William R.; and George E.

The ability of Mr. Holmes and his excellent character are recognized by his fellow men who have desired his services in various positions of local trust. He has served as Township Clerk, Highway Commissioner, and School Director, serving ten years as an incumbent of the last position. He was Postmaster at Spencer from 1856 until the spring of 1889, continuously. His political adherence is given to the Democratic party. Mrs. Holmes is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which her husband also attends.



**F**RANK W. SCUTT, Secretary of the Joliet Wheel Company, and also of the Joliet Barb Wire Company, is numbered among the active business men of the city and has for many years been identified with its leading interests. He is the offspring of an old and highly respected family and the only child of the well-known H. B. Scutt, who came to this county about 1862. He was born May 29, 1868, and acquired an excellent education, completing his studies at Phillips' Academy in Andover, Mass.

After leaving the Academy Mr. Scutt returned to his native city and in company with his father became identified with the Barb Wire Company, of which he was soon made the Secretary in order to assist his father who was suffering from ill health. It was not long before he virtually assumed the whole management of the business, which is now being gradually closed out. In 1889, in company with R. G. Surbridge of Chicago, he organized the Joliet Wheel Company, which was incorporated in December, 1889, with a capital of \$25,000. F. W. Schroeder was elected President, F. W. Scutt, Secretary, and R. G. Surbridge, Superintendent. They are already giving employment to fifty men and expect before the close of the season (1890) to require the services of one hundred men.

Mr. Scutt was recently elected a Director of the Pioneer & Commonwealth Insurance Company, of Chicago. He is also a Director of the Young Men's Christian Association, of Joliet, and a Trustee

of the First Presbyterian Church. He was married May 8, 1889, to Miss Mary A. Payne, of Stony Point, N. Y. They have one son, born May 11, 1890, named Harold Benjamin. This lady was born November 15, 1869, at Astoria, Long Island, and is the daughter of the Hon. A. T. Payne. The father is a prominent and successful attorney, of Brooklyn. He was at one time Corporation Counsel of Long Island City and a Representative to the General Assembly of New York State, at Albany. Mrs. Scutt was given a good education at Rockland College, Nyack, N. Y., then completing her studies at the Delaware Literary Institute, Franklin, Delaware County, N. Y.

Hiram B. Scutt, the father of our subject, was born November 11, 1812, in Delaware County, N. Y., and came to this county about 1862, becoming the employe of Charles Ward, who operated a planing-mill. After the outbreak of the Civil War he entered the Union Army as a member of the Second Illinois Light Artillery. For valiant services he was, near the close of the war, promoted to a Captaincy, but did not receive his commission until after his return home.

Mr. Scutt, about 1868, engaged as a traveling salesman for the Geneva (N. Y.) Nursery, and was thus occupied until 1871. Then returning to the West he was instrumental in establishing the first barb wire business in Joliet, associating himself in partnership with William Watkins, under the firm name of Scutt & Watkins. Later the Joliet Wire Fence Company was organized, of which Mr. Scutt was made President. The most successful enterprise in which he engaged, however, was as a member of the firm of H. B. Scutt & Co., which included James R. Ashley, and engaged in the manufacture of wire in the Joliet Penitentiary, and gave employment to one hundred and fifty men. The company sold out in 1884 to Messrs. Oliver Bros. & Phillips, of Pittsburg, Pa., who now continue the business under the firm name of H. B. Scutt & Co. (limited).

The father of our subject was not engaged in any business for a year afterward but not being content in idleness, organized the Joliet Barb Wire Company, of which he was made President. In 1884 he put up a handsome residence, the finest in

the city, and pleasantly located on North Broadway. He was the first man to introduce the electric light in the city, as President of the Citizens' Electric Light Company. He never aspired to political honors.

Hiram B. Scutt received a good education and during his early manhood employed himself in teaching school. He left home about 1861, coming to Illinois and locating on a farm in DeKalb County. He was married in 1866, to Miss Adalaide Ward. This lady was born in 1812, in Rutland, Vt., and whose parents spent their last years in Vermont. She is still living, making her home in Joliet. Of her union with Mr. Scutt there were born two children, F. W., the subject of this sketch, and Grace, who died in infancy. Mr. Scutt departed this life at Lake Geneva, Wis., July 29, 1889, his death being caused by paresis—an overstraining of the mental faculties. He was thoroughly respected by his neighbors and business associates, and during the last Presidential election was quite prominent as having championed the cause of free trade as adopted by the Democracy. Prior to this he had been a staunch Republican.

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**P**ETER BERSCHIED. This young gentleman is of Prussian ancestry, representing a family of good standing in the old country. His parents, Bernard and Susan (Zahn) Berschied emigrated from Prussia to America in 1853, locating at Lockport, Ill., where Mr. Berschied carried on milling operations. The family included eleven children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the third in order of birth. He opened his eyes to the light in Mendota, May 9, 1859. After obtaining a good education in the common schools he started out in life as a barber in Joliet, continuing in that business about four years.

Mr. Berschied then engaged as an engineer in the Fire Department, remaining in the service three years, but in 1881, entering the Schring Brewing Co. in the capacity of engineer of their extensive brewery. There he has since continued to labor satisfactorily, discharging the duties de-





Yours Truly  
Geo Van Duser





*Mrs Esmina M. Van Duzer*



volving upon him and winning commendation from his employers. He has already represented the Third Ward in the City Council two terms, and for the third time was elected in the spring of 1890, running on this occasion without opposition. Politically he is a pronounced Democrat. In religion he is a Catholic, holding membership in St. Aloysius Society.

At the home of the bride December 28, 1882, the rites of wedlock were celebrated between our subject and Miss Louisa Erb, an estimable lady of German descent, domestic virtues, and a similar faith with himself. Their happy union has been blessed by the birth of two children, named respectively: Allia and Bernard Roland.



**G**EORGE VAN DUSER. This fine old gentleman and his equally estimable wife, whose portraits appear on the opposite pages, are numbered among the early settlers of this county, who came hither when the country presented a widely different appearance from that of to-day. They bore with their neighbors the usual toils and hardships of pioneer life, and have made for themselves a good record morally, socially and financially. They commenced their wedded life together with moderate means and by the exercise of unflagging industry have made for themselves a home and a competence, and are now passing down the sunset hill of life in the midst of peace and plenty, enjoying the comforts which they have so justly earned, together with the unqualified esteem and confidence of those around them. They have a pleasant home and much that makes life desirable.

In noting the early history of the Van Duser family, we find that the father of our subject was one John Van Duser, who was born in Johnstown, Montgomery County, N. Y., February 3, 1772. He spent his early life amid the quiet scenes of the country, obtaining a common-school education and becoming familiar with farm pursuits. When ready to establish a home of his own, he was wedded to Miss Catherine Bingham, a maiden of his own township, and who was born October 26, 1785.

The parents of our subject for a time after their marriage lived in Madison County, N. Y., but in 1837 decided to seek their fortunes in what was then the Far West, and came to this county in June, that year. The father secured a tract of land in New Lenox Township, where he engaged successfully in farming, building up a comfortable homestead, where he and his estimable partner spent the remainder of their days. The mother passed away August 25, 1852. John Van Duser departed this life April 21, 1860. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and there was born to them a family of eleven children, George Van Duser being the only one surviving.

The subject of this sketch was the sixth child of his parents, and was born July 19, 1817, in Lenox, Madison County, N. Y. He there spent the days of his boyhood and youth until 1836, then starting out for himself, made his way westward, arriving in Chicago in the fall of the year, and sojourned there until the following June. He then came to this county, and selecting his future location, commenced the development of a farm, which has since been his home. He was married at Joliet, November 25, 1840, to Miss Elmira, daughter of the Hon. Nathaniel and Aesah (Wheeler) Mellen. The young people commenced their wedded life together at the homestead which they now own and occupy, and have labored faithfully together in the building up of a home for themselves and their children.

The father of Mrs. Van Duser was born in Farmington, Mass., January 1, 1794, while his good wife was born in Connecticut, November 27, 1791. After marriage they settled in Bennington County, Vt., but finally decided to seek their fortunes in the West, and emigrated to what is now Kankakee County, this State, arriving here in October, 1838. Mr. Mellen selected a tract of land along the Kankakee River, where he opened up a good farm, and there with his estimable partner spent the remainder of his days. Mr. Mellen died March 27, 1866. The mother survived her husband for a period of nine years, her death taking place October 27, 1875. They were Universalists in religious belief and honest and upright people, who gained the esteem of all around them. Nathaniel Mellen was a prom-

inent man in the town of Winhall, Bennington County, Vt., where he served as Justice of the Peace, Township Clerk and Selectman. He fairly earned his title of Honorable by serving several terms in the State Legislature in Vermont.

Mr. and Mrs. Mellen were the parents of seven children, six of whom are living. Mrs. Van Duser was the second born, and first opened her eyes to the light in Bennington County, Vt., May 30, 1818. She obtained her education in the common schools, and remained a member of the parental household until her marriage. Her family, as did that of her parents, numbered also seven children. The eldest, a daughter, Emily A., is the widow of John Wilroy; Elmina A. married Joshua Barrett; George Jerome is married, and is a resident of Franklin County, Iowa; Gilbert M. lives in Wilson County, Kan.; Eddie H. remains at home with his parents; Flora O. is the wife of Frank Gorham, of Monona County, Iowa; Ida E. died when twelve years old.

Mr. Van Duser is the only survivor of his father's large family. He has always been content to follow agricultural pursuits, and has a well-tilled farm of ninety-three acres, which yields him a comfortable income, and upon which he has made good improvements. His honored father was the first Supervisor of New Lenox Township, to which he gave its name in honor of Lenox, Madison County, N. Y., where he had formerly lived. While a resident of the Empire State, he held the office of Justice of the Peace for the long period of sixteen years in succession.



**R**OBERT FERGUSON, deceased, was a pioneer of Will County, and as one who materially contributed to develop its rich agricultural resources, and as an early settler of Plainfield Township, where he built up for himself and family a desirable home, he is well worthy of representation in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM. County Derry, Ireland, was the birthplace of our subject, and also of his father, who bore the same name, he being of Scotch antecedents. The latter was a trader, dealer in linen fabrics, and

in 1840 he emigrated to this country and located in Easton, Pa. He resided there for two years and then came to Will County, and spent the remainder of his life at the home of our subject, dying in March, 1881, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. His wife, whose maiden name was Nancy McDougall, preceded him in death many years, dying in Easton, Pa., in 1852. They had but one son, our subject, and one daughter, Mary A., who married John W. Johnson and lives in Will County.

Robert Ferguson was reared in his native land until he was eighteen years of age, when he came to America and located at Easton, was employed in a wire-manufactory and resided there until 1852. Then in the vigor and prime of manhood, he came to this county intending to devote himself to farming. He first purchased eighty acres of wild prairie land on section 35, Plainfield Township, paying therefor \$5 an acre. He immediately set about its improvement, preparing the land for cultivation and erecting a temporary building for the shelter of his family, which he replaced some years later by a frame house. He was much prospered in his undertakings and was subsequently enabled to buy one hundred and sixty acres more land in the same section, upon which he erected a fine set of frame-buildings, replete with all conveniences, and here his useful life was brought to a close by his untimely death, May 31, 1888.

Mr. Ferguson was greatly indebted for the position he attained, to the help he received by his worthy wife to whom he was united in marriage in 1841. She still occupies the old homestead, the farm being ably managed by her son James. Mrs. Ferguson's maiden name was Nancy McDougall, and she is also with her husband, a native of County Derry, Ireland. Her father, Edward McDougall, is supposed to have been a native of the same county, where he carried on the occupation of farming. Later in life he came to America to join his children, and resided for a time in New York, his last years were spent in this county. The maiden name of his wife was Mollie Smith, and she too was born in County Derry, her father, Jacob Smith, being also a native of Ireland, where he carried on farming and spent his entire life. She

died in New York. Mrs. Ferguson's only brother, James died in New York. She had three sisters, Mollie, who married a Mr. McClanahan and is now deceased; Sallie, who married Thomas Leggett and is now deceased; Eleanor, who married Joseph McClintock and lives in Joliet. Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson had seven children all of whom are living: Robert M., John J., Joseph M., Eleanor, James, Mary and Jennie.

Mr. Ferguson possessed in a large degree the qualities necessary for success in a farmer's calling, and as we have seen attained it, placing himself among the solid well-to-do citizens of the township. His inherent traits of character won him a good name and a good standing in the community, and as a pioneer his memory will ever be respected in Plainfield. Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson were reared in the faith of the Presbyterian Church but after coming here, identified themselves with the Congregational Church and Mrs. Ferguson is still a faithful attendant.



**W**ILLIAM ERB, Treasurer of the People's Loan & Homestead Association at Joliet, is also engaged as a money lender and dealer in real estate. He is a man of unquestioned business ability, and in years is still on the sunny side of forty, having been born May 26, 1812. His native place was on the other side of the Atlantic in the Grand Duchy of Baden, Germany, and he comes of unadulterated German stock. He inherits from a substantial ancestry the qualities which have made this nationality one of the best on the face of the globe.

Pantale Erb, the father of our subject, emigrated to America in the fall of 1815, locating in Louisiana, and four years later sent for his family, which consisted of the mother and two children, William, our subject, and Hannah, now Mrs. Kafer, of Joliet. The family remained residents of Louisiana until the spring of 1856, then came to this county and located in Joliet, where they lived until the death of the father, which took place February 9, 1887. Two more children in the meantime had been added to

the family circle, viz: Louisa, Mrs. Peter Beirschiet, whose husband is an Alderman from the Third Ward, and Anthony, who died in Joliet March 27, 1889. The mother is still living, making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Beirschiet, in Joliet, and is now seventy-seven years old.

Mr. Erb acquired a good, practical education in the common school and at an early age imbibed the habits of industry which have been the secret of his success in life. When leaving school he employed himself at whatever he could find to do to earn an honest dollar, and with the thrift and prudence which is, almost without exception, characteristic of his countrymen, he was soon enabled to store away a snug little sum of money. He remained unmarried until a man of twenty-eight years and was then wedded, June 7, 1871, to Miss Sophia Trabling, of Joliet. Soon afterward he embarked in the coal business at which he continued successfully until the spring of 1876, when he sold out and established himself in the retail grocery trade of Washington Street. This enterprise also proved successful, he building up a fine trade, and he was thus occupied until September, 1885. Then selling out he embarked in his present enterprise. He is now in the enjoyment of a competency with the prospect of sufficient means to defend him against want in his old age.

Mr. Erb, in the spring of 1883, was elected to his present position as Treasurer of the Loan & Homestead Association, in which he has been a Director since 1878. He was one of its first stockholders and has always been warmly interested in its success. He owns and occupies one of the finest houses in the city and has large real estate-interests aside from this. To him and his estimable wife there have been born three children—George, Louise and Edwin. They are all under the home roof, and it is the intention of their father to give them the best advantages within his power.

Mrs. Erb was born in the German Province of Hesse-Darmstadt, in 1853, and came with her parents to the United States when a child of twelve years. Her parents, Jacob and Louisa Trabling, were also of German birth and ancestry and are now residents of Will County.

The People's Loan & Homestead Association

was organized in April, 1875, largely through the instrumentality of Edwin B. Mason, and having for its first President, James G. Elwood. Its second President was Charles Pettigrew. Upon his retirement F. W. Plant was elected President and is still serving. The other officials are: I. C. Norton, Vice President; William Erb, Treasurer; Horace Weeks, Secretary. The Directors are: Henry Pohl, John Lyons, William Ireland, and G. N. Reistad. The capital stock at the present time aggregates \$3,000,000, while the twelve hundred depositors make a monthly deposit of \$25,000. The institution is thus in a most flourishing condition, which speaks admirably for those in charge, among whom Mr. Erb is no unimportant factor. Its loans at this writing amount to over three-fourths of a million dollars.



**J**EFFERSON BUMP. The substantial element in the community of Homer Township finds a worthy representative in the subject of this notice, who is a man careful and conscientious in his habits of life and his business affairs, and who has made for himself a good record, gaining the confidence and esteem of those around him. He makes his headquarters at a well-regulated farm on section 15, which is supplied with good buildings, and has about it all the other evidences of enterprise and prosperity.

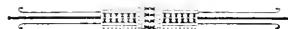
The native place of Mr. Bump was in Chautauqua County, N. Y., and the date of his birth January 31, 1826. His parents were Jacob and Lydia (Bowen) Bump, who were natives of New Hampshire, and emigrated to the Empire State at an early day, settling in Chautauqua County. They lived there until 1831, then came to Illinois and settled on section 15, of what is now known as Homer Township. The father followed agricultural pursuits, and assisted by his estimable partner, made a comfortable home for his family, and there both parents spent the remainder of their lives. There was born to them a family of twelve children, Jefferson being among the younger ones and two of whom are living.

Mr. Bump, of whom we write, was a lad of eight

years when he came with his parents to this county. He grew to manhood in Homer Township, where with the exception of seven years spent in California he has since resided. He went to the Pacific Slope in 1852, and during the years mentioned was engaged in mining, meeting with fair success. Since returning he has devoted his entire attention to farm pursuits, and is the owner of one hundred and eighty acres of choice land, which with its improvements makes one of the most desirable country estates in Will County.

When ready to establish matrimonial and domestic ties, Mr. Bump was married at Plainfield, Ill., December 20, 1860, to Miss Fannie M., daughter of James and Nancy (Bump) Rockafellow. Mrs. Bump was born April 30, 1844, in Plainfield, to which her parents removed from Lake County, Ohio, in 1839. The father, who was a native of New York State, died at the homestead in Plainfield Township in 1856, and the mother is still living and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Bump. They were the parents of two children only, of whom Mrs. Bump was the younger.

Seven children have been born to our subject and his estimable wife, viz.: Sarah A., the wife of Alonzo Bump, of Nebraska; Nelson J., Clarence J.; Nancy H., the wife of Mathias Homering; Frank G., Loretta L. and Kate L. Mr. Bump cast his first Presidential vote for Van Buren, and continues his allegiance to the Democratic party. He is a man of decided views and opinions, and keeps himself thoroughly informed upon the leading topics of the day. He has never aspired to office, being content to occupy himself with his farming interests and the comforts of his family.



**J**OHN J. HUNT. The Nation in which we take such just pride is indebted to the lands across the sea for many of her most reliable citizens and enterprising workers in various lines of life. Among this class is numbered the gentleman above named, who owns and occupies a fine estate in Joliet Township, not far from the city limits. It comprises two hundred and fifty-

four and a half acres, four and a half acres on section 22, fifty acres on section 23, and two hundred acres on section 1, Manhattan Township, which is marked with the improvements usually made by a man of enterprise, but which are above the average in their durability and design. Mr. Hunt has spent the greater part of his life in the pursuit of agriculture, connecting stock-raising with the tilling of the soil to a considerable extent.

In Somersetshire, England, November 7, 1832, the eyes of our subject opened to the light, and in the mother country he remained until the age of eighteen years. He then crossed the briny deep for the land which had attracted him by its promise of a broader field for the energy which he felt, and after landing on the Eastern coast he came to the Prairie State, making his entrance into Joliet July 17, 1851. He found employment on a farm on Hickory Creek, where he worked by the month about seven years, after which, with his brother Mark, he rented the same estate for about four years. His next enterprise was the rental of a farm belonging to William Ferguson, for a twelve-month, the following three years being spent as a renter on an estate belonging to William Hughes.

While living upon the Hughes estate Mr. Hunt took a companion in life in the person of Miss Olive J. Wheeler, the marriage ceremony taking place May 7, 1861. Mrs. Hunt was born in Vermont, June 23, 1839, and exemplifies in her person the housewifely ability and unbounded energy of the Yankee character. Her parents, David N. and Lydia (Stanley) Wheeler, are also natives of the Green Mountain State, whence they came to Illinois early in the '50s. They made a permanent settlement in Frankfort Township, where they are still living. Their family consists of five sons and five daughters, Mrs. Hunt being the eldest.

For nearly two years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hunt resided upon the Hughes farm, after which they bought an estate in Manhattan Township, and removing there made it their home thirteen years. Having bought the present estate and erected upon it a most excellent dwelling, they removed here on March 26, 1876, with the intention of making this their permanent home. They are the parents of four children, their daughter, Edna

E., who is the youngest child, being the only one who remains with them. Joseph C. married Cora Jane Mapps, and lives in Joliet; Cora E. is the wife of John C. Love; John W. is now in the employ of the Michigan Central Railroad.

Mr. Hunt exercises the right of suffrage in support of the principles and candidates of the Republican party. Mrs. Hunt is a member of the First Baptist Church of Joliet. Among their associates they have many friends, and by all to whom they are known they are classed among the most respectable and intelligent members of the community.

The parents of Mr. Hunt were Joseph and Charlotte (Green) Hunt, both natives of the mother country, who died in Somersetshire. They had three sons and three daughters, he of whom we write being the second member of the family circle.



**M**ARTIN CUSHING, D. V. S. The subject of this notice is a prominent man in his profession and occupies a conveniently arranged establishment at No. 108 Exchange Street, Joliet, in which he has conducted a successful practice for the last six years. His wide experience and his strict attention to the duties of his chosen calling have rendered him more than ordinarily expert and he avails himself of all the means at his command to inform himself in regard to the various matters connected therewith. He has gathered around him the various appliances required for a successful business and personally, as well as in business circles, is highly spoken of in business community.

The subject of this sketch, a native of Utica, N. Y., was born September 7, 1852, and is the son of James and Margaret (McQuade) Cushing, the former of whom was born in County Queens, Ireland, and the latter in the city of Paisley, Scotland. James Cushing when a young man, emigrated to America and settled in Utica, N. Y., where he was married. In the spring of 1854, resolving upon seeking the farther west he came with his little family to this State and settled in Joliet. James

Cushing died November 9, 1884. The widow still resides in Joliet.

Dr. Cushing acquired a practical education in the city schools of Joliet and when approaching manhood was variously engaged until commencing the studies of veterinary surgery. In due time he entered upon a course of lectures at the Columbia Veterinary College, in New York City, and subsequently spent two years in the American College, in New York City, graduating from the latter in 1885, with a thorough knowledge of the methods of procedure in ordinary practice. He at once located at Joliet and has now all the business which he can attend to both in the city and country. In connection with this he established a livery business in partnership with his brother James, in the city of Joliet, in 1889, putting up a fine stone building which is conveniently arranged for hospital and operating purposes located at No. 108, Exchange Street.

Dr. Cushing has distinguished himself as a liberal and public spirited citizen, and after filling other positions of trust and responsibility, was in 1889 elected a member of the City Council on the Democratic ticket.



**C**HARLES S. COCKETT, late Secretary of the Ashley Wire Company, departed this life at his home in Joliet, September 20, 1888, at the age of fifty-three years, having been born March 3, 1835. His native place was Kirkland, Oneida County, N. Y. and his father was Thomas Cockett, who was of English descent and spent his last years in New York. The paternal grandfather settled on the Susquehanna River at an early day and built a number of mills in that vicinity, where it is probable he spent the remainder of his life. He was a skilled workman and successful man and became prominently known throughout that region.

The subject of this notice grew to mature years in his native county and obtained a good education, completing his studies in one of the schools of Cooperstown, Otsego County. For several years

thereafter he occupied himself in the mercantile business in the store of his uncle at Cooperstown. Then leaving his native State he emigrated to Decatur, Mich. and engaged in the insurance and express business until after the outbreak of the Civil War. Determining then to have a hand in the preservation of the Union, he enlisted in Company B, this being assigned to a regiment of Michigan Infantry, and which later became a part of the Excelsior Brigade of New York State. He served nearly four years, engaging in many important battles and receiving an honorable wound at the battle of Williamsburg. He was mustered out after the close of the war and received an honorable discharge. On account of having contracted a severe cold from the effects of which he was unable to entirely recover, he was given the post of Commissary Sergeant, which he held most of the time during his army life. Upon leaving the service Mr. Cockett returned to Decatur, Mich., and resumed operations in the insurance and express business which he conducted successfully for some years. On the 10th of April, 1867, he took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Mary J. Smith, and made his home in Decatur until 1875.

In the year above mentioned, Mr. Cockett disposed of his business interests in Michigan, and coming to Joliet, began dealing in grain and was thus occupied for two years. At the expiration of this time he became connected with Messrs. H. B. Scott & Co., manufacturers of barb wire, and when the Ashley Wire Works was organized he was made the Secretary and held this position until his death. He was a capable and reliable business man and enjoyed the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

Mrs. Mary J. (Smith) Cockett was born June 8, 1839, in New Lyme, Ashtabula County, Ohio, and is the daughter of H. B. and Mary (Clapp) Smith. Mr. Smith removed from Trumbull County, Ohio, to Benton Harbor, where his death took place. Mrs. Smith died June 20, 1839, a few days after the birth of her daughter. Mr. Smith lived until his daughter had reached womanhood. Mary remained a member of the household until her marriage, which resulted in the birth of one



child only, a son, Bret Harte, who was born March 16, 1871, at Decatur, Mich., and remains at home with his mother. Both mother and son are members in good standing of the Central Presbyterian Church.



**J**AMES F. MORRISSEY. It would be hard to find a gentleman of the same age who has reached so high a position in business circles, and held so prominent a place in public affairs, as the subject of this biographical notice, who is now serving as a member of the Common Council of Joliet. He represents the sixth ward in the aldermanic body, and is serving his second term. In addition to his public labors, he carries on the sale of agricultural implements and seeds, at No. 205 Washington Street, also dealing in road carts, etc.

Mr. Morrissey is a native of the city which he honors by his ability and service, his natal day having been April 25, 1859. His parents were James and Catharine Morrissey, both natives of Ireland, who came to America prior to their marriage, that event taking place in this city, where the father died. He of whom we write grew to maturity here, at the early age of thirteen years being graduated from the Joliet Business College. He then engaged with G. C. Erhard, dealer in agricultural implements, remaining in that gentleman's employ eleven years.

The next move of young Morrissey was to undertake the sale of the same line of goods on the road, as an agent for the Kleinfelter & Dillman Company, with which he was engaged eight years. At the close of his term with them, he began business for himself, opening his place of business in January, 1889. Thus far he has had a very successful trade, the prospects for the future being bright and encouraging. The long experience of Mr. Morrissey in the line of trade that he has adopted, gives him a perfect knowledge of that in which he deals, and his methods are strictly honorable, while marked by a spirit of enterprise and "push" highly commendable and such as wins success.

The public life of Mr. Morrissey began in 1886,

when he was elected Assistant Supervisor of Joliet Township, the office being so acceptably filled that he was re-elected the following year. The next year he was sent to the Council Chamber, and here also his efforts to advance the interests of the community are recognized by his constituents, and reflect credit upon himself. He is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, which was organized with his father as one of its early members.

On October 20, 1882, the rites of wedlock were celebrated between our subject and Miss Etta M. Ardagh, of Channahon Township. The bride was born in that township, her parents, Patrick and Mary Ardagh, being old residents there. She also belongs to St. Mary's Church. The union has been blessed by the birth of five children. They are named respectively, James R., Mary, Etta, Dora and John D.



**H**ERBERT H. BALDWIN, M. D., one of the younger members of the medical fraternity of Will County, has evidently entered upon a successful career in his chosen profession, making a specialty of electro-vapor and medicated baths. He maintains that this treatment is superior, usually and in most diseases, to the internal administration of medicine. He was born in Blue Island, Cook County, this State, September 22, 1857, and is the son of Henry and Sarah J. (Alexander) Baldwin, the former a native of London, England, and the latter of Pennsylvania.

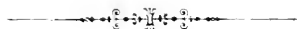
Henry Baldwin came to America about 1855-56, and died in the year 1858. He was a well-educated man and followed the profession of a teacher. The mother, after the death of her husband, made her home in Blue Island, and is now assistant Principal of one of the public schools of Chicago.

The subject of this notice was the only child of his parents, and attended the schools of his native place, graduating from the High School there. Later he supplemented his education by attendance at the Cook County Normal, at Englewood, from which he was graduated in 1876. For five years thereafter he occupied himself as a teacher

in the schools of Cook and Will Counties. In the meantime he was Principal of the schools of New Lenox, Prospect Avenue and Washington Heights. He commenced the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. H. W. Alexander, with whom he remained as student and associate for several years.

The Doctor finally entered the Chicago Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1883. He commenced the practice of his profession in Joliet, where he remained something over a year then, crossing the Mississippi, went to Hankinson, N. Dak., where he remained until the death of Dr. Alexander, May 27, 1889. Returning then to Joliet, he took up the Doctor's practice and is building up a fine business. He belongs to the Will County Medical Society, and keeps himself posted upon modern methods of treatment, both in connection with his specialty and the regular practice.

Dr. Baldwin was married June 25, 1888, at the bride's home in Minneapolis, Minn., to Miss Minnie A. Folsom. This lady was born in that city, and is a daughter of Prof. J. Folsom, also of Minneapolis. The Doctor and his amiable lady occupy a neat home on North Broadway, and enjoy the acquaintance and friendship of its best citizens. Politically he is a Republican, and both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**J**OSEPH FREDRICK. The enterprising sons of the Fatherland have permeated through all parts of the United States, and left their ineffaceable mark as the sign-manual of industry, energy and a perseverance which has never admitted the existence of any such word as "fail." They have brought to their adopted country the steady habits which were transmitted to them from a substantial ancestry, and by which they have arisen to prominent positions in the industrial as well as the political world. They came to the Territory of Illinois when it was first opened for settlement, and have built up some of its most fertile farms and valuable homesteads.

The subject of this notice—one of the most substantial farmers of Joliet Township—is a native of the province of Alsace, then a province of France, but now of Germany, and was born April 20, 1820. He was the eldest in a family of seven children, the offspring of Motlen and Kathrina (Steck) Fredrick, who were natives of the same province as their son, and where they spent their entire lives.

In 1840, when a young man of twenty years, the subject of this notice emigrated to America, landing in New York City. Thence he made his way to Buffalo, and from there emigrated to Chicago, Ill., and a short time afterward we find him in Joliet, this county, occupied at whatever honest labor he could find to do. For a time he was employed on a canal, but later worked for a farmer in DuPage County, remaining with him three years. In the meantime he made the acquaintance of Miss Sarah Wise, to whom he was married at Naperville, in 1844. After the birth of one child, Mr. Fredrick, in 1848, removed to Joliet where he lived one year. His next removal was to the farm which he now owns and occupies, and which lies a short distance west of the city limits.

Since his removal to this place Mr. Fredrick has given his entire attention to agricultural pursuits. His fine farm with eighty acres is embellished with good buildings, while he has made fences, planted fruit and shade trees, and gathered together all the comforts and conveniences of modern farm life. To him and his estimable wife there has been born a family of twelve children, eight of whom are living. Joseph married Sarah Smith and lives in Joliet; Frank E. married Miss Margaret Parks and is a resident of Joliet; Sarah is the wife of Thomas Bosson, and they live in Joliet; Josephine, Charles A., Oswald J., William W. and Anna A. are at home with their parents. The deceased children were taken from the household circle at a tender age. Mr. Fredrick politically affiliates with the Democratic party. He was reared in the faith of the Catholic Church, to which he still loyally adheres.

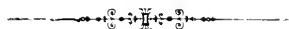
Mrs. Fredrick is the daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Martin) Wise, who were natives of the kingdom of Bavaria and of German parentage and





yours Respectfully  
George Alexander

ancestry. They emigrated to America in 1831, settling first in Pennsylvania, where they lived seven years. In 1837 they came to Illinois, settling in DuPage County, where they spent the closing years of their lives. There was born to them a family of seven children, four of whom are living. Mrs. Fredrick is the third child and likewise is a native of Bavaria, her birth taking place August 4, 1827. She was a child of three or four years when coming to America, and remained under the parental roof until her marriage.



**G**EORGE ALEXANDER, who ably represents the township of Channahon, on the County Board of Supervisors, and whose portrait will be noticed on the opposite page, is the oldest native-born citizen now living here. He is well known throughout this part of Illinois as one of its keenest and most sagacious business men, and one who has been variously identified with its interests for many years; by his energetic and resolute force of character and talent for affairs he has given a great impetus to the growth of this section of country, and is still actively forwarding various schemes for its advancement in important directions. He is one of the foremost farmers and raisers of stock, and owns one of the largest and finest farms in this part of the State.

Mr. Alexander was born on the Reed place, in the east part of this county, October 27, 1837. He comes of an old pioneer family, his parents, John and Elizabeth (Turner) Alexander, coming here in the early days of the settlement of the country, and moving on the farm where our subject now resides, when he was a year old. They lived there until death, the mother dying in 1853, and the father in 1856, he being killed by a kick from a horse. He was a native of Scotland but was reared in England, and was there married and in 1836 came to this country with his wife, and located here permanently. He crossed the Atlantic five times, and in 1835 first set foot in Chicago, which was then but an insignificant hamlet.

Our subject is the third in a family of six chil-

dren, and was reared amid pioneer scenes to a stalwart manhood, bred to agricultural pursuits. His father was a well-educated man, and taught school in the early days of the settlement of this county, and our subject besides attending the local school received the benefit of instruction from his father, and thus obtained a liberal education. He started in business for himself with thirty-five acres of land, and has met with more than ordinary success, being now the possessor of seven hundred and fifty-five acres, all of which lies within five miles of his home. His homestead is on section 15, Channahon Township, lying on the banks of the Desplaines River. The Chicago & Alton and Santa Fe Railroads run through the farm near his house, and a station has been located about a mile from there. He early gave his attention to the grain and cattle interests, and also to raising horses, having made a speciality of the stock business, shipping to Chicago, Buffalo, and even to Albany, and has been thirteen days on the road with his cattle. This he followed a long time, being in partnership with C. C. Smith for nineteen years; they also opened a butter factory in the village of Channahon, which they managed together for several years, handling as many as sixteen thousand pounds of milk per day, making butter and cheese. Our subject has by no means confined himself to agricultural pursuits, but has been engaged in other directions. He was connected with James Bruce in quarrying and shipping stone, furnishing the fluxing stone to the rolling mills, he having a specially fine stone on his place adapted to that purpose. At different times he contracted with the State to furnish the prison with meat, in company with C. C. Smith.

February 11, 1860, Mr. Alexander was united in marriage with Miss Emeline, daughter of Nelson Bedford, of New Jersey. They have had seven children, five of whom survive, namely: Nettie, Hattie, Mary, John and Ruth, the latter a child living with her parents. Nettie, the eldest keeps house for her brother John, who is now managing one of his father's farms in Wilmington Township; Hattie is the wife of William Jennings, formerly of Will County, now residing in Crawford County, Kan., and they have three children—Emma, George

and Blanche; Mary is the wife of Allison Tryon, of Channahon, and they have two children—George and Louis.

Mr. Alexander is a man of fine physical and mental endowments and his honorable, conscientious course as a business man, his far-seeing qualities, tact and enterprise make him an invaluable citizen of his native county, and it is to the influence of such men of fertile brain and liberal spirit that Will County is indebted for its high standing and prosperity. He is generous, frank and kind, genial and courteous in his intercourse with others and occupies a warm place in the hearts of his many friends. He is a leader among the Democrats of this section, takes a prominent part in public affairs and was elected Supervisor on that ticket, a position for which he is peculiarly well fitted. He is identified with Channahon Lodge, No. 262, A. F. & A. M.



**L**EVI HARTWELL. "Deacon" Hartwell as he has been known from boyhood, is numbered among the oldest and most honored settlers of Homer Township. There are living but two or three of the men whom he found in this township when first coming to Will County. Not only has he maintained his residence here for the long period of fifty-seven years, but he has been one of the township's most prominent and useful men, identifying himself with its most worthy enterprises and giving his moral and substantial aid to whatever was calculated for the promotion of its best interests. He is a man whose opinions are thoroughly respected and who is looked up to by his neighbors as one possessing more than ordinary ability and whose integrity has been maintained unquestioned during the changes of a long and useful life. His occupation has been that of a farmer, in which he has been successful, securing a home to defend him against want in his declining years.

Mr. Hartwell is descended from excellent stock which flourished in New England during the Colonial days. His father, the late Samuel Hartwell,

was a native of Hadley, Mass., and born in 1789. His mother who bore the name of Abigail Davis, was born in 1799, and it is believed was of French parentage, being also herself probably born in France. The parents after marriage settled in Rochester, N. Y., where the father occupied himself as a carpenter and farmer. Later they became residents of Pittsford, Monroe County, where the mother died in 1828.

After the decease of his wife Samuel Hartwell returned to his native State, and in 1834 met an accidental death by falling from what was known as Dry Bridge, near Hadley, where he was found with life extinct. The parental family consisted of three sons and two daughters, of whom our subject was the eldest. He was born in Hadley, Mass., December 10, 1817, and at the early age of eleven years was thrown upon his own resources and compelled thereafter to look out for himself. He entered upon an apprenticeship at blacksmithing, serving seven years with the late John Lane. In June, 1833, he came in company with Mr. Lane, to this county which was then a part of Cook County. After completing his apprenticeship he followed his trade mostly in Homer Township, until 1870, but at the same time operated his farm in connection therewith. In due time he engaged in business for himself and manufactured steel plows which were sent all over the country, there being shipped to California alone seven hundred of these, which was sufficient indication of their popularity and utility. Mr. Hartwell also manufactured other agricultural implements and from this source realized handsome returns.

In 1839, Deacon Hartwell purchased thirty acres of land on section 20, Homer Township, and which was considered practically worthless, being mostly a marsh. Its condition to-day illustrates in a marked manner the results of good management, industry and perseverance, as combined with what he subsequently purchased, it now comprises some of the most valuable soil in Will County.

Wisely making provision for a family before he assumed the responsibilities of one, Mr. Hartwell remained unmarried until approaching the twenty-fifth year of his age and was then wedded November 3, 1842, at the bride's home in Homer Town-

ship to Miss Louisa, daughter of Edward and Sarah (Morris) Poor. The young people commenced the journey of life together at their own home, and labored with a mutual purpose in gathering around themselves the comforts of life and acquiring a competence for the future. Mrs. Hartwell was likewise from an excellent family. Her parents were natives of South Carolina and came to Illinois in 1830, locating among the earliest pioneers of Homer Township. The father secured land and followed farming and built up a good home where he and his estimable partner spent the remainder of their days.

Mrs. Hartwell was born near Attica, Ind., September 11, 1823. Her parents had emigrated to that State when it was practically a frontier, and thus endured twice the experiment of life in a new country peopled principally by wild animals and Indians. They were most excellent and worthy people and without making any great stir in the world, performed their duty faithfully to those depending upon them and are held in kindly remembrance by all who knew them. Edward Poor, is supposed to have purchased the first land secured from the Government in Homer Township, the deeds of which were the first entered upon the county records for this township.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell there were five sons, the eldest of whom, William E., died when two years old. William E., second, during the late Civil War served in the Union Army as a member of Company A, Third Illinois Cavalry, and died in the hospital at Eastport, Miss., during the early part of May, 1865, at the age of nineteen years. Charles R. died at the homestead of consumption, he being also nineteen years old; Levi, Jr., also died at the age of nineteen years. Thus Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell were called to part with three promising sons upon whom they had fastened many hopes. In their great affliction they were tendered the sympathy of many friends. Samuel follows agricultural pursuits and lives at the homestead. He married Miss Emma West. Mrs. Louisa Hartwell departed this life at the homestead in Homer Township, October 26, 1867.

On the 22d of April, 1868, Mr. Hartwell contracted a second marriage in Chicago, Ill., with

Miss Emma A. Trak. This lady was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., November 10, 1846, and died of diphtheria in Homer Township, March 3, 1886. The Hartwell farm is embellished with first-class buildings and now embraces one hundred and ten acres all of which has been brought to a high state of cultivation. In politics our subject is independent and although not a member of any religious denomination, believes in the establishment and maintenance of churches and contributes to the support of the Gospel. He held the office of Constable in 1838, being the first official of this kind in the town of Homer. He has been a School Trustee in his district and Overseer and Commissioner of Highways for many years. He represented Homer Township in the County Board of Supervisors two years, and was the Poor Master for one year. No man has taken a warmer interest in the advancement of the best interests of the community and none have given a more cordial support to the enterprises calculated to aid its progress, socially, morally and financially.



MRS. ELIZABETH M. FARGO, widow of Orange T. Fargo, is a native of Rock Island County, Ill., where she was born May 21, 1844. Her parents, Lucias and Harriet (McLean) Mears, moved to Kendall County when she was six years of age. Her father was a carpenter and upon the breaking out of the gold fever he went to California. While on his way home he was stricken by cholera and died on board a Mississippi steamer, May 21, 1851. The widowed mother is still living, now in Chicago. She has one son, J. M., engaged in the commission business in that city, and two daughters, Mrs. C. N. Cheek and Mrs. W. A. Taylor, residing there.

The lady whose name stands at the head of this sketch has been twice married. She has a son, H. H. Delos, by her first husband, a noble young man of whom she is justly proud. He is now Treasurer of the Chicago and Aurora Refining and Smelting Company. He has recently taken a companion in life, his bride being Miss Edith, daughter of

Charles Pettigrew, of the Illinois Steel Company, with whom he was united in marriage January 22, 1890.

On February 18, 1872, our subject was united in marriage with Orange T. Fargo, with whom she lived happily until November 3, 1871, when he entered into rest. He was a native of the Empire State in which he opened his eyes to the light February 10, 1829. He was a most excellent man highly spoken of by all who knew him, his habits being unexceptionable and his whole life most exemplary.

Mr. Fargo, politically, during his life was a staunch Republican. When first widowed in 1868, Mrs. Fargo, then Mrs. Delos, began dressmaking in Chicago, and has pursued that vocation ever since. She has enjoyed a very large patronage among the best citizens of Joliet, and has made many friends in the years of her residence here. She owns the elegant building known as the Fargo Block, on the corner of Ottawa and Van Buren Streets. She is a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church in whose work she takes deep interest.



**K**NUD PEDERSON derives a comfortable income from his farming operations, which he is carrying on very successfully in Will County. He is a representative of the Scandinavian element that has played so important a part in the settlement and development of the great West, and his thrift and industry make him a most desirable citizen.

Mr. Pederson was born October 7, 1827, in the province of Thronhyem, Norway, a son of Peter and Anna (Knud) Lawson, also natives of that country. His father was a tailor by occupation, but in the Swedish Norwegian War he served as a soldier four years. He departed this life in 1839. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, three of whom died young, five of whom are still living, as follows: Mrs. Emily Erickson, of Evanston, Ill.; Knud and Lewis; Mrs. Anna Hanson, of Chicago; Mrs. Regana Schellstal, of Seattle, Wash.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Lewis Pederson, a native and a farmer of Norway. He was the father of three sons and two daughters, of whom two sons and one daughter reared families. The mother of our subject came to the United States with him, and died in his home in 1871, at the venerable age of eighty-three years. She was a daughter of Knud Garmo, who took his name from the farm on which he lived. He and his wife reared a large family of sixteen children.

The subject of this brief biography passed his early life on a farm, and after his father's death, worked out as a farm laborer by the month until he was twenty-seven years old. He then took to a seafaring life, which he abandoned after being wrecked in 1862, and subsequently came to America to try his fortunes here, accompanied by his mother and sister Anna. They located in Chicago, to which place his other sisters had preceded him some three years before. After settling here, he again became a sailor, and was engaged on the lakes three years. In the spring of 1866, he came to Will Township, having decided to resume the calling to which he had been bred. He bought one hundred and fourteen acres on section 6, and since then has been busily engaged in its improvement, and has wrought a great change, putting the land under excellent tillage and providing it with suitable buildings and everything needful to carry on his operations successfully.

Mr. Pederson has had the assistance of a good and faithful wife since his marriage, February 14, 1864, to Inga Margretta Olson, a native of Norway, and a daughter of Ole Schinner. She crossed the waters alone from the land of her nativity in 1863, her parents following her in 1872, with three of their children. Our subject and his wife have been blessed by the birth of six children, four of whom are living—Peter, Oliver, Louie N. and Arthur W. The great sorrow of their wedded life has been the death of their daughter Clara, at the age of fifteen years, and their son Arthur (second), at the age of two and one half years.

Mr. Pederson has managed his affairs shrewdly and well since turning his attention to agriculture nearly a quarter of a century ago, and may well be pleased with what he has accomplished by his own



hands with steady and persevering toil. He and his wife are greatly esteemed in the neighborhood, and are among the respected members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**P**ETER KNEPPER. The results of industry, thrift and wise judgment have been manifested in the career of this gentleman, who in all matters pertaining to his financial standing has fairly earned the title of a self-made man. He owns and occupies eighty acres of valuable land on section 14, Green Garden Township, and every part of the estate gives evidence of the prudence and good judgment of its owner, and likewise betokens that he is a man of good taste and domestic instincts.

It will not be amiss to devote a brief space to the progenitors of our subject ere entering upon our outlining of his own life. His father, John Knepper, a native of Luxembourg, was a farmer and stock-raiser who gained independent circumstances and a landed estate of one hundred and forty acres, which is a large farm for that country. He was a participant in the Franco-Belgian War, was Mayor of Mertzig six years and Treasurer of his home district twenty-eight years. He lived to the ripe age of eighty-two years, dying in 1885. His wife, formerly Mary Welter, was born in Platten, being a daughter of Philip Welter, a well-to-do farmer of that province. She had a brother in the Franco-Spanish War four years, and who afterward took part in the Franco-Russian War. She died in 1887 at the age of eighty one years.

The parental family comprised seven children of whom our subject is the sixth in order of birth. The first-born, Mary, is deceased; Lena, Mrs. Marjars, living in her native duchy; Anna is deceased; John is living in Luxembourg; Philip resides in LeMars, Iowa; Frank resides in Chicago.

The gentleman of whom we write was born at Mertzig, Luxembourg, February 2, 1812, and was reared in his native place, having the advantages of good schools from his sixth to his fourteenth year.

He acquired a more than ordinarily good education, receiving instruction in both German and French, which languages he speaks readily.

The young man remained upon the home farm until twenty-seven years of age when, being desirous of securing a home of his own and land being high in his native country, he determined to come to America, where he thought he could better his financial condition. He therefore bade adieu to home and friends in 1869, and set sail from Havre, January 11, on the steamer "Manhattan" which reached Liverpool three days later. There he embarked on the steamer "Palmyra" which anchored in New York Harbor, January 28. Mr. Knepper started for Dubuque, Iowa, but when he reached Chicago was somewhat ill and so remained there some days. Mr. Eisenbrandt persuaded him to locate in this State and in Will County. He therefore came into Green Garden Township on the 2d of February, and spent the year in working for Mr. Eisenbrandt. His services were engaged by the year the second time and after that experience as an employe, he began farming for himself.

Mr. Knepper rented one hundred and twenty acres from his former employer and operated it quite successfully. In 1871, he purchased the eighty acres which he now occupies and which at that time bore some old buildings. On this he engaged in the labors which have brought him a competent support and a reputation which is creditable to his intelligence and enterprise. He at one time owned forty acres adjoining, but sold it, retaining but his first purchase. The land is all tillable, is well fenced, tiled and furnished with a full set of adequate and substantial buildings. Mr. Knepper has set out groves and orchards which add to the beauty of his home as well as to its monetary value. The residence is five miles from Frankfort. Mr. Knepper divides his attention between the raising of grain and graded stock, including Norman horses.

In Joliet October 12, 1870, the interesting ceremony took place which gave Mr. Knepper a wife. The lady with whom he was united was Miss Mary Henzpeter, who was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, and accompanied her parents here in 1869. She is well informed and has the knowledge of

housewifely arts which is almost inseparable from the training of a German maiden, while her character is an amiable and loving one. Her parents, Fred and Dora (Koester) Henzpeter, have five children of whom she is the first-born and the only daughter. Her brother Fred lives in Frankfort Township; Charles, in Marcus, Iowa; John, in Joliet; and Henry in Iowa. The parents are living in Green Garden Township and the father is engaged in farming.

The happy union of Mr. and Mrs. Knepper has been blest by the birth of four children, three of whom—Bertha, Clara and Charles—are at home. The first-born, Caroline, is residing in Joliet. Mr. Knepper is an active Democrat and has been a delegate to county conventions. He has served in public capacities, among them being that of Collector, which he held one year, Township School Treasurer, in which he has served during the past six years and of which office he is yet the incumbent, and School Director which position he held six years. He belongs to the Green Garden Evangelical Church. His knowledge of the English language was acquired by personal effort, his evenings being devoted to study until he had sufficiently mastered it.



**W**ILLIAM DAY, deceased, was for many years a well-known and greatly respected member of the farming community of Whatland, and his name is linked with its growth. He was of English birth and antecedents, born in Lincolnshire, November 1, 1833, a son of John and Rebecca Day, who were also natives of England. He was reared to man's estate in the country of his birth and was engaged mostly in farm work.

His educational advantages were limited, but he made up for that by the knowledge that he gleaned as an observant, intelligent man. He was ambitious to secure a competence, and having an idea that he could do so more advantageously in the United States of America, he crossed the waters to this country, accompanied by his young wife, in 1861, taking passage at Liverpool on a sailing-vessel, and after a voyage of thirty-one days, landing in the

great metropolis of the country. He and his wife came directly to this county, and he finally selected the farm now owned and occupied by his widow as the most desirable in every way for his purposes. It is in an excellent condition, is provided with neat buildings, its fields are under admirable cultivation, and it is every way a most desirable place.

February 15, 1860, Mr. Day and Miss Sarah Fisher were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. Her birthplace was in the same English shire as his, and there she was born in the month of August, 1840. She is a daughter of John and Maria Fisher, both natives of England. The marriage of our subject and his wife was blessed by the birth of seven children, four of whom are now living: John W., Frank F., Lucy R. and Grace M., all residing in Wheatland Township, and the latter living with her mother.

Mr. Day was prospered in his calling, and from a poor man who was obliged to work out by the month, he became independent and the proprietor of a valuable farm, as we have seen. His death, December 11, 1881, was a loss, not only to his bereaved household, but to the community at large, where he had come to make his home so many years ago. His neighbors always found him honorable and fair in his dealings with them, and in his domestic relations he was a kind and loving father, and a devoted husband, and always did the best that he could for his family. He was a loyal citizen to his adopted country, took an intelligent interest in its politics, and supported the Republican party.



**J**OHN GEORGE GEUTHIER. The home farm of this gentleman is one of the finest pieces of land in the Prairie State, and has been so improved that it forms a dwelling place of great attractiveness and comfort. It comprises two hundred acres of tillable land on section 15, Frankfort Township, which is watered by Hickory Creek, and bears improvements which are unexcelled in the township. The residence is of

pleasing architectural design, and it and the various outbuildings are sufficiently commodious for their purpose. There are several barns on the place, which are needed to house the stock and crops, in the raising of which Mr. Geuther is engaged. A windmill and tank, and the latest improvements in farm machinery make the labors performed more easy than was the case in the olden time, and orchards and gardens furnish an abundance of the fruits of the earth, beside adding attractive features to the landscape.

Mr. Geuther is engaged in general farming, keeping three teams constantly employed on the farm, and also raising good grades of cattle, hogs and draft-horses, having now some twenty head of the latter. He is the largest land-owner in the township, and one of the largest in the county, owning in all about sixteen hundred acres, the different farms being well improved and occupied by tenants. His landed estate is divided into the following tracts: One hundred and seventy-seven acres on section 22; one hundred and fifty-seven on section 23, Frankfort Township; one hundred and sixty-three acres in Green Garden Township; one hundred and sixty acres on section 25, Manhattan Township; one hundred and twenty acres on the township line of New Lenox and Frankfort Townships; and five hundred and sixty acres in Cherokee County, Iowa. On the different places in Frankfort Township he has over fifty acres of timber land.

The father of our subject was John George Geuther, Sr., who was born in Weidhausen, Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Germany, and the son of John Nicholas Geuther, a baker. When a young man, he was quite poor, but being hard-working and having a capable helpmate, he ere long was able to purchase a small piece of land and add to it from time to time. He and his wife had begun by making baskets, and added to their real estate until they possessed forty acres, which was a good farm for that country, and in the securing and operating of which they were ranked as the most successful farmers in their neighborhood.

In 1848 Mr. Geuther emigrated to America with his family, except his oldest son, who had crossed the Atlantic two years before, and after living in New York City for a time, had gone South and

been lost track of. The father came to Illinois, and renting a farm in Frankfort, this county, operated the same for a year. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 3, the price being \$500, and there he lived for three years, putting the place under excellent improvement. He next purchased what is now the home farm of our subject, and locating here, continued his agricultural work for a time. He then let our subject take charge of it, and lived with him during the remainder of his life. He breathed his last April 26, 1889, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. In addition to the property mentioned, he had also bought one hundred and sixty acres in Green Garden Township, and having three sons, he gave each of them a farm.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Kunigunda Fitzmeir. She was born in Weidhausen, Germany, and died at her home in this county, in 1881. Her oldest child, John Nicholas, is now farming in Green Garden Township. He came to America in 1844, and having drifted to Charleston, S. C., remained there during the war, and was lost to the paternal household for twenty years, as he did not know they had come to America; he came to Northern Illinois in 1866. John George, Jr., was a farmer in Frankfort Township, and was run over by the Rock Island Railroad train in the spring of 1890.

The gentleman of whom we write is the youngest member of the parental household. He was born in Weidhausen, Germany, May 16, 1838, and was reared until his tenth year in his native land. He then accompanied his parents to America, leaving Bremen in April, and spending forty-two days on the briny deep. After landing in New York City the family traveled by river, canal and lakes to Chicago, where they secured teams to carry them to Frankfort Township. The lad attended the common schools, and in the interims of study hunted and assisted his father on the farm. When the family removed to their present home, he and his father did all the work, and he broke soil, drove oxen, and bore a hand in other arduous labors. They operated a sawmill several years in connection with their agricultural work.

Ere long the young man took charge of the

place, renting of his father until he came into possession of it, and making the various improvements which now mark it as one of the finest farms in the township. He gradually drifted into stock-raising, and his hard work and perseverance secured for him a high rank among agriculturists and stockmen, and gave him possession of his large amount of realty. He has ever been upright and straightforward in his dealings and active in his support of all worthy movements which promise to increase the prosperity of those about them.

The first marriage of Mr. Geuther was celebrated in this township in 1861, his bride being Miss Mina Eisenbrandt. This worthy woman was born in Germany, and came to the United States with her parents when two years old. She breathed her last in 1872, leaving four children, named respectively—John, George, Henry and Mary. All are still residing under the home roof.

The second matrimonial alliance of Mr. Geuther was also celebrated in this township, the date of the happy event being March 1, 1875. The bride was Miss Dorothea Raedlein, who was born in Germany February 28, 1852, and was well educated in her native clime. In 1871 she sailed from Bremen on the steamer "Mosell," which dropped her anchor in New York harbor fourteen days later. The young lady came at once to Mokena, Ill., to the home of her aunt, Mrs. Miller, with whom she remained until her marriage. She is the mother of six children—Annie, Bertha, Nicholas, Eddie, Clara and Otto.

The parents of Mrs. Dorothea Geuther are Robert Raedlein, who is still living in his native province of Saxe-Coburg, and Kunigunda (Collis) Raedlein, deceased. The latter was born in Bavaria, and bore her husband ten children, nine of whom are living, six in Germany and three in America. Mr. Raedlein is the son of a prominent and successful merchant, and became "squire" when twenty years old. He held the position until he became one of the leading officials of the province in an office similar to that of an American senator, which he has now held for twenty-five years. He is also a merchant with a large trade. He belongs to the Lutheran Church, as did his worthy wife, and their daughter was

carefully reared in accordance with its principles.

Mr. Geuther is much interested in the advancement of the cause of education, and has served as School Director, although he otherwise declines public honors. In former years he was Trustee of Frankfort Township, having been elected on the Democratic ticket. He holds membership in the German Lutheran Church, in Frankfort Township, their place of worship being located on his farm. His father gave an acre of land as the site, and was one of the organizers of the congregation, and his son has followed his example in being an active supporter of religion.



**J**ACOB BUEHLER. A farm of moderate extent, but well improved and managed, and located near the city of Joliet, is the home of the subject of this notice. He is engaged in the dairy business, finding sale for all the products of his farm in this city. The estate is supplied with a full line of well-built edifices, which afford adequate shelter for stock and storage for the products which are yielded by the land or manufactured upon it.

The owner of this comfortable home is of Swiss lineage and birth. His parents, Ulrich and Margareta (Soch) Buehler, came to America a score of years ago, settling in the Empire State, where the fat er died. The mother is yet living and still pursuing a career of usefulness. She is the mother of twelve children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the first-born. His natal day was February 16, 1850, and in his native land he acquired a fair stock of information, and derived from his worthy parents principles of conduct which give him a good standing among his fellow-men. He was about nineteen years of age when the removal to America took place, and he took his place at once among the workers of the country.

After having become a resident of Illinois, Mr. Buehler took a companion in life, the rites of wedlock being celebrated between him and Miss Eliza Engemann, October 21, 1875. The bride is the oldest of the twelve children born to John and





*A. P. Holder M. D.*

Elizabeth (Lehmann) Engemann, and opened her eyes to the light in Switzerland, August 11, 1852. Her parents also were natives of the land so famed for the beauty of its scenery and the liberty-loving spirit of its people, and became citizens of America in 1872. They landed in New York, and went at once to Ohio, where they resided a year, after which they took up their abode in Joliet. Here the father died in August, 1884.

Mrs. Buehler possesses all the energy, perseverance and zeal which characterize the race, together with the neatness and love of order which are also prominent traits in Swiss character, and having obtained much useful knowledge and skill in earlier years, she conducts the affairs which are entrusted to her oversight in a manner which proves her ability as housewife and helpmate. She has borne her husband three children—Albert, Mary and Freda. Mr. Buehler supports the Democratic party by his vote and personal influence.



**N**EWTON P. HOLDEN, M.D. This well-bred and well-informed gentleman was a successful practitioner of the profession of medicine for many years, but is now living a retired life at Frankfort Station. He has accumulated a fortune, and is enjoying merited repose after a life spent in activity and usefulness. His portrait, presented on the opposite page, represents one of the oldest settlers in the township, the wealthiest man therein, and also one of the oldest practicing physicians of the county. Having always led an active life, he is not content to idle away his time, but occupies himself in looking after his financial interests, and in traveling. He loans money, and now has over twenty farm mortgages in different States, and he likewise has real estate which he rents.

Dr. Holden is of New England birth and ancestry, and of English extraction. His father, Phineas H. Holden, was born in Middlesex County, Mass., and was Captain of a canal boat on the Middlesex Canal. He shipped the brick which was used in the construction of the first factory built in

Lowell. Being the son of a New England farmer, he had a good knowledge of agricultural pursuits, to which he finally turned his attention. He owned eighty acres of land in New Hampshire, but in 1836 removed to Northern Illinois, settling in Will County, in what was then called New Lenox Precinct, but is now Frankfort Township. He entered a tract of Government land, and although poor when he came here, ere long became the owner of a fine farm. In his political views, he was first a Whig and then a Republican, and his religious belief coincided with that of the Universalist Church. He breathed his last at his home in 1872.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Betsey Parker. She was born in Westfield, Mass., and was the daughter of Levi Parker, a blacksmith and a Revolutionary soldier. He was First Lieutenant in a Massachusetts regiment, participated in the battle of Bunker Hill, and was present at the hanging of Maj. Andre. His daughter, Mrs. Holden, was reared in the Bay State under the care of parents who were devoted members of the Baptist Church. She, like her husband, died in the Prairie State at the home of their son, our subject.

The parental household comprised nine children, of whom our subject is the second in order of birth. The others are: Elizabeth, now Mrs. Wilson, of Ft. Madison, Iowa; Emeline, wife of Dr. Freer, who died in Chicago; Sarah, deceased; Mrs. Jane Brown, of Chicago; David L., of Matteson; Charles C. P., in Chicago; George M., of Ft. Madison, Iowa; and Levi P., of Hampton, Iowa. The latter enlisted in the Twentieth Illinois Infantry, in April, 1861, and after serving three months was discharged only to re-enter the army as Major of the Eighty-eighth Infantry, known as the Second Board of Trade Regiment. Although he had horses shot under him on more than one occasion, he escaped any personal injury. David L. also served his country, being a member of the Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, from 1861 until the close of the war, and having the rank of Commissary Sergeant.

Dr. Holden, the subject of this notice, was born in Grafton County, N. H., June 20, 1820, and was

reared upon a farm, in the work of which he participated from his tenth year. He received a good education under the privileges afforded by the subscription schools. In 1831 the family removed to Hartford, Vt., where they remained some five years, and then, in the spring of 1836, accomplished their journey to what was then the Far West. Our subject was in his sixteenth year when the removal took place, and the scenes and incidents of the journey are well remembered by him. A canal boat was their first conveyance, and upon it they journeyed from Whitehall to Buffalo. There they embarked on a steamer for Ft. Dearborn, now Chicago, while ox-teams conveyed them from that trading post to their new home in Will County.

Young Holden assisted his father in the improvement of the farm, and when seventeen years old became a mail carrier, his route being from Joliet to LaPorte, Ind., through Crete, Crown Point and Valparaiso. He made the trip once a week, traveling on horseback and being obliged to swim the rivers, often losing his way on account of the bad roads, which delayed him until nightfall, when he found it impossible to keep his route in the darkness. In 1840 he was sent to Chicago to pay a debt which his father owed to a man in that place, and there he remained a year, working as clerk in an hotel. Chicago was then but a small town, which gave little promise of its present large population, grandeur of improvements and great commercial importance. Dr. Holden says that he feels old when he recalls the Chicago which he first knew, and thinks of the great changes which have taken place.

Returning to his father's home in the fall, Dr. Holden began teaching before he had reached his majority, his first school being in New Lenox. He continued his pedagogical labors in Frankfort Township during the summer and winter terms, the scene of his labors being a log schoolhouse with slab benches and the other primitive appointments of which we have heard so much. Deer roamed over the prairies adjacent, and Indians were camped at Wilton not far distant.

In 1844 Dr. Holden spent one term in studying in the Chicago Academy and two terms at Joliet. During the summer he read Latin with Father

DuPondaris, and in the fall he again turned his attention to teaching. He taught in Plainfield in 1842-43, after which he gave up that profession to study one on which his heart had long been set. He went to Bristol, now Yorkville, Kendall County, and began the study of medicine under Dr. Wheeler, with whom he read three years. When Rush Medical College in Chicago was opened he entered that institution, being one of the students who were present during the first course of study. After three years of application he was graduated, in February, 1846, immediately after which he entered into partnership with his former instructor, Dr. Wheeler, at Bristol.

The connection proved agreeable, and Dr. Holden was succeeding well in his labors, when his comfort was so interfered with by the ague—Bristol being situated on the Fox River and subject to malarial influences—that in 1850 the partnership was dissolved. The discovery of gold on the coast having aroused his desire to see something of life in that far country, the young doctor started across the plains with five horses and two wagons. He crossed the Missouri River at Nebraska City, April 2, and followed the Platte River westward, reaching Placerville, Cal., July 2, his outfit being a part of the first train over the plains. He engaged in mining and prospecting during the winter, and selling his outfit in December, 1851, went to San Francisco, and returned to the Prairie State via the Isthmus of Panama, New Orleans and St. Louis, taking the stage from the latter point to Springfield, Ill., and locating again in Bristol.

The ague fastened its clutches upon the Doctor once more, and he made a second journey to California with a similar outfit as that of his first journey, having a splendid time en route. The spring of 1852 was the date of his second overland journey, and he remained in the West some time, practicing his profession on the Yuba River, and the succeeding summer in the Napa Valley. He returned again to the States in the fall of 1853 by steamer, and then settled in Mokona. He was the first physician there, and prior to the opening of his office there had been none nearer than Joliet. He soon had a fine practice, and although the



next year he went to his father's farm to take care of his parents, he continued his professional labors, riding all over the country. The chief means of travel was on horseback, and with physicians this was especially common, as the roads were not the best, and they could get along much better in this way than with vehicles.

Not only did Dr. Holden have an extensive practice in several townships, but he also carried on the farm, and made it successful in a financial way. He kept about five hundred head of sheep, and from time to time purchased additional land until his possessions amounted to over five hundred acres. He applied himself thoroughly to whatever he undertook, and being always busy, accomplished a vast amount of professional and agricultural labor. In 1873 he removed to Chicago, where he spent the greater part of his time until January, 1878. In December, 1875, he was appointed County Physician of Cook County, and held the office two years, during which time he had plenty to do and had no assistant.

When he left Chicago he returned to the farm with the intention of retiring from his profession, but for some time he was not able to do so, as he was continually called upon for his services. He managed the farm until 1881, when he sold it, and removing to town, finally gave up his active pursuits. He owns some three hundred acres of land between the Michigan Central Cut-off and the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railroads, which forms a large pasture, well watered by Hickory Creek, and rented to advantage. He is also the possessor of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Hardin County, Iowa, near Iowa Falls.

The wife of Dr. Holden is a finely educated and cultured lady, who in her maidenhood was engaged in teaching, doing honor to the profession to which she devoted herself. She bore the maiden name of Caroline Parrish, and was born in Honeoye Falls, N. Y., January 17, 1826. When ten years of age she accompanied her mother and stepfather to the Prairie State, coming all the way in a buggy. She distinctly remembers the incidents of the journey, and vividly recollects seeing parties with heavy loads get stuck in the mud. Upon reaching Chicago they stopped at the Tremont House, which

was at that time the best hotel in the city. Miss Parrish attended a young ladies' select school at Aurora, and after completing her studies taught until her marriage, which was celebrated in Bristol, Kendall County, June 30, 1847.

Doctor and Mrs. Holden are the parents of four children, only one of whom is yet spared to them. The only daughter, Sarah, possessed musical talent of a high order, and was sent to the Conservatory of Music at Boston, to perfect herself in the art to which she was inclined. She studied there two years, but died soon after her return home. The second child, Wright, was graduated at the High School in Englewood, and studied law with Judge Dickey. He was admitted to the bar at Ottawa, and became a practicing attorney in Chicago. While on his way to New Mexico he was taken alarmingly ill in Newton, Kan., and there passed away. Milton, the second son, is a broker in Michigan, and deals in railroad stocks and grain. Franklin was graduated at Rush Medical College in Chicago, with the class of '86, he receiving the highest standing of any of the class. He was appointed House Surgeon at St. Luke's Hospital in Chicago, but the confinement which his many duties occasioned affected his health, and six months after he assumed the position he was stricken with fever which developed into consumption and caused his decease. He went to Pueblo, Colo., hoping to be restored to health, but it was too late, and his parents and friends were compelled to bow to the severe affliction occasioned by his loss.

Dr. Holden has served as Highway Commissioner one year, as Township Clerk an equal length of time, and as School Director ten years. His political adherence is given to the principles and candidates of the Democratic party. As would be expected of a man of his mental attainments and earnestness of character, he has ever manifested a deep interest in all that tends to develop the material prosperity and add to the mental and moral growth of the community of which he is a member. Mrs. Holden has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since she was sixteen years old.

The parents of Mrs. Holden were Loomis K. and Sarah (Dodge) Parrish. Her paternal grandfather,

Abraham Parrish, a native of Massachusetts, was a Captain in the War of 1812, and became an early settler of Monroe County, N. Y., where he bought a tract of the Holland Purchase near Lima. He reared thirteen children, most of whom settled in Michigan. Two of his brothers were taken prisoners by the Indians, and kept in captivity some years, during which time they became familiar with the Indian language. They acted as interpreters at the time of the Purchase, receiving for their services a large tract of land. Loomis Parrish was reared in the Empire State, learned the trade of a tanner and currier, and became partner in a large tannery at Honeyoe Falls, where he died about 1836.

Asahel Dodge and his daughter Sarah, afterward Mrs. Parrish, were natives of Connecticut, whence they removed to Monroe County, N. Y., during the maidenhood of the daughter. After the death of her first husband she married S. B. Crow, who removed to Illinois in 1835, occupying a large farm on the Fox River, where he erected the first barn in the vicinity. In 1850 he went to California, dying of cholera on his homeward way. The widow subsequently removed to Quincy, and married a Mr. Bradford. In that city she died in 1885, at the age of seventy-seven years. Mrs. Holden is the only child of the first union, and the second resulted in the birth of two children—Clare E., now Mrs. Wheeler of Quincy, and Wilbur F. Crow, who belonged to the Western Army Corps in the late war, and died from dropsy.



MRS. LUCY HAWES, widow of William Hawes, and a highly esteemed resident of Du Page Township, is a daughter of well-known pioneers of this county, her parents, Nathaniel and Jane (Cousin) Welch, having been early settlers of this township. Her father was a native of New York State and of Irish descent, while her mother was of German descent. The early years of their married life were passed in Ohio among its pioneers. In 1836 the father came to this county and for a time worked on the Illi-

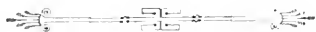
nois and Michigan Canal, and then farmed as a renter for two years, and at the expiration of that time purchased eighty acres of land, upon which Mrs. Hawes now makes her home. In 1837 his wife and family joined him here and located on this property, he having erected a large log house, in which they lived for a number of years. He subsequently built the residence in which Mrs. Hawes lives, with the exception of the kitchen, which was erected at a later date. His land, which he had bought directly from the Government, paying therefor \$1.25 per acre, was in a wild condition, and his was the pioneer task to prepare it for cultivation. Well did he do his work, and in time had here a good, well-tilled farm, with all the desirable improvements. Here his mortal career was brought to a close by death, May 28, 1867, at which time one of our most worthy pioneers passed away. He had served as Township Road Commissioner, and had aided in whatsoever way he could the advancement of his adopted township, whose development from its primitive condition he had watched with pride and pleasure. In his political views he was a strong Democrat. He began life with practically no means, but at his death he was comfortably well off. He was the father of eleven children, who grew to maturity, and seven of them are still living; Ophelia, wife of Robert Gurdy, of Du Page Township; Eliza, wife of Asa Park, of Nebraska; Julia, residing in Will County; Mrs. Hawes; Benjamin, a resident of Lemont Cook County; Anna M., wife of Edward Horsley, of Lockport Township.

Mrs. Hawes was reared to womanhood in this county, and was carefully trained in all the duties that go to make a good housekeeper. She received her education in the district schools of the county. On July 3, 1858, her marriage with William Hawes was duly solemnized, and proved of mutual benefit.

William Hawes was a native of England, born December 8, 1830, and was a son of William and Ann (Porter) Hawes, his parents being likewise natives of England. In 1851 he accompanied them to this country, and coming to Chicago, resided there a number of years. He was engaged mostly in teaming, and by constant attention to his business accumulated a comfortable sum, and in 1873

retired with his wife to this farm on section 29, Du Page Township, to make his permanent home. He then devoted himself exclusively to agricultural pursuits, and under his careful management the farm of one hundred and three acres was greatly improved. Here his busy and useful life was rounded to completion May 29, 1887, thus dying before old age had overtaken him. In his death Du Page Township sustained a loss, as he had identified himself with its progress and had aided in advancing its growth. He had served acceptably as a School Director. In his political views he was a sound Democrat. Coming to this country with little or no capital, by years of industry and close application to his work he succeeded in acquiring a comfortable competence. His wedded life with our subject was blessed by the birth of two sons, Charles R. and William H.

Mrs. Hawes was of great assistance to her husband in his work, and is now enjoying the competence she helped him to secure. She is a woman of much capacity, is kind in heart and manner, cheerfully giving assistance where needed and charitably inclined towards all, a worthy type of the pioneer daughters of Du Page Township, who were important instruments in its upbuilding.



**J**OHAN HACK. In the southeastern part of the town of Beecher is a thriving mercantile establishment owned and operated by the above-named gentleman, who began this enterprise in 1878. The building is a good one and a well-selected stock of general merchandise is kept within it. Mr. Hack has been quite successful in his business career and has become well known to the residents of this vicinity as one from whom they are sure of honorable dealing and courteous treatment. From an honored ancestry he inherits many sterling qualities, while from worthy parents he received excellent home training.

Mr. Hack was born in Schwerin, Mecklenburg, Germany, September 1, 1825, being the first-born in a family of four sons and one daughter. One son is now living in Germany, one gave his life in

defense of the Union during the late war, and the other members of the household band are living in Illinois. The parents were Gottlieb and Sophia (Rekopf) Hack, the former being a small farmer in their native duchy. There they lived until 1864, when they accompanied their son, our subject, to America, living with him during the remainder of their lives. The father died in Washington Township, this county, in 1875, having passed his four-score years of age. The mother survived some years, breathing her last in Beecher when quite old. Both belonged to the Lutheran Church.

After receiving a good education under the laws of his native land, young Hack learned the trade of a shoemaker, which he followed so long as he lived in that country. Having been led to believe that a better field for his energies would be opened to him in the New World, he crossed the Atlantic, as before stated, and coming direct to the Prairie State began agricultural work on a farm in Washington Township, this county. In 1865 he took possession of another farm, which was in almost a raw state and which he placed under excellent improvement. It consisted of one hundred and sixty acres on sections 26 and 35, and under his efficient control became valuable and attractive. He continued his agricultural labors for there nearly a decade and then embarked in the business which he is still conducting so successfully.

At the bride's home in Mecklenburg, Mr. Hack was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Luth, an estimable lady who was born in the same town as her husband. Her natal day was October 12, 1828, and her parents, Joachim and Sophia (Schoder) Luth, who lived and died in Mecklenburg. Both were members of the Lutheran Church and lived to a good old age. The father was occupied in farming. Mrs. Hack is the only daughter and has four brothers, all still living in the Fatherland. Mr. and Mrs. Hack remained in the land of their birth for some years after their marriage, finally setting sail from Hamburg on the steamer "Saxony," from which they landed in New York. They have had eight children, five of whom were born in Germany. William, William C. and Theodore died in early life; Herman married Eva Ruge and lives on a farm in Ash Grove Township, Iroquois County;

Henry married Mary Biefeldt and is now running the Biefeldt House at Beecher; Carl A. resides in the same place, being a member of the firm of C. Biefeldt & Co., whose business is sinking tubular wells; Frank is a clerk in his father's store, residing under the parental roof; Emma L. is still at home, and she also assists her parents in the store. The entire family belong to the Lutheran Church and are looked upon with regard by all who know them. Mr. Hack has served as Postmaster for a time. His political influence and vote is given to the Republican party.



**R**OBERT PATTERSON, a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Du Page Township, owning and managing a choice farm on section 7, is one of the native-born citizens of this State, who, since attaining manhood, has been closely connected with its growth and progress, materially, socially and morally.

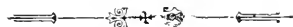
Our subject was born in Du Page County, November 18, 1844, and is a son of Mungo and Agnes (Clow) Patterson. The father is, and has long been, a prominent resident of Wheatland Township. Both he and his wife came from Scotland in the year 1837, and lived for several years in New York. In 1811 they came to Du Page County, this State, and in 1815 removed to Will County and were among the early settlers of Wheatland Township. The father purchased a tract of raw prairie land on which a squatter had previously settled and had attempted some improvement, plowing a small patch of the land. Mr. Patterson located thereon and immediately entered upon the hard task of redeeming the land from a state of nature, and in the years that followed he evolved a farm that is considered one of the finest in that vicinity, and here he now, in his seventy-fifth year, makes his home, surrounded by all the comforts of life. When he came to this country he was a poor man, and it is only by years of toil well directed and by the shrewd management of his affairs that he has placed himself in good circumstances. In the early days of the settlement

of the country he suffered the privations and hardships common to the pioneer settlers of the State. The country, in a wild condition, had no good roads at first, and he used to draw his grain to the market in Chicago over the wild prairies where there were no highways of travel. He has never cared for public office although he has served on the School Board and has always interested himself in politics, being a sturdy supporter of the Republican party. He is in his religious belief a firm believer in the doctrine of Presbyterianism, and has for many years been identified with the church of that faith in Du Page Township, as one of its most zealous members. In the death of his amiable wife, in 1890, he sustained a severe loss, as she had ever been a helpmate in the truest sense of the word. By their marriage they became the parents of seven children, of whom the following five survive: John, a resident of Benton County, Ind.; Robert; William, living in Du Page Township; Sarah, wife of Robert Wightman, of Wheatland Township; and Adam, also a resident of Wheatland Township. The names of those deceased are Agnes and Helen.

Robert Patterson, of this biography, was reared to man's estate in Will County, and was a witness of much of its pioneer growth. His early education was conducted in the district school of Wheatland Township. He did not enjoy the advantages that the youth of to-day have, but by reading and observation has become a well-informed man. He has for many years actively engaged in farming and stock-raising on his present beautiful farm. This comprises one hundred and forty acres of land, finely tilled and under excellent improvement in every respect, its buildings being of a neat and substantial order, and the machinery for carrying on agricultural operations of the most approved kind.

In his marriage with Elizabeth Sinton, March 31, 1866, he secured the choice blessing of a good wife, who contributes to his comfort and has been a factor in the attainment of his prosperity. She is a native of Scotland and a daughter of Robert and Mary (Dickson) Linton. By their union they have six children: Isabelle, the widow of Joseph G. Emery; Robert, Ruth, Mungo, Will-

iam and Ida. Since taking up his abode in Du Page Township our subject has placed himself among its most prominent citizens and his thoroughly identified himself with its highest interests, cordially supporting all feasible schemes for its advancement. He served as Justice of the Peace for five years, making a good record in that office. He is identified with the Presbyterian Church as one of its leading members, and officiates as Elder, and also serves as Treasurer of the church. A strong temperance man, he favors the Prohibition party in politics. As a farmer, he has shown good ability in the management of his affairs; as a citizen, he is animated with true public spirit; as a neighbor, he is friendly and helpful; as a husband, he is thoughtful and attentive; and as a father he is wise and loving, and is, in all respects, a manly, straightforward, upright man.



**S**AMUEL B. FRASER. In this gentleman Wheatland Township has one of its leading farmers and stock-raisers, and one of its most efficient civic officials. He is a native of Sullivan County, N. Y., born September 21, 1832, to Robert and Elizabeth (Brown) Fraser. His parents were natives of the North of Ireland, and emigrated to this country early in the present century. His father took part in the War of 1812 as a soldier in the American Army.

Our subject was reared in his native State till 1847, when he accompanied his parents and other members of the family to this county. While in Chicago on their way, the father and children were sadly bereaved by the death of the mother. The father settled in Plainfield Township, among its early pioneers, and there died in 1857. Of his married life eleven children were born, of whom the following survive: Thomas B., living in Manitoba; Elizabeth, wife of James H. Smiley, of this county; Samuel B.; Harvey R., residing in Denver, Col.; Louisa C., living in this county. The remaining years of the boyhood of our subject were passed on his father's farm in Plainfield, he having, as it were, grown up with the county. He re-

ceived his education partly in New York and partly in the district schools of Illinois, for a time attending a private subscription school at Plainfield. After his marriage Mr. Fraser farmed in Lockport Township for several years, but in 1865 he came to Wheatland to make his permanent home here. Possessing much energy and enterprise he has placed himself amongst our most able and prosperous farmers and stock-raisers of the county, his farm being as well improved, as well cultivated and as well stocked as any in the neighborhood. It comprises two hundred and forty acres of land, whose fertility and productiveness are scarcely surpassed, and from its rich harvest he derives an ample income.

Our subject has here a cozy home replete with all the comforts, and to her who has so substantially aided him in its establishment, he was united in marriage February 17, 1858. The maiden name of the wife of our subject was Ann A. Brown, and she was born in Sullivan County, N. Y., March 3, 1832, being a daughter of the late James and Mary Brown. Her mother now makes her home in Plainfield, Ill. The husband was a native of the north of Ireland. By their union Mr. and Mrs. Fraser have had six children, of whom two are now living: Herbert A., a student in the college at Evanston, Ill.; and Ernest J. An otherwise happy wedded life has been shadowed by the death of four of their children: Thornton R., Frank, Gillian and Harry.

Mr. and Mrs. Fraser are people of high repute in this community, and are greatly esteemed for the true worth of their character. Mr. Fraser is a man of excellent habits, is careful and conscientious in his dealings with others, and so has won the confidence of all with whom he comes in contact. He is a hard and constant worker, exercising much practical ability and sound sagacity in the pursuit of his calling, and is highly deserving of the prosperity that has followed his labors. He is a strong Prohibitionist in his political sentiments, and never fails to give his hearty support to the candidates of that party. He is one of the leading members of the United Presbyterian Church at Wheatland, and for a number of years has officiated as an Elder. For many years he has been School

Director of his district, and has actively aided in forwarding its educational interests. He has been serving in the important office of Township Road Commissioner, for many years, and has been a prominent factor in the great improvement in the highways of travel in this township.



**W**ILLIAM DINGLEY. In the employ of the Joliet Branch of the Illinois Steel Company's works are many skilled in the various departments of labor. To this class belongs William Dingley, day foreman in the converting works, and whose honest, earnest labors have been rewarded by a responsible and remunerative position, the confidence of his employers, and the esteem of his fellow-men.

The gentleman with whose name we introduce this sketch is the only son of William and Harriet A. (Kimball) Dingley, the paternal family being of Scotch origin. William, Sr., was a foreman in the shoe making business in his eastern home, but upon coming West, which he did in 1858, he exchanged his former occupation for the more congenial business of raising and racing horses. For thirty years he was a well-known and respected citizen of Illinois. He was a cousin of Representative Dingley. He died in Joliet, January 21, 1888. His wife had long preceded him to the other world, having died at Mount Blue, Me., November 5, 1856.

William Dingley, Jr., opened his eyes to the light in Coehituate, Mass., October 29, 1819, and after the death of his mother lived with his grandparents until he had attained his twelfth year. He then went to work for a firm in Chicago in the boot and shoe business, but coming to Joliet the same year he found employment with Firman Mack, in the same line of industry. In that business he continued to labor here and in Chicago until 1876, when he entered the employ of the Joliet Iron and Steel Company.

Beginning as a laborer on the lowest round of the ladder, Mr. Dingley by virtue of close application to business, combined with a natural aptitude, rose step by step to the position of foreman in the con-

verting works, which place he attained in 1885, and has since held. Politically, he is a most ardent Republican. He has a decided taste for music and in its gratification finds a large measure of enjoyment. He is a member of the well-known Orpheus Glee Club.

Realizing that it is not good for man to live alone Mr. Dingley wooed and won for his wife Miss Sarah Alexander, of Lockport, with whom he was united in marriage June 25, 1881. James L. Alexander, the father of the bride, was one of the early settlers of this county, whence he came from Wayne County, N. Y., in 1857. He took contracts on the Illinois and Michigan Canal, first on the section at Kankakee and subsequently in other localities. He was a well-read, thorough going business man, and enjoyed the respect of his neighbors in a marked degree. He died December 29, 1876. His daughter, Mrs. Dingley, received good advantages in the way of education and home training, and has made such use of them as fairly entitles her to a place among the more intelligent, useful, and honored members of the community.



**D**ENNIS L. HOGAN. In the village of Spencer may be found a general mercantile establishment, which is under the control of the young gentleman above mentioned. Although the business is still in its infancy, having been established in December, 1889, the young proprietor is already having excellent patronage, as his stock is well selected and his dealing honorable and courteous. The life of our subject has been passed in New Lenox Township, where his eyes opened to the light of day December 15, 1861. He received a good education and excellent home training, and bids fair to become a man of note in the community.

The gentleman with whose name we introduce this sketch comes of honorable Irish lineage, both of his parents having been born on the Emerald Isle. His mother, formerly Miss Mary McCabe, is a native of Dublin. Dennis Hogan and his wife came to America a number of years ago, settling

in New Lenox Township, this county, at quite an early day. They were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this biographical notice is the third in order of birth. The husband and father breathed his last in March, 1887, but the widowed mother still survives.



**CAPT. JAMES MILLER.** Superintendent of the machine department of the General Machine Manufactory of E. R. Brainard & Co., was formerly chief engineer of the Illinois State Penitentiary, and has seen a service of twenty-two years in this line of business. He is a man highly spoken of by those who have known him long and well, and needs no further introduction to the people of Will County.

Capt. Miller comes from one of the best nationalities on the face of the globe, having been born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, the date thereof being March 11, 1828. He received a practical education in the schools of his native shire, and when of suitable years, commenced an apprenticeship at marine engine building on the Clyde. After becoming master of the business, he, in 1853, when a young man of twenty-five years, determined to seek his fortunes in America. Upon crossing the Atlantic, he first located in Sharon, Pa., and established a foundry and machine shop, which he conducted successfully until about 1857. Believing then that he could better his condition in the farther West, he came to this State and established a similar business at Morris, Grundy County.

After the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Miller, who had become strongly attached to the institutions of his adopted country, determined to assist in the preservation of the Union, and raised a company called the Mechanics Fusileers. He repaired with them to Camp Douglas, Chicago, but met with a great disappointment on account of their services not being required. They were accordingly mustered out, but Mr. Miller, going to Cairo, enlisted in the navy and was assigned to the Mississippi Squadron. Soon afterward, on account of his evident understanding of the business and his fidelity

to his duty, he was promoted from fireman to chief engineer, and held this position for three years, participating in many of the engagements which followed, and making for himself a fine record in connection therewith.

Mr. Miller continued in the service until the close of the war, and then being given an honorable dismissal, returned to Morris, Ill., and resumed his old business. He now enjoys the reputation of being a first-class machinist, and a year later received the appointment of chief engineer of the Illinois State Penitentiary, a position which he held for the long period of twenty-two years and until 1889. He then became Superintendent of the E. R. Brainard & Co. machine shops, a position which he has since held. He assisted in organizing the People's Loan & Homestead Association, in which he is a Director, and he is also a Director of the Joliet Press Company, and is connected with various other important enterprises.

Capt. Miller was married, in 1857, in Scotland to Miss Elizabeth A. Miller, a distant relative. The wife of Capt. Miller is also a native of Scotland, and was born in 1828. They are the parents of five children, viz.: James, Edwin, Frank, Maggie, the wife of A. W. Smith, of Channahon Township, and Lillie. The children of Capt. Miller have received excellent school advantages, and have become fitted for their proper position in life. The family residence is properly located in the east part of the city, among whose people they count their friends by the score.

On another page of this work the reader will notice a portrait of Capt. Miller, who is conceded to be one of Will County's representative citizens.



**GEORGE LAMBERT.** Among the citizens of DuPage Township who have retired from arduous labors and are enjoying the fruits of former industry in a beautiful home, is George Lambert, whose life presents a picture of perseverance and uprightness. His home farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres on section 30, and his entire landed estate comprises two

hundred and sixty acres. He had no financial start in life other than the means to reach America, therefore his comfortable circumstances result from his own endeavors.

The eyes of our subject opened to the light of of day in Lincolnshire, England, July 1, 1827. He is the third child of William and Elizabeth (Scollin) Lambert, was reared to farming and from about ten years of age was hired out on a farm, working by the year in that way until he emigrated to America. In England he had practically no educational advantages and his intelligence is the result of natural talent and self endeavor. When he determined to seek a home in the United States he embarked on the sailer "Jacob E. Westerveld," which left Liverpool early in May, 1851. Crossing the Atlantic to New York, the voyage was continued via the Hudson River, Erie Canal and Great Lakes to Chicago, whence the Illinois and Michigan Canal was the water-way to Lockport.

The first work done by Mr. Lambert was digging a cellar for George R. Dyer, of DuPage Township, and the winter was spent at his home. The following spring work was secured on the farm of Leander Hamlin, in Plainfield Township, and there our subject remained three or four years. He then purchased eighty acres of land in the same township, upon which he lived a number of years, removing from it to his present home farm. Here he has erected all the fine buildings that mark the estate, and otherwise made of it what it is to-day, a well-regulated and valuable farm.

The first vote cast by Mr. Lambert was for Abraham Lincoln, and from that day he has acted with the Republican party. He has manifested an interest in all that will advance the real prosperity of the section and elevate the standard of morality, and in his own life has borne himself in an upright and strictly honorable manner. He and his estimable wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church at Plainfield. He has served as School Director with discretion, and none are more deeply interested in the cause of education than he.

Mr. Lambert was fortunate in his choice of a companion, gaining a true helpmate and wise counselor. Miss Carrie Bird became his wife on February 20, 1855, and has borne him ten sons and

daughters. Of this family seven are now living, three having crossed the River of Death to await their parents on the farther shore. The survivors are Elizabeth, wife of William Walker of DuPage Township; William, now Township Clerk; Mary, wife of Harley Walker, of the same township; Frank E., an enterprising young man who carries on the farm; Enoch, Hattie and Sarah. All are intelligent and are winning reputations such as rejoice the fond hearts of their progenitors.



**W**ILLIAM JONES. Among the younger farmers of Florence Township, Mr. Jones occupies a leading position and is in possession of a fine body of land on section 1. Enterprising, industrious and progressive in his ideas, he has obtained a good start in life, not only as a thorough and skillful farmer but as a useful member of the community. His native place was Yorkshire, England, and the date of his birth June 10, 1861. His immediate progenitors, John and Anna (Hall) Jones, were also natives of Yorkshire and of pure English stock as far back as is known.

John Jones occupied himself as a farmer in his native shire until 1870, and then not satisfied with his condition or his prospects resolved upon seeking his fortunes in America. He accordingly crossed the Atlantic with his family when William, our subject, was a lad of nine years, and coming to Illinois settled in Wilton Township, this county. He purchased a farm upon which he made many improvements, and upon which, with his estimable wife, he still resides. He has become well-to-do, being the owner of two hundred acres of thoroughly improved land, which with its various appurtenances, buildings and machinery, forms one of the most valued estates in the township. The elder Jones is now seventy-four years old, while his estimable partner is seventy-six.

Four sons were born to the parents of our subject, these being named respectively, John, William, Joseph and George. They are all industrious and thrifty young men, and all occupied at farm-



ing in this county. William, our subject, like his brothers, spent his boyhood and youth under the home roof, and acquired a practical education in the common school. He assisted his father on the farm until reaching his majority, and then commenced operations on his own account on the land which he now owns. He lived prudently and economically and saved his earnings, and, in 1884, his wife received from her father's estate his present farm, which embraces eighty acres of valuable land, under a good state of cultivation and with substantial improvements.

About the time of removing to his present homestead Mr. Jones was married, March 30, 1880, at the bride's home in Wilton Township, to Miss Emma Holmes. The young wife survived her marriage less than a year, her death taking place December 28, 1880. On the 15th of November, 1881, Mr. Jones contracted a second marriage with Miss Emma Geiss, of Florence Township. The present wife of our subject was born in Jackson Township, this county, June 30, 1865, and is a daughter of Hiram E. and Malinda E. (Whitson) Geiss, who were natives of Pennsylvania and Illinois, and who are now deceased. The household circle now embraces three bright children, viz: John, Florence and Floyd. Mr. Jones has started in life under favorable auspices and with the best wishes of hosts of friends.



**F**RED PLAGGE. This gentleman is the owner and occupant of a fine farm on section 6, Washington Township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock-raising. The estate comprises two hundred acres, all improved, and supplied with a complete line of well-built structures suitable for the various purposes and needs of his occupation. The present appearance of the farm is the best monument which could be erected to the energy and untiring perseverance of the owner who has brought it from the primitive condition of an unbroken prairie to that of cultivated fields.

The gentleman of whom we write was born in

the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, June 20, 1840, and was but a few months old when brought to America by his parents, who settled in Cook County, Ill. There he grew to manhood, obtaining his education in the common schools and acquiring on the home farm a knowledge of agricultural pursuits. In 1863, he took possession of his present estate and began his successful career in this county. By his own efforts he has accumulated a sufficiency of this world's goods to surround himself and family with comforts and to give the promise of an ample support in declining years.

The lady who has been Mr. Plagge's efficient helpmate for a number of years was known in her maidenhood as Miss Christina Kerning. She was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, July 16, 1839, and was sixteen years old when she came alone to America and began making her livelihood as a domestic in Cook County. After a few years she was followed by her parents, who settled in that county, dying there when past sixty years of age. They were members of the Lutheran Church. The happy union of Mr. and Mrs. Plagge has been blessed by the birth of eight children, all at home except two. These are Augusta, wife of Henry Withkenning, a farmer in Washington Township, Will County, and Emma, the wife of William Nargers, who lives in the village of Beecher. The other members of the family are William, who assists his father on the farm; Louis, Gustaf, Fred, Bertha and Herman. Mr. Plagge is a Republican in politics. The family attend the Lutheran Church.

The ancestral line from which our subject derives his descent was a respectable one and the blood pure Hanoverian German. His father, William Plagge, was reared to farm work and pursued it in his native kingdom until late in the year 1810. He then with his wife and two sons—Charles and Fred,—sailed for America, taking passage at Bremerhaven. After some weeks they landed in New York City, coming thence to Chicago by the Hudson River, Erie Canal and great lakes. They settled at Elmhurst, Cook County, fifteen miles west of Chicago, securing a small piece of land there. About two years later the mother died in the prime of life when less than fifty years old. The father survived until 1875, breathing his last when sixty-

five years of age. He had married a second time; his wife is still living in Cook County and is now seventy-three years old. He had no children by this marriage. The parents of our subject, as well as the stepmother to whom he owes his early training, belonged to the Lutheran Church.



**JOHN H. WHITSON.** It is a pleasure to incorporate in this volume the biography of a gallant soldier, worthy citizen and enterprising farmer, to whom the town of Manhattan owes its existence and its name. The home of Mr. Whitson is on one hundred and ten acres of fine land on section 20, the buildings being within the corporation limits of Manhattan. The place has been thoroughly improved with a complete line of buildings, orchards, groves and fences, and is under complete and careful tillage. Grain and stock-raising are carried on by the owner, who operates some one hundred and sixty acres in all, and he also deals in real estate.

Mr. Whitson is of English ancestry, his grandfather having removed from the mother country to Pennsylvania, where he was engaged in distilling. In that State, Benjamin Whitson, the father of our subject, was born and reared. From Lancaster County he removed to the vicinity of Reading, Ohio, but after sojourning there a few years only, continued his journey westward, locating in Lawrence County, Ill., about 1840. Paying \$500 for eighty acres of land, he operated it until 1852 when he sold for \$1,100. His purchase money had been secured principally by making apple butter and selling at from thirty-five to fifty cents per gallon.

After selling his estate Benjamin Whitson removed to Iowa, but a year later returned to his former location, and after a short sojourn came to Will County. His new home was near Plainfield, where he continued his agricultural labors on one hundred and sixty acres of land for a number of years. He finally removed to Joliet, abandoned active pursuits and, enjoying the comforts of life, is still living there, aged seventy-seven years. He is a member of the Evangelical Methodist Church,

His wife, who died in 1875, was a native of the Keystone State, and bore the maiden name of Leah Dudmore. Her father, Philip Dudmore, was an early settler in Lawrence County, Ill., whence he removed to Plainfield, and in which place he breathed his last.

The parental family comprised nine children, of whom our subject is the third in order of birth; William is now living in Chicago; Mrs. Rebecca Cook in Joliet; David and Jacob in Manhattan Township; Mrs. Mary Fouser at Ringgold, Iowa; Jackson, in Frankfort Township; Libby is deceased; Benjamin lives in Frankfort Township; William was a Sergeant in the company to which our subject belonged and served the same length of time during the Civil War; David was a Corporal in the same regiment, enlisted for the same length of time and was wounded at the siege of Ft. Blakely.

The subject of this sketch was born March 21, 1839, in Reading, Ohio. He was twelve months old when his parents journeyed westward by means of horses and a wagon, and his boyhood was spent in Lawrence County, Ill. He enjoyed the advantages of the free schools and acquired a good practical education in Lawrence and Will Counties. He was about fourteen years old when the removal to the latter took place and the family settled upon the wild prairie. In the intervals of study he was employed upon his father's farm, becoming thoroughly skilled in the details of agricultural labor and competent to judge of the relative value of lands and the best means of insuring good crops.

When he had reached his majority, Mr. Whitson rented land at Rockville, Kankakee County, and there labored for his own advancement until the Civil War broke out. His heart was thrilled with patriotic fervor and, finding that the struggle was likely to be a more protracted one than was at first supposed, he and his brother David, who was his associate in business, enlisted in Company I, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. They were mustered into the service at Kankakee, in August, 1862, and sent to the Department of the Southwest, their duties for some time consisting chiefly of skirmishes throughout Tennessee and Mississippi and later in Missouri. They then took part in the siege of Vicksburg, the battles of Jackson, Holly Springs, and

the others of that campaign, from which they returned to Vicksburg.

The tedious and dangerous duties which devolved upon the soldiers during the Yazoo expedition and Bank's expedition up the Red River, were assisted in by our subject, who under all the trying circumstances by which he was surrounded, displayed the utmost devotion to the cause for which he was willing to risk his life. Having joined Farragut's expedition to Mobile, he and his comrades had a weary march to that city and to Ft. Blakely, where they lost more men than at any other place where they had been engaged. Subsequently they were sent to Galveston, Tex., where they spent three weeks doing guard duty. After this they returned to the North and were mustered out of service and honorably discharged at Chicago. At Holly Springs Mr. Whitson had been taken prisoner by the rebels, but was in the hands of his captors only one day when the prisoners were left by the retreating Confederate force.

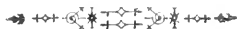
When his services were no longer needed to uphold the Government, Mr. Whitson returned to Will County and, with his brother David, bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Manhattan Township. He operated his own share of the farm, improving it and making it his home until 1880. He then sold it and bought one hundred and twenty acres where he is now living, and locating here began its systematic improvement, which he had continued but one year when the Wabash Railroad came through. He at once laid out about ten acres on the east side of the railroad, which is called J. Whitson's sub-addition. When the subject of a name for the village which sprung up was being agitated, he suggested Manhattan, and thus it was christened.

An important step in the life of any man is his choice of a companion, and Mr. Whitson displayed good judgment in his selection. He won for his wife Miss Lucinda Etter, who was born in Cumberland County, Pa., November 5, 1842. She was educated in Ohio and Illinois, Richland Seminary having been her Alma Mater, and when eighteen years old began school teaching. Her professional labors were principally at Plainfield, Ill., where she enjoys an enviable reputation as an instructor,

and was considered a valuable addition to society by reason of her fine education and pleasing traits of character. Her marriage to our subject took place in that town February 1, 1866, and has been blessed by the birth of five children. The first-born, George, attended Aurora College and spent one year as a teacher, but is now engaged in Beech's general store in Joliet; the second child, Nettie, is the wife of George Steele, of Chicago; Jessie, Walter and Edna are at home with their parents.

The parents of Mrs. Whitson are Lewis and Mary (North) Etter, natives of Pennsylvania, the one of German and the other of Scotch descent. The father was a shoemaker in his native State, whence he removed to Stark County, Ohio, where he was engaged in farming a number of years. He then came to Plainfield, Ill., where he is now living, his age being four-score. He belongs to the Evangelical Methodist Church. The surviving brothers and sisters of Mrs. Whitson are Louis, Ezra, Jacob, Mrs. Elizabeth Wirtzblower, and Mrs. Mariah Smith. The deceased are Samuel, and Mary, wife of David Whitson.

Mr. Whitson has served as School Director. In politics he is a Republican. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church of which he is a most active member, being Trustee, Steward, Class-Leader, and Superintendent of the Sunday-school, and bearing a part in every movement in which the congregation is interested. He gave an acre of ground upon which to erect the house of worship and served on the building committee while it was being constructed.



**HENRY J. SCHMIDT.** Although quite young, this gentleman is becoming well known in New Lenox Township as a farmer of ability and a citizen of the most honorable character. He owns one hundred and twenty acres of good land on sections 22 and 23, where he is industriously and successfully prosecuting the career to which his taste led him, and where good buildings and other improvements are to be

seen. He is the second of five children born to Henry and Mary (Kitzerow) Schmuhl, who came to this neighborhood in the spring of 1854. Both were natives of Germany, the one having been born July 6, and the other August 13, in the year 1826. Beside our subject their family includes Ida M., Charles, William and Emma.

The gentleman of whom we write has been a life resident of New Lenox Township, in which he was born October 10, 1859. He enjoyed the school privileges by which a good practical education is insured to all who desire to learn, and in the public schools became well informed in the ordinary branches. He remained with his father until his marriage, when he established his own household on the farm which he still occupies. Among the natives of his own township, Mr. Schmuhl knew many estimable ladies, but none who were so attractive to him as Miss Henrietta Schoop. His regard for this young lady being reciprocated they were united in marriage February 8, 1883. Mrs. Schmuhl was born December 15, 1863, and is the elder of two children comprising the family of Christoph and Caroline (Stricher) Schoop. Her parents were born in Germany and her father died in this township May 9, 1882. The happy union of our subject and his estimable wife has been blessed by the birth of three children—Alma C., Elsa I. and Erwin C. Both Mr. and Mrs. Schmuhl belong to the German Lutheran Church. He is a staunch Republican.



**S** HONEY B. PEASE. To the architectural skill and reliable workmanship of S. B. Pease, Joliet owes many of her most beautiful and substantial edifices, among these being the Union Block, the residences of Charles Thayer, E. M. Bray, and others too numerous to mention. No citizen of this flourishing city stands higher in the respect of the community than he, and by his own efforts he has risen to this position and a good financial standing.

Mr. Pease was born in Lawrence, N. Y., June 9, 1839, to Samuel and Irene (Hamlin) Pease who

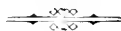
were natives of the Green Mountain State. The father was born July 1, 1811, and died in 1887; the mother was born in 1810, and breathed her last in 1883. Their son of whom we write was educated in the common schools and remained in the place of his birth until he was seventeen years old. He then in 1856, came west and locating at Dwight, Ill., embarked in the vocation of a farmer. In that occupation he continued until the spring of 1861, when the call for troops to put down the rebellion fired his spirit and he determined to give his strength to the service of his country.

Going to Springfield young Pease was soon enrolled as a member of Company B, Twelfth Illinois Infantry, and under the command of Capt. T. D. Moffat, of Chicago, and Col. McArthur, he went to the front. He first smelled the smoke of battle at Belmont, after which he took part in the contest at Ft. Donelson, where he was wounded on the bloody field of Shiloh and at Corinth. Beside the minor skirmishes that fell to the lot of all soldiers in a greater or less degree, he was in all the engagements in and around Chattanooga until Gen. Sherman started on the famous march to the sea. He accompanied the forces to Savannah and back through the Carolinas, taking part in the last battle in the campaign, that at Bentonville. At Resaca he had been wounded and also before Atlanta. After the surrender of Lee he took his place at the Grand Review, did some service at Louisville, Ky., and was finally mustered out at Springfield. He had been promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant for meritorious conduct.

Upon resuming the peaceful arts of civil life Mr. Pease took up the pursuit of a contractor and builder in which he has been actively engaged from that time. Success has crowned his efforts and he has become known as one who fulfills his contracts in an honorable manner and performs his duties to society and his family, as an upright and kind-hearted man should. He is a member of the Congregational Church, and belongs to Bartleson Post, No. 6, G. A. R.

The lady whom Mr. Pease chose as his companion in life and with whom he was united in marriage in New York State in 1867, bore the maiden name of Jennie Eggleston. She was born in Ver-

mount whence she had removed to the Empire State prior to her marriage. She has borne him five children—William H., Mary, Bertie, Carrie and Marion. Mary and Bertie died in infancy; the survivors are a handsome and particularly interesting trio.



**J**OSEPH F. NACHBOUR. The sons of the Fatherland, upon the first settlement of this country, hastened hither in large numbers and are to be found in all the ranks of life. Their perseverance, energy and industry are proverbial and they have been no unimportant factors in developing the resources of the New World and especially the great West. They are looked upon as forming a portion of the bone and sinew of America. While the fathers have passed away they have transmitted to their sons the qualities of which they were so admirably possessed, and thus we find the latter occupying positions of honor in all the channels of business and of social life.

The subject of this notice, who is the senior member of the firm of Nachbour & Nicolaus, the leading dealers in dry goods in Joliet, is a son of Lewis Nachbour, who was born in Germany and came to America in 1817. The latter upon reaching this country proceeded from New Orleans, where he landed, up the Mississippi to Davenport, Iowa, and thereafter followed his trade of a stonemason. He was married in Germany to Miss Amelia Wohlgaunt, a native of his own country and there were born to them seven sons, three of whom are living, viz: Frank, the Sheriff of Cedar County, Iowa; William, a farmer residing near Atalissa, that State, and Joseph F., our subject. The parents are still living and residents of Atalissa.

Mr. Nachbour was born in the city of Davenport, Iowa, January 15, 1856, and acquired his early education in the common schools. He commenced his business career in the dry goods store of A. D. Dyer at Atalissa and remained with him for a period of six years in that place. He then came with Mr. Dyer to Joliet and continued with him another six years. In the meantime he had been

prudent and saved what he could of his salary and on the 13th of February, 1882, associated himself in partnership with a dry-goods firm of Joliet and they commenced business under the firm name of Dinot, Nachbour & Co.

Ten months later there was a change in the business and the firm assumed its present style. It has been steadily gaining ground and at the present time transacts a business of \$175,000 annually. The firm started with a capital of \$2,000. The business now occupies the lower floor of the Barber Building, the most elegant business block in the city. The firm carries a full line of all the articles pertaining to this branch of trade. The store is fitted up with all the modern conveniences and the courteous treatment of its customers is made a specialty. By fair dealing and a thorough understanding of the business in all its details, this firm is rapidly gaining prominence in the county and securing the patronage of its leading people. Mr. Nachbour and his partner are also interested in fine horses and own some first-class equines, principally roadsters.

Politically, Mr. Nachbour is a sound Republican and is justifiably proud of the fact that he cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant. Socially he belongs to the Union Club and the Irish-American Club, at Joliet, also the Sunset Club, of Chicago.



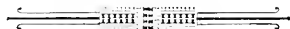
**J**AMES H. FERRIS, President of the Joliet News Printing Company, is worthily filling the responsible position, to which he brings a large amount of experience and practical knowledge. The *News* was established in April, 1877, by a rambling printer, named Charles F. Dutcher, and published in the *Phoenix* office, then under the editorial control of Mr. Ferris. October 1, of that year, a firm composed of R. W. Nelson, James H. Ferris and H. E. Baldwin, bought the little *News* plant for a "song," and continued the publication. The last two above-named partners have continued the business to this date, ex-

cepting the years 1881-82, when Mr. Ferris published a paper in Maine.

The politics of the *Daily News*, with its four thousand circulation, has been Greenback-Labor ever since the fall of 1877, and the weekly edition ten years after that turned its forces in with the Prohibition party. Its circulation is two thousand.

Mr. Ferris was born in the town of Oswego, Kendall County, Ill., in 1819. His father, William H. Ferris, removed from Clinton County, N. Y., in the '40's, and now resides at Bristol, Kendall County, this State. His wife's maiden name was Eliza M. Brown, and her native home, Erie County, Pa.

The subject of this sketch began his newspaper career at Yorkville, Ill., where he and Frank H. Hall published a Peter Cooper Greenback paper a year or two, both finally coming to Joliet in 1876. Mr. Ferris married Miss Olive E. Hunt, of Huntsville, Canaan County, Conn., in July, 1880.



**J**ERRY KENISTON, whose title of "Honorable" was gained as a member of the State Legislature, but applies equally well to his private life, owns a fine estate in Wilton Township, where he has lived since 1854. A fine tract of land is the farm upon which he devotes his attention to farming and the stock business, and its accumulation has resulted mainly from his own good management and industry, as he had but a small capital upon which to begin life. The fertile and improved estate comprises two hundred and thirty-five acres on section 16, and is excelled by few, if any, in the vicinity. For several years Mr. Keniston has given the raising of Short-horn cattle considerable attention. Well read in a broad sense, more than ordinarily intelligent, and full of enterprise and public spirit, it is not to be wondered at that this gentleman commands the respect of all who enjoy his acquaintance and that he is pointed out as a worthy exponent of the Christian faith and practice.

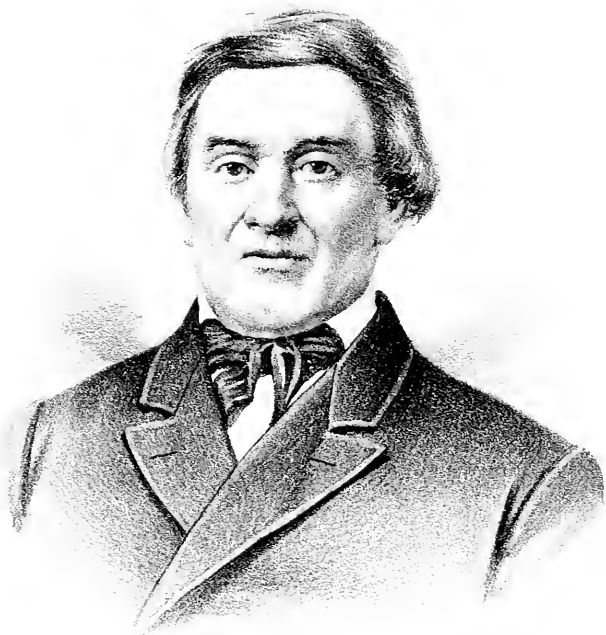
The name denotes the Scotch origin of the Ken-

iston family that has been known and honored in New England for many years. In the Green Mountain State, Joseph and Sallie (Glidden) Keniston were born, and lived until 1851, when they came west and took up their residence in the Prairie State. A settlement was made in Wilton Township, this county, and the parents tarried here until 1865, when they removed to Aurora, Kane County, in which city they spent the remainder of their lives, both living to an advanced age. The elder Mr. Keniston devoted himself to farming as a life work, and was in easy financial circumstances. For many years prior to their deaths, he and his wife were active members of the Baptist Church. The parental family consisted of eleven sons and daughters, John B., Elizabeth, and Sarah, are deceased; our subject is the fourth in order of birth; Emeline is the wife of William Urie, a carpenter at Minneapolis, Minn.; Noah G. is engaged in farming in Montgomery County, Iowa; Simeon G., is deceased; Hiram B. lives in Oregon; Joseph J. in Iowa; Henry and Julia are deceased.

In Shelfield, Caledonia County, Vt., the eyes of the Hon. Jerry Keniston opened to the light of day March 2, 1829. He received a good common-school education and on the farm acquired the knowledge of agriculture that is the common heritage of farmer's sons. When about twenty-five years old he came to Illinois with his parents, and in this county he resided until after the Civil War began. He then determined to assist his country in her hour of need and abandoning the peaceful pursuits of his former years, took his place in the ranks as a member of Company H, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry.

Soon after his enlistment, Mr. Keniston was made Second Lieutenant of his company and at the close of the war held a Captain's Commission. He took part in every battle in which his regiment was engaged until the contest at Chickamauga, where he was captured by the enemy and taken to Libby Prison. There he was held a prisoner seven months, and then removed to points farther south, and on March 2, 1865, released at Wilmington, N. C. Returning to the State whence he had entered the Union Army, Mr. Keniston resumed





*John Williams*



the peaceful occupation of farming, settling on the land which he still owns and operates.

Mr. Keniston has served as Township Supervisor three terms. In 1879 he was elected to the State Legislature on the Republican ticket and represented this county ably. He has always taken an active interest in politics, believing that all loyal citizens should understand fully the needs of the Nation and aid in the Government by their vote and influence on the side of right when no more prominent work is given them. He is a member of the Baptist, while his wife belongs to the Congregational Church.

In 1858, Mr. Keniston married Miss Martha A. Tiffany, of Pike, Wyoming County, N. Y., with whom he lived happily until she was called hence in 1862. In 1866, he married Miss Martha Lynde of Williamstown, Vt., who has ably managed the household affairs and wisely governed the children committed to her care, winning friends by her graces of heart and mind. The union has been blessed by the birth of nine children—Henry C., John L., Lela, Laura, Charles H., Mattie, Carroll, Raymond and Daisey. Lela and Mattie have been removed by the hand of death; Henry is now living in Chicago; the others remain at home. All are single.



**JOHN WILLIAMS, Sr.** The oldest settler in Wesley Township, and one of the oldest in the county, this nonagenarian has the love and respect of the entire neighborhood, and more especially of the younger members of the community. Nothing affords him greater pleasure than to sit and talk of the old times, whose incidents are as vividly impressed upon his memory as though they had transpired but yesterday. His general health is good and his mind yet active, although he so long since passed the allotted age of man. He has a home with his son Frank and family, but is otherwise alone, seven members of his family being buried in the cemetery near by.

The gentleman of whom we write was the first-born in the parental family and opened his eyes to

the light of day in Greenbrier County, Va., April 5, 1801. His education, a common-school one, was obtained in Greenbrier and Monroe Counties, in the latter of which the family resided for a time. At the age of twenty-one years, he began his personal career in life as a farmer, that being an occupation to which he had been reared, and his whole life has been spent in open air employment. He had a deed for three hundred and forty acres of Maj. Hamilton, of West Virginia, and worked that farm until September, 1831, when he took the Western fever.

On October 7 of that year, Mr. Williams started with a four horse team toward the setting sun, and upon arriving in the vicinity of Danville, Ill., made a settlement, remaining there until April, 1834. He then came to Will County, and located one-half mile from his present home. At that time Will County had been subjected to no improvement worthy of mention, and the land was being surveyed by the United States Government. Mr. Williams' nearest neighbor was George N. Beckwith, three miles distant, and he remained at that time but a few days. Indians were here two seasons after Mr. Williams' arrival, but they were peaceable.

The house built by Mr. Williams was the first in this township. It was of logs, and being 16x18 feet in dimensions, was looked upon as quite a mansion. The first year our subject plowed forty acres, two-thirds of which he planted in corn, raising from the sod four hundred bushels of good corn and enough soft grain to keep his cattle and horses all winter. He had twenty-two head of cattle and two horses. Having had some money with which to start here, Mr. Williams had not the struggle which some pioneers had. His first purchase was three hundred and twenty acres, but he sold off twenty to a new neighbor. Very few settlers arrived prior to 1836, at which time there was quite an influx of immigrants.

In October, 1819, Mr. Williams united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he has been identified since that time, and in the work of which he took an active part for many a long year. He helped to organize the first congregation in this township, in 1835, and was Class-Leader from 1836

to 1839. In 1837 the congregation numbered fifty-two members. The first regular minister was the Rev. Mr. Springer, father of Congressman Springer.

The first school in this vicinity was also organized in 1835, and John Frazer selected as its teacher. Mr. Williams was one of the first School Directors, and has frequently served in the same capacity in later years. He was here when the county was organized, and has therefore been as closely connected with its history as anyone now living. The first house which he built is now used by T. W. Jones as a stable. In July, 1871, he came to his present home. Mr. Williams has always taken an interest in politics, and from the time of casting his first Presidential ballot, which was given to John Quincy Adams, he has never failed to deposit his ballot in the interest of good government. His father was a Federalist and he has been a Whig and Republican.

The first marriage of our subject took place September 5, 1832, the bride being Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Aaron Burr, cousin of Col. Aaron Burr. That estimable lady survived until 1845, when she joined the sheeted nations of the dead. She had borne seven children of whom the survivors are LeRoy, now living in California; John, in Colorado; Clarke, in Kansas; and Mrs. Rebecca Withroe in Kentland, Ind.

On June 22, 1847, Mr. Williams contracted a second alliance, his companion being Miss Susan Groff, whose home was near LaFayette, Ind. This union was blessed by the birth of four children, with the youngest of whom, Frank L., our subject makes his home. The others are James W., Mrs. Jennie Sheller and Mrs. Lizzie Grey, who live in Kansas. Mrs. Susan (Groff) Williams departed this life in August, 1860. The third marriage of Mr. Williams was celebrated March 27, 1862, on which occasion he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Morehead, who survived until November 13, 1881, when she too was laid to rest in the silent tomb.

The father of our subject was Richard Williams, who was born in Greenbriar County, W. Va., October 17, 1776. In the same county in 1780 a child was born who was christened Thankful Morrison, and who in due time became the wife of Richard

Williams. In 1808 they removed to Monroe County, of the same State, settling upon a farm, which they made their home for twenty-three years. They then returned to their native county, where Mr. Williams breathed his last in 1843, and his good wife in 1852. This worthy couple were the parents of eight sons and three daughters, three of the family yet surviving.

A lithographic portrait of this venerable citizen of Will County appropriately accompanies his personal sketch. To attain to a happy and healthy old age is the lot of only a few, and Mr. Williams is fortunate in that principles of honor and uprightness were early inculcated in his mind, and thus he is enabled to consider the past without regret and the future without fear.



GEORGE W. YOUNG, LL. B., is one of the prominent and rising young members of the bar of this county, his office being in the Barber Block, Joliet. He was born in Manhattan, this county, March 25, 1864, and came to Joliet with his parents when twelve years old, receiving his education at the grammar and high schools of this city. In 1883 he took a position on the staff of the *Joliet Republic and Sun*, where he remained until the fall of 1885. He then entered the School of Law in Columbia College, New York City, taking also the course in political science. He was graduated in 1887, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Laws, *cum laude*.

The same year Mr. Young was admitted to the bar in Illinois, and at once began to practice in Joliet. During the last Presidential campaign he was elected Secretary and Treasurer of the Lincoln Club, an organization of young Republicans, and still holds the office. He was also a member of the Township Campaign Committee. He is now a Director of the Young Men's Christian Association, and was recently elected Vestryman in Christ Episcopal Church. These facts thoroughly establish his reputation as one of the upright, energetic and trustworthy young men of the city, and indicate that his life is to be a useful

one, not only in advancing his personal interests, but in carrying forward the higher welfare and civilization of the community to which he belongs. It further demonstrates the fact that the family name, which is already an honored one, promises to become still more honorable through the merits of the younger generation of the name.

On September 5, 1889, he was united in marriage with Miss Corabelle Beers Rugar, a cultured and refined young lady. She was born at Galesburg, Ill., April 2, 1864, and is a daughter of Capt. Francis Rugar, U. S. A. She was educated at Knox College and afterward pursued the study of art in the Art Institute, of Chicago, and the Academy of Design, of New York.

The first member of the Young family in America was the Rev. John Young, who was sent to this country about 1635 as a missionary of the Church of England, as previously there had been none in New England. He made a permanent home near Sag Harbor, L. I. He had two sons, Edward and Alexander, who left home about 1700, the former going to New Jersey and the latter to Westchester County, N. Y., where the descendants of Alexander Young lived for many years. His son, also named Alexander, was the father of Edward, and the grandfather of a third Alexander, who married Miss Elizabeth Lawrence about 1787. Miss Lawrence was the daughter of John Lawrence, of New York City, and cousin of the noted Capt. John Lawrence, of the United States frigate "Chesapeake," whose memorable command "Don't give up the ship" is still a popular motto in the navy.

The last-named Alexander Young was a prominent Orthodox Friends preacher, well known throughout the country. He owned and operated an extensive mill at Esopus, Ulster County, on the Hudson. He and his wife reared a family of six children, the third of whom was John Young, the grandfather of our subject. He was born in Esopus July 18, 1798, was considered one of the most highly-educated men of his day, and was for some time in charge of a private school in New York City. He had previously established the Brooklyn Collegiate Institute, which he continued until 1841. In 1826 he was appointed United States Surveyor for the District of Cincinnati, but

never undertook the active duties of the office. In the fall of 1848 he came to Illinois, and locating in Manhattan, this county, was joined by his family in the spring of 1849. He became well-known throughout the county, being a prominent and extensive farmer, and serving as Supervisor of his township for ten years. In 1876 he retired from active life, removing to Joliet to spend the remainder of his days with his son Edward. He was one of the organizers of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, at Manhattan, and was largely instrumental in building the church edifice. He was for several years before his retirement President of the Will County Agricultural Society. He was also patentee of several agricultural implements.

In 1825 John Young became the husband of Miss Caroline Thompson, daughter of the Rev. James Thompson, a well-known Episcopal clergyman, of Ulster County, N. Y. Four children survive him. They are James Thompson, President of the Staten Island Dyeing Establishment in New York City; Mansfield, a resident of Hartland, Kan.; Caroline E., wife of Francis L. Cugwin, of Joliet; and Edward.

The youngest son, Edward, who is the father of our subject, was born in Durham, N. Y., February 6, 1837, and came to this county with the family in 1849. He received his education at private schools in New York City, and after reaching his maturity succeeded his father in the management of the farm, upon which he remained until 1876. He then removed to Joliet and engaged in the hay and grain business, buying in different parts of the country and shipping to the South and East, carrying on an extensive trade. In order to still further extend the business he has recently removed to Kansas, with his headquarters at Anthony, where he gives his attention exclusively to grain dealing. He married Miss Ann Eliza, daughter of the Rev. Warner Hoyt, an Episcopal clergyman at Ridgefield, Conn. She was born June 15, 1839, and educated at Pelham Priory.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Young is made up of five sons and a daughter, George Warner, the subject of this sketch, being the eldest. The second one is Charles Herbert, who is now attending Trinity College, Hartford, Conn.,

being a candidate for the Episcopal ministry; the third is John Mansfield, city editor of the *Joliet Press*; Hensted T., the fourth child, is private secretary to the General Freight Agent of the Erie Railroad, at Chicago. The younger members of the family circle are Francis Edward, who is now in school, and Margaret Hoyt. The family have long been members of the Episcopal Church, the father having been Vestryman and Warden of Christ Church, of Joliet, since 1876.



WILLIAM LAMBE. Among the many attractive, rural homesteads of this county none are more deserving of a special mention than that belonging to Mr. Lambe, and which in its appointments is indicative of the true character of both himself and his excellent wife. The farm comprises three hundred and twenty acres of land on section 30, embellished with good buildings and all the other appurtenances naturally suggested to the mind of the enterprising and progressive agriculturist. Mr. Lambe is well-to-do financially, owning, besides this farm, three hundred and sixty acres in Clinton County. He is largely interested in stock raising and has that thorough understanding of his calling which seldom fails of success. Mrs. Lambe is in all respects the suitable partner of her husband and their hospitable doors are continuously kept open to the hosts of friends whom they have made since their sojourn in this county.

The subject of this notice was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, September 20, 1820, and lived there until 1852, occupying himself mostly as a farmer. He obtained such education as was afforded by the common schools and at an early age contracted those habits of industry and economy which have been the secret of his later success. Before leaving his native land he was for five or six years a resident of the city of Belfast, employed in the Government Custom House.

Upon reaching America in the fall of 1852, Mr. Lambe sojourned briefly in New York City upon landing, and thence made his way to St. Louis, Mo., where for three years he was employed as a pork-

packer, conducting his own business. His establishment and its contents were destroyed by fire and for four years afterward he engaged as a railroad contractor. Subsequently he was in the transfer business for the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis Railroad Company, and later engaged as a dealer in coal and ice for fifteen or sixteen years while at the same time retaining his connection with the transfer business, in company with his brother, the late Charles B. Lambe, of St. Louis.

About 1866, Mr. Lambe came to Clinton County, this State, where he engaged in farming and lived until probably 1882. In the meantime he has been accompanied in his migrations by the lady to whom he was first married, in County Down, Ireland—Miss Letitia Martin—who bore him three children. The eldest of these is a daughter, Sarah, and now the wife of James Allen, of Clinton County. The two younger—Emma and John—died when small. Mrs. Letitia Lambe departed this life in St. Louis, Mo., in 1853.

Our subject was married to his present wife in Homer Township, this county, March 6, 1867. Her maiden name was Louise Barnett, and she is a daughter of the late George Barnett who died in Homer Township about 1861. Mrs. Louise (Barnett) Lambe was born in Canada, November 6, 1838, and by her union with our subject has become the mother of seven children, viz: George who died when three months old; Georgiana, William B., Anna B., Emma H., Minnie L., and Charles B. Mr. Lambe, politically, is a sound Republican. He has had a lengthy experience as a School Director, holding this office for many years both in Will and Clinton Counties. In politics he is a staunch Republican, and both he and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Baptist Church.



YRUS A. LEWIS. Among the leading men in the community of New Lenox Township, none are held in more genuine respect than Mr. Lewis. He possesses all the qualities of "a gentleman to the manor born," being liberal, enterprising and public spirited as a citizen, skill-

ful and thorough as a farmer, and has surrounded his family with all of the comforts of life. He is now approaching the sixty-sixth year of his age, the date of his birth being July 19, 1824, and his native place was the town of Decatur, Otsego County, N. Y. He was the youngest of two sons and two daughters, the offspring of Justus and Candace (Spencer) Lewis, who were both natives of New Hartford, Conn. The father served three years as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and by occupation was a skilled mechanic. After marriage the parents settled in Decatur, Otsego County, N. Y., where the father engaged in farming, and where both parents spent the remainder of their lives, the mother dying in the fall of 1833 and the father in the fall of 1847.

Mr. Lewis spent his boyhood and youth in his native county remaining there until 1850. He became familiar with the various employments of farm life, and when approaching the twenty third year of his age, was married, February 23, 1847, at Decatur, to Miss Emeline, daughter of Jesse and Zuviah (Peck) Seward. The father of Mrs. Lewis was a cousin of William H. Seward, Secretary of State during President Lincoln's administration, while Mrs. Seward was a relative of ex-Governor Marcy, of New York State. Mrs. Seward died there, while Mr. Seward died in the city of Joliet, Ill. Mrs. Lewis was born in Decatur, N. Y., September 20, 1825, and remained there with her parents until her marriage and until the spring of 1850.

In the above-mentioned year Mr. and Mrs. Lewis came to Illinois and settled on section 30, New Lenox Township, this county. Mr. Lewis is the owner of nearly four hundred acres of land, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation. A part of this was purchased by him at \$4 per acre, but under his careful management it has now become more valuable property. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Mary, is the wife of William Greenwood, of New Lenox Township. The eldest son, Spencer, was piously inclined from his youth, and is now a missionary under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church and stationed at Chunk King, in which is located the West China Mission.

He is an earnest laborer in the Master's vineyard and possesses in a marked degree the talents and ability suitable to his responsible position. Candace is the wife of Calvin Armagast, of Joliet; Nellie is the wife of Julian Barnes, of that city; C. Almon is an architect, of Spokane Falls, Wash.; Sherman and Jennie remain at home with their parents. Florence Ida died aged two years, and an infant died unnamed.

Mr. Lewis has for some time entertained a warm interest in the temperance movement and in politics is now a Prohibitionist. He and his family are all members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Lewis being a Trustee of the Ottawa Street Church, at Joliet, and one of the chief pillars. Aside from holding the offices of Road Commissioner and School Trustee, he has kept aloof from the cares and responsibilities of public life.



**R**OBERT HUSTON, Sheriff of Will County, was elected to this office in 1886 and the indications are that he is thoroughly adapted to the discharge of its duties. He is a man of large experience and keen observation, having a good understanding of human nature and has proven himself competent to deal with the motley characters which frequently come under his jurisdiction.

A native of New York City, Mr. Huston was born August 7, 1845, to Robert and Elizabeth (Shaw) Huston, who were natives of the North of Ireland. The Huston family is of Irish descent while the Shaws originated in Scotland.

The father of our subject emigrated to America in 1831, when a young man, and two years later was married to Miss Shaw. The union resulted in the birth of five daughters and four sons, of whom Robert was the sixth in order of birth. The family, in 1850, removed to Grundy County, this State. Robert Huston, Sr., had in his own country learned the trade of a carpet weaver, but now engaged in farming upon the rich soil of the Prairie State. Mrs. Elizabeth (Shaw) Huston departed

this life at her home in Gardner, Ill., May 11, 1885. One son, John W., died in the hospital at St. Louis, Mo., from sickness contracted in the army during the late Civil War. Thomas J., for the past nineteen years has been the railroad agent at Lemont, Ill. William prosecutes farming at the old homestead in Braecowell Township. The sisters are all living and all married. One is residing in Braidwood, one in Hastings, Neb., and three in Gardner, Ill. The aged father who has now numbered eighty-two years, is passing his days quietly on the old homestead in Grundy County.

Robert received the advantages afforded by the common schools and after the outbreak of the Civil War, although only a little over sixteen years old, enlisted December 29, 1861, as a Union soldier in Company I, Fiftieth Illinois Infantry, and participated with his comrades in the vicissitudes of army life and in many important battles. At the battle of Yellow Bayou, La., May 11, 1861, he belonged to the color guard, of whom four were wounded and two killed, Mr. Huston upon that occasion suffering the loss of his right leg. He was confined in the hospital at Jefferson City, Mo., until sufficiently recovered to return home and received his honorable discharge in February, 1865, being mustered out as corporal.

After leaving the army Mr. Huston supplemented his education by an attendance at school two years, part of the time at Fulton, Ill., where arrangements had been made by the State for free tuition and board for soldiers. He subsequently taught school two years in Grundy County and then for eighteen months was employed as a weighman at coal shafts at Braidwood. Later he engaged in merchandising at that point for twelve or thirteen years. At the expiration of this time he sold out and subsequently served as Postmaster of Braidwood one term. He assumed the duties of Sheriff in the fall of 1886.

Mr. Huston contracted matrimonial ties February 6, 1872, being wedded to Miss Emma A., daughter of William and Augustine Blanchard. Mrs. Huston was born December 22, 1815, in Geneva, Ill. She received careful parental training and remained under the home roof until her marriage. Of this union there have been born four children, viz:

Maud J., Charles E., William B., and Jessie O. Mr. Huston is prominently connected with the Grand Army of the Republic, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the American Legion of Honor, in the latter of which he has been the State Treasurer for the past six years. It is hardly necessary to state that politically, he is a sound Republican.

He has been partially reimbursed for the loss of his limb by the granting of a monthly pension from the Government.



**A** LONZO B. SHARP. The firm of A. B. Sharp & Co., occupies a prominent position among the business and industrial interests of Joliet, and is engaged in the manufacture of paints, oils, varnishes, axle grease, etc. The senior member of the firm, of whom we here present a sketch, has been engaged in this business since 1871. He commenced in a modest manner and gradually added to his facilities and the variety of articles manufactured, making all house, railroad and fence wire brands of paint, Excelsior Axle Grease, Harness Alabastine, and enjoys a trade of \$100,000 annually. He thinks, however, of retiring from business in the near future, and spending his declining years in the ease and comfort which he has so justly earned. He has a fine plant, the lot comprising one hundred and sixty-six feet front on Ottawa Street, running back to Canal and connecting with Jackson at the upper bridge. He is the owner of other valuable property in the city, including a fine home at the intersection of Eastern Avenue and Clinton Street, one of the finest residence localities of the city, and which is valued at \$10,000.

A native of Windom, Conn., Mr. Sharp was born four miles from the noted frog pond of that region, July 28, 1823. His parents were Elder Elias and Fanny Sharp, the former of whom was a native of Vermont. Elias Sharp when a young man went to Connecticut, as a minister of the Christian Church, and became an eloquent pulpit orator. He married Miss Fanny, daughter of Benjamin

Gardner, a seafaring man, and they lived in Connecticut until their son, Alonzo B., had reached his majority, and they spent their last years in Lockport, N. Y.

Mr. Sharp attended the common schools of his native place. He lived in New London, Conn., five years, then came West as far as Logansport, Ind., where he was engaged five years in the grocery business. Next he removed to a farm in Kendall County, across the line from Plainfield, and from there went to Montana at the time of the gold excitement. After a year's absence he returned via the Platte and Yellowstone Rivers, Virginia City and Salt Lake, paying \$300 stage fare from the Mormon metropolis to Atchison, Kan., and being seventeen days and nights on the road, much of the time delayed by snow. He succeeded fairly well in the mines, but decided that that experience would suffice as far as the wild West was concerned. He then came to Joliet, Ill. Mr. Sharp engaged in butchering, and filled five contracts with the Illinois State Penitentiary in a satisfactory manner, and was thus occupied about ten years. In 1871 he established his present enterprise, which has likewise netted him ample returns. He is looked upon in business circles as a fair-minded man, square in his dealings and one whose word may be considered as good as his bond.

Mr. Sharp was first married, in 1846, to Miss Sarah L. Brown, daughter of Maj. Brown, a soldier in the War of 1812. Of this union there was born one child, Eugene D., who is in business with his father; the mother died when this boy was a lad of twelve years. Mr. Sharp then married her younger sister, Miss Emily M., and there were born to them three children, only one of whom is living, viz.: Lina, who is the wife of Charles P. Barstow, of Boston, Mass., and they have two children. Eugene married Miss Sarah Noble and is the father of five children.

Elias Sharp came to the West about 1860, and became interested in lands and fine wool sheep. He also engaged extensively in the nursery business at Lockport, N. Y., prior to this, and during the panic of 1837 lost probably \$40,000. He had been obliged to abandon the ministry on account

of ill-health. He lived to the advanced age of eighty two years, and died about 1876 in Lockport, N. Y. The wife and mother survived him four years and was about eighty-four years old at the time of her decease.

Dr. Sharp obtained his title during the reign of the epizootic, in 1871, having been especially successful in treating this disease, which made such havoc among the horses. He has three brothers living, namely, M. G., Lovando and C. A. The three carry on the nursery business at Lockport, N. Y., and have one of the largest fruit-evaporating establishments in the Empire State, with a capacity of six hundred bushels per day.



CHARLES CURTIS. It has been well said that "our schools are the hope of our country" and all who desire the perpetuation of the national life and the fulfillment of its glorious promise as the center of the highest civilization, recognize the fact that the educators of our land are clothed with a high responsibility and that those in whose care the young are placed should be selected with judgment. Prof. Curtis is one to whom his fellow men look up as an instructor capable not only of guiding youth in the ascent of the hill of knowledge, but of leading them by example and precept toward moral and upright lives. His own mind has been well disciplined and is a storehouse of knowledge, while the moral and spiritual qualities have been strengthened and developed as years have passed by.

Prof. Curtis was born in Orange County, Vt., and in the Green Mountain State his parents, Francis and Julia (Richardson) Curtis, also first saw the light of day. His mother died when he was quite young, but his father is still living. The educational privileges bestowed upon the lad were excellent, and after an attendance at the public schools he entered Barrie Academy from which he was graduated with high honors in 1875. The same year he came to Illinois, and locating in Chenoa, began his career as a pedagogue. After a successful experience of six years he was elected

Principal and Superintendent of the High School in Odell, in which place he remained four years. He was elected for another year but resigned, being chosen Superintendent of Schools at Lockport and entered upon the duties of that position in September, 1886.

Prof. Curtis has graded the schools of this place, introduced a curriculum that is well suited to the practical demands of the age, and has established the custom of holding graduating exercises and awarding diplomas to those whose thoroughness entitles them to that honor. The schools have steadily grown in attendance until they are models in their way, and have become a power for good which proves the high executive talent and strong personal influence of their Superintendent. He gives a fair share of credit for these good results to his subordinates, recognizing that in their co-operation there is a strong factor to accomplish good.

The wife of Prof. Curtis is a native of the Green Mountain State, a member of an excellent family, and bore the maiden name of Hattie M. Lord. She was educated in Burrie Academy and is a lady of fine culture and a consistent Christian character. Both Mr. and Mrs. Curtis belong to the Congregational Church and the former takes an active part in the labors of both church and Sunday-school. He belongs to the social order of Modern Woodmen, and and to the Masonic fraternity. His influence is not confined to those who are under his instruction and guidance, but is felt throughout the community as that of an educated man always is when exerted in behalf of true civilization.

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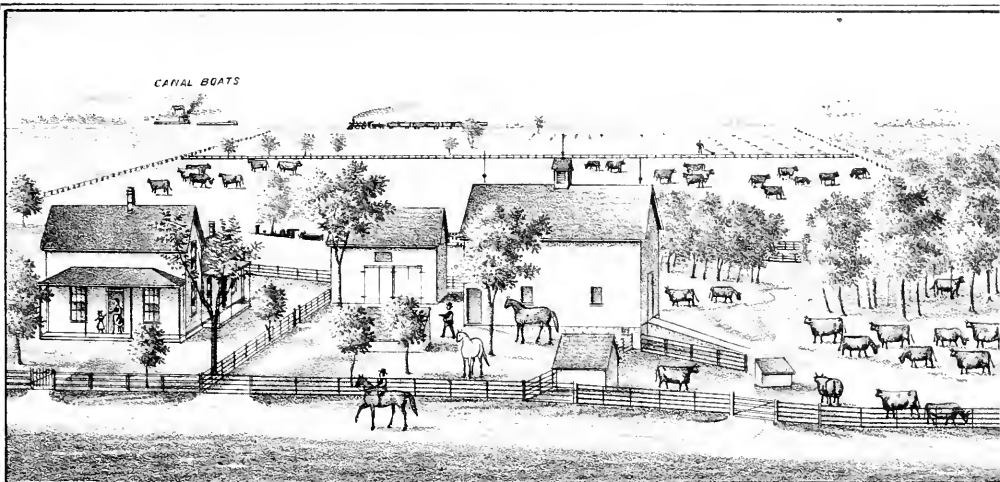
**J**OHAN KILLEY. In a county that contains so many finely improved farms and beautiful rural dwellings, it is hard to claim pre-eminence for any, but certainly any traveler through Wesley Township would at first glance decide that that of the subject of this sketch held a conspicuous place. The landed estate comprises two hundred and fifty-seven acres on section 6, all under careful tillage and supplied with excellent improvements. The fine residence was erected, in

1881, at a cost of \$3,000, and with its attractive rural surroundings, is represented on another page. It is furnished with all the modern conveniences, and gives evidence in its adornment and air of neatness and comfort that its interior is presided over by a capable and tasteful housewife. Mr. Killey began his residence in this township at a very early age and at a period which was antedated by few now living. For many years he has held an honored place among the citizens and proved himself worthy of their esteem.

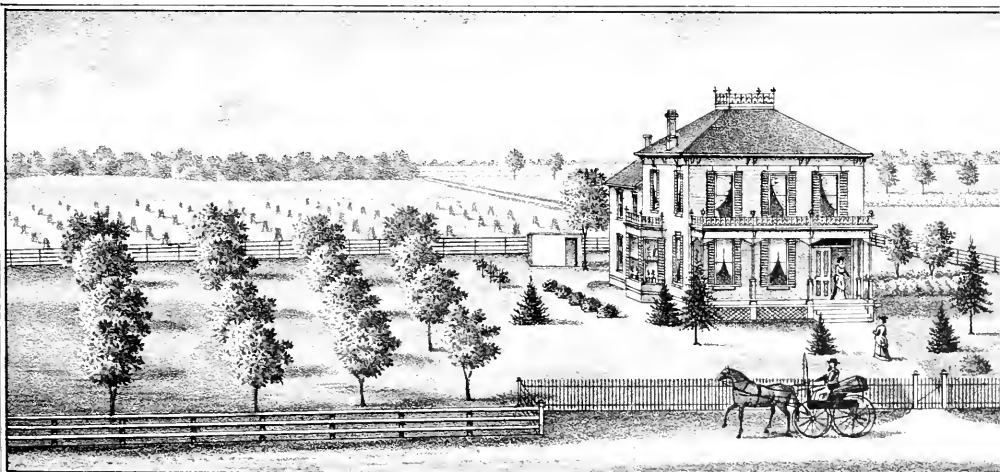
Going back a few generations in the paternal line we find James Killey, a farmer, and following him his son William Killey, a seaman. The next in the direct line was another William Killey, the father of our subject, who, like those before mentioned, was born on the Isle of Man, the date of his birth being 1793. He married Mary Cowley, who was born in 1795, on the same island, their marriage rites being celebrated in 1818. The worthy couple continued to reside in the land of their nativity until 1827, when they emigrated to America, making their first settlement on a farm near Cleveland, Ohio. There they remained until 1839, at which time they removed to Will County, Ill., settling on the farm now occupied by our subject. There they both laid down the burdens of life, the mother breathing her last in 1861, and the father in 1873. Their family comprised nine children, three of whom are now living. Some of the paternal relatives resided in Boston, Mass., previous to the Revolutionary War, and one cousin belonged to the English Army twenty-one years. The family is of Celtic origin.

The subject of this biographical notice was the third in the parental family and was born April 2, 1825, on the Isle of Man. He was therefore still in his early childhood when America became the family home, and in this country he received a good common-school education. He remained with his parents, caring for them until their death, and having charge of the farm from eighteen years of age. Since the farm which he now occupies was purchased, he has never resided elsewhere. The first residence was a log house, built in 1831 by the man of whom the Killeys bought. The farm was a timbered one and had but ten acres cleared when





RESIDENCE OF LORENZO A. STRONG, SEC. 11. LOCKPORT TP. WILL CO. ILL



RESIDENCE OF JOHN KILLEY, SEC. 6. WESLEY TP. WILL CO. ILL.

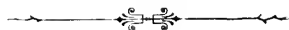


they took possession. Mr. Killey has added nearly all the improvements which the place now bears. He still carries on the farm himself, devoting his attention to general farming, both crops and stock being of good grades and sufficient in quantity and number to afford all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

At the home of the bride, November 15, 1865, Mr. Killey was united in marriage with Miss Jane Schoonmaker, daughter of Peter and Harriet (Kortright) Schoonmaker. The parents of Mrs. Killey were natives of New York, and had six children, but one of whom is now living. The parents are now deceased. Mrs. Killey was born December 7, 1837, and died October 15, 1868, leaving one child, a son, George W. This son has attended select school at Wilmington, is well educated, and exhibits many of the sterling qualities which afford good ground for parental pride, and give the promise of extended usefulness.

A second marriage was contracted by Mr. Killey, December 25, 1870, his bride being Mrs. Maria Singleton, *nee* Butler, a native of the Empire State and a woman of many virtues. This union has been blessed by the birth of one child, a daughter, Mary.

The first newspaper ever read by Mr. Killey was the Cleveland *Herald*, now numbered among the things of the past. He has always taken an active interest in politics and, having first been a Whig, almost as a matter of course became a member of the Republican party when the old organization was abandoned. His fellow-citizens have enjoyed the benefit of his intelligence and energy as Road Commissioner, and Director on the local School Board. He was baptized in the Episcopal Church, but his membership therein does not prevent him from taking a cordial interest in the good work which is being done by other religious bodies.



**L**ORENZO A. STRONG owns and occupies a farm of one hundred and fourteen acres in Lockport Township, to which he came in March, 1876. His possessions are the result of his

own industry and good judgment, and his commodious residence with its surroundings is represented by a lithographic view elsewhere in this volume. He is engaged in the business of general farming and dairying, conducting his worldly affairs with the same prudence which has heretofore characterized his successful career, and in his personal life perpetuating the strict integrity and devotion to principles which he has inherited from honorable ancestry.

Mr. Strong is a descendant in the seventh generation of Elder John Strong, of Taunton, England, who came from the mother country in the ship "Mary and John," which landed at Nantasket, Mass., May 30, 1630. His immediate progenitors were Amasa Strong, born in Hawley, Mass., February 27, 1814, and Lucy (Fuller) Durkee, daughter of Martin Durkee, of Brimfield, whose natal day was July 1, 1821.

The birth of our subject took place in Claridon, Geauga County, Ohio, December 8, 1811, and he remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age. He then began life for himself as a farmer, continuing his peaceful pursuits until August 23, 1864, when he enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Ohio Infantry. He was enrolled at Sandusky in Company I, under Capt. McDonald, and with his comrades did duty on Johnston's Island under Col. Hill, Commander of that post. Mr. Strong faithfully discharged the duties which were set before him until after the close of the war, receiving his discharge July 17, 1865. He then returned to his native State and to the pursuits in which he had formerly been engaged, changing his location after some years, and since March 2, of the Centennial year, being numbered among the residents of Will County, Ill.

The estimable lady who became the wife of our subject, and under whose care his dwelling place is a home of comfort and enjoyment, bore the maiden name of Mary E. Ryder. She was born in Rochester, N. Y., and during her maidenhood lived in Branch County, Mich., and later in the Prairie State. The happy union has been blessed by the birth of one son, Royal Walter, who was born July 28, 1889, and bids fair to perpetuate the

sturdy qualities of his long line of ancestry. The Strong family has been characterized by deep religious convictions, and he of whom we write is as steadfast in his determination to do what he thinks right, as any who have preceded him.



**J**OHIN B. PINNEO takes a prominent place among the farmers and stock-raisers of Troy Township and is no unimportant factor in advancing those interests in this county. He is a Nova Scotian by birth, born October 26, 1836, to Charles and Mary E. (Baxter) Pinneo. The Baxters were a prominent family in Nova Scotia, of English origin, and Baxter's Harbor was named for them. John Baxter, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a son of Dr. Baxter, a prominent physician of England and later of Nova Scotia. The father of our subject was born in the United States, his mother going from Nova Scotia after the death of her husband. The parents of our subject came to this State in 1844 with him and located in the town of Jackson, which at that time was called Reed's Grove, they coming to this county, with six children, in a wagon from Chicago, and here they made their home until called to a higher by death, the father dying in 1879 and the mother surviving until 1888, when she, too, passed away.

The son of whom we write was reared to manhood in Jackson and, displaying a taste for mechanics, he was set to learn the trades of a carpenter and wagon-maker, which he followed for a number of years in Elwood, this county, and then turned his attention to farming. His farm in Troy Township comprises three hundred acres of valuable land, one hundred and sixty of which he uses for pasturage, as he pays much attention to the raising of stock of good grades.

Mr. Pinneo has been twice married, the maiden name of his first wife being Kate Conklin, and to them were born four children: John B., who is married and lives on a farm in this county; Florence, wife of Duane Dibble, a farmer in Troy Township; George L., who died at the age of twenty-two in March, 1888; Rush, who died March

1, 1890, of typhoid fever, a young man of eighteen years.

The present wife of our subject was formerly Mrs. O. T. Fargo, and they were married in 1876 and in 1884 moved onto the farm. Mrs. Pinneo's parents, Horace and Diana (Brown) Haff, were of German and English descent and came from near Albany, N. Y., making the entire journey to Will County in a covered wagon. Mr. Haff was the youngest son of Joshua Haff. There is a romantic incident related concerning the matrimonial venture of his grandfather. He was Captain on board a vessel sailing along the coast of France, and during an earthquake a young schoolmistress and her scholars took refuge on his boat. The result was she and the Captain were mutually attracted, married and came to America to found a family in this country. They settled near Albany, N. Y., while there were many Indians there and two of their children were stolen from them, taken to the West and were never heard from afterward. Mrs. Haff, Mrs. Pinneo's mother, was a daughter of Peter and Theodora (Green) Brown, the father of English descent. They lived near Albany where he was engaged as a merchant for many years, coming from there to Aurora, this State, in 1855. After marriage Mr. Haff settled on a farm near Albany and lived there until Mrs. Pinneo was three years of age, and then sold it and in 1836 came to this county, as before mentioned. He took considerable land here, including the farm on which his daughter and our subject now make their home. About four years before his death he took up his residence in Joliet and there departed this life November 11, 1865. His wife had died many years previously, when Mrs. Pinneo was eight years of age, she being their only child. He married again and had two children, daughter and son; Edwin G. Haff, the son is still living.

Mrs. Pinneo has four children: Hiram DeWitt is now in New Mexico; Ella, wife of Erastus Whittlesey, who has a farm in Pocahontas County; Edwin Guy was married and has one son, Chester DeWitt.

Mr. Pinneo is a man of strong common sense, of excellent business tact and of honorable character, and exerts a good influence in the community of

which he is one of the best and most trusted citizens. Possessing a good degree of public spirit our subject interests himself in all schemes to promote the advancement of township or county and is active in local politics, identifying himself with the Republican party. A man of enlightened views, well understanding the value of a good education in any walk in life, he has always taken a marked interest in local educational matters, and as School Director is exerting his influence for the good of the town.



**ALMON WILDER.** In making note of the pioneer settlers of Crete Township, the name of Mr. Wilder should occupy a prominent position. Acting upon the maxim that a rolling stone gathers no moss, he has for the long period of forty-eight years maintained his residence upon the same farm, this embracing land which he entered from the Government in 1811, for the consideration of \$1.25 per acre. He owns eighty acres of the original entry, and forty acres which he purchased from another party. He has effected all the improvements upon it, this being accomplished solely by persevering industry and good management. The roof which shelters him and the comforts which surround him are a standing monument to his unremitting toil and his frugality, which made him careful to live within his income and make a wise provision for the future.

Mr. Wilder came to Will County from Ashtabula County, Ohio, of which he had been a resident for many years. He was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., May 21, 1806, and is consequently eighty-four years old, but notwithstanding his years he is bright and active, well informed and intelligent and possesses such a clear recollection of past events that an hour may always be spent pleasantly and profitably in his company. During his younger years Mr. Wilder was one of the leading politicians of this part of the county. He originally voted with the Democratic party, but after the outbreak of the Rebellion transferred his support to Republican principles. He served as Township Supervisor nearly five terms, and for many years as Assessor

and Collector. He maintains that his exceptional good health has been the result of correct habits and inhaling the pure country air. He has always followed agricultural pursuits, and he was uniformly successful as a tiller of the soil.

The immediate progenitor of our subject was Ruben Wilder, Jr., a native of Vermont and of New England parentage. The paternal grandfather was Ruben Wilder, Sr., who was likewise born in Vermont, and who emigrated first to New York State and then to Ashtabula County, Ohio, where he spent his last days engaged in agricultural pursuits and dying when quite aged. The removal to Ohio was made as early as 1810, or perhaps 1808. He was married in his native State to a lady who was also born in Vermont, and who, like him, lived to be quite aged. Grandfather Wilder was a prominent member of the Old School Baptist Church, a man of decided views and opinions, and who exerted no small influence among the people of his community.

Ruben Wilder, Jr., the father of our subject, was the eldest child of his parents and was but a lad when they left his native State of Vermont and settled in Onondaga County, N. Y. He was there reared to manhood and married Miss Polly Herring. She was born in Vermont and was taken by her parents to New York State when a child. After her marriage to Ruben Wilder, Jr., they settled on a farm in Onondaga County, N. Y., where their three eldest children were born, one of whom died in infancy. When Almon was a few years old they removed to Ohio, settling in the woods of Ashtabula County, where the father obtained a tract of Government land and opened up a farm. When quite well advanced in years they left the Buckeye State and removed to Dyer, Lake County, Ind., where they both died at an advanced age. They were consistent members of the Christian Church and adorned their profession by their daily walk and conversation, being kind and tender parents, hospitable neighbors, and doing good as they had opportunity to those around them.

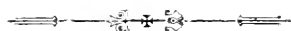
The subject of this notice was one of the elder members of a family of six sons and four daughters, and after the removal of the family to Ohio he went to live with his Grandfather Wilder, with

whom he made his home until reaching his majority. Soon afterward he was married, in Ashtabula County, to Miss Anna Corey. This lady was born in New York and was taken to Ohio by her parents when a child, they settling in Ashtabula County, where Mr. Corey followed farming and where both he and his good wife spent the closing years of their lives.

Mrs. Anna Wilder was carefully trained by her excellent parents and received her education in the common schools. She remained under the parental roof until her marriage and accompanied her husband to Lake County, Ind., where her death took place in 1840. She was then comparatively a young woman, but the mother of nine children, three of whom died in infancy. She proved the faithful partner of her husband and was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Six of their children are still living, and with two exceptions they are all married. Eliza is the wife of Alfred Robinson, who officiates as receiver in a Street-car Railroad Company in Chicago; Maria is the wife of Myron Mordorff, and they live on a farm in DeKalb County, this State; Mary is the wife of William C. Adams, a retired farmer of Crete Township; Martha, Mrs. John Dodge, lives on a farm in Crete Township; Melissa M. is a well-educated lady and for many years has been a teacher in the city schools of Chicago; Edward A. served in the Union Army during the Civil War and since its close has been a resident of Eldorado County, Cal.; he is single.

Mr. Wilder, in 1842, contracted a second marriage in Cook County, this State, with Mrs. Louisa (Wilson) Raymond. This lady was born near London, England, and is of pure English stock as far back as is known. She emigrated to America when quite young, settling with her parents in Canada, where she was married to her first husband, George Raymond. They afterward removed to Michigan, where Mr. Raymond died when a young man, leaving three children. John died when thirty years old. The survivors are Christiana, the wife of H. P. Gray, a machinist of Chicago, and Ann who married Clark Dollrook, a farmer of Cook County, this State. Of this marriage of our subject there have been born two children; George H.

married Miss Augusta Brown, and is farming in Cook County; Louisa is the wife of C. S. Howard, a leading business man of Denver, Colo., very wealthy and extensively engaged in the lumber business. Mr. and Mrs. Wilder are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Wilder for many years has been a leading officer and to which he has always contributed a liberal support.



JOHN D. MEIER, Supervisor of Crete Township, has represented this township in the County Board of Supervisors for a period of nineteen years—a fact which sufficiently indicates his standing among the people. In former years he prosecuted farming successfully, but in 1885, retired from active labor and took up his abode in the village on the 2nd of November, that year. He is the owner of considerable town property and has three hundred and fifty acres of some of the finest farming land of Will County, besides thirty acres of timber. His land is now operated by his sons. Eighty acres of it was secured by him from the Government and through his industry and perseverance was brought to its present fertile condition and added to, until the acreage now amounts to three hundred and eighty.

A settler of February, 1848, Mr. Meier purchased in Crete Township his first tract of Government land, this comprising eighty acres which he bought in 1847. He commenced without means and owes all his possessions to his industry, economy and perseverance. He is of German birth and ancestry, his early home being in Hesse-Cassel, where he first opened his eyes to the light January 17, 1824. He emigrated to America in the summer of 1844, and for a year thereafter was a resident of Chicago. Thence he removed to DuPage Township, Will County, and worked by the month until earning sufficient money to become a landowner.

The father of our subject was Conrad Meier, also a native of Hesse-Cassel, and a miller by trade. He spent his entire life in his native province, dying at the age of fifty-five years. He was a Lu-

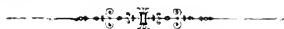
theran in religion and married a lady of his own province—Miss Sophia Scheuer. She survived her husband many years and died at her native place at the advanced age of eighty-two and one-half years. She, like her husband, was a member of the Lutheran Church from her youth.

To the parents of our subject there was born a family of two sons and two daughters, all of whom lived to mature years, were married and had families. Of these John O., is the only survivor, and the only one who came to the United States. He attended school until fourteen years old, in the meantime also worked at his father's mill. At that age he set out for himself and when a young man of twenty years embarked on his voyage to America, from Bremerhaven on the sailing vessel "Westphalia," a three-masted, which after forty-three days landed him safely in New York City. Thence he proceeded to Albany by steamer and from there by rail to Buffalo, where he took a lake vessel to Chicago, at which he arrived after seven days' passage.

Mr. Meier now began work on farm land which is now included in the city limits of the World's Fair City, remaining in that vicinity for twelve months. While crossing the Atlantic he made the acquaintance of a maiden of his own country—Miss Anna Rinne—who was accompanied by her parents. This acquaintance resulted in their marriage October 18, 1848, at Chicago, where the parents of Mrs. Meier settled. This union resulted in the birth of eleven children and after remaining the devoted helpmate and companion of her husband for a period of more than twenty years, Mrs. Meier departed this life at her home in Crete Township, April 27, 1869. Five of their children are yet living. John W. married Miss Sophia Scheiwe, who is now deceased, and he lives in Ash Grove, this State; Sophia is the wife of Henry Wassman, and they live on a farm in Crete Township; William H. married Miss Rena Tadger, and they live on Mr. Meier's farm in Crete Township; Mary is the wife of William Piepenbrink, a farmer of Crete Township; Louisa lives with her brother John, in Ash Grove.

Mr. Meier, on December 23, 1869, was married to Miss Engel Scheiwe. This lady was born in

Hesse-Cassel, Germany, November 28, 1832, and lived there until December, 1869, at which time she emigrated to America, coming alone. Of this union there have been born two children—one of whom Leo, died when ten months old; Henry E. operates one of his father's farms. Mr. Meier and his present wife, as was also the first wife, are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Meier has given to his church a liberal support and officiated as a Trustee for a period of thirty years. Politically, he is a pronounced Republican. He has been quite prominent in local politics and has held all the township offices, discharging the duties thereof with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. He is Treasurer and Director of the Crete Farmer's Mutual Insurance Company, which was established in 1861, and which has been a great success.



**A**RTHUR C. CLEMENT, senior member of the firm of Clement & Oliver, is with his partner transacting quite an extensive business in real estate, loans and insurance, making a specialty of his own property. He was born in the city of Joliet, January 16, 1852, and is a son of one of its earliest settlers, Charles Clement, who at the time of his death was the oldest living resident of the place.

With the exception of a few years spent in New Hampshire, Mr. Clement has passed his entire life in the city of his birth. When a small child his parents removed to the Granite State, and made their home in Chester until the spring of 1862, the father in the meantime coming to Illinois when necessary to attend to his business. After returning to this State, in 1862, for permanent settlement, Arthur C. remained with his parents and pursued his studies in the city schools until 1868. Then going to Ithaca, N. Y., he entered Cornell University where he took a four years' course and from which he was graduated in 1872, with the degree of B. S.

After leaving the University Mr. Clement returned to Joliet and during the winter following occupied himself as a school teacher in Will Town-

ship. In the spring of 1873, he entered the office of Olin & Phelps, attorneys, and took up the study of law to which he gave his close attention for a year and then entered the law department of Chicago University, and was soon afterward admitted to the bar. He then associated himself with a partner and the firm of Phelps & Clement transacted a successful business until the year previous to the death of Mr. Clement's father, in 1878.

Mr. Clement being chosen to administer upon his father's estate, he found his time so taken up that he was obliged to abandon his law practice and give his attention to that in which he is now engaged. In 1885 he entered into partnership with Stephen A. Oliver, and they added insurance to the business which is being extended steadily as they are becoming known. Mr. Clement has Democratic tendencies, but has never had any political aspirations.

On the 15th of September, 1875, Mr. Clement was united in wedlock with Miss Georgia M. Smith, at the bride's home in Auburn, N. Y. This lady is the daughter of Alfred and Laura Smith, who are now residents of Auburn, N. Y. There have been born of this union a son and daughter, namely, Charles Alfred and Laura.

Charles Clement, the father of our subject, was born in Windsor, Vt., in January, 1810, and there spent the early years of his life. After removing to Joliet he was married to Miss Cordelia, sister of Edmund Wilcox, who was a partner of Mr. Clement upon first coming to Joliet. Mr. Clement settled here in the spring of 1833, after which he went to Peoria and sojourned until the fall of that year. Miss Wilcox had come to the West on a visit to her brother and was married to Mr. Clement in 1844.

The father of our subject about 1835, purchased one acre of ground situated at what is now the corner of Exchange and Bluff Streets, paying therefor \$100 and upon it put up the first frame building in the town, this being the Old American House and which during the boom that followed two years later, he sold for the sum of \$15,000, taking in part payment a stock of goods. Then in partnership with Mr. Wilcox he engaged in the mer-

cantile business two years. He in the meantime became a prominent man and was one of the Village Trustees prior to leaving for New Hampshire. After the return from New Hampshire he again embarked in the dry-goods business at the corner of Jefferson and Ottawa Streets, and was thus occupied until 1865, while in the meantime he dealt largely in real estate. He finally retired from active business and died December 14, 1878, at his home in Joliet, Ill.

After Joliet had assumed the proportions of a city, Charles Clement represented his ward in the Council for a number of years. When first coming to the place he, in company with Messrs. Wilcox & Allen established the *Joliet Courier*, the first issue of which bore the date April 20, 1839. This was the first paper published in the county, and Mr. Clement still preserves with care a copy of the first issue which contains a report of the proceedings at the incorporation of Joliet Township. Upon that occasion the following officers were elected; William Scofield, President, Charles Clement, Treasurer, Charles Gardner, Clerk, and William Adam, Street Commissioner. In 1837, the father of our subject, in company with Mr. Wilcox, made a trip overland with a horse and wagon through Northwestern Iowa, during which they spent only two nights at a hotel. There are still living of the parental family only two children—Arthur C., our subject, and Alice C. who remains with her mother at the old place. Mr. Clement cast his first Presidential vote for Andrew Jackson and was a staunch adherent of the Democratic party.



**W**ILLIAM S. NICCOLLS is the occupant of the old Haven homestead, on section 24, New Lenox Township, and the owner of two hundred acres of fine land in McLean County. His occupation is that of a farmer and stock-raiser, in both of which lines of work he has become a master.

The Keystone State claims Mr. Nicolls as one of her sons and in that State his parents also first opened their eyes to the light of day. His father,



John Niccolls, was born in Westmoreland County, in April, 1810, and his mother, whose maiden name was Maria Steele, in Fayette County in 1807. After their marriage this worthy couple settled in Westmoreland County, remaining there until 1817, when they removed to the vicinity of Cadiz, Harrison County, Ohio. Thence they journeyed to Bloomington, Ill., in 1851, and are now living in that city at an advanced age. They are the parents of eight children named respectively, William S., Sarah J., John, Violet, Cassius, Hattie, Albert, and Elliott.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in West Newton, Westmoreland County, Pa., October 13, 1831. He accompanied his parents in their removals, remaining in Bloomington, this State, from their arrival in 1851, until 1856. He then came to this county, spending three years as a resident of New Lenox Township, after which he returned to Bloomington for a year. Coming again to this county he spent three years in farming at Reed's Grove, after which he went again to Bloomington, remaining at that place until December, 1886. During the greater part of his life he has been engaged in trading in stock.

Mr. Niccolls has been twice married. The first engagement was consummated in Bloomington, October 3, 1851, the bride being Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Calvin and Lucinda (Keyser) Barnes. Mrs. Elizabeth Niccolls shared her husband's joys and sorrows until October 10, 1879, when she was removed from her sorrowing household by the hand of death. She had borne her husband ten children, six of whom died in infancy. Those who lived to years of maturity are John V., Josephine, William and Calvin B.

The second marriage of Mr. Niccolls took place in New Lenox Township, September 7, 1886, the bride on this occasion being Mrs. Lydia E. Haven *nee* Francis. She is a daughter of the late Abraham and Mary A. J. (Davison) Francis, whose history will be found in the sketch of her brother, A. Allen Francis. She was born in this township, April 9, 1815, and is the sixth child in the parental family. She was reared to womanhood on her father's farm where she resided until her marriage to Alvin S. Haven, which was celebrated Decem-

ber 19, 1865. Mr. Haven was the youngest son of the late Samuel and Hepsibah (Denny) Haven, whose history is included in the sketch of the Hon. Dwight Haven. He was born on his father's homestead in New Lenox Township, February 6, 1812, was educated in the common schools and grew to manhood on the farm. He engaged in agricultural pursuits, becoming the owner of the old homestead, which consisted of about one hundred and ten acres, and at the time of his death owned two hundred and seventy one acres, which is now the property of Mrs. Niccolls. He passed from earth November 29, 1878, mourned by many friends and acquaintances, having gained the esteem of all who knew him. He was a live Republican and had served as Collector two terms. He was the father of three children—Fred S., Charles F., and an infant who died unnamed. Charles F. died December 22, 1886, aged sixteen years, eight months and five days.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Niccolls belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, have high standing among its members, and throughout the community are looked upon with respect for the consistent lives which they lead as professors of Christianity. Both are well versed in general information and possess the cordial, friendly manners which favorably impress strangers, and are known by their friends to be the outward token of kind hearts.



**J**OHAN WILKENING. After a series of years spent in persevering toil, the subject of this notice is now living retired from active labor and enjoying the comforts of a quiet country homestead, comprising one hundred and seventy acres of land on section 22, Crete Township. He has passed in and out among the people of his community for the long period of forty-one years, having come to this section in the spring of 1819. He then took up a tract of wild land comprising a part of his present farm, besides eighty acres in another part of the township, and one hundred and twenty acres in Washington Township, all of which he brought to a good state

of cultivation, with the exception of ten acres upon which is a fine growth of timber.

The possessions of Mr. Wilkening have been accumulated by his own industry and good management, as he commenced in life at the foot of the ladder, without means and entirely dependent upon his own resources. He was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, July 2, 1819, and was the second in a family of six sons, four of whom came to America and one of whom died in his native Germany. The eldest of the family is still living at the old homestead in Hesse-Cassel, unless having died recently. All those who came to the United States are residents of Will County, Ill., and occupied in farming pursuits. They, like their brother John, are well-to-do, industrious and reliable citizens, and holding a good position in their community.

The subject of this notice was reared at the little farm in Hesse-Cassel, and received a very good education in his native tongue. He remained a resident of his native province until a man of twenty-six years and then, still unmarried, determined to seek his fortunes in America. He embarked at the port of Bremerhaven on a small sailing vessel, the "Harburg," which after a voyage of six weeks landed him in New York City, July 3, 1845. Thence he proceeded to Albany, N. Y., via the Hudson River, and from there to Buffalo, where he boarded a lake vessel, and in due time reached Chicago, Ill., which was then an unimportant town. He at once sought employment and worked by the day, being occupied in a similar manner until he could obtain sufficient capital to secure his land.

In Chicago, Mr. Wilkening was married, in 1847, to Miss Mary Kollir. This lady was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, August 12, 1827, to John and Sophia (Miller) Kollir, who were natives of the same province, where they owned a small farm. He was a weaver by trade. They were the parents of two children only, who were born before they emigrated to America, in the spring of 1845. They likewise made the voyage in a sailing vessel, landing in New York City, whence they proceeded in the same manner as our subject to Chicago, and from there to Will County, Ill. Mr. Kollir secured a tract of land in Crete Township, and with

the assistance of his estimable wife improved a good farm, where they both spent the remainder of their days. Mrs. Kollir died, in 1868, when sixty-five years old. Mr. Kollir survived his wife a number of years, dying in 1879, aged eighty-five years and six months. They were people greatly respected in their community and prominently identified with the German-Lutheran Church.

Mrs. Wilkening was the elder of the two children born to her parents. Her brother Henry died soon after coming to this country, when a promising youth of nineteen years, in the bottom of a well from the effects of foul gas. Mrs. Wilkening was about eighteen years old when her parents came to America. She was trained in all housewifely duties by her excellent mother, and has proven a devoted wife to her husband and a kind mother to her children. The latter were nine in number, but two died when quite young; John at the age of six years; and Anna, aged twelve. The survivors are recorded as follows: Mary is the wife of John Brockman, a teacher in the Chicago city schools; Henry married Miss Mary Stei-  
ver, and operates the homestead in Crete Township; Conrad is represented on another page in this volume; Sophia is at home with her parents; Lena is the wife of Dr. Otto Miessler, of Crete; Frederick is occupied with his brother in a store at that place; Augustus remains under the home roof.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilkening and all their children are members of the Lutheran Church, of Crete, to which they give a liberal support. Politically, Mr. Wilkening is a sound Republican. He has held the local offices of his township, and has always borne the reputation of a man honest and upright in his dealings and one whose word is as good as his bond. He furnishes a fine illustration of the results of persevering industry and, while surrounded by all the comforts of life, and many of its luxuries, he may justly feel that he has fairly earned them, and at the same time he has ever been willing to lend a helping hand to those less fortunate.

The father of our subject was H. Wilkening, likewise a native of Hesse-Cassel, Germany, and who spent his entire life in the place of his birth,





*William J Paddock*

While perhaps not the hero of any thrilling event, he was an honest, hard-working man, who made a comfortable living for his family and earned the good will of his neighbors. He lived to number three-score and ten years, and from early manhood was an active member of the Lutheran Church. His wife bore the maiden name of Catherine S. Beck. She likewise was of German birth and parentage, and proved the faithful helpmate of her husband, being industrious and economical and remaining with him until he no more needed her wifely offices. After his death she joined her children in this country, and died of cholera, in 1853, at the home of her son Christof, in Chicago. She was about seventy years old and, like her husband, a consistent member of the Lutheran Church.



WILLIAM J. PADDOCK. Prominent among those who spent their younger years wisely and profitably and are now living retired from life's active labors, may be properly mentioned Mr. Paddock, whose well-regulated homestead is on section 21, Homer Township. His surroundings indicate a man of more than ordinary enterprise, the farm being embellished with suitable buildings and having about it the air of thrift and prosperity, which is the inevitable result of industry, prudence and good management. Personally, Mr. Paddock is genial, liberal and public spirited, a man who is held in high esteem in his community, and who has acquitted himself in a worthy manner among his fellow-men.

The subject of this notice was the third in a family of fourteen children, and was born May 5, 1816, in Camillus, Onondaga County, N. Y. He was reared to manhood in his native county, where he lived until coming to Illinois, with the exception of one year spent in Cayuga County. We first find him a resident of this county in the winter of 1836, when he located on the land which his father had previously secured on section 21, Homer Township. He has thus been a resident of this township for the long period of fifty four years, and

until retiring from labor has continually engaged in farming pursuits. He is now the owner of one hundred and thirty acres of good land, which through his careful management has not only yielded him a handsome income, but enabled him to lay by something for a rainy day.

Mr. Paddock was married in Homer Township, October 30, 1838, to Miss Emily E. Oliver. This lady was born in Monroe County, N. Y., August 13, 1815, and by her union with our subject became the mother of three children. The eldest born, Edgar L., died when about two years old; Eliza E. is the wife of Samuel W. Jones, and they live with our subject; Frank E. married Miss Anna Murphy, and resides in this township. Mr. Paddock cast his first Presidential vote for Harrison, and has always taken an active interest in political affairs, giving his uniform support to the Republican party. He has held the office of Township Collector, and has been a Highway Commissioner for several years. His long experience and close observation of men and things have conspired to make him a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and he has watched the various events during a long and useful life with a thoughtfulness which has maintained him in a position in the front rank among the readers and thinkers of the present day.

A fine portrait of Mr. Paddock appears on another page.



GEORGE E. ROCKEY. For over a quarter of a century this gentleman has made his home in Joliet, and perhaps no resident of the place takes greater interest in its growth and up-building than he. He is a quiet, unassuming citizen, who has taken little part in politics, except to generally vote the Democratic ticket and who has borne his part in public life, content to perform his duties as an individual and sufficiently occupied with his personal affairs.

The parents of the gentleman of whom we write were William and Elizabeth (Maize) Rockey, whose family comprised three children, of whom George

E. is the only survivor. The father was a harness-maker, and their home was in the Keystone State.

George E. Rokey was born in Millinburg, Pa., October 1, 1819, and learned the trade of a carpenter, although he never followed it except to do the wood work on threshing machines for a brother-in-law, David Herr. He went to Center County, where he opened a foundry in 1841, and where he resided ten years. He then came to Illinois and, locating in Plainfield, this county, worked for Dillman & Co. until 1862, when he removed to Joliet. In 1866 he bought a planing-mill, which he operated until 1886, when he transferred it to his son Franklin.

In Miss Susan Wolf, Mr. Rokey discerned the qualities of mind and character which won his regard, and after a successful wooing she became his wife December 15, 1842. Throughout their long and happy married life they have found no cause to regret the union. They have had five children, of whom four are now living in Joliet, the other having died in infancy. The survivors are: Mrs. Margaret Dice, Franklin, Mrs. Jennie Pomeroy and Edward.

this country with his wife in the year 1858. He spent the following two years in Matteson, Ill., being employed on the Central Railroad. Desiring to give his attention to farming pursuits and having heard of the wonderful fertility of the soil of Will County, and of the success that followed the labors of its enterprising farmers and stock-raisers, he selected this region as the most desirable location, and in 1860 took up his residence here. For six years he rented land until he accumulated sufficient money to place him on an independent basis, and in 1865 he purchased eighty acres of land in Will Township. In November, 1870, he located on the one hundred and sixty acres of land in the same township, which he still occupies. He has added one hundred and sixty acres to it and now has a choice farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he has under admirable cultivation and is constantly improving. He is much interested in the cattle business, and for eight years has been a breeder of Hereford cattle. When Mr. Danby first set foot on these shores he had a capital of \$200 with which to make his new start in life. By superior management and excellent business tact he has greatly increased this and may now be considered one of the moneyed men of the township.

March 24, 1850, Mr. Danby and Miss Ann Killingbeck united their lives and fortunes, and in her he has found a prudent helpmate and a true wife. She was born November 1, 1826, in the town of Snaith, Yorkshire, England, a daughter of William and Hannah (Ellison) Killingbeck, likewise natives of Yorkshire. They were the parents of four children—John, Thomas, Ann and Harriet. John came to this county and first settled here and then took up his residence in Kansas. He married and had one son—Wilson. Thomas remained in England, two of his sons are living. Harriet, now Mrs. Horner, lives in England; she has three sons—Fred, William and Herbert. The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of six children: Caroline; Annie E., wife of Thomas Stewart; Blanche, wife of Joseph Jackson, of White County, Ind.; Arthur W., Charles A. and William A.

A man of sound intellect and of unswerving integrity, our subject has made his life record an

WILLIAM DANBY has for thirty years been a resident of this county, and since coming here has attained an honorable place among its farmers and stock-growers, who are sustaining and advancing its magnificent agricultural resources. He is a well-known resident of Will Township, in which his farming operations are centered. Our subject is of English birth and breeding, born May 9, 1822, in West-Riding, of Yorkshire, a son of Robert and Rebecca (Latham) Danby, who were born in the same shire as himself. His father was a farmer. He and his wife reared a family of six children, namely: Caroline, George, Jarvers, Charles, William and Richard, of whom George, Richard and William became citizens of this country. George came to the United States in 1853, settled in Will Township, and was connected with the Illinois Central Railroad. Richard came in 1853 and settled in Croton, N. Y.

The subject of this biographical review came to

example of worth to others, and he is greatly respected for what he is and for what he has accomplished. He is a good worker, his labors being directed by admirable judgment and far-reaching forethought. He is a man of sincere religious principles, as is shown by his every-day conduct, and in his wife the Methodist Episcopal Church finds one of its most valuable and conscientious members. He takes a deep interest in the affairs of his adopted country, of which he is a loyal citizen, and identifies himself with the Republican part.



**J**OHAN CORLETT, a well-known, wealthy farmer and stock-grower of Wesley Township, has by his liberality, public spirit and large enterprise, been a potent instrument in bringing this section of the country to the front as a leading agricultural county. He is the fortunate owner of an extensive farm, that in point of cultivation, improvement and productiveness is considered one of the most desirable in Northern Illinois.

Mr. Corlett was born August 4, 1832, on the homestead on the Isle of Man, to John and Ann (McGregor) Corlett, and his father was a native of the same place as our subject, and was there reared to the life of a farmer. He subsequently became a soldier in the English Army, and fought with valor under the Duke of Wellington all through the latter's campaigns in the Spanish Peninsula, and was also with the Iron Duke in the battle of Waterloo. He lost his left arm in Holland, and was discharged from the army, and pensioned at a sixpence a day during the remainder of his life. After leaving the service he married on the Isle of Man, his wife being a native of Scotland. She was about eight years of age when her parents removed to the Isle of Man, where she still makes her home at the venerable age of ninety-three. The father of our subject died in 1870, at the ripe old age of eighty-three years. They were the parents of ten children, six of whom are now living, five of whom are residents of this country.

The subject of this review was the fifth child of

his parents, with whom he made his home until he was twenty-one, receiving the benefits of a common-school education. At eleven years of age, a manly, spirited, self-reliant lad, he began life for himself as a farm hand. In the spring of 1855, ambitious to make more of life than he could in the land of his birth, he came to this country, and from New York proceeded directly to Chicago, and from there to Kankakee City, thence to Rockville in the same county. He remained there four years, and after his marriage in 1859, came to this county, settled on his present farm and has ever since been a valued citizen of Wesley Township. He has pursued his calling with more than ordinary success and now has a large farm of four hundred and forty acres, besides owning six hundred and forty acres in Kansas. He has provided his farm with roomy, conveniently-arranged buildings, with the best machinery for carrying on agriculture after the most approved methods, and has made it one of the most desirable estates in this part of the county, and besides raising rich harvests of grain, devotes much attention to rearing stock of fine grades.

January 4, 1859, Mr. Corlett was united in marriage to Mrs. Betsey McGilvery, *nee* Franklin, a daughter of Samuel and Betsey (Appleby) Franklin, natives of Vermont and New York, respectively. Her parents were married in the latter State and came to Illinois in the early days of its settlement and were among the early pioneers of this township. In 1850, her father started overland for California, died on the way, and was buried at Ft. Kearney. Her mother did not long survive the death of her husband but departed this life in 1851. They were parents of twelve children, three of whom are now living. Mrs. Corlett was born October 9, 1829, in Wayne County, N. Y. Of the children born to her and our subject, four are now living: William who was born October 15, 1859; Mary, September 26, 1863, is the wife of Ed. McKimmy, of Kansas City; Minnie, born March 22, 1865, is the wife of Eugene Babcock, of Wesley Township, and they have one child; Ella, born September 14, 1867, is the wife of George Lancaster, of Wesley Township, and they have two children. William Corlett is a member of the Masonic order.

Mr. Corlett is a man of strong character, with a moral and mental make-up, that places him among our most intelligent and honorable citizens. He is well dowered with practical energy, activity and tenacity of purpose, and these traits besides leading him to wealth have eminently fitted him for public service, and make him an influence as a politician and supporter of the Republican party, of which he has been a staunch member since its organization. He has been a member of the local School Board for twelve years and has earnestly forwarded the educational interests of the township. In 1885 and 1886 he represented Wesley on the County Board of Supervisors. He has been the Highway Commissioner for six years, and in that office has done much to better the highways and byways of the township. He built the dry run near John Richey's place. He interests himself in the questions of the day, particularly that of temperance, and in word and act is a firm temperance man. He and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is Steward. He has always taken a prominent part in the Sunday-school and under his able administration as Superintendent for the past fourteen years, it has greatly increased in numbers and influence.



**CAPT. ROBERT STEVENS** is numbered among the pioneers in Will County, in which he settled in the spring of 1831. Those who have never visited a frontier settlement, but who have been accustomed from childhood to the surroundings of our present civilization, can have but a faint conception of the life of the pioneers or of the credit due those who led the way in the development of the country. Nowhere has greater enterprise and sturdy manhood been exhibited than throughout the Mississippi Valley, during the early days of the various grand States into which its fertile expanse is now divided, and in no life are the more rugged virtues of character and the milk of human kindness more rapidly developed than in the primitive scenes of a new country. Among those to whom this section owes much, we might

say all, of its present prosperous condition and advanced development, Capt. Robert Stevens occupies an important place.

Not less worthy of honor than her husband, is the widow of Capt. Stevens, who began her residence in this county in 1830, and who as a young lady, as a wife, mother and neighbor, has earned the deep respect of those among whom her life has been spent and a place side by side with her husband on the roll of the pioneers. They endured privations and toils, such as try men's souls, cheered by their belief in a bright future and by mutual sympathy, their labors being rewarded by worldly prosperity, a happy home and friendly feeling from without.

In Mason County, Ky., July 20, 1802, the eyes of Robert Stevens opened to the light. He was a child two years of age when his parents removed to Ohio, where he grew to man's estate, being apprenticed at the age of sixteen years to learn the trade of a tanner and currier. On the expiration of his apprenticeship he went to Indiana, where he labored until he took up his residence in Will County. Here he settled on a tract of land just east of Joliet, developing a fine estate and in the course of years becoming the owner of four hundred acres in one body, all of which was put in a fine condition and thoroughly improved. Although his services were desired in a public capacity he found that his time was fully occupied by the conduct of his personal affairs, and to his farm he devoted himself almost exclusively.

The first wife of Capt. Stevens was Miss Lydia Ann Peace, who died in 1833. She had borne three children, all of whom are deceased. In what was then Cook County, but is now Joliet Township, Will County, October 29, 1835, our subject contracted a second matrimonial alliance. His bride, Miss Nancy Kercheval, was born in Preble County, Ohio, October 28, 1814, but had resided in this county since she was sixteen years old. The happy union was blessed by the birth of six children, named respectively: Lewis, Thomas J., James, Sarah A., Mary A., and Albert. The husband and father was removed by death January 6, 1861, all the efforts put forth by his devoted wife and loving children having been fruitless to prolong his







ROBT STEVENS.

life. His mortal remains were deposited in Oak-wood Cemetery, being followed to their last resting place by a large concourse of citizens, to whom the pioneer had endeared himself and who sympathized deeply in the bereavement which had come upon his family.

Capt. Stevens took an active part in political affairs, being deeply interested in the welfare of the country and anxious that proper men should be elected to office. For a short time only he served as Sheriff, having been the first one elected in Will County, but giving up the position because his farm required his attention. He also held the office of Highway Commissioner. Since his death his widow has remained on the homestead. She possesses an abundance of vitality, keenness of judgment and energy, and both looks and acts much younger than her years. She has been a member of the Methodist Church since 1831, her confession of faith being but the initiatory step in a life of consistent Christianity.



**E**LMER E. HENRY. The trade circles of Joliet and vicinity recognize in Mr. Henry one of its most promising young business men. He is principally interested in the glass and queensware trade, in which he has had a ripe experience, and is meeting with unqualified success. For the past three years he has been proprietor of the most elegant establishment of this kind to be found in Northern Illinois. His straightforward methods of doing business, his genial disposition and his courteous treatment of all with whom he comes in contact, is a matter that is often made the subject of remark. His establishment is prominently located on Chicago Street, and he carries a \$10,000 stock of goods, from which during the year 1889 he effected sales to the amount of \$30,000.

A native of Hunterdon County, N. J., our subject was born July 9, 1862, in the village of White House, to William E. and Susan C. Henry, now living in Joliet. When but a small child, Mr. Henry was brought by his parents to Joliet, and in

this city received his education. He commenced his business career at an early age, and is an apt illustration of the maxim that "a good business well stuck to is sure to win." He served an apprenticeship of ten years as a clerk before embarking in business on his own account, and was thus equipped with a thorough experience, avoiding the mistake which so many make of attempting to do that of which they know nothing. Mr. Henry is unmarried.



**H**ENRY KIPP owns a farm one and one-half miles from the village of DuPage, or Channahon, as it is called, which is supplied with good buildings and all the needed improvements to make it one of the most desirable in this part of the county. A skillful and business-like farmer and stock-raiser, our subject is also possessed of those characteristics that make him a trusty and capable civic official, and he bears an honorable part in the management of local public affairs.

Mr. Kipp is a native of the county, born in the township of Troy, February 17, 1817, to A. P. and Jane (Davis) Kipp, well-known pioneers of this county. The maternal grandmother of our subject died in 1872, at the venerable age of ninety-three years. She came from Wales when she was eighteen years old, and settled in Kendall County in an early day. The father of our subject was reared in Oneida County, N. Y., and came from there to Will County in 1837, in the prime of active manhood. He was accustomed to handling horses, and he became a stage-driver on the Frink & Walker line from Chicago to Peoria. He was well known, was a fine man for his business, and was noted as being a good judge of horses, and the company employed him to match horses and train them for them. In 1849 he determined to follow the gold seekers to California, traveling by the way of New Orleans and Mexico. He remained there until 1852, engaged as before, and at one time, while driving, his horses or mules became frightened at some Indians who came suddenly upon them, and

he was thrown off and went under the wheel of the wagon, which, with its load, weighed over seven thousand pounds. He was so badly injured that he had to give up his employment there and return to the States, as the expenses of staying there were so great, the doctors charging \$30 for a visit, and he had to pay \$10 a day for board. He returned by the way of the Isthmus of Panama, and coming to Joliet, established a livery stable there. He returned to the farm in 1856, where he remained till 1858, when he came to Channahon. In 1881 he purchased the place in which our subject now lives, and made his home with him until his death, December 31, 1888, at the age of seventy-four years, four months and sixteen days. He was twice married, the maiden name of his first wife, the mother of our subject, being Jane Davis, and she was of Welsh parentage. She died in her twenty fifth year, nine months after the birth of our subject, leaving two children, the eldest being Frances J., now the wife of B. Schermerhorn, of Joliet. Mr. Kipp was married a second time, in 1855, to Mrs. E. W. Adams.

He of whom we write was reared in Channahon, and received a substantial education in the High School of that place. He then adopted the profession of teaching, and was thus successfully engaged in this county for fourteen years, commencing in 1859, and teaching steadily each winter, while giving his attention to farming in the summer, and during that time he missed but one day from his school. The place which he now owns was willed to him by his father, and although he has suffered greatly from rheumatism, he has been prospered in his agricultural undertakings.

October 21, 1871, was the date of Mr. Kipp's marriage with Miss Ella F. Bailey, daughter of Daniel and Susan (Zarley) Bailey. They were among the pioneers of the county, and the Zarleys were also early settlers, being a noted family here in early days. Mrs. Bailey was born June 2, 1820, and is still living with her husband in Channahon. Our subject and wife have become the parents of four daughters, namely: Alma M., Helen Z., Grace B. and Jane K., a little miss of nine years.

Mr. Kipp is a frank, warm-hearted man, gifted with foresight in a large degree, and in him this

township finds a good citizen, his fellow-townsmen a kind and obliging neighbor, and his family a true husband and devoted father. He is a sturdy Republican in his political views, always supporting his party ticket. His fellow-citizens, valuing his intelligence and capacity, have called him to office, and for two terms he has been Township Clerk, and for one term was Collector of the Township.



IRA OWEN KNAPP, M. D. Among the early settlers of the county who played an important part in its development, the pioneer physician held a prominent and influential position, and as a noble type of the profession, we place before the patrons of this work, to many of whom he is well known and honored by no common ties, a brief life record of Dr. Ira Knapp. Coming to Northern Illinois at an early day, fresh from his studies and in the ardor and vigor of the opening years of a splendid manhood, our subject cast in his lot with the sturdy pioneers whom he found already here, and immediately entered upon an honorable career in his calling. In those days the life of a physician was fraught with hardships inconceivable at the present time, but our subject with cheerful and courageous self-sacrifice, bore them uncomplainingly, and soon won a warm place in the hearts of those whom he so faithfully served in their sickness and became the friend and counselor of his patients, and was known and welcomed in many a household far and wide. His health obliging him to give up the practice of his beloved profession as its duties were too exacting, he has given his attention to improving the land that he bought from the Government fifty-seven years ago, which he has developed into a choice farm, one of the pleasantest places on the DuPage River and Canal, located about a mile and a half from Channahon Village.

Mr. Knapp was born in Barre, adjoining the city of Montpelier, the capital of Vermont, February 12, 1810. He received his early education in the excellent schools of his native city, and then went into the office of Dr. James Spaulding, of Montpelier, and while there attended medical lectures in

Dartmouth College. He subsequently became a student at the Woodstock Medical School, in Vermont, whence he was graduated in 1833, having attained a high standing for scholarship in his class. He was then twenty-three years of age and he determined to enter upon his profession in the West, and selecting this county as a suitable field for the exercise of his calling, he left his home among the green hills of his native State on September 17, and on October 12, arrived at his destination. He was accompanied by his bride, and with them came George and Russell Tryon, and Miss Emily S. Knapp, (afterward the widow of Mr. Lyman Foster,) now a resident of Aurora, Ill., residing with her daughter. The Doctor and his uncle, George Tryon, the only other surviving members of the party are now eighty and eighty-five years of age.

Our subject came to Channahon, opened an office occupying it but one day, when he was called seven miles to visit his first patient. He continued the practice of his profession for fifteen years, his patients being scattered over a wide area of country, and he has ridden as far as Rockford, on Rock River, some ninety miles distant, in pursuit of his calling. The country being so sparsely settled, this was a very lonely route and there was a stretch of twenty-five miles on which there was not a house to be seen. The Doctor is a man in advance of his profession. When he was graduated blood-letting was taught and advised by his instructors as under the old medical regime, but the Doctor when he left school, left that and many other customs that were in use at that time, behind. Our subject had a good opportunity to study the various forms of malarial fever that was so prevalent in the early days of the settlement of the country, and he had great success in treating the disease, which he observed abated to a great extent after the people had subdued the soil and had it well cultivated. When he first came here, there were five times as many Indians as whites and he has seen as many as five hundred together. They usually camped along the river and often visited the home of our subject and would sit with Mrs. Knapp, who enjoyed the company of the squaws and their little papooses. Having been among the

Indians for at least ten years and carefully observed their customs and character, he thinks them very much maligned and ill-treated. In his intercourse with them he followed the Golden Rule, and seems to have found his red brethren truthful and honorable. Many years he lived among them and under no circumstances did he ever put anything under lock and key; his house was always open day and night and they never offered to molest a thing, which he accounts for by the fact that he always treated them as he would wished to be used. They have come to his house at any hour of the day or night, often under the influence of liquor, and never did they offer to injure a thing. He never met one of them, but what he would advance and shake him politely by the hand and say: "Bashu Nic Kan," which means "How do you do my friend." The Doctor tells the following incident of those days as showing the grateful character of the untutored savage: A Mr. Treat, who was a great friend of the Indians, made a claim on a piece of land on the Des Plaines River, the place on section 11, of this township, now owned by Oscar Mills. He had no money to pay for the land, and the Indians refused to treat with the Government officials until they agreed to give him \$1,000 to buy land with. He had always treated the Indians with consideration, and they held him in great affection. He took care of the grave of one of their chiefs who was buried on the place that he owned, now known as Millsdale.

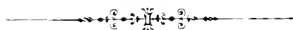
The Doctor located on his present farm which he bought from the Government in the month of June, 1835. He built a log house in which he lived for ten years, and in that his children were born. He then replaced it by his present substantial and comfortable dwelling. He retired from his profession about 1850, and since then has devoted himself to the improvement of his place, which at one time comprised two hundred and forty acres, but he has disposed of several acres, and now has a farm of one hundred acres that is one of the most desirable in the locality.

Dr. Knapp has been twice married. In July, 1833, he was wedded to Miss Abigail Joslyn, daughter of Luke Joslyn. She bore him three sons and one daughter, as follows: George, a carpenter and

joiner, of Wisconsin, married and has one child; Orrin S., a farmer living near his father, married and has four boys and one girl; Melinda S., the wife of Silas I. Parker, a mechanic and farmer, of Miller County, Mo. The beloved wife of our subject who shared with him the privations and hardships of pioneer life, and aided him in the building up of their home, passed to eternal rest in 1861.

The marriage of our subject to his present worthy wife was consummated in 1864, and has proved of mutual benefit to both, as thereby he secured a true helpmate and companion, and she a devoted husband. Mrs. Knapp at the time of her marriage with our subject was Mrs. Ann S. Peebles, the widow of Robert Peebles, who came from England. She is the mother of two children by that marriage: Charles, a young married man; R. W., a resident of Egypt, Ill., who is married and has two children, one of whom lives with its grandmother, Mrs. Knapp.

A man of superior intelligence and sound principle, and of blameless character, and an earnest supporter of what he considers right in every walk in life, Dr. Knapp has always exerted a wholesome influence in this community with whose interests his own have been bound for a period of more than half a century. He has earnestly labored in behalf of the social and religious development of Channahon, and has taken an active part in the work of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he and his wife are consistent members. Politically, he has always voted according to his honest convictions, and has sided with whichever party he thinks to be the nearest right at the time, and he is now identified with the Prohibitionists.



SAAC T. MILLSPAUGH, Justice of the Peace in Joliet, was first elected to that office in 1877, serving four years; in 1886 he was again elected, this time to fill a vacancy, and at the expiration of the term was continued in the position. His character is an honorable one, his nature enterprising and genial, and his life has been spent in usefulness and good citizenship. As

a public servant, he proves worthy of the suffrage of the people, laboring for the peace and good order of the community faithfully and ably.

In Orange County, N. Y., February 26, 1820, the eyes of Isaac Millspaugh first saw the light of day. His father, Charles Millspaugh, was a native of the same county and a farmer there. He married Melitable VanTassel, of the same county, who bore him seven sons and one daughter. When the son of whom we write was fifteen years old the parents removed to the village of Bloomingburg, where the father died in 1837, and the mother a year later. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church and respected in the community.

The subject of this sketch lived with his parents until the death of his father, when he went into Tompkins County and learned the trade of a blacksmith, passing his apprenticeship at Dryden, Crooners. He worked at the trade nearly twenty years, all told. In 1841 he came to Illinois, arriving at Joliet in May, and at once beginning the labor in which he had previously been engaged. He made the first steel plow manufactured in Joliet, and was the first blacksmith in the Chicago & Alton round house, that being the last of his blacksmithing. He fired the engine that pulled the first train out of Chicago, and ran the first engine that came into Joliet over the Rock Island Railroad, that being in 1852. He also ran as an engineer on a construction train of the same road.

At the time that he abandoned his trade, Mr. Millspaugh was elected Assessor for Joliet City and township, and being re-elected at each successive election, served about ten years. The duties of the office occupied the most of his time, and soon after this long term of office he was made Justice of the Peace. He was the organizer of Millspaugh's Orchestra, that furnished music for social gatherings here for forty-two years. During his entire mature life Mr. Millspaugh has been a staunch Democrat. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in the Blue Lodge, the Chapter and the Commandery.

In March, 1842, Mr. Millspaugh was united in marriage with Miss Charlotte E. Noyes, the ceremony taking place at McLain, Tompkins County, N. Y. One living son is the fruit of the union—





*A. J. Gurney*



Charles H., of this city. The second wife of Mr. Millspaugh was in her girlhood Miss Mary L. Roberts, of Lockport, N. Y. She died in Joliet, in January, 1882.



**G**EORGE F. GURNEY. Among the large land owners and wealthy agriculturists of Will County, George F. Gurney holds a prominent place. He is the owner of nine hundred and sixty-six acres of land, which without any special improvements would in this section of the Mississippi Valley be a valuable possession. Its worth has been enhanced by various improvements, among them being a complete line of buildings adequate to shelter the stock, store the crops which are raised upon the broad acres, and protect from wind and weather the farm machinery and implements which the progressive ideas of Mr. Gurney demand. Seven hundred and forty acres of this fine landed estate are included in Jackson Township, and on section 36, stands the family residence. It attracts the attention of every passer-by, its outward appearance leading one to believe that it is a home in more than name, a belief which is borne out by the hospitable spirit and intelligence which rule its inmates.

The parents of our subject were William and Ruth (Cooper) Gurney, both natives of England, whence they came to Will County in the spring of 1845. They made their residence in Joliet two or three years, and then removed to the country, both dying in the township of Channahon. They were accompanied to this country by their son of whom we write, who was then about thirteen years of age. His natal day was July 2, 1832, and his birthplace Gloucestershire, England. His taste led him to adopt farming as his avocation, and his possessions afford abundant proof that he chose well. With the exception of a short time during which he lived in Grundy County, Ill., the county to which he first came from England has been his home since boyhood. He settled in Jackson Township in the spring of 1865.

The marriage of Mr. Gurney was celebrated in

Wilmington, Ill., his chosen companion being Miss Eliza Brydon, who possesses many virtues and graces of mind and heart. Under her efficient management the home is ever neat and orderly, good cheer is abundant for both the inner and outer man, and the members of her household have reason to bestow upon her the deepest affection. She is the mother of seven children, three of whom have left the parental roof for homes elsewhere. Frances is the wife of Frank Losh; Elsie is the wife of Charles Pohlman; and Elmer is now living in North Dakota. Arno, Lizzie, Nellie and Otto still linger under the parental roof-tree.

The political views of Mr. Gurney coincide with the principles laid down in the Republican platform and he exercises the right of suffrage in behalf of that party, taking quite an active part in political affairs. While living in the town of Wilton, he was Township Assessor, and he has acceptably filled the office of School Director. It would be but natural to suppose that he is interested in the progress of the cause of education as well as in other civilizing and improving movements, and such is the case. He has for many years been one of the largest cattle feeders in the county, and is also extensively engaged in breeding English Shire horses. It will thus be seen that he is one of the most active business men in this section of Illinois.

In connection with the personal sketch of Mr. Gurney we present his portrait, to which we invite the reader's attention. It represents a man who, together with his family, stands high in the regard of others.



**G**EORGE EIB. The name of this gentleman is conspicuous among the old settlers of this county, in which he began his residence while it was still a part of Cook County and he but a lad. From the time when he accompanied his father here he has been a continuous resident, and has borne a share in the agricultural development which has made the wilderness blossom like the rose, and which makes of this broad State one of the most prosperous commonwealths of the nation.

His beautiful farm is located on section 7, Jackson Township, and comprises two hundred and seventy-two and a half acres, on which good improvements have been made by the present owner.

The parents of our subject were Peter and Madeline (Gilbert) Eib, the former of whom was born in Lancaster County, Pa. The early years of their wedded life were spent in Harrison County, W. Va., whence they removed to Columbus, Ohio, Mrs. Eib dying in the Buckeye State. The family afterward removed to Fountain County, Ind., and in 1833, made settlement where George Eib now lives. The father died in this township in 1858. His first marriage resulted in the birth of eight children, of whom our subject is the third in order of birth.

The gentleman of whom we write was born in Clarksburg, Harrison County, W. Va., March 17, 1816. He was ten years old when his parents removed to Ohio, and seven years later he accompanied his father to Illinois. Farming has been his life work, and success has attended his labors. He has not sought for office, but has preferred the quiet of his home and the association of his many friends to the rivalries and excitements of public life. He is a Democrat, always ready to cast his vote when occasion demands. Mr. Eib possesses a genial, social nature, and the hospitable spirit which makes his society sought, and by his quiet pursuance of duty and honorable character he retains the friendship of those who are predisposed toward him by his social qualities.

At the home of the bride, in Joliet Township, May 18, 1844, the rites of wedlock were celebrated between George Eib and Mary Ann Zumwalt. This lady was born in Adams County, Ohio, January 31, 1824, being the second in a family of fourteen brothers and sisters. Her parents were Joseph Zumwalt, a native of Kentucky, and Mary (Ogle) Zumwalt, who was born in Adams County, Ohio. Their wedded life began in the Buckeye State, whence they removed to Hancock County, Ind., and in 1831 to this section, which was then included in Cook County. They settled in what is now Joliet Township, continuing to reside there until 1849, when they removed to California. They made their home on the Pacific Slope from that time, the mother dying there in 1885. Mr. Zum-

walt still survives at a very advanced age, having been born in 1800.

It will be hard to find a woman who possesses a greater number of the qualities of ideal womanhood than Mrs. Eib, of whom her husband can truly say "her price is far above rubies." She is the mother of nine children, two of whom died when young, the survivors being Peter B., Louisa, Almada, Mary O., Catherine A., George J. W. and Jacob L. Peter and Louisa live in California, the latter being the wife of William Ash; Almada is the wife of George Hibner, of Grundy County; Mary is the wife of Andrew Shelly, of Nebraska; Catherine and George are yet at home, and Jacob is farming in this county.



**J**OHN R. CASEY, M. D. The subject of this notice bears the distinction of having been a resident of Joliet for the long period of thirty years. He came to Will County, when the city where he now resides was little more than a hamlet and while watching its growth and progress, he has been no unimportant factor in bringing it to its present condition. As a physician and surgeon, he has made for himself a good record, while at the same time he has been prominent in local affairs and now represents the Second Ward as a member of the City Council.

A native-born citizen of the Prairie State, Dr. Casey was born January 28, 1835, in the town of Mt. Vernon, Jefferson County. The name of his father, Zadok Casey, was familiar to the people of Illinois over fifty years ago, he having been Lieutenant-Governor of the State. The mother bore the maiden name of Rachael King. The parents were natives of Kentucky and are now deceased. Their family consisted of seven children, four now living.

The subject of this notice pursued his studies in the common schools until a youth of sixteen years, and was then admitted as a student of McKendree College at Lebanon, Ill. After completing his studies in this institution he began reading medicine under the instruction of Dr. Charles A. Pope,

of St. Louis, Mo. When sufficiently advanced he entered in 1857, Pope's Medical College, from which in due time he was graduated, equipped with the knowledge necessary to enter upon the duties of his chosen calling.

The young physician commenced the practice of his profession at Olney, Richland County, this State, but remained there only a comparatively short time, removing in 1859 to Joliet, of which he has since been a resident. In the meantime he has built up an extensive and lucrative practice and has become widely and favorably known to the people of Will County. He was Physician and Surgeon at the Penitentiary for a period of ten years. He is prominently connected with the Will County Medical Society, of which he was at one time the President.

Dr. Casey was married June 10, 1863, at the bride's home in Joliet, Ill., to Miss Ada Vanderpool, a native of New York City. Of this union there were born four children, all of whom are living and at home, namely: Florida, who remains with her father; Willis; Dwight, who is attending school in Delafield, Wis., and Laura, who is pursuing her studies in Hannibal, Mo. Mrs. Ada Casey departed this life at her home in Joliet, July 4, 1881. The Doctor, politically, is a staunch Democrat and he finds his religious home in Christ Episcopal Church, of Joliet.



**F** KRAUSE occupies a prominent and worthy place among the thrifty, well-to-do agriculturists of Will County, and his well-managed farm in Channahon Township attests to his skill and success as a farmer. Our subject was born in the Province of Brandenburg, about eighty miles east of Berlin, Germany, November 2, 1829. He was there reared and received excellent educational advantages, his father desiring him to attend college. Our subject did not care for that, however, as his ambition lay in another direction, and shortly after his marriage, in 1856, to Miss Hattie Sabath, he came to America to try his fortunes in this land of promise. He first went to Milwaukee and from

there to Watertown, Wis., where he was actively engaged in farming for eight years. In 1861 he took a trip to Jefferson City, Mo., to survey the country with a view to locating in that vicinity. He lived there a year but as it was during the war he found it not a very agreeable abiding place and wished to move where he could secure greater freedom. He was a member of the militia, and while serving he was taken seriously ill, and as soon as able came to Joliet and was sick there for several months, but under the skillful care of Dr. Hays he recovered in the spring and then went on a farm on the same section where he now lives, renting it for awhile. In 1868 his wife bought twenty acres of land which they still own. But he did not think it sufficient for a farm, and in 1870 he bought the eighty acres adjoining, on which he has built up a roomy and substantial home. His house and barn are the result of his own handiwork, as he was always very proficient in the use of tools, and while living in Missouri followed the trade of a carpenter. After coming here Mr. Krause had the misfortune to lose his wife, as she died after giving birth to their only daughter, Minnie, who is now the wife of John Hobner, of Jackson Township. Our subject was again married, taking for his wife Miss Sophia Fritz, of Watertown, Wis., and she has been a faithful helpmate to him. She came from the same part of Germany as himself, originally. They have no children of their own, but two of Mrs. Krause's neices have a home with them, Alvina and Lena Druham, children of Mrs. Krause's sister.

Mr. Krause is a very intelligent gentleman and is well posted in all the current events of the day. He and his wife are whole-souled, kind-hearted people, and their pleasant home, about eight miles from Joliet, is the seat of true hospitality. Although of foreign birth, Mr. Krause takes a patriotic interest in his adopted country and is a Republican in politics, and their pleasant home, about eight miles from Joliet, is the seat of true hospitality. Although of foreign birth, Mr. Krause takes a patriotic interest in his adopted country and is a Republican in politics, his experience with the Democratic party having been such as to make him lose confidence in its methods from the start. He says, while in Milwaukee, when Buchanan was running for the Presidency, the Democratic politicians tried to make him vote in the Sixth Ward, although he was not a resident of that part of the city and was not, in fact, a legal voter, not having ob-

tained his naturalization papers. Another German asked him why he would not vote, and remarked that he had voted six times that day and got a glass of beer each time. When Lincoln was the Presidential candidate, our subject was a legal voter and was at that time working for a Democrat. Both being busy in the cornfield they paired off, each agreeing not to vote. Towards evening his employer made an excuse to go to the house, and there got on a swift horse, rode to town and voted just before the polls closed, thus cheating Mr. Krause out of his vote. His personal contact with the same party during his stay in Missouri, in the excitement during the war, only served to strengthen his prejudice against it.



**HENRY H. LICHTENWALTER.** In noting the leading incidents in the life record of this gentleman, who is numbered among the leading men in Florence Township, we find that he was born in Stark County, Ohio, August 28, 1833, and is a son of Solomon and Catherine (Hane) Lichtenwalter, who were both descendants of highly respectable families. Solomon Lichtenwalter was born in Adams County, Pa., in 1797. He emigrated to Ohio when a young man, locating in Stark County, and secured a farm upon which he spent the remainder of his life, probably about fifty years. He was a plain, unassuming citizen, conscientious in his dealings with his fellow-men, and one who enjoyed the esteem and confidence of all who knew him.

The father of our subject started in life a poor boy and obtained a foothold, financially, working out by the month and day. He became well-to-do in later years, and was a member in good standing of the Lutheran Church, in whose welfare and prosperity he took a warm interest, engaging actively in religious work and giving to the church a liberal support. He was one of the few who were instrumental in the erection of the church edifice in Jackson Township, Stark County, and assisted in upholding the society when at times it was liable to be dismembered. Politically, he was

a staunch Democrat from the first to the last of his voting days, but aside from this did not meddle with public affairs. He departed this life at the old homestead in 1885. His father was Abraham Lichtenwalter, likewise a native of Pennsylvania, and of German extraction. The latter died in Ohio, and his remains were laid to rest in the cemetery in Canton.

Mrs. Catherine Lichtenwalter, the mother of our subject, was born in Lebanon County, Pa., about 1806. She died in 1860, aged about fifty-four years, in Stark County, Ohio. She was a daughter of Christian Hane, a native of Pennsylvania and who spent his last years in Ohio. To the parents of our subject there was born a family of fourteen children, eight of whom lived to mature years; Samuel is a farmer and carpenter and lives at McDonaldsville, Ohio; Mary became the wife of Samuel Brucher, a farmer of Stark County, Ohio, and is deceased; Sarah is the wife of Martin Metz, a farmer and carpenter of Elwood, this county; John, a farmer and carpenter, also lives at Elwood; William pursues the same calling in Manhattan, this State; Henry H., our subject, is the next in order of birth; Christian carries on farming and carpentering in Thayer County, Neb.; Amanda is the wife of William Young, a farmer of Stark County, Ohio. The other six children died in infancy.

The subject of this notice was one of the younger members of the parental family, and was reared at the old homestead in his native county, where like several of his brothers, he learned both carpentering and farming. He remained with his father until 1856, then decided upon seeking his fortunes in the farther West, and coming to this county followed carpentering for a year or so, and then, about 1860, purchased eighty acres of land on section 11, Jackson Township. He gave his attention to the improvement and cultivation of this until 1869, then removed to his present farm, which comprises two hundred and forty acres, and is located on section 1. He also owns one hundred and sixty acres adjoining, the latter lying on section 6, Wilton Township, and he has eighty acres on section 31, Manhattan Township, besides another quarter sec-

tion elsewhere in that township. In addition he has eighty acres on section 23, Jackson Township and one hundred and forty acres on section 36.

Mr. Lichtenwalter began life at the foot of the ladder and has accumulated his property by his own unaided efforts. He was made intimately acquainted with hard work at an early period in his life and formed the habit of economy and prudence which have been the secret of his later success. Since becoming a voter he has given his allegiance to the Republican party. He served one term as Supervisor of Florence Township, and with his family is prominently connected with the Evangelical Church.

The subject of this notice was married September 2, 1858, to Miss Leah Geiss, of Jackson Township. This lady was born in 1838, in Lebanon County, Pa., to John and Erb Geiss, the former of whom was a native of Pennsylvania and who came to Illinois in 1851. He is still living, making his home with our subject.

Of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lichtenwalter, the eldest, a daughter, Martha, died when six weeks old; Orlando is unmarried and remains with his parents; Franklin married Miss Ella Kirkham, has two children, Floyd and Buehah, and is occupied at farming in Wilton Township; Harvey died when twenty-five years old; Albert and Frances are unmarried and living at home; Mary and Owen died at the ages of three and two years respectively. The next child died at birth; John and Addie are at home.



**H**ENRY C. WASSMANN is the owner and occupant of a fine property on section 25, Crete Township, consisting of two hundred and twenty-five acres of land marked with the improvements that are generally to be found on the estates of men of enterprise. A full line of substantial buildings stands upon it, and it is well stocked with farm animals and useful machinery, together with the household conveniences which properly accompany a well-arranged establishment.

This farm has been the home of Mr. Wassmann about twenty years and has been owned by him since the death of his father in 1875. He has made most of the improvements and is successfully prosecuting the labors of a general farmer.

In the Kingdom of Hanover, which forms a part of the Germanic Confederation, Christoph Wassmann, the father of our subject, was born. He married Miss Sophia Rohle, who was born and reared in the same Kingdom, and soon afterward set out with his bride for America. They landed at New York and made a settlement in the country near the metropolis, but a few years later removed to Lake County, Ind. Locating on a farm at Brunswick, Mr. Wassmann continued the farm labors to which he had been reared in his native land, remaining in that locality until about 1870, when he came to Illinois. He purchased the farm now owned by his son, our subject, and here breathed his last when fifty-two years of age. His wife survived him two years, dying at her home when she also was about fifty-two years old. Both were members of the Lutheran Church and well known to the best people of the township. Mr. Wassmann was a practical and hard-working farmer, and was a fine specimen of German citizenship.

Of the three children born to his parents, our subject is the only one now living. He opened his eyes to the light in the Empire State, March 17, 1850, and was quite young when his parents removed to Indiana, and not yet of age when they became residents of this State. His education was completed in the German schools of this county, and he assisted his father in the labors of the home, continuing the work begun by his parent, when, by that parent's death, he inherited the estate. He follows the example and teaching of his parents in being a consistent member of the Lutheran Church, to which his estimable wife also belongs. In politics he is a sound Republican.

At the home of the bride, in this township, December 10, 1871, Mr. Wassmann, of whom we write, became the husband of Miss Sophia Meier. This lady was born in this township February 20, 1851, and is the oldest daughter of John O. Meier (of whom see sketch). She was educated in Crete and was the recipient of careful home training by her

parents, acquiring useful and upright habits. Her union with our subject has been blessed by the birth of seven children, and none of the interesting group are missing from the home. They are named respectively: Millie, John, Herman, Ayla, Henry, Frederick and Louis.



**S**IMON MILLER, a prominent citizen of Monce Township, has held an important place among the business men of Will County for several years, and has aided in putting it upon a sound financial basis, and is one of its best civic officials. He was born in Kaiser-Lautern, in the Province of Bavaria, October 9, 1834, his birthplace being near the River Rhine. His parents, George and Veronika (Imhoff) Miller, were both natives of Bavaria, the father born September 10, 1800, and the mother May 4, 1804. They came to the United States in the spring of 1849, and located in Cook County, living in Chicago for three or four years. Mr. Miller was superintendent of a large lumber trade in the old country, and subsequently was in the grocery business on the southeast corner of Clinton and Madison Streets. He bought a building on Clark Street for \$50, and moved it across the river, about 1850, the removal being made on a flat-boat; the building is still standing in Chicago. Mr. Miller then took up his residence in the town of Richton, where his death occurred. He and his wife were consistent members of the Evangelical Protestant Church, and took an active part in its work. They had ten children, and the following seven came to the United States: Catherine, Frederick, Adam, Simon, Lena, Louisa and Henrietta.

The son, of whom we write, at fifteen years of age was apprenticed to learn the trade of a tin and copper-smith, and worked at that ten years. Then going to Richton he built the Richton House, and for three or four years was engaged as a hotel keeper. He then bought a fine store in Madison, which he managed till 1867, when he came to Monce, and with Conrad Tatge and August Herbert

established himself in the general merchandising business, and was extensively engaged in buying grain, under the firm name of Tatge, Miller & Herbert. They were together some years, but after 1877 he was alone. In September, 1888, he turned over his business, which had greatly increased under his able management, to his son and son-in-law. He has acquired a good deal of valuable property. He owns two farms, containing two hundred acres, in Will County, and has an interest in his former business, owning two elevators. He is also the proprietor of the store building, and has a fine residence and a store where he lives, besides has property in Chicago, on the corner of Webster and Burling Streets, also a building on Orchard Street, and has residence property in that city worth about \$25,000.

Mr. Miller has built up a beautiful home, and the lady who presides over it became his wife January 19, 1856, the ceremony that made them one being performed in Chicago. Mrs. Miller's maiden name was Elizabeth Bepperling, and she was born in New York City, February 19, 1840, the only daughter of John George and Johanna (Paul) Bepperling. In 1842 she came to Chicago with her parents, where the father died, and the mother married John Davis, who became a pioneer of the city, he building the first brick house on the North Side, located near the old Lake House. He was one of the charter members of the first Masonic Lodge in Chicago. He was of English birth, and came to the United States in 1812, rather unwillingly, he having been captured by an American privateer. He took an active part in the famous Black Hawk War. He came to this country without any means, but at his death left a large property. The happy wedded life of our subject and his estimable wife has resulted to them in the birth of five children, two now living—Mary and George S. Their daughter is the wife of F. J. Sanchez, who was born in the same room of the same house in which our subject was born. His father, Franz Sanchez, was a native of the same place, the son of a Spaniard, who was an officer in the Spanish army. He was captured by Napoleon and taken to Germany a prisoner, and after the war settled there. He subsequently came to the United States,

and passed the remainder of his life in Iowa. Some of his children bore an honorable part in the late war.

Mr. Miller has had the making of his own fortune, as he began life without a dollar he could call his own. By the quiet force of persistent effort, directed by wise discretion and constant devotion to duty, he has left poverty far behind, and to-day is a wealthy man, with an assured income from his handsome property. He has always been closely identified with the public life of Will County since he took up his residence here. While living in Richton he was Township Clerk through the war, at Madison he was Postmaster, and since coming here he has borne a prominent part in the management of the public affairs of township and county. He served as a member and also as the President of the Board of Trustees a number of years, and is now serving his third term as Supervisor of Monce, and is one of the most able men holding that office on the County Board. In politics he has ever been a firm Democrat of the Douglas order, and his high standing in the county is apparent when it is considered that he is the representative of a Republican stronghold.



**A**W. SLAUGHT, M. D. During the comparatively brief time in which Dr. Slaughter has been located in Joliet, having settled here in September, 1888, he has built up a fine practice, and is rapidly acquiring an enviable reputation as a physician and surgeon. He is comparatively a young man, having been born July 6, 1855, and his native place is in the vicinity of Watkin's Glen, N. Y. His father, Abram Slaughter, was also a native of the Empire State, where he was reared to manhood and married to Miss Helen Hanley, of Schuyler County.

The mother of our subject was born and reared near the childhood home of her husband. The father is a farmer by occupation and was also the proprietor of a foundry and machine shop at Watkin's Glen. A. W., our subject, sojourned there with his parents until a youth of sixteen years, at-

tending the public schools. He then entered Colgate Academy and later was a student of Madison University, from which he was duly graduated. For two years afterward he was employed in the Hamilton post-office, but in the meantime he utilized his leisure hours in the study of medicine. Later he emigrated to Marquette, Mich., where he engaged in teaching and in other occupations, but all this time he had in view the medical profession and for this he labored.

In due time young Slaughter, to his great satisfaction, entered the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, becoming a member of the class of '83, and while pursuing his studies also engaged in practice and as a nurse, finally filling the position of professional nurse for some time in Chicago. He was graduated from the above-named institution in February, 1887, and for a time thereafter attended to the business of one of the old physicians who was away on his vacation. Subsequently he repeated the same at Braidwood, this county, and in the meantime he visited his mother in Florida, where her death took place in April, 1889; she was then seventy-one years old.

Upon coming to Joliet Dr. Slaughter engaged in practice with Dr. Campbell, one of its oldest and most prominent physicians and they made a specialty of the diseases of women, doing at the same time a large amount of surgical work. This partnership still continues, although Dr. Campbell is at present (1890) in California. Dr. Slaughter, socially, belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Joliet, and it is predicted that not only as a physician and surgeon, but as a member of the community, he is destined in the near future to make his mark.



**M**ICHAEL RAPPLE. The farming community of Joliet Township recognizes a worthy representative in the subject of this notice, who pursues the even tenor of his way at a well-developed farm on section 7, and who exercises a considerable influence in his community. He is looked upon as one of its most reliable men, and has held the various local offices,

erving as Commissioner of Highways six years, also as School Director, and in politics is a Democrat. He was reared in the faith of the Catholic Church, to which he and his estimable wife belong, attending services at Joliet.

In noting the antecedents of our subject we find that he is the son of Samuel Rapple, a native of what was then the French Province of Alsace, but which now belongs to Germany. The mother bore the maiden name of Barbara Anser. She was a native of the same village as her husband, where they were married and lived for several years afterward. In 1816 they decided upon emigrating to America, and crossed the Atlantic in the spring of the year, coming directly to Will County, Ill., and settling in Joliet. The father occupied himself as a farmer, and died there in the spring of 1867. The mother survived her husband a number of years, dying at the home of her son, our subject, about 1885.

To Samuel Rapple and his good wife there was born a family of five children, the eldest of whom was he whose name heads this sketch. He was a native of the same province as his parents, and was born August 25, 1833. He was a lad of thirteen years when the family emigrated to America, and he sojourned with them about four years thereafter. In the spring of 1850, when a youth of seventeen years, he started for California, joining the caravan which was hastening thither in search of gold. After an absence of about eighteen months he was content to return home, and thereafter followed the peaceful pursuits of farm life. In addition to this he has also been considerably interested in buying and shipping horses, especially during the war and for some time afterward.

Mr. Rapple was married, in Chicago, Ill., September 4, 1853, to Miss Antoinette Trentel. This lady was also a native of the Province of Alsace, and was born May 7, 1832. Her parents were of German ancestry, and are now deceased. She came to America with her parents about 1816, and of her union with our subject there have been born six children, viz.: Teresa, Louisa, Mary (the wife of John Kiep), William, Anna and Joseph. The five unmarried children remain at home with their parents. Mr. Rapple, about 1867, purchased his

present farm, which comprises two hundred and sixty acres of choice land, upon which he has effected good improvements. He has been industrious, frugal and temperate, and has acquired a competency.



WILLIAM LYNK. The village of New Lenox has been the home of this gentleman since 1873, at which time he removed from the farm on which he had been residing. He was born in Columbia County, N. Y., September 20, 1824, and came to this county with his father. The parental history is included in the sketch of Stanton Lynk, which will be found elsewhere in this book. Realizing that it is not good for man to live alone, he of whom we write took to himself a wife September 16, 1851, the marriage ceremony being performed at the bride's home in New Lenox Township.

The lady who became the wife of our subject was known in her maidenhood as Miss Chastina Rugg. She belongs to a most honorable family and in her own person exhibits many estimable qualities and womanly virtues. She was born in Winhall, Bennington County, Vt., September 1, 1834, and is the eldest of three children born to her parents. Her wedded life was begun near the village of New Lenox and for over twenty years she and her husband remained upon their rural estate.

The father of Mrs. Lynk was Jason Rugg, a native of New Hampshire, born August 15, 1806, and her mother was Lydia Mellen, who was born in the town of Winhall, Bennington County, Vt., November 19, 1809. The couple were married in 1832, and at once settled in Bennington County, of the Green Mountain State, where they remained four years. They then changed their residence to Will County, Ill., making their home in New Lenox Township, where Mr. Rugg departed this life February 10, 1873. He was a Justice of the Peace for fifteen years, known and honored of men for his upright character, reliable citizenship, and active intelligence. He belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and took an active part







*Rev C. P. Foster*

in the good work of that organization. His widow is identified with the same religious body. Beside Mrs. Lyuk of this notice, the family of Mr. and Mrs. Rugg included John J., who lives in South Evanston, Cook County, born September 16, 1838, and Olivia O., wife of Tunis Lyuk, who died in New Lenox, June 19, 1881. John J. Rugg, married Jane Simmons, October 11, 1860, and lived on the old home place until 1889, when he moved to Evanston and is now engaged in the real-estate business in the city of Chicago.

**R**EV. CHRISTOPHER PATRICK FOSTER, Pastor of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, of Joliet, was born in Manchester, England, August 24, 1855. He is a son of Edward and Mary J. (Haley) Foster, natives of Ireland who came to America in 1865. Their first home in the United States was at Rushville, Ind., whence they removed to Indianapolis, where the father has gained prominence as a merchant tailor. He has a large establishment of his own, employing quite a number of men, turning out excellent work, and conducting his affairs according to the most honorable business methods. He is the father of seven children, of whom Father C. P. Foster is the first-born.

Father Foster began his studies in 1870, at Bardstown, Ky., in the old ecclesiastical establishment of that place so justly celebrated among Catholics for its thoroughness. From there he went to the Jesuit College at Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1871, afterward entering Mt. St. Mary's Seminary of the West, in Cincinnati, where he completed his studies, having attended there nine years. He then spent a year as an instructor in the advanced course of rhetoric and belles lettres at Bourbonnais Grove, Kankakee County, Ill., in St. Viator's College, an institution ranking among the best in the State.

On June 24, 1881, Father Foster was appointed Assistant Priest at St. John's Church, at the corner of Eighteenth and Clark Streets, Chicago, under the venerated and respected Rev. John Waldron, one of the oldest and most honored priests of the arch-

diocese. He received his appointment as pastor of the Sacred Heart Church, in Joliet, and assumed charge of the parish, September 28, 1888. His services are recognized as earnest and faithful, and he is doing a fine work among his people. Respect is entertained for him by all classes, his scholarly attainments making him a fit companion of the cultured people of Joliet, and his devotion to the work which he has taken up commanding admiration.

A lithographic portrait of Father Foster will be noticed elsewhere in this volume, and will be valued not only among his own parishioners, but by all who know him.

**L**EOPOLD NEUER. This gentleman has been a resident of Joliet since 1873, and ranks among her successful citizens. He owns productive property and is largely interested in building and loan stock. He is a son of George and Walpurga Neuer, and was born in Bavaria, Germany, June 8, 1829. In his native land he followed the trade of a wagon-maker, but during the last six years of his life in Germany the hardships and privations of a soldier were his portion, his time being spent in the army. On the 24th of February, 1857, he landed in New York, drawn thither by glowing accounts of the possibilities offered in the New World and thoroughly tired of the rigors and contracted opportunities of the old.

Going directly to Chicago, Mr. Neuer took up his trade of wagon-making, but after three months went to Manistee, Mich., and worked in a sawmill. Returning to Chicago he succeeded in spending what money he had accumulated, after which his next move was to go upon a farm, where he remained until after the breaking out of the Civil War. Moved by patriotic impulses which strongly contrasted with the feelings which were his when he entered the military service of the Fatherland, he enlisted November 1, 1862, in the Thirtieth Illinois Cavalry. After eleven months spent with that command he re-enlisted as a member of Bat-

tery D, First Illinois Artillery. With this command he remained nineteen months, making a good record as a soldier, his previous discipline in the German army being of avail in giving him a vivid understanding of orders and a readiness in fulfilling them which a raw recruit would scarcely have. Wherever his battery was engaged there he was found always ready for duty.

After the war was over Mr. Neuer returned to Chicago, where in 1865, he was united in marriage with Mrs. Eichorn. He opened a saloon in Madison, Cook County, but in a few years took up his abode in Joliet. He belongs to Bartleson Post, No. 6, G. A. R., to the Sharp-shooter's organization, and to the Kreiger-Verein or German Soldier Society.



**THOMAS H. HUTCHINS.** The business of a patent solicitor is one requiring a thorough understanding of the methods of procedure, and the duties of which are not generally undertaken by the ordinary attorney. Of this Mr. Hutchins makes a specialty and has established therein a wide and enviable reputation. He is thoroughly equipped for this line of practice, having a large library of works bearing on this special branch. Mr Hutchins is however engaged in a large general law practice, and gives special attention to probate business.

The subject of this notice, a native of Saratoga County, N. Y., was born April 2, 1839, and is the son of William H. and Hannah (Clements) Hutchins, who were natives of New York. His father, William H. Hutchins followed merchandising in New York City until 1818, then came to this county and engaged in various speculations, dealing largely in real estate. He was a good financier, attended strictly to business, and accumulating a competence. He departed this life in July, 1877. The wife and mother survived her husband a number of years, her death occurring February 22, 1890, at the home of her daughter in Girard, Kan., while on a visit, her home being in Wichita, Kan. The parental family included seven children, viz: Thomas H., our subject; George E., who

was slain at Winchester during the Civil War; Sarah E., who died at Joliet in 1863; Anna M., Mrs. Harder, a resident of Lockport, this county; Mary E., Mrs. Byrnes, of Colorado; Jennie, Mrs. Gaylord of Girard, Kan., and William J., a Patent Attorney, of Wichita, Kan.

Mr. Hutchins acquired his education in the cities of Joliet and Chicago, attending in the latter the famous Douglas University, from which he was graduated in April, 1861. Soon afterward returning to Joliet, he entered upon the practice of his profession, which he has since continuously prosecuted. He pursued his first law studies in the office of Parks & Elwood, Joliet, Ill., in 1857, and subsequently he studied under R. E. Barber, where he was engaged in keeping abstracts of titles and where he largely obtained his knowledge and experience in this business.

The wedded life of Mr. Hutchins began December 6, 1866, when he was joined in marriage with Miss Nancy J., daughter of Hugh Bolton, of Plainfield, this county. This union has resulted in the birth of four children, two sons and two daughters, namely; Kate C., Laura E., Raymond, and Leonard B. Mr. Hutchins cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln and has since continued his allegiance to the Republican party. And for many years he has been a recognized leader of the party in Illinois.



**DR. JOHN E. HOGAN.** The life of this gentleman has been too short to give the biographical writer much to do in outlining it, but it affords the promise of filling an extended sphere of usefulness should life be spared. Possessing a classical education, the quickness of perception and keen wit which are so characteristic of the better class of the Celtic race, and having had his faculties of mind thoroughly cultivated, Dr. Hogan is one who could make his mark in society; and when added to this we find a thorough knowledge of medicine and surgery, we are safe in predicting an honorable and successful career for this young member of the Joliet medical fraternity.

The parents of our subject are John and Cather-

ine (Glackin) Hogan, of County Meath, Ireland, whence they came to America, the father in 1840, and the mother a few years later. Three of their children are yet living and six died in infancy. The survivors are: The Rev. J. E. Hogan, of Harvard, Ill.; Mary, who lives with her brother in Harvard; and John E., of this sketch. The birth of the latter took place June 22, 1863, in Joliet, and he received his primary education in the parochial schools. He then spent two years in the public schools, after which he entered St. Francis' Seminary at Milwaukee. After a year spent at that institution he was sent to Bourbonnais Grove, Kankakee, under the Franciscan Order, where he pursued his studies four years, completing a classical course and leaving the institution with a well-drilled mind and a memory stored with knowledge.

Having determined to devote himself to the medical profession, Mr. Hogan entered the Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons, from which he was graduated in 1887. He at once opened an office in Joliet, but a twelvemonth later removed to Olivia, Minn., and after a year spent in that place returned to the city of his nativity in which he desires to make his future home. Dr. Hogan is a Catholic and belongs to the Democratic party.



**J**OHNS SHUTTS. After long years spent in agricultural pursuits, the subject of this sketch has retired from the labors of life and is passing his declining years in a peaceful enjoyment of the comforts of life, surrounded by friends whom he has gained by his upright character, and blessed by the love of children whom he has reared to honorable and useful manhood and womanhood. He is the possessor of one of the finest estates which Joliet Township boasts, comprising about two hundred and ten acres on section 22. Upon it he has erected substantial and adequate accommodations for man and beast, together with such other buildings as are needful to shelter the crops which are raised; he has also done such work in the way of fencing and tree culture as the best farmers

undertake, all the trees to be seen near his fine home having been planted by himself.

The subject of this sketch is the fourth in a family of eleven children born to Henry and Catherine (Seism) Shutts. Both the parents were natives of Columbia County, N. Y., and there passed away. At Livingston the eyes of our subject opened to the light, September 9, 1814. He grew to manhood on his father's farm, making it his home until he was twenty-four years old. In the meantime he had secured as good an education as could be obtained in the schools of the vicinity, together with a thorough knowledge of agriculture, and had become possessed of excellent habits and fine principles.

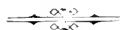
Upon leaving the parental roof Mr. Shutts located upon a farm near his early home, remaining upon it three years when he traded for one in Ulster County and removed there. For fourteen years he was identified with the interests of that section, leaving it in the fall of 1855, to take up his residence in Will County, Ill. Choosing the location which has since been his home he renewed the labors in which he had formerly been engaged, soon becoming known among the old settlers as a farmer of progressive ideas, a citizen of public spirit and steadfastness, and a man of genial, hospitable nature and upright character.

Among the very early settlers of Columbia County, N. Y., were Mr. and Mrs. Cole. To them was born a daughter Catherine, who grew to maturity in possession of a noble character, an intelligent mind, and the disposition and manners which made her companionship desired and fitted her to become a true helpmate for the man of her choice. The good qualities of this young lady won the regard of John Shutts and after a successful wooing they were united in marriage at her home. Their happy wedded life was terminated December 21, 1878, when the loving wife and devoted mother was removed from her sorrowing household by the hand of death.

To Mr. and Mrs. Shutts nine children were born, seven of them being yet alive. Catherine A. is the wife of Thomas Tait of Jackson Township; Henry is a lawyer in Oregon, Mo.; Samuel is a farmer in Joliet Township; John Jr., lives on his father's farm; Cassius is a resident of Rooks County,

Kan.; Peter is practicing law in Joliet; Franklin lives in Rooks County, Kan. The deceased children are Sarah, who died in infancy, and Mary who breathed her last in February, 1890.

Mr. Shurts has taken quite an active part in politics, exercising the right of suffrage in behalf of the Democrat party. He has held the office of Assistant Supervisor of Joliet Township several terms, and has been School Director thirteen years. He manifests a deep interest in the cause of education, as in other elevating movements, and as an official is judicious and able. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, to which his deceased wife also belonged.



ULYSSES S. G. BLAKELY, editor and proprietor of the Plainfield *Enterprise*, though one of the youngest members of the editorial profession, has already won his way to a high position among the journalists of Will County, and his bright and newsy paper is classed among the ablest of its kind in this part of the State. Our subject comes of good New England stock, and is himself a native of that part of the country, the town of Elmore, Lamoille County, Vt., being the place of his birth, and May 9, 1868, the date thereof. His father, Caleb Blakely, was also born in the Green Mountain State. He was a natural mechanic, and early learned the trade of a coachmaker, and followed it in Vermont till 1875, when he took advantage of a fine opening in Neenah, Wis., and was engaged at his trade there the ensuing three years. He then turned his attention to farming, purchasing a fine farm in Harrisville, Marquette County. He lived there and managed his farming interests until 1882, when on account of ill health, he was obliged to retire from active life, and renting his farm, he moved to Chilton, and continued his residence in Wisconsin until his death in 1884. The maiden name of his wife was Catherine Deyo. She departed this life in Vermont. Eleven of the fourteen children born to them were reared to maturity, and ten of them are still living, as follows: William A., Hartland; Eliza, Mrs. Cram; Carrie, Mrs. Barrows; Mary, Mrs. Bedell; Ida, Mrs.

Sharpe; Nellie, Mrs. Scott; Myrtle, Mrs. Hamlin; Eva E., Mrs. Marvin; Ulysses S. G.

The latter, of whom we write, was but four years of age when he had the sad misfortune to lose his mother, and he subsequently accompanied his father to Wisconsin. He remained with him until he was nine years old, and at that early age the manly, active, self-reliant little lad began to make his own way in the world, finding employment on a farm in Marquette County near Packwaukee, where he remained two years. We next hear of him in Michigan, where he was engaged in a chair factory in Reading, Hillsdale County. Two years later he threw up his situation there, and returned to Chilton, Wis. At the expiration of a year he again went to Michigan, and worked in a machine shop in Reading for some time. In 1887, he entered upon his career as a journalist, as he then came to Plainfield and in company with his brother-in-law, Rial A. Marvin, established the Plainfield *Enterprise*, and opened a job printing office at the same time. After Mr. Marvin's death in August, 1888, our subject bought out his interest in the business and has ever since carried it on alone. Mr. Blakely is a bright, wide-awake young man, and while he has had no special training for his profession, he being mainly self-educated, his clear, well-balanced mind seems to be especially adapted to newspaper work, and he has achieved remarkable success in his calling. By his energetic management he has worked up the circulation of his paper to one thousand and fifty copies weekly, a remarkable list of subscribers for a country paper. His editorials are clear-cut, vigorous and right to the point, and always display an intelligent knowledge of the subject under discussion. His paper is not the organ of any political party, but is independent in all things.

Mr. Blakely was married in September, 1887, to Miss Linwood Bartholomew, a native of Reading, Hillsdale County. Her father, Amos Bartholomew, was born in Pompey, Onondaga County, N. Y., June 11, 1815, a son of Daniel Bartholomew, who was born November 18, 1777. He, in turn, was a son of Joseph Bartholomew, who was born in Wallingford, Conn., August 25, 1752. He was a pioneer of the town of Pompey, and there died in 1808. The maiden name of his wife was Esther

Osborn. Daniel Bartholomew was married to Lucy Holliday, November 15, 1803, and died in Genesee County, N. Y., December 2, 1851. Mrs. Blakely's father was reared and married in his native State, and going to Michigan in 1836, became one of its sturdy, enterprising pioneers. He bought a tract of timber land near Reading, and cleared a good farm from the wilderness. He now lives in honorable retirement in the village of Reading. He was twice married. The maiden name of his second wife, Mrs. Blakely's mother, was Abbie Van Buren, and she was born in Charleton, Saratoga County, N. Y. Her father, Martin C. Van Buren, was a native of Breadalbin, Fulton County, N. Y., and married Nancy Vedder, who was born at the same place, and was of Holland descent. The father of Martin C. Van Buren was a brother of President Van Buren. John A. Van Buren, an uncle of Mrs. Blakely, was taken prisoner on June 1, 1864, and lived until January, 1865, when he died at Andersonville Prison. Mrs. Blakely was one of three children. Her sister Lizzie married Lester Rogers, and resides in Coldwater, Mich.; Mira E., the youngest of the three, died in 1882, aged eleven years.



**HON. THOMAS J. KELLY.** This gentleman, whose name will be at once recognized by many as that of a prominent merchant of Joliet, is serving that city as her Mayor for his third term, of two years each. His incumbency of the office is marked by steps that reflect credit alike upon himself and the constituency that elected him and prove acceptable to the entire community. The dry-goods establishment on Jefferson Street that is conducted by Mr. Kelly is a flourishing enterprise, its patrons being sure of courteous treatment at the hands of the employes and of a strictly honorable dealing from all, no other method being permitted by the proprietor but that due to his self respect and integrity.

The greater part of the life of our subject has been spent in this vicinity, although the Emerald Isle claims him as her son. He was born June 24, 1841, and with his parents, Edward and Rose Kelly,

crossed the briny deep when about six years old. The father bought a farm five miles south of the city of Joliet, later becoming the owner of one three-fourths of a mile north of the city limits, upon which he resided until his death in 1871. The mother is still living, her home being in the city. The family were early members of St. Patrick's Church. The household band comprised four sons and three daughters, three of whom have joined their father beyond the tomb. Patrick H. and Edward died in Watsonville, Cal.; Mary also is deceased. The survivors are T. J., the third in order of birth; Joseph A., the fifth; Kate and Bridget. Being a prosperous farmer and the owner of a fine property of three hundred and twenty acres of land, the elder Kelly was able to give his children good educational advantages and secure for them that best heritage.

With the exception of the time devoted to study in institutions of learning distant from his home, Thomas Kelly grew to maturity upon his father's farm. He attended the University of Notre Dame, at South Bend, Ind., and St. Mary's College at Wilmington, Del., completing his thorough course of study at the College of the Holy Cross in Montreal, Canada. For a time after being graduated he carried on agricultural work on the old farm, but since 1887 has been continuously in business in the city of Joliet. He had become one of the prominent farmers of the county as he is now one of the prominent merchants of the city.

The career of the Hon. Mr. Kelly as a public servant began in 1880 when he was elected Supervisor of Joliet City and township. The following year he was re-elected and in 1883 was the successful candidate for the Mayoralty, continuing in the office four years. In 1884 and 1886 he was also Assistant Supervisor of the township and city, and for a year or two was Chairman of the County Board. Again has he been elected to act as Mayor, a place for which his high mental attainments and good judgment amply qualify him.

The estimable wife of Mr. Kelly bore the maiden name of Mary Fitzpatrick, the rites of wedlock having been celebrated between them September 10, 1868. Mrs. Kelly is a daughter of Patrick Fitzpatrick, an early settler of the county in which

he located in 1832. She was born on the farm directly west of Lockport, was educated at St. Mary's Academy, at South Bend, Ind., and possesses many fine traits of character.

St. Mary's Church was organized as a parish in 1867, with Father Flannigan as the first pastor in charge. He was succeeded in 1869 by the Rev. P. W. Riordan, now Archbishop of San Francisco, and he in turn by Rev. J. Mackin now of Elgin, Kane County. The Rev. Thomas Murphy was the next incumbent in charge, he being the man who began the erection of the new church, dying suddenly of apoplexy before its completion in 1877. The next pastor of the church was the Rev. M. F. Burk, who completed the building to its present condition and erected the fine stone building on Eastern Avenue that accommodates the parochial school. The latter edifice compares favorably with any school building in the city. It is known as the Sacred Heart, and is conducted by the Ladies of Loretto. After a most successful pastorate of ten years, Father Burk was appointed Bishop of Cheyenne, and was succeeded here by the present pastor, the Rev. Father Thomas P. Mangun.



**R**ED EBERHART. It does not take a visitor long to determine the status of the business houses which line the streets of any town, and to decide who among the tradesmen are popular, as well as of good repute in financial circles. A cursory view of the business houses of Manhattan would lead to the opinion that the gentleman above named occupies the front rank among the dealers in that flourishing corporation. He is engaged in the sale of lumber, coal, paints and oils, and general building material, and also does a good business as a contractor and builder. In fact, during the last few years he has put up the most of the houses which have been built.

The immediate progenitors of this gentleman are Benedict and Anna (Palmer) Eberhart, both natives of Switzerland. The father was born in Canton Berne, and reared upon a farm there. He

emigrated to America when twenty-one years old, immediately after his marriage, and settled near Frankfort, this county. For a time he rented land but finally purchased a good farm in the same township upon which he resided until 1877. He then sold it and buying one hundred and sixty acres of improved land on section 11, Manhattan Township, changed his place of abode to that which he is now occupying. Although sixty years of age he is still active and able to continue the control of his estate. Politically, he is a Democrat, and religiously, a Presbyterian. His father-in-law, Jacob A. Palzer, also came to America in 1851, and after living in Frankfort Township for a time, removed to LaPorte, Ind., where his comfortable circumstances enabled him to live in retirement until his death.

The parental family, of which our subject is the oldest member, also includes John, whose home is at Ft. Sidney, Neb.; Charles, who resides in Joliet, Louis., who is at home; Henry, with our subject; Albert and Mary, at home; Anna, a milliner and dressmaker in Manhattan; and Mrs. Rosa Morse, who lives in Manhattan Township.

The natal day of our subject was February 29, 1856, and his birthplace a farm in Frankfort Township. He enjoyed the privileges afforded by the common schools and the Frankfort graded school, and like most lads reared upon a farm, began to lend a hand while still quite young. He divided his time between his school and farm labors until the age of twenty-five, when he became a clerk in a grocery store in Spencer. After a time he went to Chicago, where he officiated as scaleman at the Kinzie Street Station.

The next change of Mr. Eberhart was to Manhattan, this county, in 1879. Here he became a clerk for J. Cackle, the first merchant here, and sold the first groceries over a counter in the village. After clerking a year the young man returned to Chicago and began speculating in the bucket-shop adjoining the Board of Trade on LaSalle Street, getting his real start in life there as a successful broker in every article of trade. In the fall of 1882, he came again to Manhattan, bought out A. H. King, a lumber dealer, and has since conducted a very successful business in that line, Manhattan



is a good business point, with a rapidly increasing trade, and the various articles in which Mr. Eberhart now deals are in constant demand. He owns block 3, where the sheds for lumber, coal, etc., are located. He also owns several town lots here and in the West, together with three hundred and twenty acres of farming land in Cheyenne County, Neb., near Ft. Sidney.

After having lived in single blessedness until the age of thirty-two years, Mr. Eberhart contracted a matrimonial alliance on February 20, 1889. His chosen companion was Miss Minnie Jacobs, who was born in Green Garden Township, comes of respected parents and is herself a fine specimen of noble womanhood. She is the daughter of Cornelius Jacobs, a farmer. Mr. Eberhart helped to incorporate the village of Manhattan and was elected a member of its first Board of Trustees, holding the office until 1890. He was Township Clerk for eight years, resigning all public office in 1890, and retiring to private life.

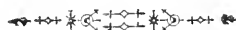
Mr. Eberhart, as will be seen from the above notes, is personally responsible for his substantial finances and the high position which he occupies as a business man and citizen. He is one of those zealous men who devote much time and ability to the improvement of the town with whose citizens they have cast in their lot, and to whom is due in a large measure the prosperity of the entire community. He is a Democrat and has served as a delegate to county conventions. He is a social man of jovial and kindly nature and a popular member of society.



**O** B. BENSEN, dealer in coal and ice at Joliet, established himself in his present business in 1884. He is still a young man, having been born February 3, 1856, and his native place was on the other side of the Atlantic, in Sweden. His parents were Benjamin and Jennie (Hawkinson) Bensen, who died when their son, our subject, was a small child. He thereafter made his home with his grandparents, but at an early age struck out for himself and has fought his own

way in the world. He came to America when a lad of fifteen years, landing in the city of Quebec, Canada, in the year 1871.

Mr. Bensen did not sojourn very long in the Dominion, but coming to Bureau County, this State, located in Princeton and employed himself as a clerk in a grocery store, remaining in Bureau County about eighteen months. Thence he came to Joliet, and for a period of ten years was in the employ of J. D. Paige the well-known soda water manufacturer. At the expiration of this time he embarked in the grocery business, in which he was engaged two years successfully, but believing there were better returns in coal and ice, transferred his interests accordingly to the latter. He is looked upon as one of Joliet's live business men, being possessed of temperate habits and the straightforward methods which can hardly result otherwise than in success. Mr. Bensen is an admirer of fine horses, having a number in which he justly takes pride.



**M**ICHAEL E. BANNON. For the past twenty years, Mr. Bannon has been successfully engaged in the grocery trade at Joliet. He has thus become widely and favorably known to a large number of its people and by upright dealing and prompt attention to the wants of his customers, has built up an extended patronage. His native haunts were on the other side of the Atlantic, in County Roscommon, Ireland, where he was presented to his parents on Christmas day, 1816. The latter were Edward and Catherine (Lennon) Bannon who emigrated to America in 1851, and in the spring following located in Joliet. The father, an honest and industrious man, employed himself as a laborer and departed this life in Joliet, in 1884. The mother is living in Joliet.

To the parents of Mr. Bannon there was born a family of eight children, five sons and three daughters of whom M. E. was the eldest. One son and two daughters are deceased. P. R., is numbered among the contractors and builders of Joliet; John M., occupies himself as a butcher; Edward follows

carpentering in this city; Kate is at home with her widowed mother; M. E., our subject, although but five years old when leaving his native Ireland, carries in his mind a picture of his old home, and many of the incidents occurring on the trip across the ocean.

Mr. Bannon was not permitted to spend very much time in school during his boyhood and when but a lad assumed the sterner duties of life, going into the country to work for a farmer by the name of Michael Bannon at 86 per month. He was occupied in farm pursuits until a youth of about eighteen years, and then for two years went into the stone quarries of Sanger & Steele. He, however, could only work in the quarry during the summer time and in the winter he dealt in coal.

In 1869, Mr. Bannon embarked in the grocery business which he has since successfully followed. In 1881, he invested some of his capital in the tile business which proved a bad venture, and he states that whenever he has experimented with any business outside of groceries and provisions, he got the worst of the bargain. When reaching his majority he allied himself with the Democratic party, and in religion he adheres to the Catholic faith of his forefathers.

Mr. Bannon took unto himself as wife and helpmate, August 28, 1886, Miss Anna, daughter of James O'Reilly, of Joliet, and they are the parents of three bright children, Maurice, Eviline and Margaret.



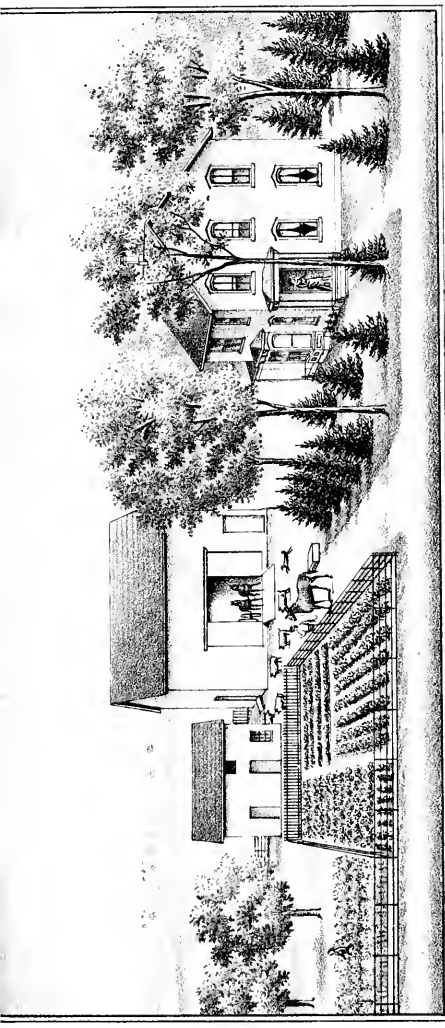
**A**SSEL KENDRICK HYLAND is the owner of a good farm in the fine farming country embraced in Will County. It is beautifully located on section 36, of Plainfield Township, four and one-half miles northwest of Joliet, and under his skillful management has been brought to a high state of improvement and productiveness. His residence is especially comfortable, and a view of it with the farm surroundings, appears on another page.

Mr. Hyland is of New England origin, born among the pleasant hills of Roxbury, Vt., July 2,

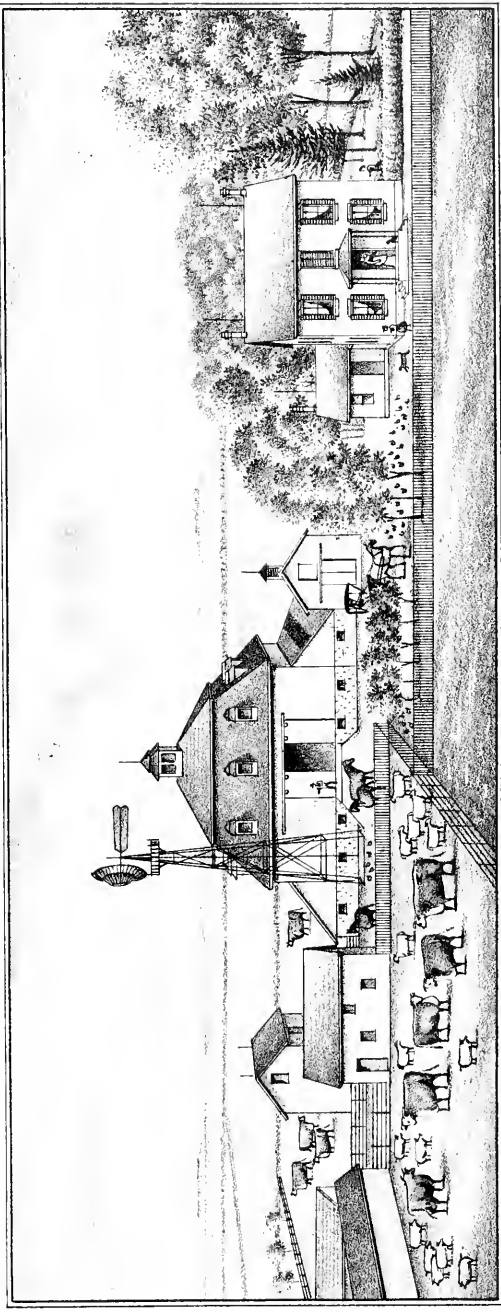
1840. His father, Consider Hyland, is thought to have been a native of the same State, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits. He bought a farm and operated it until 1844, when he left the Green Mountain State to take up his residence in the wilds of Will County, Ill. Accompanied by his wife and seven children, he started on the journey with a team and proceeded to Lake Champlain and crossing that came by Champlain and Erie Canals to Buffalo, and thence by the lakes to Chicago, where he took a team for Plainfield. At that time Will County was sparsely settled and had few of the advantages of civilized life.

Mr. Hyland bought a tract of land partly improved and situated one and one-half miles north-east of the village. The people lived in the most primitive manner, there being but few traveling facilities, no railways or canals. Chicago was the nearest market, and it was the custom for five or six of the neighboring farmers to go into the city at the same time, the most of them using ox-teams and traveling over the prairies, there being no roads as yet made. Mr. Hyland resided on his farm and engaged in its improvement until death closed his useful career August 9, 1854. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Minerva Farwell. She was a native of Vermont, and passed her last years quietly on the old homestead in Plainfield. There were eleven children born to herself and husband, eight of whom were reared to years of maturity.

The son of whom we write was a lad of four years when he came to Illinois with his parents. He attended the pioneer schools which were conducted in the primitive schoolhouse, with its home-made furniture and rude fireplace. He was initiated into the work of the farm and remained with his mother until he was twenty-three; after his marriage, he bought the interest of the other heirs in the old homestead and resided there one year. He then sold it advantageously and bought a farm in the same township, which he occupied one year, after which he disposed of it and purchased another not far away. He lived on the latter seven years, and, then selling, turned his attention to the butcher's business in which he was engaged for nine months. In 1873 he bought the place where



RESIDENCE OF A. K. HYLAND, SEC. 36, PLAINFIELD TWP. WILL CO. ILL.





he now resides. It comprises eighty acres of valuable farming land in an excellent condition and supplied with all desirable improvements, including a substantial dwelling and other needed buildings.

The marriage of Mr. Hyland with Josephine Green was solemnized in 1861, and has proved of mutual benefit. They have four children: Emma, Bert, Gertrude and Howard. Mrs. Hyland is a native of Will County, and a daughter of Deacon Dennison and Otilla Green. Her father was a native of Westfield, Otsego County, N. Y., and was born February 13, 1807, to Archibald and Hannah (Brown) Green. At the youthful age of twelve years he commenced to learn the trade of a blacksmith, and served an apprenticeship of nine years in his native town. After that he did journeyman work, and then moving to Oneida County, established himself at his trade, opening a shop and carrying on the business there until 1836. Then with his wife and one child he started for Illinois, going via the Erie Canal and the lakes to Chicago, and thence by stage to Joliet, which was at that time but a small hamlet, the only tavern there being kept in a little unpainted frame house. Two of his brothers-in-law lived but a short distance away and he engaged there in a saw-mill for nearly two years; then, buying property at Joliet, he built a house and shop and carried on blacksmithing until 1845. In that year he came to Plainfield, and buying property built a home and a smithy which he managed many years. He acquired a comfortable competence and now lives in honorable retirement. Deacon Green was married January 26, 1831, to Miss Otilla Wheeler, a native of Lebanon, N. Y., and a daughter of Samuel and Mercy (Bently) Wheeler. All of the five children born to them are still living and are named as follows: Judson D., Lovi, Emma S., M. Josephine and B. Wheeler. Deacon Green and wife have a proud record as church members, they having been faithful workers in the Baptist Church for nearly sixty years, joining the First Baptist when it was organized at Joliet, and Mr. Green was soon made Deacon.

A son of a pioneer and one who has done pioneer work himself in the improvement and cultivation of a farm, our subject is a regular and welcome attendant at all pioneer meetings. He is a well-read

man and is well informed on topics of general conversation. He is a man of excellent habits and good principles and in every relation is true to himself and those around him. He and his family are people of good standing in religious and social circles in the community and are regular attendants of the Baptist Church. Politically, he is a supporter of the Republican party.



THOMAS CLARK, a practical and successful breeder of Hereford cattle, is located on a fine farm, one mile northeast of Beecher. It comprises one hundred and twenty acres on section 9, Washington Township, that were selected with a view to their present use, and are adapted by nature and improvement for the purpose. The "Evergreen Stock Farm" is known far and near, and well repays a visit, the owner being thoroughly posted regarding the stock in which he takes such delight. Perhaps the most noticeable feature of the improvements is the commodious stock-barn, 67x97 feet, with a capacity for one hundred head of cattle and a large amount of hay and grain. All the buildings are well-constructed and sufficiently large for the various purposes for which they were designed.

The herd at present consists of about sixty head, chief of the herd being Peerless Wilton No. 12,771. At the head of the herd are the fine bulls, Anxiety Third, No. 4466, and Anxiety Wilton, No. 30,272, all registered numbers familiar to stockmen. At the State Fairs held in Peoria, Mr. Clark carried off most of the sweepstakes, and at Buffalo, N. Y., he received \$750 in prizes; he justly claims to have carried off more premiums than any other breeder of Herefords in the country.

Thomas Clark, Sr., the father of our subject, was born in Herefordshire, England, and came of pure English blood. He grew up in his native shire, and became a breeder of the famous cattle which bear the name of the shire. As a farmer and stock-breeder he was eminently successful, and followed the business during his life, becoming prominent in that line and well known as a good citizen. He

passed away in 1862, at the age of seventy-eight years. He had married a lady of his own shire, whose maiden name was Mary A. Fluck. She lived to be more than three-score and ten years old, dying in 1887, in the shire wherein her whole life had been spent. She had borne two sons and four daughters, five of whom lived to mature years, and four are yet alive. The three daughters remain in their native land, and all are married. The parents were members of the Church of England, and the father was Church Warden for many years.

The gentleman whose name introduces this biographical notice was born near Hereford, England, August 28, 1842. He was reared amid the surroundings of farm life, and received a common-school education. He was about twenty-one years old when, in 1866, he set sail for America, the land of promise across the Atlantic. From Southampton he crossed to New York, whence he went at once to Cleveland, Ohio. There he learned the trade of a butcher, carrying it on in that city until 1869, and then going to Elyria, Lorain County, where he continued the same occupation for a time. He soon, however, embarked in the enterprise toward which his taste and early training led him—that of breeding Hereford cattle. Having had better advantages than most men who are engaged in the business, to learn the characteristics of the breed and the best means of caring for them, he began under favorable auspices a work that has been crowned with success. In 1877 he purchased and took possession of the now well-known "Evergreen Stock Farm," a part of which with the fine residence is represented by a view on another page.

The many good qualities of Miss Margaret Heal won the earnest regard of Mr. Clark, and winning her consent to become his wife, the marriage rites were performed in Elyria, Ohio. Mrs. Clark was born in Devonshire, England, June 22, 1844, and educated in the land of her birth. She was one of ten children born to a Devonshire farmer and his worthy wife, and one of four who came to America. She was about twenty years old when they settled in the Buckeye State. Her parents remained in the mother country, dying there when upwards of four-score years of age. They belonged to the Episcopal Church, in the tenets of which they

reared their offspring. Mrs. Clark has borne her husband three children, and the loss of the only son—John H.—has brought sorrow to the parents' heart. The daughters who gladden the home are Anna A. and Flora H.

The parents give their adherence to the church in the doctrines of which their progenitors instructed them in youth. Mr. Clark is an independent Republican. Not only for the enterprise he has manifested in his worldly affairs, but for his kindly nature and upright character, he is respected by those who know him, and his estimable companion also holds a high place in the esteem of their associates.



**H**EMAN R. RUSSELL, in driving about Manhattan Township the eyes of the stranger would be drawn to the fine residence, of a style of architecture mostly confined to cities, which stands on beautiful grounds about seven miles from Joliet. The valuable farm which this dwelling adorns comprises one hundred and sixty acres on section 7, and is being furnished as fast as possible with the modern improvements in the way of farm buildings, windmill and tank, and every convenience which will assist in the labor of the proprietor or add to his enjoyment.

Mr. Russell makes a specialty of raising standard-bred horses and is the owner of "Venango," a two-year old of fine proportions and movement, which already has a record of 2:41. He is the finest-bred horse in the county, being a cross between "Blue Bull, No. 75," and "Hambletonian, No. 10," and having been sired by "Bogardus," whose well-known record is 2:28; his dam was sired by "Sterling," the son of "Volunteer." "Venango" is registered as No. 9521. Mr. Russell also owns three standard-bred Hambletonian fillies, two Greens Bashaw stallions, a yearling and colt. He also breeds draft horses, at the head of the herd of these animals being a full-blooded bay Norman, two years old, called "Premier III," and weighs fifteen hundred pounds. Full-blooded Durham cattle and Poland-China hogs are also raised.

Going back two generations in the paternal line we find Samuel Russell a native of Wilmington, N. C., and the son of a man who had emigrated from Bedfordshire, England. Samuel Russell was a man of leisure, owning property from which he derived a fine income. To him was born a son, Joseph, who became a cotton merchant in his native city, and was very successful until the Civil War. Early in the beginning of the sanguinary struggle he enlisted as a Captain of the One Hundredth North Carolina Infantry, and after two years became General Quartermaster of the Atlantic Division of the Confederate forces, holding that position until the close of the war. He then went to Raleigh, took the oath of allegiance to the United States Government, and returning to Wilmington, resumed business. Although trade was not so brisk as it had been before the war, Mr. Russell was successful and became possessed of abundant means. He laid down the burdens of life in 1880, at the age of fifty years. He was a Royal Arch Mason, a Democrat, and a Deacon in the Presbyterian Church, known and honored of men throughout his life.

The wife of Joseph Russell and mother of our subject was born near Albany, N. Y., and bore the maiden name of Mary Baker. She is a daughter of Clark and Lucina (Welsh) Baker, who are still living, at a ripe old age, at Five Mile Grove, Will County. She was reared in her native county, educated in Albany, and graduated from the Albany Female Academy, leaving her Alma Mater with a rarely cultured mind. She followed the profession of teaching until her marriage, devoting herself principally to the French language and traveling considerably both in the North and South. Since her husband's death she has generally spent her summers in Northern Illinois, but she is at present traveling in France, doing the European Continent for the first time. She is the mother of three children—M. Elizabeth, who lives with our subject; Heman R. of this notice; and Lucina, who died in childhood. Mrs. Russell is of the Presbyterian faith.

Grandfather Baker was born in Hoosic, Rensselaer County, N. Y., March 3, 1796, and during his early years taught school in the winter and worked

on the farm in summer. After having spent several years in this way, he became a surveyor, following that calling for a great many years. He finally purchased a farm and gave his attention to agriculture. When eighteen years old he enlisted in the State Militia and in 1814 was called out and served three weeks in the second struggle for freedom from British tyranny. In 1813 he made his first trip to Cook County, Ill., to look after some mortgages, and several subsequent trips were made necessary by his business. Some land at Five Mile Grove finally came into his possession through an unredeemed mortgage, and in 1850 he brought his family thither. He has been extremely successful as a farmer and stockman, and now owns some twelve hundred acres of land, well improved and managed. He is well known as the oldest man in the county and one of its largest farmers, as well as a very early settler in his township. He has served as Supervisor and Justice of the Peace, and gives his support to the Democratic party.

Grandmother Baker was born in Mayfield, N. Y., August 28, 1806, and is a daughter of George W. Welsh, who was born in Ireland and was a prominent and wealthy merchant in Albany, his residence being in Cambridge, Washington County.

Mr. Russell, of whom we write, has the blood of a Revolutionary soldier in his veins—one of his ancestors having fought against the British, although himself of English birth, and having also sent three of his sons into the army. One of these was J. Baker, the great-grandfather of our subject, who was born in Rhode Island, became an early settler of Rensselaer County, N. Y., and attained to prominence there.

Heman Russell was born in Wilmington, N. C., July 17, 1862, and amid the most favorable auspices grew to manhood. He was educated in his native city, being graduated when eighteen years old from the Tileston Normal Institute. Among his mental accomplishments is a good knowledge of the French tongue. During one of his vacations in his early manhood he became a clerk in order to learn the mercantile business, but not finding it to his taste, gave it up, choosing to devote himself to farming, for which he had always had a liking. Prior to his eighteenth year he had spent several

summers with his grandfather Baker at Five Mile Grove, in this State, and after his father's death he made his home there, gaining from his grandparent a thorough knowledge of agriculture.

In 1886 Mr. Russell rented a small piece of land from his grandfather and the next year became the owner of the estate on which he now lives and has made such fine improvements. His residence was erected at a cost of \$1,000, and already in less than three years, other buildings mark the estate. The owner operates two hundred and forty acres altogether, keeping four teams constantly employed. He is unmarried, but his home is presided over by his sister, whose intelligence and culture help to draw around them a pleasant circle of acquaintances. Mr. Russell is serving his second year as Justice of the Peace and has the honor of being the youngest Squire in the county. As Township School Trustee, he is acting for the second time, and the interests of education are safe in his hands. He belongs to Lodge No. 64C, I. O. O. F., at Wilton Center. Following the example and teaching of his father and other ancestors, he is a staunch Democrat.



**E**LISHA BROWN, a retired farmer, is a good type of the noble volunteers of the late war, who fought in defense of our country's honor with intrepid valor, regardless of the hardships and privations that they had to endure, until the glorious Stars and Stripes once more waved over a free and undivided Union. For many years he has been closely associated with the great agricultural interests of Will County, and though he has retired from the active and incessant cares inseparably connected with the management of a large farm, he still retains possession of his homestead which is one of the finest in Illinois.

Mr. Brown was born in Morristown, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., December 2, 1836, his father, Charles Brown, having been a pioneer of that place. The latter was a native of Thetford, Vt., where he was born in March, 1800, and he was there reared and married. He remained among the green hills

of his birthplace until his removal to Morristown, N. Y., where he associated himself with its pioneers and became one of its most useful citizens. He bought a tract of heavily timbered land about two miles from the village and after building thereon the log house in which our subject was born, he actively commenced the hard labor of clearing his land and preparing it for cultivation, and in the years that followed improved the fine farm which remained his home till death called him hence in 1865. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Nancy Ames, and she was born in Hartford, Conn., in September, 1800. Her parents moved from that State to New York, and spent their last years in St. Lawrence County. She died on the home farm in 1888, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. She was the mother of ten children, nine sons and one daughter, as follows: George, Charles, Sarah A., William, Willard, Willis, Joseph, David, Elisha and Daniel. Willard died when young, but four of the family are now living. Two of the sons, Willis and David, bore an honorable part in the late war, the former serving as First Lieutenant in the Seventeenth Iowa, and the latter as a scout in a New York Regiment of Sharpshooters.

The early days of our subject were passed in attendance at school and in doing chores at home, and as soon as old enough he aided in the harder labors of the farm and gained a practical knowledge of agriculture. He remained an inmate of the parental home until he was eighteen years old and then, ambitious to take advantage of the many superior advantages for securing a competence and building up a comfortable home, offered to young men of enterprise and capability in the Mississippi Valley, he started westward. He first stopped for a while in this State, working two months on a farm, and then proceeded to Janesville, Iowa, where he remained one year. He then took up his abode in Algona, Kossuth County. At that time there were seven houses in that place and the surrounding country was in a wild condition with no railways, scarcely any good roads of communication with the outside world, and deer and elk roamed where are now fine farms and busy towns. Mr. Brown took up a tract of Government land there, built a small house, broke and fenced a part



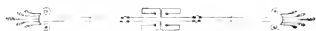
of his homestead. Two years later he returned to Illinois and farmed in this State till 1859, he went to Pike's Peak, he being one of party of six. They bought teams which they shipped by rail to St. Louis and there embarked on steamers, teams and all, and were taken to Leavenworth, Kan., whence they proceeded with their teams across the plains. They encountered buffaloes and antelope on the way, and saw many Indians. Our subject prospected and mined for a time, remaining there two months and then, disliking the wild life that he was obliged to lead in that part of the country, he returned eastward as far as Iowa and stayed a few months on his farm. After that he came back to Illinois and the first call for troops found him prepared to spring to the defense of his country, and in April, 1861, he joined the Plainfield Light Artillery, went to Cairo, and was there mustered into service. His company was attached to the Tenth Illinois and served three months, and was then mustered out at the expiration of its term of enlistment. Mr. Brown re-enlisted August 1st, 1862, in Company D, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, and served until after the close of the war. He was in the battles of Stone River and Chickamauga, was with Sherman in the Atlanta Campaign and bore an honorable part in the battle of that route and in the siege and capture of that city. He was with Thomas in the battles of Franklin and Nashville, and his regiment took an active part in all the battles and skirmishes under that general, and was discharged in July, 1865. Our subject went into the army as a private, and was promoted to the position of First Sergeant and on every occasion conducted himself as a true soldier should. He was twice wounded, first at Chickamauga, where he received a fragment of a shell, and in the battle of Franklin he had a gunshot wound and in consequence carried his arm in a sling in the battle of Nashville.

After he left the army, Mr. Brown returned to Illinois and the following year bought the first land he ever owned in this State, that purchase of sixty acres now being included in his present farm. He has prospered greatly in his agricultural undertakings, and has procured other tracts of land from time to time, till he is now the owner of three hun-

dred and eighty-six acres of land, constituting a farm that is in all respects one of the best in this part of the county. He erected a fine set of frame buildings on his first purchase and resided there until 1888, when he bought his present commodious home in Plainfield, and has since lived here while his son carries on the farm.

Mr. Brown was married March 8, 1862, to Elva Keziah Smith, a native of Peoria, Ill. Their pleasant wedded life has been blessed by the birth of two sons—Ernest Elisha, and Clarence E.; the latter is deceased. Ernest was born February 12, 1863, and is now married, taking Miss Minnie McKanna for a wife, and is well settled in life.

Mr. Brown is universally respected for those fine qualities of head and heart that make him a loyal citizen and a man of unswerving integrity, genial and helpful in his relations with others. He has had a varied experience as a pioneer, as a soldier, and as a practical farmer, and has profited by it, his native ability enabling him to gather together sufficient wealth to allow him to retire while scarcely past the meridian of life and in full possession of his powers. Mr. Brown is a useful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, contributing liberally to its support and to all schemes for the moral and material advancement of the township that meet with his approval. In his politics he is in favor of the Republican platform.



PETER E. HOLMSTROM is numbered among the business men of Joliet where he is engaged in the grocery trade. His business is conducted according to honorable methods and with energy, and is affording the proprietor a comfortable income. The personal character of Mr. Holmstrom is such as to command the respect of all who know him, his intercourse with mankind being cordial and just, his duties as a citizen faithfully performed, and the utmost kindness manifested by him in his domestic relations.

In the Kingdom of Sweden, October 3, 1861, the eyes of our subject first opened to the light of

day. His parents, Peter Johnson and Johannah Holmstrom, lived upon a farm in that land, whence they followed their son to America in 1883. He had crossed the briny deep two years before, coming directly to Joliet near which place he engaged in farming. He soon abandoned that occupation for his present business, with which he had become acquainted in his native land and which he has followed continuously since he resumed it here.

Mr. Holmstrom exercises the elective franchise in behalf of the candidates on the Republican ticket, his judgment concurring in the principles which they are pledged to support. He belongs to the Royal Adelpia Insurance Company. His religious instincts are satisfied with the doctrines and practices of the Swedish Lutheran Church, with which he is identified. He chose as his companion in life Miss Alma Swanson, of a family which came from Sweden to America about eighteen years ago, and winning the consent of the estimable young lady, they were united in marriage July 5, 1885. Their happy union has been blessed by the birth of one child—a charming daughter, Ruby A.



**J** FRANK PATRICK. A simple account of the life and works of a man of honor and integrity is the best monument that can be reared for him by the biographical writer, and therefore no attempt will be made in these pages to give undue praise to the subject of this sketch, whose life speaks for him better than mere words would do. He is the only survivor in a family of five children that comprised the household of Squire Amos and Jane E. (Wells) Patrick, who for many years made their home in Will County.

Squire Patrick was a native of the Empire State, as was also his good wife, and their first home after marriage was in Madison County. About the year 1835 they came west and located in Rushville, Ill., whence they removed to Joliet some two years later, living in the latter place until 1844. They then changed their abode to Washington, D. C., where Mr. Patrick was employed as a clerk in the

Navy Department for six years. At the expiration of that time Joliet again became the home of the family, the father resuming the practice of the law in which he had formerly been engaged. During his first period of residence in this city he had served as Police Magistrate. In 1856 he moved onto a farm in Joliet Township, which has since been his home, with the exception of seven years that were spent by him in Nevada, in the practice of his profession. He is still living and has reached an advanced age. His wife passed away February 6, 1887.

The national capital was the birthplace of our subject, and his natal day May 16, 1847. He grew to manhood in Will County, Ill., most of the time being spent on the farm in Joliet Township. His education was mainly secured in the schools of this county and farming has been his chief occupation in life. He has been a continuous resident of Joliet Township since 1850, with the exception of two years during which he resided in the city. He owns the old homestead of one hundred and thirty-five acres, which he carefully and industriously cultivates, securing thereby the comforts of life and making preparations for the rainy day should it come upon him.

The wife of Mr. Patrick is a native of New York and in her girlhood was known as Miss Catherine Haber. The ceremony which united her to our subject took place in Joliet, June 24, 1869. They have had four children: Damon S., Mary E., Florence J., and Helen J. Damon S. died when two years of age. Mr. Patrick takes quite a deep interest in politics and is a member of the Democratic party. He stands well in the community and their pleasant home on section 32, is hospitably opened to friends and neighbors. The wife passed from earth March 18, 1878.



**G** EORGE H. ZINSER. In the life of this young gentleman is exemplified the results of enterprise and determination, and his fellow-citizens of Manhattan may well be pleased

with the example which he sets to the youth of that city and the adjoining territory. He is well known as a dealer in shelf and heavy hardware, machinery, agricultural implements and oils, and as the only furniture dealer in the place; and he has otherwise become known to many as the present incumbent of the Postmastership.

The parents of our subject were Solomon and Catherine (Tobias) Zinser, both natives of the Keystone State, the one having been born in Germantown and the other at Reading. The father accompanied his parents to Ohio when he was seven years old and when of age began farming in that State. In 1848 he removed to Tazewell County, Ill., buying a farm of eighty acres near Washington and residing there until his death, in 1887, at the age of sixty-eight years. He was a Republican and a member of the Evangelical Church. His wife was the daughter of Peter Tobias, a Pennsylvania farmer who finally came to Illinois and died near Washington in 1876, at the advanced age of eighty years. Mrs. Zinser is still living there and is now sixty-seven years old.

The parental family included fourteen children, eleven of whom are now living: Frank resides in Storm Lake, Iowa; Mary, Mrs. Koker, is on the old homestead in Tazewell County; Elizabeth, Mrs. Ott, in Hoop Pole, Ill.; Mrs. Rebecca Goemmel in Hoop Pole; Mrs. Carrie Smith near Plainfield, this county; the next is our subject; Solomon is a farmer near Washington, Tazewell County; Mrs. Sarah Niemeyer died in that county; Mrs. Amelia Ferner lives in the village of Washington; Daniel is clerking for our subject; Sophia is with her mother.

The subject of this notice was born February 2, 1856, near Washington, and reared amid the surroundings of rural life. His education was obtained in the district schools, which were fortunately conducted according to an excellent system and by persons interested in the youth under their charge. He continued an inmate of the parental household until he had attained his majority when he came to Plainfield, this county, and began working out as a farm laborer. He was not satisfied with the knowledge he had obtained and hoarded his resources in order to attend a higher school. When twenty-two years old he entered the North

western College at Naperville, prosecuting his studies a year, after which he returned to the plow.

For two seasons more young Zinser continued to work on farms by the month, and then, having taken a helpmate and companion, he began farming on his father's place in Tazewell County. For two years he operated the farm, during this time saving all that he could that he might embark in some business enterprise amid the busy haunts of men. With his small earnings he started in the hardware business in Manhattan, February 22, 1883, occupying a rented building. The business rapidly increased and he is now one of the leading merchants in the place. In 1884 he added farm implements to his stock in trade and he now does a large business in that line. In the spring of that year he took in as a partner his brother-in-law, Amos M. Smith, the business being conducted under the title of Zinser & Smith until December, 1885, when our subject bought his partner's interest and continued alone.

A commodious brick edifice, two stories in height and with ground dimensions 24x60 feet, was erected by Mr. Zinser in the fall of 1889, and in one of the largest and finest store-rooms in Manhattan he now carries on a large portion of his business. He carries a full stock of the articles mentioned at the beginning of our sketch, makes a specialty of threshers, binders and mowers, and operates a tin shop in connection with the hardware establishment. The building which he formerly occupied with this department of his business, is now used by him as a furniture repository, his trade in that line having been instituted in the spring of 1890.

At the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Moyer, on February 3, 1881, George H. Zinser and Priscilla S. Moyer were joined in holy wedlock. The bride was born in Naperville, where her father was engaged in farming and whence he removed to Manhattan upon retiring from active life. She is well educated, possesses many domestic accomplishments and womanly virtues, and is devoted to the interests of her husband and children. The group around the fireside is made up of Royce F., Irvin W. and Lloyd H.

Mr. Zinser received the appointment of Post-

master in June, 1889. He is a member of the Village Board of Trustees and was Treasurer two years. He is an ardent Republican who never fails to cast his vote in behalf of the principles of his party. He belongs to the Evangelical Church and was formerly Superintendent of the Sunday-school. There is probably no more popular man in Manhattan than he, and certainly none who present a better example of a self-made man.



**J**OHAN FRANCIS, Supervisor of New Lenox Township, and one of its most substantial citizens, is a native of this township, and was born January 8, 1843. His father is the well-known Abraham Francis, a sketch of whom appears in the history of A. Allen Francis, on another page in this volume. The parental household consisted of eleven children, of whom the record is as follows: Margaret L. is the wife of N. P. Cooper, of New Lenox Township; William D. died in this township when a promising young man of twenty years; Mary A. J. is the wife of John S. Blackstone, of Kankakee, Ill.; A. Allen is a farmer of New Lenox Township; John, our subject, was the next in order of birth; Lydia is the wife of W. S. Nichols, of the same township; Clara M. died when about sixteen months old; Charles is farming in the vicinity of the old homestead; Adeline A. is the wife of Jesse Meharry, of Tolono, Ill., a biography of whom appears in the biographical work of Champaign County; George L. is farming in New Lenox Township; Carrie D. died at the age of about thirteen years.

The subject of this notice was the fifth child of his parents, under whose careful training he develops into manhood, becoming familiar with the various employments of farm life, and pursuing his early studies in the common schools. When approaching manhood he took a course of study in Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College, then, returning to the farm, remained there until twenty-three years old. In the meantime he was married, in New Lenox Township, December 21, 1865, to

Miss H. Maria Bliss. The young couple spent the first few months of their wedded life at the old homestead, and the following year moved upon the farm where they now live.

Mrs. Francis was born at her father's old homestead in New Lenox Township, September 5, 1846, and is a daughter of the late Abel and Lucinda (Blake) Bliss. The former was born in Wilbraham, Mass., February 9, 1810. His wife was born at Springfield, that State, October 11, 1816. They were married May 6, 1840, at Springfield, and soon afterward set out for the West, coming to this county, where the father secured a tract of land on section 18, New Lenox Township. He had visited Illinois about 1837, but could not make his arrangements to locate permanently until three years after. He was successful in his farming operations, built up a goodly estate and died December 25, 1883. The mother is still living at the home farm.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bliss there was born a family of seven children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Mary, married John McGee, and died in Michigan; William S. died at the homestead when only twenty-five years old; H. Maria, Mrs. Francis, was the next in order of birth; Ellen J. died at the interesting age of nineteen years; Josephine died when about twenty-six years old; Abel is farming in New Lenox Township; Alice P. is the wife of F. A. Wetherbee, of Buchanan County, Iowa.

Mrs. Francis received careful parental training, and remained a member of her father's household until her marriage. She is now the mother of four children, the eldest of whom, John E., was graduated from the Joliet High School, and is a successful teacher in New Lenox Township; Howard B. was also graduated from the High School at Joliet and remains under the parental roof. The two younger are Hattie J. and Wilbur A. In 1871, Mr. Francis was elected Supervisor of New Lenox Township and, in 1874, was a second time elected to that office, which he has since held continuously. He was formerly a School Trustee, and since 1881 has held the office of School Treasurer and was also Township Collector two years. He is a Republican, and takes an active part in politics, serving as a member of the County Central





*A. Allen Francis*

Committee and occupies other positions of trust and responsibility.

Aside from these duties, Mr. Francis has followed farming all his life, and for many years has made a specialty of stock-raising, and also operated as a dairyman, shipping milk to Chicago. Both he and his estimable wife are members, in good standing, of the Methodist Church, in which Mr. Francis formerly held the office of Secretary and Treasurer. His farm property embraces five hundred and thirty-six acres of choice land in New Lenox Township, where he has made fine improvements, being supplied with the requisite buildings, and availing himself of the most approved machinery in the cultivation of his land.

Personally, Mr. Francis is looked upon as one of the leading men of his township. He is a man of progressive ideas, liberal and public spirited, and his career is indicative of the esteem and confidence with which he is regarded by his fellow-citizens. His amiable wife has been an efficient helpmate and has contributed her full quota toward sustaining the reputation of the family. They have one of the finest country homes in the township, one which invariably attracts the attention of the passing traveler, who turns a second time to regale his eyes upon its beauty and the air of comfort and plenty which surrounds it.



**A** LLEN FRANCIS. The Francis family is recognized as holding a leading position among the best people of Will County. They made their advent here in the pioneer days, and have contributed in no small degree to the development of its best resources. Their honesty, industry and enterprise proved a stimulus to those around them, while likewise gaining for themselves a competence. They represent a large amount of property, and pay annually into the county treasury a snug sum in the way of taxes. Their homes represent taste and culture, for which they have ever been distinguished, and their names

will go down to posterity among those who have been most honored in Northern Illinois.

In tracing the lineage of the Francis family we find their ancestors were originally from Scotland and England. During the religious persecution of 1696, they were driven from those countries and took refuge in Ireland, where two generations were born. The immediate progenitor of the subject of this sketch was the late Abraham Francis, who was born in County Cavan, Ireland, September 29, 1808. As a lad he was more than ordinarily bright and intelligent, and at an early age evinced an ambition to do something and be somebody in the world. He had come honestly by this trait of character, as in 1816 his father had decided that he could better his fortunes in America, and accordingly sailed for the New World with his little family. They located in Brown County, Ohio, where the father died when Abraham was a youth of fifteen years.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was William Francis, also a native of County Cavan, and a farmer by occupation. His chief characteristics have been his honesty and industry, as his advantages were limited and he had at an early age come in contact with the sterner side of life, and was obliged to make his own way in the world from the time he was able to do so. After his death Abraham and his sisters lived together in Brown County, until the former had reached his majority. The mother had died in Ireland.

Early in the spring of 1831 Abraham Francis left the Buckeye State in company with a young German who had been in his employ, and set out on horseback for Shawnee Mound, Tiptecanoe County, Ind. Thence they started on foot with their knapsacks and axes to explore the region round the headwaters of the Kankakee River. After arriving there they made canoes and floated down the river to Wilmington, where they again took terra firma and followed the Indian trail to this township. This trail led directly by the backyard of the residence now owned by the subject of this sketch.

Having finally chosen his location, Abraham Francis entered one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Government, and settled very

nearly upon the spot where the residence of A. Allen now stands. He also "purchased" another one hundred and sixty acres, which embraced the north half of the east half of section 9, New Lenox Township. Here he built a log cabin and remained until the latter part of June, 1831. Then, having business in Brown County, Ohio, he started for that region, arriving there early in July, for the purpose of finishing up his harvesting and also to take unto himself a wife and helpmate to share his pioneer life in Illinois. The wedding occurred October 4 following, the bride being Miss Mary A. J. Davison, who was born in Adams County, Ohio, March 17, 1815. She was thus less than seventeen years old at the time of her marriage. Her father, William Davison, was a native of Adams County, and the maiden name of his wife was Mary Ingraham. Subsequently they removed to Tippecanoe County, Ind., where they died and were buried in the old McHenry graveyard.

Soon after their marriage Abraham Francis and his bride set out for their new home in Illinois, reaching their destination November 16. Upon their arrival they found things entirely different from what they expected, and in consequence were obliged to send back a part of their stock to Tippecanoe County, Ind., to be wintered. Mr. Francis had engaged a man to put up a large quantity of wild hay, which he failed to do, and thus there was nothing upon which to feed the cattle. The young people began life in true pioneer style; on the day of their arrival at their new home snow began to fall, and they did not see the bare ground again that winter. The winter of 1831-32 will be recalled as that of the great snow, amid which so many perished and which entailed so much hardship upon the settlers.

In June, 1832, the Black Hawk War broke out, and Abraham Francis was one of six men appointed to investigate the report of the Indian outrages over on Fox River. When they found that the reports were true, Mr. Francis with his comrades returned home and removed his family to Shawnee Mound, Ind. This done, he returned and lent a helping hand in the conflict which followed, serving as Second Lieutenant under the command of the well-known Capt. Seissions. After

the war was over Mrs. Francis returned, and their domestic life thereafter flowed on uninterruptedly.

At one time, for three weeks during the war, Mr. Francis never saw the face of a white man, and at the expiration of this time an intimate friend of his who was stationed at Ft. Dearborn, having learned that Mr. Francis was here alone, joined him to keep him company. He arrived early one morning, just at the break of day. Mr. Francis, on account of danger, slept in the field tied to his horse, and hearing footsteps, and supposing an Indian must be near, brought his gun to a level, and was about to fire when he discovered that it was a friend instead of a foe. Rushing up to him, he clasped him in his arms, and the meeting can better be imagined than described. Mr. Francis in later years often related the incident with the tears streaming down his cheeks.

Subsequently, Mr. Francis repaired to Chicago and engaged in teaming for the Government, being there during the cholera epidemic. It is hardly necessary to state that he began in life without means, but by his great industry and perseverance he steadily advanced on the road to prosperity, while at the same time the sterling qualities of his character were the means of bringing around him hosts of friends. He was a great lover of fine stock, and was uniformly prosperous at this industry and also as a tiller of the soil. Upon the coming on of the California gold excitement he was exceedingly desirous of seeking his fortunes on the Pacific Slope, but refrained from making the experiment on account of the entreaties of his wife.

Mr. Francis, however, sent out a company to work a mine on shares. This enterprise was not successful, as the captain of the company died, and none of the men were capable of taking his place. Prior to the organization of Will County, its present territory being then included in Cook County, Mr. Francis held the office of Deputy Sheriff, and occupied other positions of trust and responsibility. He was originally a Democrat in politics, but during the war felt that he had reason to change his views, and wheeled over into the Republican ranks, being a strong supporter of the Union. Both he and his estimable wife were lead-



ing members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Francis departed this life at the old homestead in New Lenox Township, November 28, 1862. The wife and mother survived her husband for nearly twenty-two years, dying January 15, 1884.

To Abraham Francis and his good wife there was born a family of eleven children, five sons and six daughters, eight of whom are living. The eldest, Margaret L., is the wife of Needham P. Cooper, of New Lenox Township, and is believed to have been the first white child born within its limits; William D. died of typhoid pneumonia when a promising young man of twenty-two years; Mary A. J. is the wife of J. S. Blackstone, of Kankakee; A. Allen, our subject, was the next in order of birth; John is represented on another page in this volume; Lydia E. is the wife of William S. Niccolls, of New Lenox Township; Charles is farming in this township; Clara M. died when sixteen months old; Addie A. is the wife of Jesse McHarry, of Tolono, Champaign County; George L. is farming in New Lenox Township; Carrie D. died when an interesting maiden of thirteen years.

The subject of this sketch was the fourth child of the parental household, and was born at the homestead in New Lenox Township, where he now lives, September 7, 1840. He there spent his early years, attending the common schools and assisting in the lighter labors of the farm. He completed his studies in the High School at Joliet, and started out on the journey of life well equipped by nature and training for its sterner duties.

Eight days after attaining his thirtieth year, our subject was joined in wedlock, September 15, 1870, at the bride's home in New Lenox Township, to Miss Lizzie J. Haven. Mr. Francis commenced his wedded life under far different circumstances from that of his honored father, being able to take his bride to a comfortable home—the old farm where they have since lived. There have been born to them five children, namely: Mary L., October 20, 1877; Allen M., May 17, 1881; Daisy H., January 11, 1886; Dwight C., September 21, 1887, and one who was born September 25, 1883, and died unnamed. They have also an adopted daughter, Anna H., born November 19, 1868, and who has been a member of the household since a child

of four years, considered as one of their own family. Their eldest son, Allen M., died of scarlet fever, June 5, 1888, when a little over seven years old.

Mr. Francis, like his honored father, during the latter's later years, is an ardent supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He has signalized himself as one of the most liberal and public-spirited men of his township, and has contributed both time and means for the promotion of its best interests. He was at one time President and Director of the Agricultural and Mechanical Association of Will County, and is at present President and Director of the New Lenox Fire Insurance Company, and Trustee, General Manager and Treasurer of the Centenary Camp Meeting Association, which was organized under the State law, and at present is President of the Farmers' Institute. He has been a School Director in his district, and Superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Sunday-school for a period of twenty years. Both he and his estimable wife are prominently connected with this church, and are numbered among its chief pillars.

Mrs. Lizzie J. (Haven) Francis was born in New Lenox Township, March 31, 1849, and during her childhood attended the common schools of her neighborhood. Later she became a student at Dearborn Seminary in Chicago, where she completed her education. She grew to an attractive womanhood under the home roof, remaining with her parents until becoming the mistress of her own home. Her father, the Hon. Dwight Haven, who is represented elsewhere in this work, came to this county at an early day, and earned for himself a place among its leading citizens. His wife bore the maiden name of Helen L. Savage. She was a sister of the Hon. Amos Savage, of Homer Township, and departed this life at the homestead in New Lenox Township, July 28, 1859. The parental family consisted of six children, five daughters and one son, of whom Mrs. Francis was the eldest born.

It is an interesting fact that four of the Francis brothers and one sister live on the same highway, their farms adjoining, the sister occupying the center one. All the wives of the brothers were,

like themselves, born in New Lenox Township. A. Allen, our subject, is the owner of one thousand acres of land, where he has fine improvements, and in addition to general agriculture makes a specialty of live stock, operating both as a breeder and dealer. In former years he also dealt largely in real estate. The dwelling which he occupies was erected by his honored father, and thus possesses for him a far more than moneyed value.

We direct the reader's attention to a lithographic portrait of Mr. Francis presented in connection with his personal sketch.



**THOMAS B. STANNER.** In a volume of a biographical nature mention should certainly be made of Thomas Stanner, who is a leading and wealthy citizen of DuPage Township. His home farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of fertile land on section 18, upon which are to be seen the buildings, trees, and stock that mark it as the abode of plenty and good judgment. Another tract of eighty acres is under equally good cultivation, and the whole constitutes an estate of which any man might well be proud.

The parents of our subject were Martin D. and Mary (Cain) Stanner, who represented the English and Irish races respectively. They resided in Chicago several years, coming to Will County at quite an early date and making their home in DuPage Township for some time. The father died in Columbus, Ohio, in 1881, and the mother at the home of our subject in DuPage Township, in 1885. They were the parents of nine children of whom those known to survive are: Thomas B.; James, a resident of Huron S. Dak.; and John, whose home is in Joliet.

The gentleman of whom we write, was born in Chicago, November 11, 1837, but reared to manhood in the county that is his present home. He was educated in the public schools of this county with a short attendance in Chicago, and has added to the knowledge obtained in boyhood by much general reading, keeping well posted on topics of interest. With the exception of a few years spent

in the Garden City, he has lived in DuPage Township and is therefore thoroughly identified with its interests and numbered among its most public-spirited citizens.

On February 25, 1863, Mr. Stanner was united in marriage with Miss Anna Dixon, daughter of Martin and Mary Dixon, formerly of Lockport, but now deceased. Mrs. Stanner is a worthy woman who has devoted her life to the care and comfort of her family, and been found ready for neighborly deeds of kindness as occasion demanded. She has borne a large family, of whom the following survive: Fannie, wife of John Matthews, of Joliet; Nellie, Thomas, John, James and Lulu.

The fine estate owned by Mr. Stanner is the best record regarding his enterprise and good management, and the fact that he has been Justice of the Peace for many years shows that he is well respected by his fellow-men. He is independent in politics, aiming to cast his vote for the man of highest character and ability, in whatever party he may be found. He is a communicant of the Roman Catholic Church, and belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters, being enrolled in Lodge No. 65, at Lockport. He also belongs to the DuPage Grange Lodge and to the Vigilance Society of the township. His administration of the affairs that have come before him as a Justice has given him popularity and does credit to himself and constituents. His father and brother Patrick were soldiers in the late war, and his father was also a member of the regular army before the war.



**JAMES BIGGINS.** Among those who within the past decade have joined the "sheeted nations of the dead" leaving behind them a memory that will endure, is the gentleman whose cognomen heads this sketch. He was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, May 11, 1822, and died in DuPage Township, Will County, Ill., June 15, 1881. His life had been marked by no great events or striking experiences, but his days had been spent in such industrious labors and quiet pursuance of duty as to secure the esteem of all who knew

him and cause his demise to be regretted by a large circle.

Mr. Biggins was reared to the age of eighteen years in the land of his birth, receiving a fair education and acquiring some knowledge of the art of tilling the soil to which he devoted his life. So successful were his labors that he left a valuable estate upon which his widow now lives. His only capital was his strong hands and natural abilities, by a zealous use of which he won success. He was a Democrat, although he did not confine his vote to the party candidates but gave it to the man whom he thought best qualified to fill official station. He was a member of the Roman Catholic Church at Lockport.

For nearly half a century prior to his death Mr. Biggins had resided in Will County, to which he came direct from the East on emigrating from the Land of the Shamrock. When called hence he was not only missed by his immediate family, but by his neighbors and many acquaintances throughout the county where he was known as a public-spirited and reliable citizen. To his family he was a good provider, to his companion a kind and loving husband and to his children an affectionate and indulgent father.

The marriage of Mr. Biggins and Miss Catherine Prior was celebrated February 9, 1861. Mrs. Biggins was born in Ireland and is a communicant of the Roman Catholic Church; she is active, capable and kindly, holding a due measure of regard from neighbors and acquaintances. She owns two hundred and forty acres of land under good cultivation and the most of it well improved. Of the six children whom she bore her husband, four are now living. These are Eugene, James, Edward and William; the deceased are George and Mary. The sons belong to the church to which their parents consecrated them in infancy.

James Biggins was accompanied to America by his brother Owen, who also settled in DuPage Township, his farm adjoining that of James. He was an industrious, honest and law-abiding citizen. He departed this life April 19, 1885. It is safe to say that at no period in the history of the Emerald Isle have more diligent, law-abiding and God-fearing men emigrated from

her shores than the brothers James and Owen Biggins. For years to come their memory will be green in the hearts of those who knew and revered them, as is the isle that gave them birth, and their worthy lives may well be emulated by future generations.

ALBERT M. STRONG. In this gentleman we have a representative-born citizen of Will County, a descendant of one of its earliest pioneers. Among the first who located in DuPage Township, the father of our subject soon became prominent here, and for a long period of years was closely identified with the public life of township and county. His son, of whom we write, is still living on the old homestead, the place of his birth, and is pursuing agriculture with marked success.

Albert Strong was born on the 18th of July, 1848, a son of the late Robert and Caroline (Willey) Strong, natives respectively of Vermont and New York. His paternal ancestors are said to have come from England. The father of our subject made the long journey from his early home to this county in the year 1831, and bought land, for which he received a patent from the Government. This was in the northern part of DuPage Township, and when he settled on it it was a wild, uncultivated tract of prairie. There were but few white people there then, the Indians predominating. A short time after his arrival here, he had to go to Chicago for safe quarters on account of the Black Hawk War. Robert Strong first built a log cabin on his land and made it his home a number of years, and subsequently built the present commodious residence that now adorns the old homestead. When he came here he had but very little money, but from that small beginning he acquired quite a valuable estate, his farm consisting of two hundred and forty acres at the time of his death. December 28, 1885, this venerable pioneer passed away from the scene of his usefulness, leaving behind him a memory that will ever be cherished in the hearts of those who knew and

loved him, of a strong, pure, upright life. He not only aided in the upbuilding of the township, but was conspicuous in the management of its public affairs. He served as Supervisor, was Justice of the Peace a number of years, and held other offices of importance. He was a sturdy Republican in his political views. A man of a true religious nature, he was one of the leading members of the Presbyterian Church, serving as an Elder for a number of years, and was a liberal contributor towards building up the present church of that denomination in DuPage.

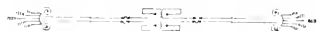
The mother of our subject is still living, aged eighty years, and is a beloved inmate of his household. She is a true Christian, and has for many years been a member of the Presbyterian Church. She is said to be the oldest pioneer in DuPage Township and she has been an eye-witness of the gradual growth of the county from its primitive condition to its present position as a wealthy, highly-improved county. She is the mother of eleven children, three of whom are now living—Mary, Mrs. Ware, of California; Robert, living in Arkansas; and Albert M.

The latter, of whom we write, was reared to the life of a farmer on his birthplace, and has always made his home here. Besides gaining a sound, practical knowledge of farming in all its branches, he was given the advantages of a superior education. He laid the foundations of his education in the public schools of this county and then attended Naperville Academy for two years. After that he became a student at the Western Reserve College, at Hudson, Ohio, and pursued a fine course of study there the ensuing two years. After leaving college, he returned home and entered upon his career as an agriculturist. This farm, lying on section 5, he has kept up to the same high standard of cultivation and improvement that it had attained under his father's care, and by his judicious management he secures a fine income from its fertile acres. It is well provided with neat and substantial buildings, and good farming machinery, and is well stocked with cattle, horses and hogs, of high grades.

On October 21, 1869, Mr. Strong and Miss Ida Wheeler were united in a marriage that has proved

to be a happy one in every way. By their union they have two children—Grace C. and Mattie L. Mrs. Strong is a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of the late George and Lucy Wheeler.

As a man of well balanced, well trained mind, of exceptional tact and excellent business traits, one whose honor and integrity have never been questioned, our subject stands in the front ranks of our best citizens. He possesses strong public spirit and seeks in every way to push forward the highest interests of this, his native township. He has especially interested himself in educational matters, and as School Director for many years has been a prominent factor in securing the excellent privileges enjoyed by the children of the township to-day. In politics he upholds the policy of the Republican party. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Naperville, Ill., and also belongs to the DuPage Grange.



**E**DWARD S. HURLBUT. This gentleman is numbered among the business men of Joliet, having, in 1889, taken charge of the business formerly owned by Mrs. S. F. Savage. He is not a stranger to the citizens of this place, as he has for some time made this his home and been identified in some capacity with its business interests. He is a young gentleman of intelligence, upright character, and the manners of a well-bred gentleman, while his business abilities are such as to give promise of success in the line which he has adopted.

In Rutland County, Vt. David and Mehitabel (Fuller) Hurlbut were married the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Connecticut. They afterward made a home in the Empire State, where Mr. Hurlbut died July 7, 1859. He was a cooper by occupation and a man who was respected as an honest and upright citizen. His family consisted of four children, but two of whom are yet living. These are Mary E. and Edward S., both of whom reside in Joliet. A son, B. F., belonged to Company B, One Hundred and Twelfth New York Infantry, and gave his life in defense of the Union.

receiving his death wound at the battle of Cold Harbor, June 1, 1864; a daughter Kate, the wife of Henry C. Morse, of Corry, Pa., died in October, 1876. The mother breathed her last in Joliet, February 1, 1878, while on a visit to her sister, Mrs. S. F. Savage.

The subject of this brief biographical notice was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., March 25, 1851. He received a good education, and at the age of seventeen years started out in his career as a clerk in a dry-goods store in Jamestown. There he remained about two years, after which he went on the farm for a while. In 1871 he came to Joliet, where for about a year he acted as a clerk for his aunt. He then returned to his native State only to again come to Joliet, where in about a year he was again to be found in the employ of Mrs. Savage. He continued to work for her until 1889, when he assumed the control of the business. Mr. Harbut is a member of the Republican party and a pronounced prohibitionist in sentiment.

**E**NOCH STAFFORD is a fair specimen of the English-American citizen, and a successful farmer who has gained a comfortable estate by zealous and well-directed efforts. He owns and operates a tract of land on section 27, DuPage Township, upon which he has lived since the fall of 1863. At that time he purchased one hundred and ten acres, to which he added by subsequent purchase until his landed estate comprised one hundred and ninety acres. There is some timber land on the farm but the greater part is under good tillage, and all is carefully looked after by the enterprising owner.

Our subject is the youngest son of William and Ann Stafford, natives of "Merrie England," and in Nottinghamshire his own eyes opened to the light on the 23d of February, 1830. He was reared upon a farm, acquiring a knowledge of agriculture but having limited educational privileges. In 1851 he bade adieu to home and friends, determined to seek his fortune in the New World, and going to Liverpool embarked on the sailer "Sea King." The

vessel left the English docks April 27, and, after a lapse of over four weeks, entered New York harbor May 29.

Mr. Stafford came at once to Will County, Ill., where for a time he worked as a farm hand, after which he began as a renter of land. For about ten years he was thus engaged and he then made his first purchase of real estate. He was first married in October, 1851, to Miss Sarah Wheat, who bore him two children, William and Sarah; the latter is now deceased. The wife passed away in 1858 after a brief wedded life of four years.

On the 29th of October, 1859, Mr. Stafford contracted a second matrimonial alliance, taking as his companion Miss Jane Wheat, who is still sharing his fortunes. This union has resulted in the birth of eight sons and daughters, namely: Mary, wife of Jonathan Royce, Benjamin W., George M., John and Arthur, living; and Sarah, Stephen and Charles, deceased. Mrs. Jane Stafford was born in Nottinghamshire, England, April 18, 1813, to Benjamin and Hannah (Hinsliff) Wheat, who came to America when she was about twelve years old. Her parents settled in DuPage Township, Will County, Ill., on the farm now owned by our subject. There they remained until death, the father passing away June 2, 1876, and the mother some time after. Mr. and Mrs. Wheat had four children, the only survivors being Ann, wife of William Chapman, of Ellsworth, Kan., and Mrs. Stafford.

Mr. Stafford is largely independent in his political views, although for a number of years he has voted with the Democratic party. He receives his due measure of respect from those to whom his life and character are known, and his estimable wife has also many friends.

**M**ARTIN F. TILDEN. This name is indissolubly associated with the growth of Custer Township, as that of one of its active pioneer settlers, who has been an important factor in advancing its material, social and religious interests, and it is well that his life record should be placed on these pages. He is

still actively engaged in the management of his farming interests, and his farm on section 39, shows, in its neat comfortable buildings and its well-tilled acres, the care that he has bestowed upon it, and is a fine specimen of a farm evolved from the wild prairies, that is still in the hands of the one who turned the first sod on its fertile acres.

Diah Tilden, the father of our subject was a native of Connecticut, where he carried on the occupation of a farmer. He was a volunteer in the War of 1812. He was married to Irena Flint, also a native of Connecticut, their marriage taking place in Williamstown, Vt., and there they resided till old age overtook them, and then made their home with their children, who lived in Michigan and Illinois. United in life, in death they were not long divided, as she died in 1865 at the age of eighty-three years, and sixteen days afterward he breathed his last, at the age of eighty-four. Three of the eight children born to them are now living.

Their son Martin, who is the subject of this biographical review, was born among the beautiful hills of Vermont, in Williamstown, February 6, 1811. He was the recipient of a good education in the common schools, and when a young man he gave his attention to teaching, and for a while was numbered among the members of the educational profession in his native State. He had begun life on his own account at the age of nineteen, and for a few years worked as a stonemason. After that he gave his attention to farming, and moving into Northern New York fifty years ago, carried on that occupation there nine years. Thinking, however, he could sooner acquire a competence on the rich virgin soil of Illinois, he came to this State in 1819, and located in this township. He was in far circumstances at the time, and investing some money in a tract of wild prairie, on section 39, he immediately began the pioneer task of redeeming it from a state of nature, and it may well be his pride that he has developed that tract of wild prairie into one of the finest farms in this vicinity, and that all its improvements, substantial buildings, well-tilled fields, etc., are the work of his own hand. His farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of land, well adapted to mixed hus-

bandry, and he also owns twelve acres of timber land.

The marriage of Mr. Tilden with Miss Sarah A. Kimball was solemnized in 1836, and for fifty years they traveled life together, sharing its joys and dividing its sorrows, the greatest grief of our subject's wedded life being in her death, which occurred in the month of September, 1881. Mrs. Tilden was a native of Vermont, and a daughter of Samuel and Sarah Kimball, who were natives of Massachusetts and early settlers in Vermont. They were the parents of seven children, all of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Tilden was born November 30, 1802. She was the mother of eight children, two of whom are living; Lora, wife of Harper Boyce, of whom see sketch; Mrs. Sarah Rose, who, with her daughter Mabel, aged fourteen years, lives with her father. In the death of his beloved wife and children our subject has sustained a severe blow, but he does not mourn as one without hope. He firmly believes with the poet that

"If the Power  
Maketh thus his pastures green,  
Maketh thus his quiet waters,  
Out of waste his heavens serene,  
We can trust the mighty Shepherd  
Lo! eth' none He ever led;  
Some where yet a greeting waits us  
On the faces of our dead."

Mr. Tilden has been closely identified with the growth of Custer Township and Will County since his advent here so many years ago, and his name is classed with the best of our pioneers. His career in life has been distinguished by sound wisdom, stability of character and correct business habits, combined with honorable and conscientious views, and his course furnishes a worthy example to the young men who are just starting out in the world to find fortune's favors. He has always taken an intelligent interest in the political issues of the day, and while in his youth he was a Democrat, in more mature years he identified himself with the Republican party. He has always been a temperance man and his sympathies are with the prohibitionists. He has borne an important part in the administration of public affairs;





*A. W. Kelly M.D.*



was Township Clerk in an early day and also Trustee of the Township. He has been Director of this school district for many years. A sincere and earnest Christian, he has always manifested a deep interest in the religious and moral welfare of the community, and as a leading member of the Baptist Church, of which he is a Deacon, he has done much to forward it. He has taken an active part in the Sunday-school as one of its most faithful teachers.



**M**ICHAEL W. KELLY, A. B., M. D. This name represents one of the older and prominent physicians of Joliet, who came to the city in 1880, and located his office at No. 631 Cass Street. Until 1885, he conducted a drug store on Jefferson Street, but upon its destruction by fire in that year, he abandoned the drug business. He was born in County Roscommon, Ireland, and when a lad of ten years came to America with his father, Thomas Kelly, who located with his family at Petersburg, Ill., and there sojourned until his death, about 1873.

Dr. Kelly spent a portion of his boyhood days in the schools of Petersburg, Ill., and subsequently attended the celebrated college at Tentopolis, Effingham County, Ill., under the guidance of the Franciscan Fathers. After leaving that institution he repaired to Atchison, Kan., entering the Benedictine College, from which in due time he was graduated with the degree of A. B. Later he taught school for a number of years, but in the meantime entertained the steady resolve to enter the medical profession as soon as circumstances would permit. He met with success as an instructor and was principal of the village school at Lostant, LaSalle County, Ill., for three years.

Entering upon the study of medicine under the instruction of Prof. Frothingham, of the medical department of Michigan University, Dr. Kelly was graduated from that institution in 1879; then returning to his native country he entered Dublin University, and, after spending a year, returned to America, and entered upon the regular practice

of his profession at Minooka, Grundy County, Ill., where he remained two years. From that place he came to Joliet, where he is now in the enjoyment of a lucrative practice. He is thoroughly devoted to his profession and gives to it his exclusive time and attention, and in the interests of his work, belongs to the Will County Medical Society.

The marriage of Dr. Kelly with Miss Lucy E. Hennesy, was celebrated at the bride's home in Minooka, October 10, 1879. They are now the parents of one child, a son, William F., born August 26, 1881. Dr. Kelly belongs to St. Mary's Catholic Church. Upon becoming a voting citizen, he identified himself with the Democrat party. He carefully avoids the responsibilities of office and with the exception of casting his vote at the regular election, has little to do with outside matters. Not only in the profession, but in social and business circles, Dr. Kelly occupies a high position, possessing the genial qualities and strict integrity which have fully established him in the esteem and confidence of those around him.

Mrs. Lucy E. (Hennesy) Kelly was born December 11, 1813, in Channahon, and was the daughter of John and Lucy (Collins) Hennesy, who were natives of Ireland. Upon coming to this State, they located in Channahon Township, where the father occupied himself as a farmer. During the gold excitement of 1849, he went to California overland, and was there but a short time when he died. The widow moved to Minooka, where she passed the remainder of her life.

A lithographic portrait of Dr. Kelly is presented on another page of the ALBUM, and represents one of the prominent physicians and foremost citizens of Joliet.



**J**OHAN HAYDEN, one of the most wealthy and prominent men in Florence Township, is likewise one of its most enterprising and progressive. He has a valuable farm with first-class improvements, and his surroundings all indicate the exercise of cultured tastes and ample means. The family stands second to none in Will County in point of respectability and ster-

ling worth, and forms a portion of the element which has brought it to its present position, morally, socially and financially.

Mr. Hayden, in his search for a permanent location, wandered a long way from his birthplace, which was in Lincoln County, Me., where he first opened his eyes to the light. His father, John Hayden, was a native of County Carlow, Ireland, where he was reared to man's estate and married Miss Hannah Kinsella, who was born and reared not far from the childhood home of her husband. They lived there until early in 1836, when the father, desirous of bettering his condition, resolved upon seeking the New World. He set out on Easter morning in February, from the Key of Ross, and after a safe voyage landed in Quebec, Canada. A short time later he proceeded to New York State, and from there to Gardner, Me. Subsequently he located in Lincoln County, that State, where he resided until 1850.

Deciding now upon seeking the far west, John Hayden, leaving the Pine Tree State, came to Illinois, and settled in Joliet, of which he was a resident several years. Thence he removed to Spencer, and from there, in 1860, came to this county, locating on the farm, in Florence Township, which is now occupied by his son John. As the result of industry and perseverance, he became well-to-do and the owner of a whole section of land, besides what he gave to his sons. He also owned property in Chicago. He came to Illinois poor in purse, and accumulated his possessions solely by his own industry. He was a well-educated man, and looked carefully after the training of his children, both in school and at home. He was modest and unassuming in disposition, never seeking publicity in any shape. He was reared in the faith of the Catholic Church, to which he loyally adhered, and after becoming a voting citizen in America, identified himself with the Democratic party. He departed this life at the homestead April 5, 1889, aged seventy-seven years. The mother survived her husband less than a year, her death taking place February 28, 1890, when she was seventy-five years old.

To John Hayden, Sr., and his good wife there was born a family of nine children, who were

named respectively: Mary, Daniel, Catherine, Bridget, Thomas, John, Hannah, Burnett and Anna S. Bridget, Burnett and Anna S. are deceased; Mary is married and a resident of Maine. The other children are living in this State. John, our subject was a child of four years when his parents came to this county, and he spent his boyhood and youth after the manner of most farmers' sons, becoming familiar with the arts of plowing, sowing and reaping, and choosing this for his vocation in life. He is considerably interested in live stock, and has four hundred and eighty acres of land in Florence Township, comprising a part of sections 12, 2, 11 and 10. The residence is on the first mentioned. Besides this he has eighty acres on section 23, Reed Township.

Mr. Hayden is raising some fine blooded horses of Norman and trotting stock, and is able to exhibit some of the choicest animals in this part of Illinois. The male members of the Hayden family have been distinguished for generations for their love of the equine race, and are particularly fond of fast horses. They obtained a fine reputation as breeders, and have furnished many of the racers who have won distinction on the popular tracks of the country. Mr. Hayden bids fair to be in no wise behind his progenitors in this respect. He is a keen judge of the fine points of horsemesh, and evidently possesses a natural adaptation for this business.

Although not meddling very much in politics, Mr. Hayden keeps himself thoroughly posted in regard to current events, and gives his unqualified support to the Democratic party. He has held the office of Road Commissioner and served as Treasurer of Florence Township for the last eleven years. In religious matters he adheres to the Catholic faith of his forefathers, and his wife and family are in full sympathy with him in this respect.

Miss Bridget Bergan, of Manhattan, this county, was wedded to our subject February 24, 1876. Mrs. Hayden was born in Manhattan, March 17, 1852, and is a daughter of Martin and Hester (Welch) Bergan, who were natives of County Kilkenny, Ireland. The parents were reared and married in their native county, and emigrated to

America about 1816. They first settled in Peoria, but the following year took up their residence in Manhattan, where they still live. Of this union there have been born five children, viz.: John F., Daniel, William, Martin G. and Anna, all of whom are living and form an exceedingly bright and interesting group, receiving careful parental training and the older ones pursuing their studies in the common schools.



**D**ANIEL K. GISE, senior member of the firm of D. K. Gise & Co., stands at the head of one of the important manufacturing interests of Joliet, operating a factory which turns out door hinges and other articles in this line. The office occupies No. 111, St. Louis Street, while the residence of Mr. Gise is located at No. 201, Sherman Street, Mr. Gise has been a resident of this county since 1868, and for the space of a dozen years has been associated with its leading interests.

A native of Lebanon County, Pa., Mr. Gise was born March 3, 1843, and is the son of David B. Gise, a native of Newmanstown, that State. The latter was reared to manhood in his native State, and was there married to Miss Sarah Kerlin. The wife was of English descent, her progenitors settling in Pennsylvania at an early day. Both families were of eminent respectability and the male members largely millers by trade.

The parents of our subject, when he was an infant of three months, removed to Center County, Pa., where the father followed milling and farming and where the mother died. In 1867, after the death of his wife, David Gise emigrated to Illinois with his family, settling south of Manhattan, in Wilson Township, this county, where he now lives. Daniel K. was reared to mature years in Center County, Pa., and after reaching manhood engaged in mercantile pursuits until coming to this county. He then purchased land in Manhattan Township, which he brought to a good state of cultivation, erecting thereon suitable farm buildings and where he resided until about 1872; then removing to Joliet he purchased a stock of goods and established

himself on Washington Street, where he continued to do business until 1882. That year he sold out and, after an interval of rest, became interested in live stock in the West, which engaged his attention for a time, and he then established his present business which he has conducted about five years. He still retains possession of his farm property in Manhattan Township. Gise & Co. sell the product of their manufactory principally to the jobbing and retail trade, having men on the road at all times.

Mr. Gise was married, February 10, 1870, in Millin County, Pa., to Miss Addie A. Kearns who was born in that county August 27, 1847. The parents of Mrs. Gise were Thomas and Mary (Settle) Kearns, natives of Pennsylvania and now deceased. Four children have been born to our subject and his good wife, these bearing the names respectively, of Ward K., Lloyd P., Buelah A. and Edith S. Mrs. Gise is a member in good standing of the Central Presbyterian Church. Mr. Gise gives his political support to the Democratic party but meddles very little with public affairs, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests and his family.



**C**ORNELIUS J. McCLURE. In traveling about Will County one is struck by the appearance of neatness and order which many of its homes bear and the evidences of thrift and enterprise which are to be seen on every hand. These features are noticeable in contemplating the estate occupied by the above-named gentleman, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres, on section 19, Manhattan Township. It is evident that the manager of this place is successfully pursuing his avocation, which is plainly seen to be that of grain and stock-raising. Holstein cattle and Poland-China swine of good grades graze over the broad acres, and some twenty head of high-grade draft horses are also visible. Investigation reveals the fact that Mr. McClure has recently suffered the loss by fire of a large barn, 10x70 feet, and other buildings, but that substantial structures will soon replace the temporary shelter which he

has been compelled to use for a time. The inquirer would also learn that he operates two hundred and forty acres of land, and rents an equal amount, and that his entire landed estate is tillable, well tiled, fenced and otherwise improved. It is divided into three improved places, one comprising a quarter of section 25, Jackson Township, and another, eighty acres on section 30, Manhattan Township, watered by Mud Creek.

The McClure family is of Scotch lineage, and the branch to which our subject belongs was represented in the third generation previous to his time by a McClure who was born near New York City, and was an early settler in St. Albans, Vt. A brother of this gentleman belonged to the Revolutionary army, was taken prisoner and confined in a prison ship, his place of confinement being so loathsome that he became crazy. The grandfather of our subject was James McClure, born in Franklin County, Vt., in 1777, and the owner of a farm which he operated until his death. The next in the paternal line of descent was David, who was born near St. Albans, Franklin County, Vt., and followed in his father's footsteps, becoming a farmer.

David McClure cleared a farm one-half mile from Lake Champlain, and there raised large flocks of sheep and herds of other stock. In the fall of 1851 he sold his Eastern property, and coming to Will County, Ill., purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw land in Wilmington Township, and immediately set about its improvement. After having seen his labors crowned with success, in 1861 he removed to Green Garden Township, purchasing an equal amount there, upon which he remained but eighteen months. He then sold, and in the fall of 1865 became a resident of Manhattan Township. He purchased eighty acres of land on section 30, together with one hundred and sixty acres on section 25, Jackson Township, and building upon the former, operated the entire acreage until 1880, when he retired to Manhattan. He spent the remainder of his life in the repose which his former industry merited, breathing his last in 1885, at the age of seventy-six years. He was a staunch member of the Republican party. In earlier years he belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church, but later transferred his membership to

the United Brethren Church, in both societies assisting to upbuild the cause of Christianity by joining the efforts to erect a house of worship, and in all else which the organizations undertook.

The wife of David McClure was Charlotte Ayers, likewise a native of Franklin County, Vt., and a daughter of Benjamin Ayers, who was born and spent his earlier years in Massachusetts. On removing from his native State, Mr. Ayers continued his agricultural work in Enosburg Township, in the county wherein his daughter opened her eyes to the light of day. That worthy lady died in 1886, at the age of fifty-eight years. She had borne her husband three children, of whom our subject is the first-born. The others are Judson L., now living in Manhattan Village, and Orrin, who died when but three years old.

The natal day of Cornelius J. McClure was May 13, 1850, and his birthplace the old McClure home, on the banks of Lake Champlain, not far from St. Albans, Vt. He has but slight recollections of his native place, as he accompanied his parents to this county early in his fifth year. They traveled by rail to Joliet, and the childhood of our subject was spent amid the primitive surroundings incident to the cultivation and development of new land. His remembrance of the wildness of the prairie includes the charming sight of a flock of eighteen deer. He early learned to bear a share in the work of the farm, and during the war, when older and stronger hands were scarce, was counted as one on the harvest field and elsewhere.

Young McClure was but fourteen years old when the family removed from Wilmington to Green Garden Township, and fifteen when they came to Manhattan Township. He had enjoyed the advantages of the district schools whenever it was possible for him to attend them, and when nineteen, was given the privilege of attending Jennings Seminary, at Aurora, one term. He remained with his father until he became of age, and in 1872 rented a tract of his father, and began his personal efforts as a farmer. In the spring of 1873 he went West by rail to learn something of the country beyond the Mississippi. He became a brakeman on the Kansas Pacific Railroad, between Brookville, Ft. Wallace and Denver, and later went

to Nevada, where he filled a similar position on the Central Pacific Railroad, between Toama and Winnemucka. He returned to his home in the spring of 1874, by way of San Francisco and Panama, sailing from the Isthmus to New York on the "Acapulco," and consuming seven weeks in the homeward journey.

Resuming work on his father's farm, Mr. McClure in a few months became the purchaser of eighty acres on section 30, the operation of which he added to that of some of the homestead, continuing it until 1879. In the meantime, on December 23, 1875, he had been joined in wedlock to Miss Emily Morgan, and at the date before named they located on property belonging to her, which has since been their home. This is the valuable estate on section 19, in addition to which Mr. McClure operates a part of section 30. After the death of his father he bought his brother's interest in the parental homestead, bringing up his landed estate to four hundred and eighty acres.

Mrs. McClure was born in Neansay Township, Kendall County, Ill., where her father, Moses Morgan, had settled in 1850. Two years later he removed to the vicinity of Joliet, and having prosecuted successfully his occupation of tilling the soil, eventually became the owner of eleven hundred acres of land. After his death, in 1877, his his daughter's share of the estate was overseen by her husband. Mrs. McClure was educated at Joliet, and it would be hard to find a lady of more pleasing characteristics and genuine worth. Her gracious hospitality and mental culture make her home a favorite gathering place for friends, while to her husband and children it is the dearest spot on earth. The interesting group about the fireside includes six sons and daughters, namely: Alice, Mark, Ara, Irvin, Abbie and Wayne; while two children have gone before.

Not only has the enterprise of Mr. McClure secured him a good estate and all the comforts of life, but he has gained a still better reward for his meritorious life in the good-will of numerous friends and an honorable reputation. He is now serving his third term as Township School Trustee, and he was Village Trustee for one year, his home having been included in the corporation when the

charter was first given, but later set off. He belongs to the Grange at Manhattan, having the station of Overseer. He gives his ballot to the candidates of the Republican party, and is an earnest advocate of temperance.

EDWARD D. CONLEY, editor and proprietor of the Joliet *Signal*, is conducting a journal which under his management has attained no small degree of influence in this part of the State. He is a native of the city of Toronto, Canada, and was born August 11, 1814. He was but an infant when his parents removed to Buffalo, N. Y., and in 1849, to Wilmington, this State, where Edward was reared to mature years, and which remained his home until 1889.

In the meantime, during the progress of the Civil War and when a youth of nineteen years, Mr. Conley entered the Union service, enlisting in Company A, Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the James. He participated in many of the important battles which followed, including several engagements in front of Richmond and Petersburg, remaining in the service until December, 1865, when he received an honorable discharge on the mustering out of his regiment. In the meantime he had the satisfaction of witnessing the surrender of Lee at Appomattox and he saw many of the prominent men who were conspicuous at that time, viz.: Jefferson Davis, President Lincoln, Gen. Grant, Secretary Stanton, Gen. Sheridan and others. He discharged his duties faithfully as a soldier and at the close of the war returned home.

After a brief term spent in school, Mr. Conley engaged in the furniture business one year at Wilmington, and subsequently filled various municipal and township offices. In 1871, he became interested in journalism and purchased the Wilmington *Advertiser*, which he still owns and controls. In December, 1886, he purchased a half interest in the Joliet *Signal*, and three years later became sole proprietor. In 1889, he removed to the city and put up a residence at the intersection of Western

and Buell Avenues, where he now resides. For many years he has been the correspondent of the *Chicago Times* and  *Herald*, sending in the local news from Wilmington, Braidwood and vicinity. About April, 1879, he established the *Braidwood Reporter*, which he published six years. He belongs to Bowen Post, No. 17, G. A. R., at Wilmington.

While a resident of Wilmington, Mr. Conley was married December 28, 1874, to Miss Mary A. O'Connell. This lady was born in 1846, in Ireland, and is the daughter of Mrs. Hannah Burke, now residing near Braidwood. There have been born of this union a son and daughter: Edward J., and May. Mr. Conley was reared in the Catholic faith and is a member in good standing of St. Patrick's Church.

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**A**NTHONY G. TAYLOR is profitably conducting farming and stock-raising operations in Custer Township, where he has a well appointed farm on section 23, and here he and his family have an attractive home. Mr. Taylor's claims to representation in this biographical work are not wholly as a farmer, however, but in part as a noble type of the veterans of the late Civil War, whom we delight to honor, and who, since the Rebellion closed have done so much to develop the fine resources of this county. Our subject has an enviable military record, as an able and trustworthy soldier, who did his share of hard fighting that kept the Stars and Stripes floating over a free and undivided country, and by his valor he received deserved promotion to the official rank of Second Lieutenant.

Hiram Taylor, the father of our subject was a native of Rutland County, Vt., born 1806, and was there reared to the life of a farmer. His mother, whose maiden name was Eliza M. Weller, was born in the State of New York in the month of June, 1810. In 1826 she was married in the place of her nativity to Hiram Taylor, and they spent the early years of their wedded life in that State. In 1833, they came to Wilf County and settled on the

farm in this township now owned by Martin Tanner. There they resided for four years, and then removed to the farm now occupied by our subject. Here they made their permanent home and here the father of our subject died in 1877. His mother is still living at the venerable age of eighty years and is a beloved member of his household. Eleven children were born of her married life, two of whom died in the first four years of their existence and five of the family are now living and reside in this township.

The gentleman of whom we write was born September 16, 1840, in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. His education was obtained partly in his native State and partly in Illinois in the common schools. He has always been at home, never having worked away, excepting for half a month. At the breaking out of the war he was engaged on his father's farm, and watched with ardent interest the progress of the Rebellion. August 5, 1861, he entered the army as a member of Company A, Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry. He took part in the following campaigns: Shenandoah Valley under Gen. Shields; was with Burnside in his Fredericksburg campaign; was then under Gen. Banks at Suffolk, Va.; after that was with McClellan on the James River and subsequently was at Newburn, N. C.; and later at South Carolina he fought under Gen. Gilmore. There he and his comrades took part in the siege of Fts. Wagner and Gregg and were of great assistance in the capture of those strongholds. His term of enlistment having expired he re-enlisted after a furlough of thirty days, returned to Washington, went with Gen. Butler to Bermuda Hundred, Va., and was active in the James River campaign. He remained with Butler during the siege of Richmond and in the spring of 1865, was transferred to Gen. Terry's command near Petersburg, and the brigade of which he was a member was the first to intercept Lee. He fought in the following battles: Alpine Station, Md.; first battle of Winchester, Va., and was in a number of severe skirmishes taking an active part in the one at Black Water, Va. The summer of 1863 was spent in the siege of Fts. Wagner and Gregg on Morris Island, S. C. Then occurred Butler's march upon Richmond and the retreat, and Mr. Taylor was in

all the battles in which his corps was engaged until the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. He served as a private until 1864, but his valor, trustworthiness and efficiency had commended him to the notice of his commanders and in that year he was promoted to the position of Corporal and then to be Orderly Sergeant and in the same year received his commission of Second Lieutenant. He was honorably discharged December 16, 1865, at Springfield, Ill.

After his long and exciting experience of life on the southern battlefields, our subject resumed the quiet occupation which he had dropped to take up arms in defense of his country's honor. Coming back to the old homestead, where so many years of his life had been passed, he actively entered upon the duties of cultivating the soil, and rearing stock. He has one hundred and sixty acres of land, that under his able management is in a superior condition. Its neat buildings, well tilled fields and general air of thrift marking it as one of the most desirable estates in this vicinity. Here he and his wife have established a home that is the center of comfort and true hospitality, as they take pride and pleasure in making it a happy abode for their children.

December 6, 1868, Mr. Taylor was united in marriage to Mrs. Eliza Stewart *nee* Hicks, a soldier's widow and a daughter of Joseph and Hannah Hicks. Her father is a retired farmer living in Plainfield. By this marriage our subject and wife have five children: Venie is the wife of Edward Yates of this township, and they have one child; Belle is the wife of Henry Linton of Custer Park; Charles, Eugene and Hiram.

Our subject has been closely identified with the growth and material welfare of Custer Township, and so of Will County, since his boyhood, and is well-known as a man of correct habits and high principles, who possesses the business tact and practical ability requisite to give him an assured place among those members of the farming community who have pursued their calling to a successful issue. His position as a citizen of Custer Township, is of the best, and he has given it good service as a public official, always discharging his duty with conscientious fidelity. He has been Director of this

district (No. 1). He occupies an important position as Treasurer of the Board of Road Commissioners, and has just been appointed Enumerator of Census by the United States Government, for Custer Township. His public and private duties are so numerous that he has just been obliged to resign the office of Justice of the Peace. In commemoration of the part which he took in the war he is now a member of Bowen Post, G. A. R. of Wilmington. He always votes the Republican ticket in National politics.



**C**ARL ARBEITER, a highly respected resident of Plainfield Township, where he is profitably engaged in farming and stock-raising, may be denominated one of the pioneers of this portion of Will County, although not one of its earliest settlers, as in improving his present valuable farm, he has greatly aided in its development and has materially added to its wealth.

Mr. Arbeiter was born in Germany, July 25, 1827, in the town of Kappits Ki, Grottkau, Ober-Schlesien. Henry Arbeiter, his father, was born in the same village, where his father, of the same name as himself, carried on farming and spent the whole of his life. The father of our subject was bred to agricultural pursuits and according to the laws of his native land, as soon as old enough, served in the army in the years 1813-14-15, and fought against Napoleon. After returning to private life he resumed farming and was thus engaged until his death in his native village in 1857. He was twice married and reared nine children, only two of whom ever came to America, our subject and his brother William, the latter now a resident of California.

He of whom we write received excellent educational advantages in the land of his birth, attending school until he was fourteen years of age. He then commenced to work on a farm and afterwards learned the trade of a brick and plaster mason, serving an apprenticeship, and then doing journey work in different parts of Germany. He was not satisfied with his prospects in Germany and thinking that he could do better in America, he sailed for this country in 1851, embarking at Bremen on the

ship "Adler" and landing at Quebec on the 17th of June, after a voyage of seventy-two days. He spent four weeks in that city and then came to the States and making his way to Chicago resided there one year. In 1855 he came to Will County, and engaged himself to work on a farm at \$15 a month, and was thus employed three years. He subsequently rented the farm that he now owns and soon bought the place which comprised eighty acres of land. He has done so well at his calling, that he has bought other land and now has two hundred and forty acres, divided into two farms that are classed among the best in the place, both being under good improvement and excellent tillage and provided with suitable buildings.

In 1860, Mr. Arbeiter, by his marriage with Miss Catherina Siller, a native of Germany, secured a wife who has been to him a faithful helpmate, actively co-operating with him in his work, and by her skillful management with her household affairs contributing to their prosperity. Mr. and Mrs. Arbeiter have five children, four of whom are living, as follows: Joseph, Charles, George and Mary. The latter is now the wife of Christian Larsen and resides in Chicago.

For thirty-five years Mr. Arbeiter has been a resident of this county, and in that time has built up for himself a solid and enduring reputation as a man of good character, whose dealings with others are always in strict accord with the laws of justice and honor. He is an active, wide awake man, possessing keen foresight, and is quick to take advantage of any opportunity to improve his finances.



**G**EORGE WENDLING is a good representative of German-American citizenship and the thrifty ways which make the Germans so successful in the pursuit of agriculture. He owns and occupies an excellent farm in Washington Township, the property comprising one hundred and twenty acres on section 19, and being well-improved and intelligently managed.

Mr. Wendling was born in Reichen, Alsace, which at the date of his birth, May 14, 1831, belonged

to France, but is now included in the territory of the Germanic Confederation. His parents, George and Catherine (Wagner) Wendling, were born and reared in the same Province, were of German descent and usually spoke that language. The father was a linen-weaver. He died in his native country March 14, 1851, at the age of sixty-three years. His companion survived and in February, 1852, leaving two children in Germany, came with the other six to America. The party set sail from Havre, France, and landed in New York City after a voyage of three months. They went at once to Buffalo, where the mother died about a year later. She was then about sixty years old. She and her husband were lifelong members of the Evangelical Church.

The subject of this sketch was educated in his native Province in both German and French, and grew to maturity in the land of his birth. He accompanied his mother to the United States and spent a few months in Buffalo, N. Y., whence he came to Illinois in 1853. At Montgomery he learned the trade of a cooper and followed the same in Chicago for five years. In 1866, he removed from the Garden City to Will County, and selecting the location upon which he yet resides, turned his attention to the pursuit of agriculture and to improving the farm which he had purchased. He has succeeded in his endeavors to make a comfortable home, and the present condition of the land which he occupies and its various improvements are due to his personal efforts.

The marriage of Mr. Wendling and Miss Catherine Wagner took place in Aurora and has been blessed by the birth of nine children. They are all living, and Charles, Laura, Louisa, Ella, Mary and Lena yet reside under the parental roof. John, the first born, married Lena Black, and they reside upon a farm in Kearney County, Neb. The second child, Ernst, who is also farming in Nebraska, married Louisa Reberg. Sophia is the wife of Henry Razer, who operates a farm in Monee Township, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Wendling belong to the Evangelical Church and endeavor to walk consistently with their profession. Mr. Wendling is a sound Republican.

Mr. Wendling was born in Baden, Germany,







*Yours truly,  
Dwight Haven*



*Lizzie C. Haven*



August 18, 1836, and with her sister Laura accompanied her parents to America some years later. Jacob and Eva (Brown) Wagner had been born in Baden and resided there until 1852. They left Antwerp in September on the sailing vessel "Patrick" with the intention of making a home in America. They did not reach New York City until May, 1853, having been delayed in crossing the ocean by storms and three times grounded on sand bars. On each occasion several weeks passed before the vessel could be moved and they had to lay on the English coast five weeks undergoing repairs. They were not far from the castle of Queen Victoria, who furnished the emigrants with food while on shore and also gave them supplies for the continuation of their voyage. When they finally reached America Mr. Wagner and his family at once came West to Illinois, settling in Lombard, DuPage County. After their children were married the parents came to Will County and lived with their daughter, Mrs. Wendling, until their death. The mother died in 1871 at the age of seventy-two years, and the father in 1881, aged eighty-one. Both were members of the Evangelical Church.



**HON. DWIGHT HAVEN.** A great poet has said, "The evil that men do lives after them. The good is oft interred with their bones." Be it our task to record the honorable careers of those who so order their lives as to exert a beneficial influence on the society in which they move, assist in the grand work of uplifting humanity to heights before unknown

"And, departing, leave behind them  
Footsteps on the sands of time—  
Footsteps that perhaps another  
Sailing o'er Life's solemn main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,  
Seeing, may take heart again."

The immediate progenitor of the Hon. Dwight Haven, of New Lenox Township, was Samuel Haven, who was born in Chesterfield, N. H., July 14, 1799. In Sheridan, Chautauqua County, N. Y., January 11, 1821, he married Hepzibah M. Denny.

This noble woman was born in Greenville, Greene County, N. Y., May 29, 1802, and died in Will County, Ill., August 11, 1860. For several years after their marriage, Samuel Haven and wife lived in Chautauqua County, and during that period four children were born to them. In September, 1831, they removed to Illinois and settled in New Lenox Township, Will County, being numbered among the pioneers of that locality. Here Mr. Haven gave his chief attention to farming, resting from his labors on March 12, 1866, when he crossed the River of Death. He was an upright and conscientious man, living as he believed right in the sight of God, regardless of the opinions of men. A strong Abolitionist, he was indicted for assisting negroes in their flight to Canada. He is entitled to the honor of organizing the first temperance society in Sheridan, N. Y., which was also one of the first in the Empire State, dating from 1826. He and his wife belonged to the Congregational Church, of which he was a Deacon many years.

The family of the honored couple comprised eight sons and daughters, the gentleman with whose name we introduce this sketch being the first-born. Carlos was serving his second term as State's Attorney for Cook County when death took him from among his fellow-men; Samuel Rush died in New Lenox Township, this county, May 4, 1890; Emily M. became the wife of William B. Cleveland, and died in Frankfort Township, October 20, 1855; Amanda Cordelia is the widow of James Goodspeed, of Joliet; Helen M. died July 28, 1839; Alvan S. died in New Lenox Township, November 29, 1878; Helen E. is the wife of William P. Kimball, of Chicago.

The Hon. Dwight Haven was born in Sheridan, Chautauqua County, N. Y., December 11, 1821. He came to the Prairie State in an emigrant wagon with his father, and lived with him until his marriage. During this period he toiled, studied and enjoyed the recreations in which farmer lads generally participate, and shared in some of his father's labors of love toward humanity, helping him in work on the "Underground Railway," and in other ways becoming more of a companion than many sons. He adopted the pursuit of agriculture

as his life work, from which he has now retired, although he still occupies his pleasant rural home. It consists of one hundred and sixty-five acres, bearing the various improvements which it would be expected that a man of his ability and progressive spirit would make, the house being particularly attractive and comfortable.

In Homer Township, this county, on November 3, 1847, the interesting ceremony was performed which gave to Mr. Haven a companion and helpmate. The lady of his choice was Helen L., daughter of the late Deacon Levi Savage. She was born in New York, November 12, 1825, and died in New Lenox, July 28, 1859. The union was blessed by the birth of six children, of whom we note the following: Lizzie J. is the wife of A. Allen Francis, of New Lenox; Mary E. is the wife of Charles Francis; Helen L. is the wife of Thomas Ferguson; Emma J. is the wife of Gilbert Van Duser, of Kansas; a pair of twins died in infancy.

Mr. Haven, in Chicago, December 26, 1861, was a second time married. His bride on this occasion was Miss Elizabeth Craig, who was born in Dublin, Ireland, and came to America when eight years old. She presides over the home of which she is one of the chief attractions, and in whatever circle she is placed her intelligence, tact and amiable character give her prominence. She bore her husband five children—Dwight C., Samuel R., Edward, Edith A. and Bertha A. Edward died November 8, 1880, when eleven years old.

For many years the Hon. Mr. Haven has been identified with public affairs in this county, and since 1851 he has held a commission under every Governor of the State. He has been Township Supervisor several terms, and for upwards of thirty-six years has held the office of Justice of the Peace. He has taken an active interest in educational affairs, exerting a wide influence in behalf of the advancement of the schools, and for four years giving especial attention to elevating the standard of the office of County Superintendent, to which he was elected in 1865. It would naturally be supposed that a man reared under the influences which surrounded his boyhood, would be deeply interested in political affairs, and such is the case. He has borne a prominent part in the work of the

Republican party, to which he has belonged since its organization. In the fall of 1886, he was elected to the Thirty-fifth General Assembly, and served one term with honor to himself and his constituents. Since the death of his brother, Samuel Rush Haven, he has had charge of the business of the latter, and the settlement of his affairs. He has been blessed with a sufficient amount of this world's goods to enable him to gratify all reasonable tastes and desires, and to assist with his means as well as his personal influence in various good works. Lithographic portraits of Mr. Haven and his wife appear elsewhere in this work, and it is needless to say that they are well and favorably known, and have many warm personal friends, the circle extending over a wide extent of territory.

**HENRY F. PIEPENBRINK**, Secretary and Treasurer of the Frederick Selbring Brewing Company, is widely and favorably known among the business men of Joliet, where he has spent the last twenty years. He is a native of this county and was born December 8, 1849, to John O. and Sophia (Willie) Piepenbrink, who were natives of Germany.

The parents of our subject emigrated to America in 1848 and settled at Beebe Grove in the south-eastern part of this county where the father in due time became the owner of five hundred acres of choice land. He is still living and engaged in agricultural pursuits; the mother also remains the companion of her husband and both are now quite well advanced in years. There was born to them a family of eight children, all of whom are living and residents of this county. They were named respectively: Otto, Henry F., Conrad, William, John, Philip, Ellen and Sophia. Ellen is the wife of Henry Sporleder, and Sophia married John Dierson. All with the exception of Henry F. are residents of Crete Township.

The subject of this notice remained under the parental roof until a youth of seventeen years. Then starting out for himself went to Concordia College, Ft. Wayne, Ind., where he established

himself and remained three years. Later for a period of six years, he was in the office of the Circuit Clerk at Joliet, and subsequently served as Deputy Sheriff of Will County, a year and three months. At the expiration of this time he had evinced such an understanding of the duties connected therewith that he was appointed Sheriff. This was followed by his regular election on the Republican ticket in 1878, and he was re-elected in 1880. At the expiration of his second term he resolved to quit politics and on the 8th of January, 1883, at the organization of the company with which he is now connected, he was elected Secretary and Treasurer, in which capacities he has since served.

In the meantime Mr. Piepenbrink looked after his own personal interests in another direction, securing to himself for a wife and helpmate, Miss Margaretha, daughter of Frederick Schring, to whom he was wedded February 25, 1879. Mr. Schring is one of the prominent citizens of Joliet and is duly represented on another page in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Piepenbrink are the proud parents of two bright children, a son and daughter, Louis and Linda. They belong to the German Lutheran Church and have contributed liberally toward its support. Mr. Piepenbrink is looked upon as one of the leading business men of Joliet and has been no unimportant factor in advancing its material interests.



**J**AMES L. O'DONNELL, Attorney-at-Law and junior member of the firm of Haley & O'Donnell has, in company with his partner, a well-equipped office in the Barber Building and enjoys a liberal patronage among the people who have learned to rely upon him as an able attorney, possessing honesty and sound judgment. He located in the city in 1871, and has followed his practice continually since.

A native of LaSalle County, Ill., the subject of this notice was born August 10, 1819, and is the son of William O'Donnell, a native of County Tipperary, Ireland. The latter emigrated to Amer-

ica when a young man and located in LaSalle County, Ill., where in 1847 he was married to Miss Johanna Caton. He followed agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in April, 1889, when he was seventy three years old. Upon becoming a voting citizen he identified himself with the Democratic party and he was a member in good standing of the Catholic Church. He was a man of quiet habits, taking no part in political affairs, being a successful and wealthy farmer, and enjoying the esteem of his neighbors. The wife and mother is still living, making her home in La Salle County, Ill., and of the twelve children born to her and her husband, nine are still living.

Mr. O'Donnell attended the district schools of his native county during his younger years and later repairing to Niagara County, N. Y., became a student of St. Mary's University. At the end of the course he began reading law with Glover, Cook & Campbell of Ottawa, and later he was with Mayo & Widner. He was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court at Springfield, Ill., in January, 1871, and in April came to this county, locating at Bradwood, where he remained until July. The present partnership was formed July 29, that same year and has continued uninterruptedly until the present time. It comprises one of the prominent law firms of Joliet, and stands second to none in point of professional ability as well as citizenship.

Mr. O'Donnell was married in September, 1877, to Miss Costelle E. Edgerly, and of this union there have been born three children: Edith, Louise and Francis. Mrs. O'Donnell was born in Penobscot County, Me., and was the daughter of Lorrin and Sarah Edgerly, who were natives of Maine. Mr. Edgerly came to Joliet in 1876 and is still a resident of the city; the wife and mother is living. Mr. O'Donnell votes the straight Democratic ticket, and in 1880 was the nominee of his party for State's Attorney, making a good race. He takes an active interest in the breeding of trotting and saddle horses, the use of which constitutes his favorite recreation.

Mr. O'Donnell is the Attorney of the Mutual Loan & Building Association, in which he is also a stockholder and Director. The firm also are Attorneys for the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Rail-

road Company and Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railroad Company. At present they are also acting attorneys for the Wabash Road and for the First National Bank of Grundy County.



**R**EV. CHRISTIAN SANS, for many years pastor of the First German Evangelical Lutheran Church, of Joliet, is a man of note in the religious circles of this section, and is fulfilling the duties of his high position in an able and conscientious manner. He took up his residence in the city in 1860, and has become widely and favorably known to a large portion of its people. He is possessed of a thorough education, and nature has endowed him with talents of a more than ordinary degree.

The subject of this notice was born in the Kingdom of Westphalia, Prussia, June 9, 1813, and lived there until a man of twenty-eight years. He received his literary and theological education at various institutions in his native province, completing them at the age mentioned, and soon thereafter set sail for America. Upon his arrival here he set about learning the English language, and in a comparatively short time learned to speak fluently and write correctly.

The first charge of Mr. Sans was in New Orleans, La., where, in addition to fulfilling the duties of pastor, he was inspector during the building of a new church, which is still in existence. He also had the oversight of three schools, which continue to be permanent institutions, and are now under the charge of his two brothers-in-law, John and Jacob Ueber, who have followed the profession of teaching successfully for the long period of fifty years. Under their tuition have been graduated some of the most eminent men in the country. These schools were organized by Mr. Sans, who educated many of the teachers who afterward presided over them.

Finally, Mr. Sans was attacked with yellow fever, which he found difficulty in getting rid of, and decided upon coming North, feeling that that was the only means of saving his life. He first

located in Carbondale, Luzerne County, Pa., where he assumed charge of a congregation and built a church and schoolhouse, and established the same institutions at Archibald. Next we find him in Watertown, Jefferson County, Wis., where he organized a society, built a church, and placed within the latter a good organ, and instituted other innocent attractions in order to call the people together for religious worship. After a sojourn at Watertown for eight years he received a call to Joliet, and upon coming here organized a society and built and dedicated a church, also instituting a school in connection therewith. He labored faithfully in the Master's vineyard until being affected with asthma to such an extent that he was obliged to abandon the ministry. He may well be pardoned for this decision, as he had served as pastor and teacher for fifty-two years. He is a regular member of the General Synod, and honorary member of the General Evangelical Synod of North America. While having left the pulpit, however, he still performs many pious duties, as his health permits, assisting in burying the dead and frequently filling a vacant pulpit. Personally, he is of a kindly, genial nature, and greatly beloved by the people among whom he has gone in and out for so many years.

The Rev. Christian Sans was joined in wedlock with Miss Ann Mary Ueber, in 1845, at the bride's home in New York City. Mrs. Sans is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and came to America with her widowed mother and brother when a young lady. Of her union with our subject there have been born six children, five of whom grew to mature years—Elias Peter, of Joliet, is Superintendent of the Hickory Street Methodist Episcopal Church; he married Miss Eliza Henry, of Morris, this State, and died in 1888, leaving two children—Mabel Cora and Charles; Augusta E. is the wife of John Dahlem, of Joliet, and they have five interesting children—Lillie, Anna, Ida, Robert and Walter Earl; Mary is the wife of Henry C. Buck, of Joliet; they are the parents of five children, only three of whom are living, viz.: Mabel, Frances and Elmer; Ida Sophia married C. M. Hensgen, an able attorney of Joliet, and they have two children—Oscar and Eda; Frank, a resident



of Bloomington, married Miss Mary Barker, of Joliet, and they have two children—Arthur and Mary Margaret. He is proprietor of a notion and toy store, called the "No Name Store," and is doing well.

Mr. Sans has, as is the custom of his countrymen, always lived frugally and within his means, saving what he could of his income, and is now the owner of valuable property, including a fine store building with residence and offices, and he also has four flats, which accommodate three fine stores, and two offices and a dining-room occupied by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. He has also put up a fine residence for himself in the central part of the city, and is now in a condition to live retired from active labor and enjoy the fruits of his early toils. His son, Elias P., occupies one of the flats convenient to the family and the church.



**H**ENRY BEHRENS. The name of this worthy German citizen is familiar to many of the residents of Crete Township where he died at his homestead, February 6, 1889. He left a fine estate including three hundred acres of well-developed land, situated on section 30, and which with its improvements stands as a fitting monument to his persevering industry. He first came to Will County in 1850, and secured one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in Crete Township which became the nucleus of the fine property which he accumulated. He labored with great patience and economy and as the natural result was in due time rewarded with a home and a competence, likewise the respect of all who knew him.

Mr. Behrens was born in what was then the Kingdom of Hanover, January 9, 1836, and in accordance with the laws and customs of his native Germany, was placed in school at an early age and received a good education in the German tongue. About 1850, he set out with his parents for America, the latter being Frederick and Mary Behrens who were of substantial German stock for

generations back. They embarked at Bremerhaven and after a somewhat lengthy voyage landed in New York City. Thence they proceeded to Chicago, Ill., and shortly afterward to this county, settling on land in Crete Township, where the father prosecuted farming and where the mother died in 1871. Frederick Behrens was subsequently married a second time and removed to Hasca, this State, where he died in 1881 when quite aged. He and both his wives were members of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Behrens of whom we write remained on the farm with his parents in Crete Township until reaching manhood and then purchased land on another section of the same. After the death of his parents he became owner of the homestead. He was married July 22, 1859, to Miss Sophia Ohlendorf. Mrs. Behrens was born in Hesse-Cassel, October 13, 1839, and is the daughter of Henry and Sophia (Sene) Ohlendorf, who were natives of Prussia and of pure German ancestry. Two of the nine children born to them died in Germany. The remaining five sons and two daughters accompanied their parents to America about 1850. They were on the ocean seven weeks and landed in New York City, whence they came directly to Illinois and settled on a new farm in Crete Township, Will County. Mr. Ohlendorf occupied himself in agricultural pursuits, but finally removed to another farm in the same township, where he died in 1882. He was then about seventy nine years old. He and his good wife joined the Lutheran Church early in life. Mrs. Ohlendorf is still living at the age of eighty-three years and makes her home with her son August in Crete Township.

Mrs. Behrens was a young girl of thirteen years when her parents came to America and she remembers many of the incidents of preparation and the voyage across the Atlantic. She has a good education in her native tongue and remained with her parents until her marriage. Since the death of her husband she has managed the farm in an admirable manner. There were born to them twelve children, three of whom—Henry, Louisa and Mary died young. The survivors are Christina, the wife of John Hartman, who lives on a farm in Iroquois County, this State; Sophia M., Henry, Christof,

Catherine, Conrad, Emma, Willie and Mary. Mr. Behrens was an active member of the Lutheran Church to which his wife and children also belonged. In politics he was a Republican and his sons in this respect also follow in the footsteps of their honored father. Besides the property in Will County, the estate embraces two farms in Woodford Township, Iroquois County, one comprising one hundred and twenty acres and the other one hundred and sixty acres.



**F**RANK LAMBERT. This gentleman is a representative English-American citizen and a pioneer of DuPage Township, now enjoying the many comforts and the ease of life to which his former labors fairly entitle him. In the toils and successes of long years he has been aided by a noble wife, who shares with him in the results of their labors and in the deep esteem of the many friends they can boast.

Mr. Lambert was born in Lincolnshire, England, September 19, 1829, and is a son of William and Elizabeth Lambert, and a brother of George Lambert, whose biography occurs elsewhere in this volume. He was reared on a farm in his native country with but limited school privileges, and in 1851, in company with his brother George, emigrated to America. He came direct to Will County, in which he has been a continuous resident since his arrival. In 1859 he settled upon a tract of land on section 20, DuPage Township, where he has made for himself a home of attractive appearance and value.

The farm secured by our subject was an unbroken prairie, upon which he turned the first furrow and has made all the improvements that now stamp it as a well-developed farm. It consists of one hundred and sixty acres which bear no resemblance to their pristine rawness, but whereon waving fields of grain replace the rank grasses of a former period, and good buildings shelter a pleasant family, flocks and herds and plentiful crops. Industry and perseverance have conquered untoward surroundings and Mr. Lambert can point

with pride to the record he has made and the share he has borne in the development of the country.

The faithful companion of Mr. Lambert was known in her maidenhood as Miss Elizabeth Arter, their marriage rites having been celebrated May 27, 1856. She is a daughter of John and Ellen After, both born in Pennsylvania. The former died June 23, 1890, in Plainfield, Ill., and the latter, March 31, 1868. Her maternal grandfather, John King, was an Englishman and a Revolutionary soldier in the American Army. To Mr. and Mrs. Lambert eight children have been born, three being deceased, namely: Jesse, Anna B. and Sarah. The survivors are: George; Ellen, wife of A. Weinholt, of Kansas; Frank S.; Alice, wife of Rollin George, of Minnesota, and Grace.

Mr. Lambert is a Republican, and both he and his wife belong to the Presbyterian Church. They have instilled into the mind and hearts of their progeny the principles of right living, carried them out in their own lives and now enjoy an extended circle of acquaintances among the best people. Mr. Lambert has become well known as a man of the strictest integrity.



**J**OHAN C. DOESCHER. Probably no resident of Crete Township is better known throughout this part of the county than the subject of this sketch, who has been Postmaster at Endor for the past fifteen years, and engaged in business enterprises there which have proved a great accommodation to the people in this part of the township. He has the only store in the place, carrying a good stock of general merchandise, and well patronized; he also operates a sawmill for the manufacture of paling fences and barrel hoops, and a feedmill, both of which are among the practical institutions of the county. A natural mechanic, Mr. Doescher has been engaged in some practical mechanical enterprise since early life, and his experience has developed his natural skill.

Mr. Doescher is of German parentage, being a son of Herman Doescher, who was born and reared in the Kingdom of Hanover, where he learned the

trade of a rope-maker. When the harbor was begun at Bremen, he went there and started a ropewalk, which he carried on until he came to America. His settlement in this country was made in Lake County, Ind., whence he afterward came to the home of our subject, dying at Endor when an old man. For a fuller history see the biography of H. Doescher.

The gentleman of whom we write is the youngest member of his father's family and the only child born in the United States. His birthplace was Brunswick, Lake County, Ind., and his natal day April 5, 1848. He was well reared and received a practical education in the schools of his native county, which he left, when he became of age, to take up arms in defense of the Union. He enlisted in Company G, Twelfth Indiana Cavalry in 1864, the regiment being under the command of Col. Reed, and the company being led by Capt. James M. Foster. Accompanying the regiment to the front Mr. Doescher participated in a number of active engagements, among them being the battle at Murfreesboro, where he was wounded in the leg. His wound, however, kept him out of the ranks but about a week. He was present at Mobile when Spanish Fort and Ft. Blakely succumbed to the attack of the Union forces and the city was surrendered. He remained in the army until December, 1865, when he was honorably discharged and returned to his home, proud to know that he had assisted his country in her hour of need.

Mr. Doescher took up civil life as a farmer in his native county, also carrying on a tubular-pump business until August, 1871, when he came to Will County and became a resident of Endor. In the meantime, in 1870, he had taken a companion in Miss Henrietta Weber, their marriage being celebrated near his birthplace. Mrs. Doescher is of Hanoverian parentage, but is herself a native of the United States, having been born in Wisconsin, on the 26th of March, 1849. Her parents resided in the Empire State for some time after their emigration from Germany, afterward going to Wisconsin and still later to Illinois. Both are now deceased, their bodies resting in the cemetery at Dalton, Ill. Mrs. Doescher is an energetic, intelligent woman who was educated in Wisconsin, and is looking

well to the ways of her household and the training of the children that have been given her. The family circle includes two sons and two daughters named respectively: Otto H. H., Tilda, Ida and Henry H. Mr. Doescher has been School Treasurer for years, his financial ability and strict integrity being recognized by his fellow-men. He is a sound Republican in politics, never failing to deposit his vote on election day.



**W**ILLIAM WEHMHOFFER. The German-American citizens of Will County form a portion of its most substantial and reliable element and have contributed largely to the development of its agricultural resources. The subject of this notice owns and occupies his father's old homestead to the original acreage of which he has added, until he now has two hundred and twenty acres of cultivated land and twenty-eight acres of timber. This is finely located on section 15, and has been his home since his boyhood.

Mr. Wehmhofer was born in the Province of Hesse-Cassel, Germany, December 29, 1841, and came when a boy with his parents to the United States. They settled at once in this county where the father first secured eighty acres of land and later doubled the amount from which he opened up a fertile farm and where he spent the closing years of his life. The homestead became the property of our subject in 1875, and he has effected additional improvements so that it has become the source of a handsome income, making the proprietor independent, financially.

William Wehmhofer, Sr., was also a native of Hesse-Cassel and was of pure German stock as far back as the records go. The paternal grandparents spent their entire lives in the Fatherland. William Sr., learned the trade of a blacksmith which his father followed before him and also most of his brothers. William after reaching his majority, was married in his native province to Miss Mary Wilkening, who was born and reared not far from the early home of her husband. They remained







*W L D Barney*

Michigan Canal, two and a half miles north of Lockport, Ill., and for two years ran a boat for Norton & Co., of Lockport. The rest of his life has been given to agricultural labors. He came to Illinois in 1813, and for several years worked as a farm hand by the month. The estate of one hundred and twenty acres he now owns has been secured by industry and persevering efforts and placed under good cultivation by the owner, whose merited success is a matter of rejoicing to his many friends.

On the 15th of October, 1818, Mr. Goudy led to the hymeneal altar Miss Ophelia Welch, a native of Ohio, whose estimable qualities had won his regard. The happy union has been blessed by the birth of four children, and the parents have been called upon to part with three—William H., Mary, and Charles R. The living child, Julia, is the wife of J. E. Davis, and they make their home with our subject. Mr. Goudy has served as School Director and as Township Highway Commissioner a number of years, with credit to himself and those who placed him in office. He is a Democrat in politics. He and his wife are now in the prime of life, enjoying the fruits of useful and well spent years, surrounded by friends and well-wishers, whose respect they have gained by their honest endeavors and kindly spirit.



VINCENT L. D. BARNEY. Among the honored pioneers of New Lenox Township, none are more worthy of mention than Mr. Barney, a portrait of whom is presented on the opposite page. Without perhaps making any great stir in the world, he has acquitted himself as an honest man and a good citizen, and possesses those kindly traits of character which have drawn around him hosts of friends. In no less manner has the lady, who for a period of twenty-two years has been the sharer of his earthly fortunes, earned the esteem and confidence of the community. Their home is one of the most hospitable in the county, and is the frequent resort of

the friends whom they have attracted to them during their long residence in this county.

In noting the parental history of our subject we find that his father, Perus Barney, was a native of New York State, and married Miss Electa Morton, who was born and reared near the early home of her husband. After uniting their lives and fortunes they settled near Watertown, N. Y., and thence, in 1836, emigrated to Illinois, and for several years lived in the vicinity of Babcock's Grove, DuPage County. Their next removal was to Waukegan, where they spent the remainder of their lives. The father was called hence October 28, 1877, and the mother September 29, 1885. There was born to them a family of seventeen children, two of whom died unnamed in infancy, and ten of whom are yet living (May, 1890.)

The subject of this sketch was the second child in the family, and first opened his eyes to the light May 19, 1823, in Rutland, near Watertown, N. Y. He was thirteen years of age when his parents came to Illinois. The family left their Eastern home in 1836, taking passage on a schooner for Milwaukee. The latter city was reached June 24, and after remaining there about two months, on the 15th of August they left for DuPage County, Ill. They traveled in a primitive manner, with three yoke of oxen and two wagons, camping for the night wherever darkness overtook them. On arriving at their destination they settled in a shanty about fourteen feet square, and there lived until the following summer, when they erected and moved into a new house. DuPage County continued to be their home for eighteen years, during which period six of the children married. The remainder of the family then removed to Lake County, Ill., and since then the remaining children, with the exception of the youngest, have settled down in homes of their own in different States.

Under the parental roof our subject grew to a stalwart manhood, and at the age of twenty-six prepared to establish a home of his own. He was then married, June 17, 1849, in New Lenox Township, to Miss Clarissa, daughter of Silas Parker. Clarissa L. Parker was born February 28, 1829, in Westford Township, Chittenden County, Vt. In her eighth year she removed with her parents to

Illinois (then the "Far West"), arriving in Chicago July 1, 1836. They settled in Plainfield, Will County, Ill., where she lived about eight years, and then removed to New Lenox Township, Will County. The young people located upon the farm now owned and occupied by our subject, and here he has since uninterruptedly followed agricultural pursuits. Of this union there was born a family of seven children, the eldest of whom, a son, James, died when eighteen months old; Caroline is the wife of George McIntyre, and they live in Chicago; Sarah married Hiram Summers, and they are also located in Chicago; Silas is farming in New Lenox Township; Charles is a resident of Wilmington, this State; Emma lives in Chicago; Clara is at home with her father. Mrs. Clarissa Barney departed this life at the homestead April 17, 1865.

Our subject contracted a second marriage October 1, 1867, at Chicago, with Miss Sarah Ann, daughter of the late Archibald Clybourne, of that city. Mrs. Sarah Barney was born March 24, 1830, in Chicago, where she received her education and was reared to womanhood. Mr. Clybourne was a butcher by trade, and one of the prominent business men of the city. There is living of this union only one child, a son, Archibald. Maggie and Mary died in infancy. Mr. Barney's farm embraces eighty-five acres of choice land, upon which have been effected good improvements. The house is especially neat and comfortable, and with its surroundings forms a very attractive home. Mr. Barney gives his uniform allegiance to the Republican party, and has served as a School Director in his district. Aside from this he has never assumed the cares and responsibilities of office.



ROBERT B. GRAVES has been closely identified with the farming and stock-raising interests of Will County for a quarter of a century, and has been no unimportant factor in extending its agriculture, and thus in promoting the material prosperity of this part of the country. He owns and is successfully managing a fine farm

in Plainfield Township, that is well stocked, and is well improved in point of cultivation, and supplied with neat and substantial buildings. Mr. Graves is a veteran of the late war, in which he did honorable service as a brave and patriotic soldier, and in commemoration of that eventful period of his life and of his country's history he is now a respected member of the Grand Army of the Republic, belonging to Bartleson's Post, No. 6.

Our subject's native place is among the beautiful hills of Orange County, Vt., in Williamstown, December 18, 1832, being the date of his birth. He comes of sterling New England stock, and his father, David Graves, was a native of Massachusetts, as was also his father. The latter removed from the old Bay State to Vermont in the early years of its settlement and became a pioneer of the State. The father of our subject was but a boy when his parents went to the Green Mountain State to hew a new home from the wilderness, and he was there reared and married, Amelia Persons, a native of that State, becoming his wife. He resided in Williamstown until 1845, and then came to Illinois, the removal being made with a team to Burlington, and thence by steamer to Whitehall, and from there by way of the Champlain and Erie Canal to Buffalo, and thence by lakes to Chicago, arriving there in September of that year. He located in Cook County, buying two hundred and fifty acres of choice land in Schaumburg, which, including improvements, stock and crops, cost him \$2,000. He soon became prominent in the public life of the town and assisted in its organization, and was otherwise useful as a citizen. He lived there ten years and then sold his farm advantageously and removed to McHenry County, where he bought another farm, where he dwelt until 1867, when he sold that place and coming to Plainfield, died in the home of our subject at the good old age of eighty-four years. His wife preceded him in death one year, she also having attained the venerable age of eighty-four. They reared three children: Daniel, who lives at Ashton, Dak.; Robert B.; William E., a resident of Pevely, Mo.

Robert Graves was a boy of thirteen years when he came to Illinois with his parents. He was reared to the life of a farmer and was actively engaged in



this occupation when the great rebellion broke out. In 1862 he laid aside his work to take up arms in defense of his country's honor, leaving his pleasant home and many warm friends to go forth to the hardships and struggles of a soldier's life. He became a member of the Fifth Independent Battery of Illinois Light Artillery, and going South with his company, took part in several battles and skirmishes with the enemy. He was an actor in the battle of Kingston, in the siege and capture of Knoxville, Tenn., and was at the battle at Strawberry Plains. In the winter of 1863-64 he and his comrades were in camp in Tennessee and suffered greatly from the rigors of the cold January so well remembered by the soldiers. The men were poorly clad, not having drawn any clothing since the preceding April. Our subject was protected only by a blouse that was unlined and a thin pair of pantaloons that were nearly through at the knees. Fortunately they were in a well-wooded country, and they were enabled to keep up good fires. After the fall of Atlanta, Mr. Graves joined Thomas' command at Nashville, and during the winter went to Washington, D. C., from there to Alexandria, where he embarked for Newbern, N. C., and from there marched to Wiser's Forks, and thence to Goldsboro, where he once more came under Sherman's command, and was there when Johnston capitulated. From there his company was sent to Greensboro, and thence to Charlotte, and from there to Chicago, where it was discharged, July 18, 1865, after three years' faithful and honorable service.

After his military experience Mr. Graves came to Will County and rented a farm in Wheatland, and in 1868 bought his present farm, which is located one mile southeast of Plainfield Village. There are one hundred and four acres of exceptionally fine farming land, that is under high cultivation, is provided with all the necessary machinery, with ample buildings, and is well stocked with horses and cattle of a high grade, Morgans being his favorite in the former, and Holsteins in the latter.

Mr. Graves has been twice married. The maiden name of his first wife was Marilla Ketchum, and they were united in marriage February 22, 1857. She was born in North Adams, Mass., and was a

daughter of Levi Ketchum. After a married life of seventeen years this devoted wife and mother was removed from the household over which she had presided so faithfully, her death occurring June 11, 1871. One son was born of her union with our subject—Walter R. Mr. Graves was married to his present estimable wife, formerly Marietta King, September 15, 1875. Mrs. Graves was born in Erie County, N. Y., a daughter of Alvin J. and Ann King. She is a good and true woman, and looks carefully after the interests of her family. The home circle is completed by the two children born to her and her husband—Alice A. and Robbie K.

Mr. Graves is a man of honor, truthfulness and strict integrity in all his business and social relations, and is classed among our most useful and highly esteemed citizens. He is public-spirited and is actively interested in whatever will advance his adopted town, and takes part in the administration of its civic affairs, doing his share to advance it materially, socially and morally. He is now serving his fourth term as Assessor of the township, discharging the duties of his office so ably and impartially as to deserve and receive the commendation and confidence of his fellow-citizens. He is a man of sincere and liberal religious views, which find expression in the Universalist faith, and he and his family are members of the society of that denomination in Plainfield. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



**E**DMUND DIBBLE, a veteran in the late war in which he did good service, for which he was promoted from the ranks to the position of Sergeant, has since leaving the army identified himself with the sturdy, wide-awake, progressive farmers of this county, his farm, lying in Troy Township, comparing favorably with any in the vicinity in regard to its appointments.

Mr. Dibble was born in Lenawee County, Mich., December 25, 1838, to Isaiah and Zoey (La Duke) Dibble. His father was a native of New York and was of German descent, while his mother

was from Detroit, Mich., and was of French extraction. Our subject remained in his native place until he was twenty years of age, receiving his education in the local district school. Leaving the home of his birth he came to Kankakee, Ill., where he was working on a farm when the war broke out. In July, 1862, he offered his services to the Government and enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg, battle of Champion Hills, and was at the battle of Arkansas Post on the White River. While before Vicksburg, he was detailed with others to run a mine under Ft. Hill, in which was placed a great quantity of powder which was discharged on the 22nd of May and a charge made on the works simultaneously, the explosion blowing up the whole side of the large hill on which the fort was located. His regiment then did guard duty at Memphis, where Mr. Dibble, for his conduct in battle and general efficiency, was promoted to Commissary Sergeant, he being on detached duty at the Provost Marshal's office. While there he suffered with rheumatism which afterward turned to erysipelas and though he is entitled to a pension under the law, he has never made application for one. June 27, 1865, Sergeant Dibble was mustered out of the army, having done faithful and honorable service for the cause of his country for three long and weary years.

After his military experience our subject came to Joliet with his family of wife and one child and soon settled in Troy. In 1868, he bought one hundred acres of land, to which he has since added one hundred more, all of which is under a fine state of cultivation, is amply supplied with needed buildings, and is in a flourishing condition generally.

To the wife, the homemaker, who renders his home comfortable and attractive, Mr. Dibble was married at Kankakee. Mrs. Dibble's maiden name was Celia Sammons. She is the daughter of William T. Sammons, who had moved to Troy Township while our subject was in the army. Two children have been born of this union, both of whom are now married and well settled in life. Duane was married to Miss Pinneo, a daughter of J. B.

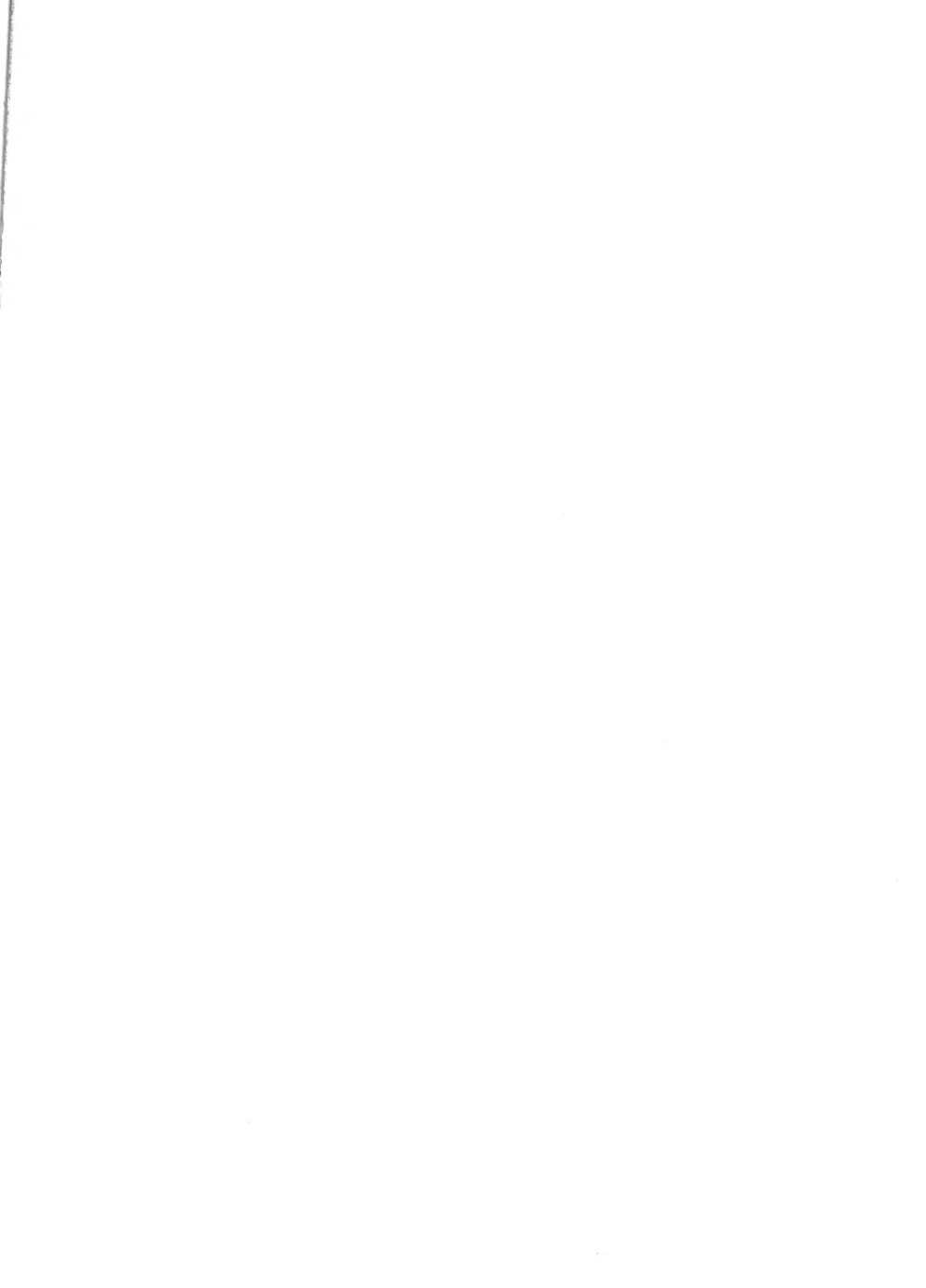
Pinneo, and their children are—Lotta Eloise, and a babe, Eugene; Helen, married Edwin G. Fargo, who now lives in Iowa on a farm near Gilmore City, Humboldt County, and they have one child—Chester DeWitt.

Mr. Dibble is a whole-souled, genial-hearted man, and the unsullied reputation that he has always borne entitles him to the confidence and esteem that is accorded him by his fellow citizens. Such is their respect for him, that although he is a strong Republican, having an active interest in politics, twice they have called him to the responsible office of Assessor, the town being a Democratic strong-hold, throwing two Democratic votes to one Republican. He is patriotic and public-spirited in every way and is earnestly alive to the educational needs of his township, and has served zealously as School Director of his district for many years. He keeps alive the memory of his days and nights on the battle-field by his connection with the Grand Army of the Republic, of Joliet.

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REV. SAMUEL T. CARPENTER, late a minister of the Episcopal Church and who was well known to many of the residents of this county as a man thoroughly devoted to the Master's work, was a native of Glassboro, N. J., and born September 25, 1810. He received a thorough education, being graduated at Kenyon College, at Gambier, Ohio, and soon afterward entered upon the duties of his chosen calling. His first charge was in Sharon, Conn., and he subsequently located in Monroe, Mich. He was for a time Chaplain in the Main Street Hospital in Covington, Ky., and also at Camp Denison, Ohio. His death occurred December 26, 1874, in Cincinnati, Ohio, when a little more than three-score and four years of age.

By his first marriage Mr. Carpenter became the father of two children, one of whom, Samuel C. B. served in the Union Army as a member of Company B. One Hundredth Illinois Infantry. He endured great hardship and exposure and excessive marching, which so undermined his health that he died from the effects thereof October 1, 1871, after





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T. F. O'Garra

a long illness in Cincinnati and Joliet. The other child, Frances M., a daughter, makes her home with her stepmother in Joliet.

Later Mr. Carpenter was wedded to Miss Emily D. Thompson, who was born in Philadelphia, Pa., August 31, 1830. Her parents were Richard and Elizabeth (Denny) Thompson, and the father while a resident of the Quaker City, occupied himself as a commission merchant. In that city he passed away. Mrs. Thompson died at the residence of Mrs. Carpenter in Joliet, in May, 1872. Until her marriage Mrs. Carpenter lived in Philadelphia and Wilmington, Del. The ceremony was performed June 29, 1852, at the bride's home in Wilmington, by Bishop Lee of the Episcopal Church of that city. Of this union there were born five children, all of whom are living. Herbert D. was born in Smyrna, Del., June 2, 1853, and after completing his literary education began reading law under the instruction of Phelps & Clement; he was admitted to the bar in December, 1878, and is now practicing his profession in Joliet, being located at No. 102 Jefferson Street. He is an ardent supporter of the Republican party. Florence married Albert W. Fiero of Joliet; Horace T. is in business at Milwaukee, Wis.; R. Howell is engaged in railroading in Joliet; Louis T. C. is a salesman in a wholesale house in Chicago. Mrs. Carpenter and her children located in Joliet in 1865, and there she has since lived. She is, religiously, a member of the Episcopal Church and stands at the head of a family which is highly spoken of throughout the city.



**F**ATHER THOMAS F. O'GARA, Pastor of St. Rose's Church at Wilmington, was born in Ireland in 1846; his parents Thomas and Bridget (McGinnis) O'Gara, having also been natives of the Emerald Isle. They came to America when our subject was an infant of one year and located in Lawrence, Mass., where they resided for several years. In 1879, they removed to Ottawa, Ill., where they were both called to the land of eternal happiness, the father in 1887, at the advanced age of eighty-two years, and the mother one

year later at the age of eighty years. They left eleven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the seventh in order of birth.

He of whom we write, grew to manhood in Lawrence, Mass., and received an academic education. He was in the dry-goods business for several years and when about twenty-three years of age began studying for the priesthood and completed his studies at Montreal, Canada, in 1878, being the same year ordained a priest. He immediately came to Wilmington and took charge of the present parish where he has continually resided since that time. He has besides his work here, charge of St. Patrick's Church at Wilton, this county, and is a man held in high esteem by all the citizens of Wilmington and elsewhere with whom he comes in contact.

A fine portrait of Father O'Gara is shown on another page of this volume.



**B**ERNY SPANGLER. A stranger would not be in this country long without hearing the name which stands at the head of this biographical notice, and learning that it is the cognomen of a prominent citizen of Jackson Township and one who is widely known throughout the county. At present this gentleman holds the office of Supervisor, a position in which he has served his fellow-men for several years, his continuance in it proving conclusively that the duties have been discharged in a satisfactory manner. This is not the only public capacity in which Mr. Spangler has acted. In 1882 he was elected County Treasurer, and for four years his financial ability and integrity were made useful in that capacity.

Pennsylvania was the native State of David Spangler and Amelia Batey, who became man and wife and reared a family of nine children. They removed to Summit County, Ohio, in which the latter years of their life were spent. There their youngest child was born February 26, 1837, he being the gentleman of whom we write. He remained in his native State until he was twenty years old, in the meantime becoming well versed in the management

of a farm, as his father was an agriculturist, and acquiring a good education.

Upon leaving his native State, Mr. Spangler repaired to this county and at once made a settlement on section 12, Jackson Township, engaging in agricultural pursuits. So successful have been his labors that he now owns five hundred and sixty acres in Jackson and Manhattan Townships and has an assured financial standing. Every detail of the work carried on upon his place is under careful oversight, and every part of the large estate evinces the taste and ability of the owner. A full line of buildings may be seen thereon, all substantial and well designed, while stock and machinery are excellent and sufficient in number and quantity.

The pleasant home of Mr. Spangler is presided over by a lady whose intelligence and grace add to the attractions of the hospitable dwelling. She was known in her maidenhood as Miss Rachael Grove, and was a native of Summit County, Ohio, in which her marriage to our subject took place. Mr. and Mrs. Spangler have four living children, named respectively, Samuel M., Ellery G., Alvin O., and Dora A. They mourn the loss of a daughter, Almada M., who died at the age of nine years. Mr. Spangler is a Democrat and has taken quite an active part in political affairs. The family is regarded as a credit to the section in which they reside, and were a wish expressed regarding them, it would be that they might long continue their residence here, as their present health promises will be the case.



**X**AVIER MUNCH. Nowhere in the Mississippi Valley can more beautiful farms be found than in the Prairie State, and in no section of it are any more attractive than in Will County. On section 19, Joliet Township, lies a body of land sloping to the south and comprising one hundred and twenty-two productive acres, which, under the hand of a progressive and intelligent farmer produce abundantly. The estate is a home of which any man might well be proud, all the improvements upon it being excellent and including every convenience and proper means of

adornment. The owner of this fine estate, although of foreign birth, has spent the greater part of his life in America.

The ancestral home of the Munch family was in that section of Europe the possession of which has been a subject of controversy between two of the most powerful nations of the earth, and which is now included in the German Empire. This country—Alsace—was a part of France when Xavier Munch, Sr., was born near Strasburg. He married Cecelia Potter, and after the birth of four sons and three daughters emigrated to America, crossing the ocean in the spring of 1839. During that summer the family lived in Lemont, Ill., and in the fall removed to Joliet, where they made their home about two years. They then returned to Lemont for a short sojourn, but in April, 1842, rented land in Troy Township, Will County, of the late Andrew King. Upon it Mr. Munch resided about two years, when he settled on the farm now occupied by our subject, remaining here until April 18, 1852. He then went to California to engage in mining, but never returned, and it is supposed that he died there. Mrs. Munch breathed her last in Joliet, November 8, 1856.

The gentleman with whose name this sketch is introduced, is the second child in the parental family, and was born in Alsace, July 31, 1823. He had but fairly entered his teens when the family came to America, and he followed his father in his various removals until 1847. He then enlisted in the regular army and participated in the Mexican War, returning in 1848 to Joliet, and again taking up his residence under the parental roof. There he remained until his marriage, February 9, 1849, to Miss Mary M. Pfeleger. He then settled on section 18, Joliet Township, whence five years later he removed to his present home. Not only has he manifested ability in his agricultural career, but has lived an upright life, dealt honorably with his fellow-men, and in every domestic relation has been kindly and considerate. In politics he is independent, but generally votes with the Democrats. Both he and his wife belong to the Catholic Church.

The lady, who in the summer of 1849 became the wife of our subject, shared his joys and sor-

rows until June 22, 1860, when she was called from time to eternity. Like her husband, she was a native of Alsace. Their union resulted in the birth of seven children, named respectively: Matilda, Ferdinand, Daniel, Marion, Lawrence, Elizabeth and Frances.

Mr. Munch contracted a second matrimonial alliance in Joliet, choosing as his companion Mrs. Catherine Shaw Freedel, also an Alsatian. She has borne him eight children—Kate, Frank, Rose, Louis, Anthony, Sophia, Celia and Charles. Her former marriage had resulted in the birth of five children, of whom the survivors are: Joseph, Mary, and Alfred Freedel. She is an efficient helpmate, a good neighbor and a devoted mother.



**B**ENJAMIN D. RITCHEY. This gentleman has done much for the growth and development of the section in which he resides and for many a year has been known and honored as a worthy citizen of Wesley Township. After years of activity he has retired from business pursuits, disposed of the farms which he owned, retaining only an interest in buildings in the village of Ritchey, and is now taking his ease, as far as labor for sustenance is concerned.

The father of our subject was Matthew Ritchey, a native of Scotland, whose parents came to Pennsylvania at a very early day, whence he subsequently removed to Ohio. In the latter State he married Rachel Davis, a native of Virginia and a daughter of a Welshman. This was the third marriage of Matthew Ritchey and resulted in the birth of four children, two of whom are now living. The father departed this life in 1824, the mother surviving until 1862.

The subject of this brief biographical sketch is the first-born of his mother's children, his natal day being October 24, 1815. His birth took place in Ross County, Ohio, where he spent his early years, beginning a personal career at an early age. When twelve years old he hired out by the month on a farm and continued to support himself in this way till he had reached the age of twenty years. He had

conceived the idea of buying a farm and working out its payment, and he and his brother John carried out the idea successfully, thus becoming the owners of one hundred and fifty acres in the Buckeye State. In the fall of 1855 they sold, and removing to Illinois settled in this county and the township wherein our subject still resides. He purchased a partly improved farm and engaged in mixed farming, having cattle and horses which he had brought from Ohio.

In 1862 Mr. Ritchey and his brother embarked in the mercantile business, but after a time sold out, our subject subsequently buying the business himself and carrying it on for several years in addition to operating his farms. Never having married he has had families keep house for him, and during the past twenty-eight years has made but one change. He has proved his ability as a manager and money-maker and insured himself against want unless an overwhelming catastrophe befalls him. Not only so but he has been useful in local offices and in various movements which would tend to improve the country. Ritchey Station takes its name from himself and brother.

Mr. Ritchey for several years belonged to the Grange, of which he was Master. He was Township Assessor and Collector, and has been offered the position of Township Supervisor but declined it. In 1880 he was appointed United States Census Enumerator for Wesley Township, and he has been Postmaster at Ritchey for seven years. He has frequently been administrator of estates both in Illinois and Ohio, and has also been guardian in the latter State. This fact alone will suffice to show that he is looked upon as a man of the strictest integrity and great prudence.

Mr. Ritchey has always taken an active interest in political issues, has frequently been a delegate to county conventions and otherwise borne a fair share in the local campaign work. He became of age a few days before the Presidential election of 1836, and cast his first vote for Gen. William Henry Harrison. Four years later, during the ever memorable "hard cider" campaign in the Buckeye State, he cast his second vote for "Tippecanoe" who proved the successful candidate. Some years later, when the Republican party came into existence he voted

for John C. Fremont, and 1888 he had the pleasure of voting for Gen. Benjamin Harrison, a lineal descendant of the old hero who had been his first love when becoming a voter.

In 1841 Mr. Ritchey rode ten miles on horseback on two consecutive nights to hear the eloquent and renowned temperance orator, John B. Gough, and enlisting under his banner has been a consistent temperance man from that day.



**G**EORGE W. BARTLETT, Insurance, Real Estate, Loan and Collection Agent, although comparatively a new member of the business circles of Joliet, is advancing rapidly toward the front with bright prospects of soon reaching a place second to none in the community. He is a stirring and energetic man, with such qualifications as especially fit him for his present business, in which he is building up a good trade. He has followed this occupation for the past fourteen years, during which time he has represented such companies as the North America, of Philadelphia; the Phoenix, of Brooklyn; the Hartford, Etna, Connecticut and Hartford, of Hartford; the Royal, of Liverpool; and the Traders', of Chicago. Those which he now represents are the Continental, of New York, and the Agricultural, of Watertown, N. Y.

In Genesee County, N. Y., Nathaniel Bartlett and Emily Gilbert were born, reared and married. They came West in 1855, locating in Grundy County, Ill., where they are yet living. Their family comprises three children—Fred A., a jeweler at Lockport; Elmer E., a molder in Joliet; and George W., our subject. The father is an engineer by trade and has always pursued that avocation.

The gentleman whose name introduces this sketch was born December 20, 1856, in Grundy County, and spent the first thirty-two years of his life there. Quite early in life he began to manifest the energy which is so prominent a characteristic of his nature, taking up the occupation of a newsboy in Morris, and learning telegraphy while still a boy, although

he never pursued this work. For some time he clerked in a dry-goods store and then took up the insurance business, carrying on at the same time other lines of work. For seven years he clerked for C. H. Gould, President of the Grundy County National Bank, and also looked after the gas fitting in the place. He was the builder and manager of the Telephone Exchange, at Morris, and also of the toll line south of that city, which united the towns of Mazon, Hill Park or Waupunsee, Verona, Kinsman, Gardner and Minooka with the county seat.

An important step in the life of Mr. Bartlett took place in September, 1881, it being no less than his marriage with Miss Fannie Zimmerman, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. Casper Zimmerman, have lived in Grundy County a number of years. The happy union has been blessed by the birth of one bright daughter, Carrie M., in whose growing intelligence the parents take great delight. Mr. Bartlett is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Republican party.



**C**HARLES N. SPRAGUE, senior member of the firm of Sprague & Hess, forms, with his partner, one of the important factors among the business interests of Joliet, operating a creamery and dairy. He has been engaged in the creamery business since 1880, following this for a period of six years very successfully. The firm now turns out two hundred pounds of butter per day, and besides this, deals extensively in butter and cheese in a wholesale way. He associated himself in partnership with Mr. Hess March 1, 1890, enlarging the milk route and increasing his facilities for handling all kinds of dairy produce. The firm unquestionably stands at the head of the dairy interests in Joliet.

Our subject was born in DuPage Township, this county, January 19, 1846, and is the son of one of its earliest settlers, Thomas J. Sprague, a native of New York. The mother bore the maiden name of Lydia Swift. The parental family consisted of nine children, six of whom are living, making their







*Yours Truly*  
*J. C. Searles*

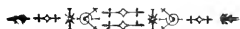


Truly yours  
H. W. Searles.



homes mostly in Illinois. The father prosecuted farming in DuPage Township until the spring of 1890, then retired from active labor and took up his residence in Joliet, where, with his estimable wife, he still lives.

Mr. Sprague has all his life been familiar with agricultural pursuits. He obtained his education in the district school, and when a young man of twenty-two years established domestic ties, being married November 25, 1869, to Miss Allie C. Killmer. Mrs. Sprague was born November 10, 1850, in DuPage Township, and is the daughter of R. W. and Hannah Killmer, who are natives of New York. The father is now living in Joliet, and the mother is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Sprague are the parents of three children, two of whom are living, these being daughters—Hattie and Mabel. Mr. Sprague and his family live modestly in a comfortable home and enjoy the esteem and confidence of their neighbors. In politics Mr. Sprague votes the straight Democratic ticket. He is one of the prominent men of the city, and while a resident of DuPage Township officiated as Assessor and Township Clerk. He has been for some years connected with the Masonic fraternity.



**D**EWITT CLINTON SEARLES. The portraits on the opposite pages will be immediately recognized as those of a highly respected citizen of Will County and his estimable wife. Mr. Searles is well and favorably known throughout this county, both in business circles and public life. As an agriculturalist of superior intelligence and progressiveness, he has wielded a potent influence in placing this county in the front ranks of its sister counties, and Troy Township finds in him one of its most enterprising citizens and a leader among its farmers and stock-growers.

Mr. Searles was born January 30, 1830, in Summit County, Ohio, and was reared near Columbus. His parents were Amos and Hannah (Hulburt) Searles. They had come from Connecticut and were early pioneers of that part of Ohio. His mother was a daughter of Isaiah Hulburt, a Revo-

lutionary soldier, who enlisted when fourteen years of age, and faithfully served throughout the entire war, being under Washington the whole seven years. Amos Searles was a descendant of people who came to this country early in the seventeenth century and settled on Long Island, where some of the family still reside.

Our subject passed the early years of his life within eighteen miles of Columbus, and when twenty-one years of age left his old home to try his fortunes in the Prairie State. He bought a farm about three miles from where he now lives, which he disposed of three years later and in 1856 purchased the one on which he now resides. It was at that time a tract of wild prairie and much hard labor was required to bring it to its present high state of improvement. He put up a building in which he lived, using a part of it for a barn, until the latter part of the summer when he erected a small house. This latter was afterward burned, and clearing away large quantities of the hazel brush which stood on his land, Mr. Searles erected a more substantial residence. He has since put up an excellent set of buildings, erecting his present house in 1866, and now has one of the best places in the county, consisting of six hundred acres of land in a fine state of cultivation. His farm is well stocked with cattle and hogs of the best breed, as he makes a specialty of feeding that class of stock.

Mr. Searles was married in 1866, to Miss Harriet Walker, of Plainfield, Ill., a daughter of Capt. J. Walker, who is credited with being the first settler in Will County and who was a soldier in the War of 1812, taking part in the battle of New Orleans and in many Indian fights. During the Black Hawk War he was Captain of a company and was very active in subduing the Indians. In 1828 he came to this county with his family from St. Clair County, Ill., and pre-empted for his first claim a part of the land on which the village now stands.

The mother of Mrs. Searles bore the maiden name of Walker, and was the daughter of Jesse Walker, who came here as a missionary in 1826. He was from East Tennessee, while the family originated in Rockingham, Va. Upon arriving in Illinois in 1801, Jesse Walker, who was a minister in

the Methodist Church, settled in St. Clair County. During this long journey he had been accompanied by his family, who made the trip on horseback. He became very well known in the county and State, and was a contemporary and associate of Peter Cartwright. Mrs. Capt. Walker, prior to her marriage, was a missionary among the Indians. The first frame building erected in Chicago was built of lumber sawed at Capt. Walker's mill in Plainfield, this county.

Possessed of a noble character and fine mental endowments, Mr. Searles would have been an honor to any community. A man of broad views, keen observation and extensive information, he has a fine library well supplied with choice books. In the management of public affairs he has taken an important part, and for eight years was Supervisor of the township, which is strongly Democratic. He is a staunch Republican, but his well-known ability and popularity carried the day.

Mr. Searles and his wife have had four children, of whom three are living, one having died in infancy. Maud is a young lady at home; Linn W. operates the farm, and Edna is a maiden of fifteen years. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which they are active workers. Socially, their friends are many, for their refinement has made them respected wherever known.



**R**ICHARD O. GREENLEAF, Cashier and bookkeeper for the Bates Manufacturing Company, assumed the duties of his present position soon after the organization of that company in Joliet. He has been a resident of this county since June, 1881, and first engaged in mercantile business. In 1881 he was proffered his present position and arranged his private affairs so that he could conveniently accept.

A native of South Burwick, Me., the subject of this notice was born January 31, 1828, and was the son of Richard and Eliza (Akerman) Greenleaf, the former of whom removed from Newburyport, Mass., the old home of the family, to Charlestown, that State, where he engaged in the mercantile busi-

ness. A few years later he died, leaving his widow with one child, the latter, Richard O., our subject, with whom the mother now makes her home. She was a native of Massachusetts, born in 1805, and has consequently now arrived at the advanced age of eighty five years.

Mr. Greenleaf grew to mature years in Newburyport, Mass., where he completed his education and soon afterward engaged in mercantile pursuits, remaining in the Bay State until 1857. He then removed to Nashua, N. H., where he sojourned until 1861. The Civil War now having broken out, he on the 19th of April, that year, immediately after the firing upon Ft. Sumter, raised a company under the call for one hundred days' men and this being assigned to the Army of the Potomac, they repaired thither and remained in the service until the 9th of August. Being then mustered out Mr. Greenleaf returned to New Hampshire and immediately raised Company B, which was assigned to the Fourth New Hampshire Infantry, and of which he was made Captain. Soon after repairing to the South, they encountered the enemy at various points and saw considerable active service including the siege of Morris Island, near Charlestown.

Returning North soon afterward with his regiment, Capt. Greenleaf with his company was assigned to the Tenth Corps, Army of the James, and he thereafter followed the fortunes of his regiment until the expiration of his term of enlistment in September, 1861. He had in the meantime been promoted to the rank of Major, with which title he was mustered out.

We next find Mr. Greenleaf in Hillsborough County, N. H., where he remained until 1872, and then came to Illinois engaging in mercantile business until 1878. In October of that year he returned to Nashua, N. H., where he remained until 1881, and that year became a resident of Joliet.

Mr. Greenleaf was married September 16, 1861, in Nashua, N. H., to Miss Martha A., daughter of Samuel Flinn. Of this union there are no children. Mr. Flinn was a native of Ireland and one of the organizers of a large cotton manufactory in New England; he and his wife are now deceased. Mr. Greenleaf, politically votes the Democratic ticket. About 1858 he identified himself with the Masonic

fraternity in Nashua, N. H., and is now a member of Rising Sun Lodge. He also belongs to John G. Foster Post, at his old home in New Hampshire, in which he is Post Commander. Socially, and in business circles Mr. Greenleaf bears an excellent reputation, and is well worthy of representation in a work of this kind.

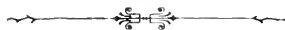


**H**ERMANN STUDDMANN, Northern Illinois, like all of the other States of the Union, owes no small share in its rapid growth and development to the energy and industry of its substantial German citizens. They came here mostly poor in purse but well fitted by habits of industry and economy to battle with the difficulties attending the opening up of new farms, and instituting homes in the land of their adoption. Among these may be properly mentioned Peter Studdmann, the father of our subject, who came hither from the Fatherland in October, 1873, assisted his sons as best he could in his labors, and died at his home in 1885.

Peter Studdmann was a native of the Kingdom of Hanover as also was his son Hermann, of this sketch, the latter being born May 13, 1848. The mother bore the maiden name of Mary Vonderohe. She spent her entire life in her native Hanover, dying about 1865. The parental family consisted of two children, both of whom came to America. Hermann was a youth of nineteen years when crossing the Atlantic, and after landing at New York City, he made his way to Chicago, Ill., but only sojourned there a few weeks. We next find him in Peru, this State, of which he was a resident for about five years. In September, 1873, he came to New Lenox Township and selected a tract of land on section 20, where he took up his abode and has since lived. He commenced in life dependent upon his own resources and while in La Salle County was employed by the month as a farm hand. He is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of good land, all of which is in a productive condition, embellished with neat modern buildings and having all the

other appurtenances of the well-regulated country homestead. His first house was destroyed by fire October 22, 1889, but he rebuilt and is rapidly retrieving his loss.

Mr. Studdmann was married in New Lenox Township March 20, 1873, to Miss Lena, daughter of Christian and Caroline (Stein) Keitel. Mrs. Keitel died in Germany in 1871. Mrs. Studdmann's father is still living in this township. She was born in Germany November 22, 1848, and came to America in January, 1872. Of her union with our subject there have been born six children, one of whom died in infancy. The survivors are Mattilda, Hermann Jr., Bernhard, Lizzie and Frieda-lie. In politics Mr. Studdmann is a staunch Democrat. He has served as School Director in his district and both he and his wife are members of the German Lutheran Church. He is a go-ahead, enterprising citizen and is rapidly taking a position among the leading men of his community.



**H**ON. FRED WILKE, of Beecher, is one of the most prominent men in this part of the county. Not only is he well known as a general dealer in all kinds of grain, as a farmer and breeder of Holstem cattle, but he has also come before the public as an official who has served with credit to himself and his constituents in the legislative halls of the State. He moved to Beecher in the fall of 1889, succeeding to the grain trade of Mr. H. Matthews, deceased. Prior to that time he had resided on his farm, which is located on sections 17 and 18, of the fractional part of Washington Township. The estate comprises three hundred and thirty-five acres, favorably located and well improved, and has practically been made what it is by the present owner.

The Hon. Fred Wilke was born in Westphalia, Germany, March 17, 1829. His father, Herman Wilke, was a native of the same Province and belonged to a respectable family who were engaged in husbandry. He married Elizabeth Waltman, who had been well and carefully reared, after his marriage settling near their birthplace. When our

subject was eleven years old the wife and mother died, at the age of thirty-nine years. The husband and father survived but three years, being fifty-eight years old at the time of his decease. Both parents were active members of the Lutheran Church and endeavored to train their children in paths of usefulness. Their family comprised five children, one of whom died in Germany; the others came to America and three are yet living, two making their home in Will County, Ill., and the other in Lake County, Ind.

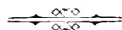
After he was old enough to enter the army our subject served his country, according to the custom of that land, his connection with the soldiery being from 1850 to 1852. In the spring of 1854, he embarked at Bremerhaven on a sailing vessel which anchored at New York City after a voyage of six weeks. Mr. Wilke went directly to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he found employment as a teamster, making that city his home until 1860. He had visited Will County, Ill., in 1857, purchasing land which was slightly improved and upon which he settled in 1860. It was situated on section 17, Washington Township, and is a part of the estate now owned by him. The energy of Mr. Wilke soon gave him a prominent position among the farmers and stock-raisers of the vicinity, and ere long he was enabled to add to his landed estate and put the whole place under excellent improvement and cultivation.

The first marriage of Mr. Wilke took place in his native land, his bride being Miss Ann Nunker, who was born in the same neighborhood as himself and whose good qualities he thoroughly understood. A year after he had come to America she followed him across the briny deep, joining him in Cincinnati, where she died at the birth of her second child who did not long survive. Mrs. Wilke was but twenty-four years old when called from time to eternity. She was a birthright member of the Lutheran Church and had consistently carried out its teaching in her daily life. Her first-born, Mrs. Lizzie Scheiwe, died at the age of thirty-four years, leaving three children.

The second matrimonial alliance of Mr. Wilke was contracted in Cincinnati, his bride on that occasion being Miss Stena Brüttag, who was born in

Westphalia. She was reared to the age of twenty years in her native land and then crossed the ocean alone, coming to Cincinnati, where soon afterward she became the wife of our subject. She is the mother of two children, one of whom died in infancy. The living is a son, H. F., who married Miss Lena Meier, who died leaving one child—Fred. He subsequently married Miss Sophia Meier, who, although bearing the same surname, is not related to his first wife. This union has been blessed by the birth of four children: Emma, Lena, Amelia and Herman. H. F. Wilke now occupies and operates his father's farm in Washington Township. He is a Republican in politics and he and his wife belong to the Lutheran Church.

The subject of this biographical sketch is now serving as Supervisor and Treasurer of the township, the former of which offices he has held almost continuously since 1870, the only exception being the time when he was representing the county in the Legislature. He has been Assessor some years and Collector one term. In 1888 he was elected to the State Legislature, where he proved to be a valuable worker for the good of the constituency which he represented and the interest of the county at large. His record as a member of committees and a worker on the floor is creditable to himself and those who elected him. He is a sound Republican. He and his wife are active members of the Lutheran Church and prominent in every good work which is going on in the community. The personal traits of Mr. Wilke are such as to give him the reputation of a "first-class fellow" and he exerts an extended influence for all that is moral and elevating.



**U**RIAS EICHELBERGER, a Pennsylvanian by birth, has been associated with the farmers and stock-raisers of Illinois for several years, and has been much prospered in his agricultural undertakings and is now the owner of a large and well conducted farm on section 4, DuPage Township.

Our subject is a native of Lancaster County, Pa., born April 23, 1839, to John and Susan Eich-



elbarger, who were likewise natives of that State and were of German descent. His father is now deceased. His mother, who is between seventy and eighty years of age, makes her home in Naperville, this State. Our subject is the oldest son in the family of whom the following survive: Urias, John, living in Kansas, (Dickenson County); Mary, wife of Joseph Taylor, of Du Page Township.

Urias Eichelbarger was reared in the place of his birth and at the youthful age of twelve years, left the parental home to make his own way in the world. He lived out with a farmer until he was fifteen years old and then began to learn the blacksmith's trade, serving an apprenticeship of three years. At the expiration of that time he opened up a smithy in his native county and carried on his calling for several years. After abandoning that trade for a short time, he engaged in marketing, buying butter, eggs and other farm produce. He then began farming for himself in Lancaster County and carried on agriculture there for three years. In 1869, he came to Illinois and for a year and a half resided in Naperville, Du Page County, where he worked as a journeyman blacksmith. After that he again took up farming and pursued the calling as a renter in Wheatland Township for eleven years. At the expiration of that time he purchased his present farm in DuPage Township. This comprises three hundred and forty seven acres of land which is under fine tillage and exceptional improvement, its fields yielding rich harvests and it is provided with conveniently arranged buildings. Mr. Eichelbarger acquired this property solely by the exercise of those faculties that make him an intelligent persevering, industrious member of society.

During these years of labor Mr. Eichelbarger has not been without the assistance of a capable wife who has labored by his side since their marriage in 1859. Mrs. Eichelbarger's maiden name was Martha Eshleman and she, like her husband, is of Pennsylvania origin. They have five children living, namely: John, Abraham, George, Susan, wife of James Brossman, and Amanda.

Mr. Eichelbarger is in every sense a live, wide-awake man, of strong common sense, and a keen

insight into the best methods of conducting agriculture to the best advantage, as is attested by the fine condition of his farm. In politics he is a firm believer in the policy of the Republican party and supports it by voice and vote. He served three years as Road Commissioner of DuPage Township, and has been School Director of his district a number of years and in both capacities has aided in advancing the best interests of the community with commendable public spirit.



HARMON V. FRAZER. This venerated citizen of Homer Township is approaching the seventy-fourth year of his age, having been born October 6, 1816, and his native State was New York. His parents were James G. and Polly (Hawkins) Frazer, natives of Connecticut, whence they emigrated to Monroe County, N. Y., settling near the town of Pittsford. Later in life they joined their children in this county, and spent their last days in Homer Township. There was born to them a family of five sons and four daughters, nine in all, and Harmon V. was the third in order of birth. He lived in his native State until about thirty-four years old.

In the meantime Mr. Frazer was married in Pittsford, N. Y., September 16, 1817, to Miss Samantha Warren. In October, 1819, they came to this county and settled in Homer Township, of which they have since been residents. Mrs. Frazer was born April 3, 1825, in Pitcher, Chenango County, N. Y., and was the second in a family of ten children, five of whom are living. Her parents, Ely and Sarah (Ferguson) Warren, were natives of New York and spent their last years in that State.

Mr. Frazer's farm comprises one hundred and twenty acres of good land, which through his management has become very fertile, yielding the richest crops in Northern Illinois. He has neat and substantial buildings, and by the assistance of his good wife has been enabled to accumulate a competence for their declining years. They have

no children. In politics Mr. Frazer gives his undivided support to the Prohibition party, being totally opposed to the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. He and his wife are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and enjoy the friendship and acquaintance of the best residents of the county, who have known them long and well and learned to appreciate them for their sterling worth. Mr. Frazer is genial and hospitable, while his estimable wife is in no wise lacking in those qualities which have gained them a good position in their community, where they are universally spoken of as being among the most worthy.

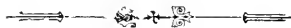


**P**ETER CHRISTENSEN owns and occupies an excellent farm on section 5, Jackson Township. Being under the control of a man whose life has been spent in agricultural employment and who is ambitious to excel, it is thoroughly tilled and well managed in every particular. The buildings upon it are above the average and the whole makes up a home which might well please a more ambitious man than our subject.

The life of Mr. Christensen has been marked by no remarkable events and his history is only that of one who quietly pursues the labor which he has chosen and finds his chief pleasure beneath his own roof-tree. He was born in Denmark June 1, 1816, remaining in his own country until the summer of 1869, when he embarked on an outward-bound vessel. He landed in New York City and thence came to Illinois, selecting Will County as his future home. For two years he worked by the month in Channahon Township, after which he rented the farm which he still occupies and which is owned by his wife and her sister Sarah.

In this township, December 28, 1880, Mr. Christensen was united in marriage with Miss Nancy M. Hemphill, daughter of the late James and Rachael (Porter) Hemphill. The bride's parents were old settlers of this county, having come hither in 1835 from Fountain County, Ind., where they had been

living a few years. To that region they had gone from Adams County, Ohio. Their home in this county was made in Jackson Township, where they lived until their death. Mr. Hemphill died during the latter part of the Civil War, his widow surviving until October 11, 1872. They were members of the Methodist Church and are remembered with great respect by those who had the pleasure of their acquaintance. The cheerful manner in which they endured the trials which surround the pathway of early settlers in an agricultural region, the kindness which they exhibited toward their fellow-men, and their pious lives gave them excellent repute. Their family consisted of eight children, whose record is as follows: Mary A., who is now dead, was the wife of Thomas A. Mapps; John and James are residents of Jackson Township; David, a twin brother of James, lives in Channahon Township; Sarah and Cyrus live in Jackson Township; Rachael A. died when seven years old; Nancy M. is the wife of our subject. Mrs. Christensen was born in Jackson Township, and under the careful training of her parents her character developed and she became a woman capable of worthy filling her sphere in life.



**S**AMUEL HOOD, is a retired physician whose home is on a fine farm near the village of Crete. When failing health compelled him to abandon the practice of his profession he turned his attention to agriculture in which he has proved successful, reaching a prominent station among the farmers of the county. His home comprises one hundred and fifteen acres on section 16, Crete Township, and is well improved and is kept well stocked with good grades of cattle, horses, etc. Dr. Hood formerly owned one hundred and fifty acres here, where he has lived for almost half a century. Not only on account of his enterprise in the vocation which he has adopted, but still more on account of his Christian character and cultured mind is Dr. Hood highly esteemed, his reputation extending far and wide.

Although born in County Tyrone, Ireland, Dr.

Hood is of English ancestry in both lines, his father, however, having been born in the Emerald Isle. Samuel Hood, Sr., was a merchant, he was four times married, and in 1810, came to America, settling on new land in Cook County, Ill., where he devoted himself to agricultural pursuits. He died when eighty-seven years old, having survived his fourth wife twelve years. He was successful in worldly affairs and wellknown in and about Bloom. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The mother of our subject was Maria E. Vanhaften, who was born in Bombay and became the wife of a Surgeon General in an East Indian Company, named NeNeilens. Dr. McNeilens and wife finally settled in County Tyrone, Ireland, and there the Surgeon General died and his widow subsequently married Samuel Hood. She died a few years later, when her son, our subject, was but a child. He is the only survivor of the two children born to her and his father. Mrs. Hood belonged to a fine English family, was a life long member of the Methodist Church, and the possessor of a bright mind and much culture.

The natal day of Dr. Hood was June 25, 1815. He received his fundamental education in the public schools of County Tyrone, and when eighteen years old became a student of medicine, first serving three years in an apothecary shop and then entering a medical college in London, England. Three years later he was graduated, and going to Liverpool he took passage for America. After five weeks and three days spent upon a sailing vessel, he landed in Philadelphia, Pa., whence he went to Pittsburg. He afterward practiced at different places in the Key Stone State for a number of years, removing thence to Gentry County, Mo., where he continued his professional labors for four years. He then came to Illinois and after twenty years of professional life became a farmer. His reputation as a physician is a creditable one and the energy which has brought him success in his later field of labor, was equally manifest in carrying into practice the knowledge of Therapeutics which he had obtained in a famous school and in adapting it to the needs of his patients.

One of the most important steps in the life of

Dr. Hood, was his choice of a life companion, with whom his marriage was celebrated in Butler County, Pa. She bore the maiden name of Ellen Stewart, was born in County Donegal, Ireland, and came to America with her parents about the year 1830. For more than fifty years she has shared in the toils and successes, the joys and the sorrows, which have gathered about her husband's pathway, proving her worth as wife, mother, and member of society. Although now seventy-two years of age, she is still smart and active; she possesses a mind of more than ordinary brightness and her intellect has been exercised in various lines of thought, her domestic duties not preventing her from taking an interest in the world's affairs.

To Dr. and Mrs. Hood, nine children have been born, but four of whom are now living. The deceased are, an infant; Thomas, a smart young man who died unmarried at the age of twenty-one years; Samuel, another bright and promising youth, who died when eighteen years old; David, who died at the age of seven; and an infant. The oldest of the living children is John J., who is now farming in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan; he has been twice married. The maiden name of his first wife was Jennie Hunter, his present wife having borne the maiden name of Catherine Caldwell. Mary is the wife of Nelson Seymour, a farmer at Homewood, Cook County. Maria married Henry Seymour, engineer of the Crete Manufacturing Company. Harriet is the wife of Roland Hewes, their home being on a farm in Crete Township. Dr. and Mrs. Hood belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Doctor is a sound Republican in politics.

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**A**LLEXANDER BALLANCE. The railroad business is a prominent industry of Joliet and the men who have charge of its various departments are conspicuous figures in mechanical and financial circles. The gentleman above named has been foreman of the round house of the Michigan Central Railroad for nearly twenty years and enjoys the friendship and con-

fidence of the officers of the road, who consider him a valuable member of their corps. He bears the reputation of a thorough mechanic and his faithfulness has stood the test of years. Such has been his industry that not a month's pay has been missed in all the years of his service as foreman, and in a capacity previously occupied.

Mr. Ballance was born in the Dominion of Canada, in the year 1851, and accompanied his parents to this country when five years of age. The location selected was Michigan City, Ind., and there the lad grew to maturity. He attended the public schools and under the system in which the Hoosier State takes just pride, became versed in practical knowledge of the chief branches of study. When eighteen years old he entered the machine shops of the Michigan Central Railroad, and after a faithful apprenticeship was employed as a master mechanic and later as foreman of the round house in that city.

A satisfactory service of five years led to his appointment to the position he occupies to-day. As a citizen he bears a good reputation and among his subordinates he is spoken of as one in whose kindness they have trust, while acknowledging his strict oversight of the details of their work. Mr. Ballance is unmarried, but his mother who is still hale and active keeps house for him. He has recently purchased an elegant location where they will ere long reside. His father breathed his last in Michigan City in 1881.

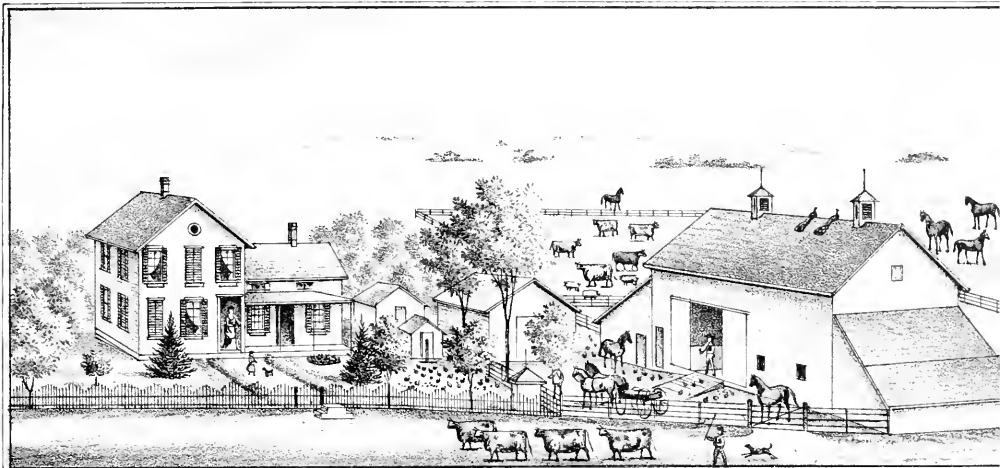
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**F**REDERICK FIDDYMENT is associated with the agricultural interests of Will County as an active and capable farmer, and his farm in Plainfield Township is one of the most desirable in this vicinity, as it is highly cultivated and is replete in all its appointments. Mr. Fiddyment was born in Norfolk County, England, July 3, 1839, a son of William Fiddyment, of that place. Daniel Fiddyment, grandfather of our subject, is also supposed to have been born there, and he was there reared to the life of a farmer, dying also in his native England. His widow and three

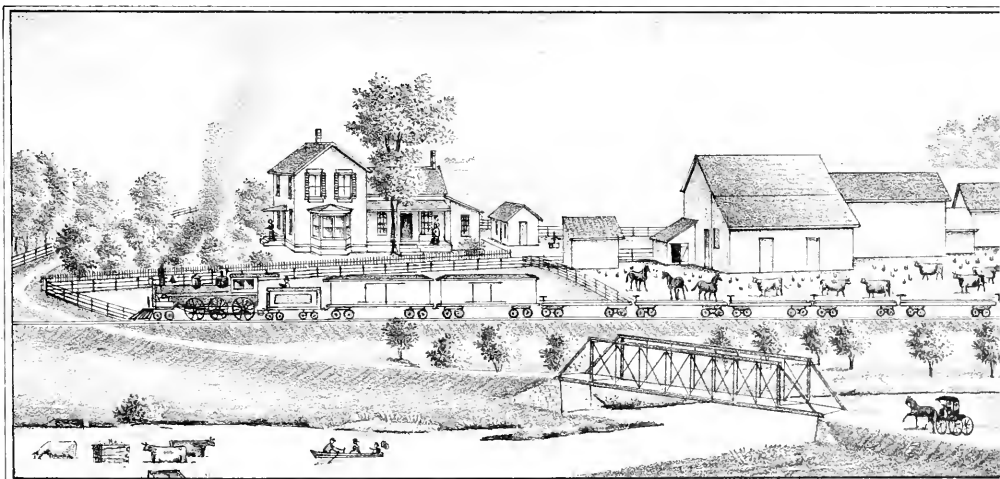
sons, William, John and Walter, came to America, and she died at the home of her son John, in Lockport, Ills.

The father of our subject was bred on a farm, living in England until 1819, when, having resolved to make a new start in life, he embarked for America in the month of July, taking passage at London, in the sailing vessel "Lucinia." After a long and stormy voyage, he landed at New York, in the month of August, and one week later set out for Illinois, coming by the Hudson River and Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence by the lakes to Chicago, and from there by canal to Lockport, this county. For a few years after coming here, he worked in his brother's distillery, and then turned his attention to farming, buying a tract of wild timber land three miles north of Lockport. He erected suitable buildings, greatly improved the land, and there built up a comfortable home, in which he died in the month of April, 1878. The maiden name of his wife was Hannah Nivet, and she was a native of the same shire as himself. She still resides on the old homestead, having reared four children, as follows: Daniel, who remains with her; Frederick, our subject; Hannah, who married William Fisher and lives in Lockport; and Walter, who resides in Lemont.

The son, of whom we write, was a lad of ten years when he accompanied his parents to this country, and he still remembers well the incidents of the long and perilous voyage. He was quite young when he commenced work with his father, and was with him in the distillery about fifteen years. Then he began his career as a farmer and, in 1868, first became the owner of land, buying a tract of wild prairie on section 32, Plainfield Township. He did not, however, locate on the place at that time, but rented land for two or three years, and then settled on his own land. In 1875, after greatly improving the place, he disposed of it at a good price, and bought the farm on which he now lives. This farm, one of the finest in the neighborhood, lies on both sides of the DuPage River, and comprises one hundred and seventy-two acres of as fertile farming land as is to be found in Will County. It was here that the lumber was cut and sawed for the first frame house ever erected in



RES. OF DEDRICH BRUMUND, SEC. 29., GREEN GARDEN TP. WILL CO. ILL. (THIS FARM FOR SALE.)



RESIDENCE OF F. FIDDYMENT, SEC. 17. & 20. PLAINFIELD TP., WILL CO. ILL.



Chicago. Not only has Mr. Fiddymont erected substantial and commodious buildings, but he has placed the land under admirable tillage, and has all the conveniences for carrying on his operations to the best advantage. A view of his pleasant home appears elsewhere in this volume.

By his marriage, in 1860, to Catherine Raush, a native of Germany, Mr. Fiddymont secured a noble wife, who has cheerfully aided him in his work of upbuilding their home. They have ten children living, namely: John, Elizabeth, Emma, Fred, Willie, Mary, Franklin, Julia, Grace and Florence.

It is the united testimony of his fellow townsmen that Mr. Fiddymont is in all respects a man of conscientious principles and exemplary habits, and one who is free hearted, kind and considerate, always willing to lend a hand to those less fortunate than himself. In his religious views he sympathizes with the tenets of the Methodist Church, and is a faithful attendant at divine services in the house of worship dedicated to that denomination in Plainfield.



**D**IEDRICH BRUMUND, A high rank among the farmers of Green Garden Township is accorded to the gentleman above named, and he well deserves the good report of his fellow-men by reason of his energy and activity in his own worldly affairs and in public enterprises, as well as for his pleasing traits of character. He owns one hundred and twenty acres on section 29, eighty acres on section 28, and forty acres on section 32, this fine body of land lying about eight miles from Frankfort. His residence is a very pleasant one, as may well be imagined by the reader, who will notice a view of it in this volume.

Diedrich Brumund, Sr., the father of our subject, was an early settler in this township to which he came in 1819. He was born in Oldenburg, Germany, and there received an excellent education to which was subsequently added the knowledge of the Dutch language, which he acquired while clerking in Holland. He became a merchant

and was succeeding in his career when he determined to try his fortunes in the New World. Crossing the Atlantic he selected Will County, Ill., as the scene of his future labors and the second year after his arrival bought land near Mokena and settled upon it. He began store-keeping on his farm, but when the railroad was built through the neighboring village he abandoned his former occupation and gave his entire attention to farming. His early experiences were not always pleasing, including as they did the hauling of goods from Chicago with oxen, which on one occasion ran away into the canal.

Mr. Brumund became the possessor of three hundred and seventeen acres in the home farm, and some seven hundred acres in Green Garden Township, together with Iowa land and two sections in Stoddard County, Mo. As he was able to get land cheap from the Government when he first came and soon became successful in his farm work, it is easy to see one reason for his great prosperity. He bought soldiers' land warrants, in this way also adding to his real estate and likewise adding to the funds at the command of the boys who were not able to cultivate the ground. He was a fine mathematician and scholar, possessed a large amount of the spirit which desires the development of the country, and became well known, not simply as a man whose labors are crowned with worldly success, but as a worthy citizen and upright man. He belonged to the Evangelical Lutheran Church and helped in building the edifice in which the congregation worshipped. He breathed his last February 17, 1885, in his sixty-seventh year.

The wife of Diedrich Brumund, Sr., bore the maiden name of Nicholine Folkers. Like her husband, she was a native of Oldenburg, in which city their marriage was celebrated. She is now living in Englewood, Cook County. When she and her husband came to America they were accompanied by four children. Others were added to their family, seven being the number who grew to maturity. Of these the oldest, G. H., enlisted in 1861 in the Twentieth Illinois Infantry and after serving three months came home seemingly at the point of death. He recovered his health how-

ever, and again enlisted, becoming a member of the Sixty-fifth regiment, with which he served until again taken very ill. He was removed to the Quiney Hospital and finally taken to his home. He lived until 1883 when he breathed his last in Florida. Next on the family roll were Peter and Helen, twins, the former of whom became a physician and died in Colorado in the fall of 1889; his twin sister married L. Jorndt, and is living in Stoddard County, Mo. The next of the family circle is the subject of this notice, and following him are Julia, wife of Prof. J. Leuder, of Elmhurst College, and Lina and Lizzie who live in Englewood.

This gentleman whose cognomen forms the heading of this sketch, was born November 16, 1818, in Oldenburg, Germany. He was still an infant when his parents left Bremerhaven on the sailing vessel "Ornholt Boming" and seven weeks later landed in New York. His boyhood was spent upon the farm in this State and he attended the district schools. He was early taught to work and no man in the county has labored harder than he. He plowed when he was so small that the handles were scarcely within his reach. When twenty years old he and his brother, G. H., went to the Indian Territory to cut hay, the latter having a cattle ranche. They traveled by rail to Leavenworth, Kan., and there bought a team with which they continued their journey to Baxter Springs on the Spring River, which they made their headquarters. They remained there six months, putting up some six hundred tons of hay, paying the Indians twenty-five cents per acre for the privilege of cutting.

Young Brumund liked the country and had no objection to his employment, but he could not stand the chills and in November returned by stage to Ft. Scott, and thence by cars to his home. After spending two weeks with his friends he went to Bloomfield, Stoddard County, Mo., and taking possession of one hundred and sixty acres of his father's land near there, he improved and operated it until the following July. He then returned to the Prairie State and led the lady of his choice to the hymeneal altar, the interesting ceremony which united their lives and fortunes taking place in Joliet, August 29, 1870. The young couple began

house-keeping on the Missouri farm, remaining there until November, 1872, when they again became residents of Illinois.

Mr. Brumund operated his father's place near Mokena six years and in March 1879, traded his own Missouri property for one hundred and twenty acres of the farm upon which he now lives. With the exception of a small house no improvements had been made, and the new owner at once began the course which has resulted in making of the property one of the most pleasant homes in this section. He broke the land, put in tiling, built an excellent house, barn and other edifices, set out an orchard and grove, and enclosed and divided the land by good fences. The barn is eighteen feet high and has a ground dimension of 30x68 feet; the corn crib is 19x26 feet, and the other structures are of corresponding size. Additional land has been purchased by Mr. Brumund and he is carrying on a successful business in the cultivation of grain, principally corn and oats, and in the raising of hogs, cattle and other stock. He now has about twenty head of Holsteins of good grade.

The lady to whose housewifely skill and amiable disposition Mr. Brumund owes the comfort of his home life, bore the maiden name of Dorothea Battenhausen. She was born in Kur-Hessian, Germany, March 19, 1850, being the oldest child of Adam and Catherine (Walper) Battenhausen, who were born in the same village as herself. The other members of the household in which she spent her maidenhood are Henry, now living in Martin County, Minn.; Mrs. Jenny Baumgartner of Peotone; and Mrs. Katie Saunter of Frankfort Township.

In 1853, Mr. Battenhausen emigrated to America, settling in Cook County, Ill., where he continued his former occupation of a farmer. In that county he died in 1864, at the age of forty-seven years. He had been a soldier in the German army and for some years had official rank. He belonged to the Evangelical Church. Mrs. Battenhausen survived until February, 1888, being an inmate of our subject's home during the latter years of her life. She was sixty-seven years old when called from time to eternity.



Mr. and Mrs. Brumund are the parents of five children, named respectively, Lydia K., Diedrich A., Frank G., Alvin L. and Lina A. The older daughter was graduated at Valparaiso, Ind., taking the business course in the college there and nearly completing the two years' teacher's course. She is now engaged in teaching in the neighborhood of her home and is successfully pursuing her chosen vocation. The oldest son is now pursuing his studies in the Wentworth School, Chicago. For seven years Mr. Brumund has been a member of the School Board of which at this writing he is Clerk. He held the office of Assessor for one year. In politics he is a sturdy Republican and his services have been called into requisition as a member of the Central Committee, and delegate to county conventions. He is enrolled among the members of the Evangelical Church at Peotone, and was formerly Trustee.



**J**ACOB ADLER, senior member of the firm of Adler Bros., is with his brother Peter, conducting successfully a large meat market, prominently located on Exchange Street, Joliet, and forms no unimportant factor in the business community of this thriving city. An experience of thirty years in the cattle and meat trade, has given him an insight into all the details of the business, and succeeded in making him comparatively independent, financially. He is of German birth and ancestry, and possesses in a marked degree the substantial and reliable qualities of one of the best nations on the face of the globe.

The subject of this sketch was born in the Prussian Province of Greis Metsig Brodorf, March 17, 1837, to Michael and Margaret (Sebastian) Adler. The family in 1838, emigrated to America, landing in the then unimportant city of Chicago, May 20. Later they located in Will County, where the father engaged in farming. The family comprised then but two children, one of them being Jacob who is now the only member of the family living

who was born in the Fatherland. The farm lay in the vicinity of New Lenox. The father was a resident of Joliet Township from 1843, to 1870. He had therein a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, besides considerable city property and town lots. He finally removed to Joliet, which remained his residence twenty-one years prior to his death which occurred July 10, 1889. He had then arrived at the advanced age of eighty-five years. The mother died December 15, 1888, aged eighty-four. Michael Adler was born November 2, 1803, and his wife, Margaret, December 6, 1804. Both were members of St. John's Catholic Church.

The elder Adler, upon becoming a voting citizen, identified himself with the Republican party with whom he remained until after the extinction of slavery, when he wheeled over into the ranks of the Democracy. He became quite prominent in local affairs, served on the School Board and in some of the minor offices. He accumulated a comfortable property, putting up buildings on Jefferson and Chicago Streets. His honesty and integrity caused him to be highly respected in his community. He was a self-made man in every particular, commencing at the foot of the ladder and climbing up to a good position, socially and financially among his fellow-men. To him and his good wife there was born a family of eleven children, four of whom died in early life. The survivors are Jacob, our subject; Margaret, the wife of Frederick Rappal of Cook County; Angeline is with the sisters of St. Francis; Peter, who lives with our subject; Veronica and Mary live together in the old homestead; Jasper died at the age of twenty-six years.

The subject of this notice developed into manhood on the old farm in Will County, remaining a member of the parental household until reaching his majority. He then joined the caravan going to Pike's Peak, journeying across the plains from Leavenworth and following the old trail, making the first part of the journey with horses, then taking oxen and being on the road three months. Arriving at his destination he engaged in mining and remained in that vicinity until the approach of winter. Then satisfied with his experiment in the wild West, he returned to his native haunts

and the following year engaged in shipping cattle to Chicago, Boston and New York City. He also commenced butchering and established himself in the meat business. He purchased many of his cattle in Nebraska, Iowa, Colorado, Kansas and Missouri, shipping mostly to the East. Later he began buying cattle which he shipped to Chicago and to this he has given his attention largely for the last ten years.

Mr. Adler established his meat market about 1861 and has been engaged off and on in the meat market and agricultural business for a term of years, being fortunate in his business enterprises. For the last five years his brother Peter, has been his chief assistant, although he operated with him considerably previous to this time. He is the owner of the National Hotel Block, in which his market is situated and he has other improved property on Joliet and Chicago Streets, and also farm property.

Mr. Adler cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln and voted for three Republican Presidents thereafter; then feeling that he had reason to change his views, he allied himself with the Democratic party, of which he is a staunch supporter. He is a man prompt to meet his obligations, and occupies no secondary position among the business men of his adopted city. He has represented the Sixth Ward in the City Council four years, but otherwise has refrained from assuming the responsibilities of office.

Mr. Adler was married January 13, 1866, to Miss Emily Erhard. Mrs. Adler was born in July, 1842, in Joliet, and is the daughter of George and Louisa (Perilot) Erhard, who were natives of Germany and early settlers of this county, to which they came in 1835. They are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Adler there have been born eleven children, of whom only seven are living, namely: Louisa, Jacob, Emily, Lawrence, Michael, Patricia M. and Catherine. They form a bright and interesting group and will be given the best advantages the city affords from an educational point of view. Mr. and Mrs. Adler are connected with St. John's Catholic Church, whose church edifice Mr. Adler assisted materially in building, and he has always contributed liberally to the support of the society. The family occupies a neat, modern residence on

South Chicago Street, and they number their friends by the score among the people where they have lived for so many years.



**S**HELDON YOUNG. A list of the old settlers of this county would be incomplete without the above name, which is borne by one of Jackson Township's most intelligent and public-spirited citizens. He is one of the older members of a large family born to Phillip and Sarah (Teepie) Young. His father was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., and died in Oneida County. His mother was born in Schoharie County, and there breathed her last. In the county which was his father's birthplace he of whom we write was born, December 3, 1820, and continued to live until the fall of 1838, when he became a citizen of Illinois.

After reaching this State, Mr. Young determined to make Will County his future home and at once began his residence in Jackson Township. His taste led him to adopt the vocation of farming which he has been successfully pursuing from early life. His home is a pleasantly located farm, upon which good buildings have been erected and other improvements made, and many fond memories cluster about it. To it he brought his bride not long after their marriage, and here an interesting family has grown up about him; here also some griefs have befallen him, some of his offspring having been removed from him by death, and his true hearted wife having here breathed her last, June 28, 1887.

The lady whose sterling qualities won the regard of Mr. Young in his early manhood, bore the name of Eliza Hougham. She was born in Ohio, August 18, 1822, and came to this county about 1839, riding about one hundred and fifty miles on horseback with her father. The latter, Jonathan Hougham, died in Indiana, her mother having also breathed her last in that State, in Parke County. Miss Hougham became the wife of our subject December 1, 1842, the marriage rites being celebrated in Jackson Township. They became the parents of





*George Whittier*

twelve children, eight of whom reached mature years and seven of whom are yet living. The children were named Ara B., Nancy A., Lana A., Jonathan, John S., Albert L., Laura, Mary E., Emma, Julia E., Mattie E., and Walter H.

Of the surviving members of this family circle we note the following: Ara is now living in Minden, Neb.; Lana is the wife of E. D. Williams; Mary E. is the wife of Levi H. Eib; Emma is the wife of Marion Palmer; Julia married Robert Eaton; Mattie is the wife of Frank Pierce; Walter, who is still at home, possesses a fine education being a graduate of Brown's University, at Providence, R. I. Mr. Young's abilities have been made useful to his fellow men, whom he has served as Supervisor, Road Commissioner and School Trustee, for many years having been incumbent of the last named position. In politics he is a Democrat. He belongs to the Baptist Church of which his wife was also a member.



**G**EORGE WHITTIER. Of the enterprising citizens of Joliet who have been called from the active scenes of life, none have been better known perhaps or more sincerely mourned than Mr. Whittier. His portrait, which we are pleased to present on the opposite page, represents a gentleman whose long and successful business career in the city of Joliet gained for him the reputation of being honest, public spirited and generous. His business qualifications were fine, while as a neighbor and friend it was universally conceded that he held the good will of the community in which he lived, always assisting those in need and ever having a kind word for those around him. A marked trait of his character was, that whenever he pledged himself to any obligation or the performance of any task, he never failed to redeem his pledge.

This gentleman was born in Sommersworth, N. H., November 27, 1830, his parents being Joseph and Nancy (Locke) Whittier. When he was six years of age his parents moved from that State to the land of Penn., locating in Philadelphia, Pa.,

but with that restlessness which characterizes Americans as a rule, before many years had passed, they made another change of residence. For a time they resided in Penobscot, Me., whence the father came to Illinois in 1859, and established himself in the lime business. Hither the son, our subject, came two years later and joined his father in the enterprise, in which success crowned their efforts. After a worthy and honorable life the father was called hence, August 12, 1889, at the advanced age of ninety-five years, eight months and eleven days. He had thus almost rounded out a full century, and his life was filled with good deeds and worthy actions. Starting in life poor, he seemed to have taken for his motto, "Either I will find a way or make one." In his honorable endeavors he was successful and prosperous.

Joseph Whittier was a cousin of the far-famed poet, John Greenleaf Whittier, whom Americans delight to honor and whose fame has penetrated distant lands. Unto Joseph and Nancy Whittier were born the following children, besides George, our subject: Samuel, now a resident of New Brunswick; Joseph, who is engaged in the lumber trade in East Saginaw, Mich.; Mrs. Adeline Buffum, deceased; Mrs. Lydia Jones, whose husband is an attorney in Bangor, Me.; Charles, of San Jose, Cal.; Mrs. Eliza Walworth, wife of a Universalist minister in Baltimore, Md.; and Mrs. Ellen Smith, of San Diego, Cal.

A few months after the death of the father, our subject also passed to rest November 10, 1889, and now lies buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Joliet. He left a widow and three children, daughters, to mourn their loss. Many friends also had been made during the years of his residence in Joliet. He had, politically, been a staunch Democrat, and socially, was welcomed in the best circles of the city. His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah M. Lindsay, and their wedding ceremony was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents, James and Eliza (Purrrington) Lindsay, February 10, 1851. James Lindsay followed the occupation of a cooper and farmer, and unto him and his wife were born the following children: Henry H., now a resident of Lincoln, Mo.; Mrs. Eliza E. Hasey, in Joliet; Mrs. Lucy Severance, also of Lincoln, Mo.;

and Mrs. Whittier. The latter was born in the Pine Tree State, in the town of Chester, January 16, 1832. Her marriage with our subject was blessed by the birth of three children—Mrs. Angeline Steelman, of Oak Park, now a part of Chicago; Mrs. Lucy M. Wayman, of Chicago, and Miss Claire, who is yet with her mother. The widow and daughter occupy the homestead, where they enjoy the fruits of a life that was spent in providing for their welfare. Their home is one of culture and refinement, and they are held in high esteem by those to whom their characters and attainments are known.



**C**HRISTOF BATTERMANN. Those who believe that comfort is not to be found in country life, have but to visit the home of the above-named gentleman, to see conclusive evidence to the contrary, and to learn that a farmer's family may be surrounded with evidences of taste equal to those found in the majority of city homes. The estate to which we allude is located on section 19, Crete Township, and comprises two hundred and thirty-eight acres of well developed land. It is well stocked with domestic animals and farm implements and machinery of the best models, the evidences of progressive agriculturism being everywhere manifest. The buildings which adorn the place are commodious and well designed, and include every convenience for household and farm work.

The subject of this notice is a native of the kingdom of Hanover, having been born near the city of the same name, April 22, 1822. He is the son of Henry Battermann, a native of the same kingdom, who was reared when cloth-weaving was the predominant industry there, and who was thoroughly skilled in that trade. While following it in the capital city, he married Miss Dorothea Battermann, who was born just beyond the limits of the kingdom, but grew to womanhood within it, her parents having settled there when she was quite young. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Battermann remained in the city, working hard, and

rearing a family of three sons and one daughter, our subject being the youngest son.

When he had reached a proper age to learn a trade, our subject served an apprenticeship of three years as a weaver, after which he worked as a journeyman for a short time. The accounts which had reached his ears of the country beyond the sea, convinced him that a broader field for life's labors was to be found in the United States, and he determined to come hither and make himself a home. Accordingly, on March 11, 1847, he took passage at Bremerhaven on a sailer, and after a tedious voyage of several weeks landed in New York City, anchorage being made June 6. After making arrangements for coming West, he went to Albany, and there took passage on a canal boat, but tiring of the trip, he disembarked, and began work as a laborer, earning money with which to reach Chicago. When he arrived in this country, he was in debt \$19, but he has since made a comfortable little fortune, doing it all by his own persistent efforts. The comfortable home which he possesses is not only a pleasant abiding place for his own later years, but he looks forward to its being the home of his children after he is gone. It became his home in 1852, for three years prior to which date he had lived in Cook County, although he did not purchase land until after he had come here, previously working as a farm laborer. After he had been in this country some years, his parents came to America with an older son, finally reaching this county, where both died when about seventy years of age. They were life-long and active members of the Lutheran Church, and worthy people, who left to their descendants an honored name.

The wife of C. Battermann was born in Bremerhaven, Germany, on Christmas day, 1833. She is the third child and second daughter of Herman and Johanna (Steffen) Doescher, and one of a family of six children. A fuller account of her family is to be found in the biography of Herman N. Doescher, on another page in this volume. She was ten years of age when her parents came to the United States, their settlement being made in Lake County, Ind., where she grew to womanhood, acquiring useful habits and an estimable character. Her

marriage to our subject was celebrated in this county, October 10, 1852, and has been blessed by the birth of nine children. The daughter—Johanna—died in infancy. The record of the surviving children is as follows: Herman married Anna Barger, and is farming near Brunswick, Lake County, Ind.; Henry, who is a harness-maker in Dyer, Ind., married Lena Richard; Edward, a blacksmith at Hobart, Ind., married Carrie Richard; Charles is at home, operating the farm; Albert married Lena Olstermier, and their home is on a farm in Lake County, Ind.; Henrietta is the wife of Charles Berger, a harness-maker in Hobart, Ind.; Matilda is still living under the parental roof; August is an engineer and blacksmith, living in Hobart, Ind.

In politics Mr. Battermann is a sound Republican, and his six sons are equally staunch in their support of that party. He and his wife are active members of the Lutheran Church. The financial prosperity of Mr. Battermann is due to those qualities which win respect from one's associates, and his moral character and intelligence add to the reputation in which he is held.



**W**ILLIAM M. CLOW is the son of one of the most prominent pioneer families of Will County, who located in Wheatland Township in an early day of its settlement, and ever since the name has been closely connected with its development and material prosperity, its present representative wearing worthily the mantle of his sire. As a wide-awake, intelligent and progressive farmer and stock-raiser, our subject bears an important part in sustaining and extending the great agricultural interests of his native county. He owns a farm on section 11, that compares favorably in all respects with the best in this locality.

Our subject was born December 18, 1850, in this county, a son of the late Robert and Rosanna (McMicken) Clow, natives of Scotland. The father of our subject came to this country in 1837 with his father's family, his mother having died in the

old country. They first located in New York State and remained there till 1843, when they came to Will County. The family were among the first settlers of the county, and purchased a large tract of wild prairie, comprising nearly one thousand acres of land for which was paid \$1.25 per acre.

Robert Clow, the father of our subject, became a prominent man in this part of the county, both in its public life and in promoting the growth of its agricultural interests, and in his death September 15, 1888, the county lost one of its most revered pioneers. He had always displayed great public spirit and substantially aided all schemes for the improvement of the county or township. He served as Justice of the Peace and as Supervisor of Wheatland Township, fulfilling the duties thus imposed upon him with marked ability. In his politics he was a Republican and used his influence to promote the interests of the party. The mother of our subject was born in 1825, and is now pleasantly passing her declining years in the home of her son, John B. Clow, in this township.

The parents of our subject had eight children of whom the following five still survive: William M.; Ellen J., wife of Charles H. Farquhar of Chicago; Adam S., a resident of Wheatland Township; John B., also of this township; Rose, wife of H. H. Highland of this township. The names of those deceased are: Sarah H., Grace M., and Rachael.

William, the subject of this sketch, grew to a manly vigorous manhood amid the pioneer influences that still obtained in this county during his youth. A bright, apt scholar, he was given excellent educational advantages, receiving the rudiments of his education in the district schools of Wheatland Township, and subsequently entered Clark Seminary, now known as Jennings' Seminary in Aurora, Ill., where he pursued a fine course of study that will be a help to him in any calling in which he is engaged. He first entered the teacher's profession and for two terms taught school successfully. But having a natural taste for the vocation to which he had been reared, he then turned to it, and has since devoted his time to agricultural pursuits, and is actively engaged in farming and stock-raising. He owns a farm of two hundred and thirty acres, all of which is under cultivation, is highly

improved, and with its commodious, well-appointed buildings and rich harvest fields, is one of the most desirable pieces of property in this part of the county.

In his marriage in 1871, with Miss Eliza V. Cherry, Mr. Clow secured the blessing of a true wife who is devoted to the interests of her family. Four children have come to them: Ida G., Robert C., Anne L., and Charles H. Mrs. Clow is a native of the city of Buffalo, N. Y., and a daughter of Moses and Sarah A. (Mills) Cherry, of that city, both of whom are now deceased.

William Clow brings to his work a fine equipment of brain, energy, readiness of resource, and adaptability to circumstances that make him an influence in promoting the financial prosperity of his native county. His genial nature and general uprightness of character have won him many friends, and with his wife he stands among the first people of the community. In his politics, Mr. Clow is a member of the Democratic party. He has taken part in public affairs as Township Clerk one year, and as Road Commissioner of Wheatland Township, and in both capacities proved himself to be a sagacious and faithful civic official.



**H**ENRY SPANGLER is the fortunate owner of a good farm, pleasantly located one mile from the village of Plainfield, that is supplied with substantial buildings, good machinery, is under excellent cultivation, and is otherwise well improved. Our subject is a Pennsylvanian by birth, born in Potter Township, Centre County, January 25, 1834. His father, John Spangler, was a native of the same State, born, it is thought, in Lancaster County, and his father, Peter Spangler, is supposed to have been a native of the same county, born of German parentage. He removed to Centre County in an early day of its settlement and became a pioneer of Potter Township, where he bought and improved a tract of land, and was engaged in farming thereon the remainder of his life.

The father of our subject was a boy when his

parents removed to that place, and there he learned the trade of a carpenter, which he followed for a time and then turned his attention to the calling to which he had been reared, and farmed in Centre County until 1848. In that year he came to Illinois, making the journey by teams, and crossing but one railroad on the way, which was a primitive affair, having wooden rails and an iron strap on the top of them. He cast in his lot with the pioneers of Plainfield who had preceded him to this pleasant place. He bought three hundred and sixty acres of partly improved land and was engaged in agricultural pursuits some years until his retirement from active life to Joliet, where the rest of his days were passed. The maiden name of his wife was Catherine Stem, and she was a native of Centre County, Pa., her father, Adam Stem, having been a farmer in that part of Pennsylvania. She died on the home farm in Plainfield Township.

He of whom we write was a lad of thirteen years when he accompanied his parents to their new home in the Prairie State, and he well remembers incidents of the journey and of the pioneer life that they led there. He assisted his father on the farm, gaining a good practical knowledge of the calling that he was to adopt for his life-work. He was engaged with his father until he was twenty-one, and he then rented the farm from him and carried it on successfully, continuing to rent land until 1873. He had accumulated considerable money and invested it in his present homestead, which comprises one hundred and seventeen acres of as fertile land as is to be found in this exceptionally fine farming region. He has erected suitable buildings, has all needful appliances for carrying on agriculture to a good advantage, and has his land under admirable tillage.

Mr. Spangler was married, in 1857, to Miss Mary Heinselman, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter George Heinselman; she was a prudent, thrifty woman and an excellent housewife, and has contributed her share in the upbuilding of their home. Five children have been born to them, four of whom are living—Kate, Frank, Clinton and Melvin.

Mr. Spangler is industrious, shrewd, and methodical, and always has his affairs in a good condition. He stands well in this community in the







Robt Collins

varied relations of husband, father, neighbor and citizen, and is esteemed for his good qualities of head and heart. He and his family are members in good standing of the German Evangelical Church. Mr. Spaugler is independent in politics, voting for the man rather than for party.

**R**OBERT R. CRELLIN. In making note of the early settlers of the Prairie State, the name of Mr. Crellin is justly entitled to a prominent position. Though several years have elapsed since he was removed by death, his memory is still cherished by a large circle of friends. He came of a worthy ancestry, and was remotely related to a family of the same name in the Isle of Man, representatives of which are now located in San Diego and San Francisco, Cal. With the exception of relatives living near Joliet, these are the only known families of the name in the United States.

Ohio was the native State of our subject and in Avon he was born October 25, 1843. His father, Thomas Crellin, was a life-long farmer by occupation and a reliable citizen. The mother bore the maiden name of Catherine Hampton. The family settled in Jackson Township in 1852, the father purchasing Government land from which he improved a farm and there with his estimable wife spent the remainder of his days.

The subject of this notice remained a member of the parental household until his marriage, which occurred April 23, 1867. His wife, Miss Leonora Kelley, was born on the Isle of Man, August 31, 1849, and is still living, being now a resident of Joliet. Her parents, Robert and Catherine (Cowle) Kelley, emigrated to America when their daughter was a child of three years, locating first in Lake County, Ohio. There Miss Kelley spent her girlhood days, remaining under the parental roof until leaving it to become mistress of her own home.

Mr. and Mrs. Kelley remained residents of Ohio until 1880, and then came to Florence Township, this county, where they lived until the fall of 1888. Then retiring from the active labors of life they

removed to the city of Joliet where the father died July 1, 1889; the mother is still living. The parental household included eight children, three of whom are living and located in Illinois and Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Crellin after their marriage settled on a farm in Florence Township where they labored together in the building up of a home and effected good improvements. Then on account of the failing health of Mr. Crellin they removed to Joliet, where his death occurred, November 30, 1887. The family residence in the city is pleasantly located at No. 310, Richards Street, and Mrs. Crellin still owns the farm which is the source of a comfortable income.

To Mr. and Mrs. Crellin there was born a family of four children, two daughters and two sons, viz: Ella, Laura, George and Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Crellin united with the Richards Street Methodist Episcopal Church many years ago. The cultured tastes of the family are indicated in their home surroundings, and a fine library, filled with select works furnishes many an hour's recreation. Miss Laura Crellin completed her studies at the High School in Joliet and for the past three years has been engaged as a teacher. Miss Ella has fitted herself for the same profession, being a graduate of the Normal School, Normal Park, Ill., and Joliet High School. She has already had three years experience as a teacher. George, a youth of sixteen years, has already started out for himself. The youngest son remains at home with his mother.

The many friends of Mr. Crellin will be pleased to notice his portrait, presented on another page.

**H**ENRY J. SAWYER is a well-known manufacturer of Joliet, although at the present time retired from active business pursuits. For a number of years he was a member of the firm of Adler & Sawyer, whose boot and shoe establishment on Jefferson Street was one of the prominent retail stores of the city. Mr. Sawyer was Superintendent for the firm of M. Selz & Co., of Chicago, who had a prison contract, their business consuming \$500,000 per year in the purchase of

materials and manufacture of goods. He possesses a practical knowledge of the business from the foundation up, having himself worked through every department, and having also a decided judgment and tact has proved himself an excellent buyer, organizer and manager of a large establishment. His personal reputation is that of an honorable man and worthy citizen, and he therefore commands the respect of his fellow-men.

The natal day of Mr. Sawyer was January 22, 1825, and his birthplace the city of New York. He is a son of John B. Sawyer, an Eastern man, whose circumstances were such that the lad was put out at the age of nine years, having his own way to make from that early age. His younger days were spent in the southeastern part of Worcester County, Mass., where he gained a knowledge of manufacturing, the firm of Bowker & Phipps starting a boot and shoe manufactory in 1846, of which he took charge. When they opened a wareroom he continued as manager for them until 1850, at which time he accepted a position with B. D. Godfrey, one of the leading men in the State as a manufacturer in the same line of business, in Milford, Mass. With this gentleman Mr. Sawyer remained until the spring of 1857, when he lost his wife and changed his abode to Hopkinton, Mass., where he remained for six years, still in his old line of business.

The next move of our subject was to Chicago, where he took charge of the manufacturing part of the boot and shoe business of Davis, Sawyer & Co., retaining the position for a period of six years, until the time of the great fire. An opportunity then offering, he came to Joliet in the employ of M. Selz & Co., who had a prison contract, Mr. Sawyer being the only person in the concern who understood shoe manufacturing. He therefore acted as General Superintendent of the manufactory, organizing the business, and buying all their goods and material for nearly fifteen years. Their house was the largest in Chicago in their line of business.

In 1887, his health failing, Mr. Sawyer withdrew. He was the manufacturer of the Sawyer boot, which was first made by the firm of Davis, Sawyer & Co., during his management, the first prison enterprise in that line that was successful, the material which

he used being the best and the goods well made and reliable. The concern employed five hundred convicts and a large amount of skilled citizen labor and was altogether a magnificent business. Prior to his withdrawal from active management Mr. Sawyer became a member of the new firm of Adler & Sawyer, retaining his interest until 1889.

Mr. Sawyer has not engaged in active business affairs for some time, and the past two winters have been spent by him in Florida. He has been too busy to indulge in any political aspirations, but votes with the Republican party at all times. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, having membership in Corinthian Chapter, No. 69, of Chicago, although not at present very active in the order. His worldly possessions are the result of his activity and ability in business, and of his wise management of the remuneration which he has received, and reflects credit upon him and his efforts.

The first wife of Mr. Sawyer was in her girlhood Miss Chloe S. Comey, of Foxboro, Mass. She was removed from him by death April 4, 1857, leaving two daughters, who are still living. They are Alma, wife of Clarence A. Claffin, of Omaha, Neb., and Mary B., wife of Clarence A. Thompson, now of Hopkinton, Mass. After having remained a widow for a number of years, Mr. Sawyer contracted a second matrimonial alliance, being united on January 27, 1869, with Sarah A. Cook, of Blackstone, Mass. The union has resulted in the birth of six children, all living and still at home. They are named respectively: Henry J. Jr., Gordon H., Mabel A., Gertrude L., Elsie L. and Ernest M.

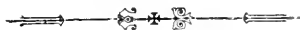


JOHN O. BARRETT, a prominent figure among the hardware interests of Joliet, has for many years been connected with this department of trade and acquired a good understanding of it in all its details. He is a man who attends strictly to business and one who bears the reputation of being strictly reliable and worthy of being trusted in any business which his judgment may justify him in undertaking. He carries

a well-selected stock of goods, valued at \$35,000 and during the year 1889 transacted a business of \$195,000. There is a prospect that during the year 1890, his sales will even exceed this figure.

Mr. Barrett was born in Joliet, Ill., March 16, 1851, and is the son of W. F. and Clamana (Onderdonk) Barrett, the former of whom was a native of Lennox, Mass., and a tinner by trade. When leaving his native State he went over into Canada and worked for a time in the city of London. From there he emigrated to Jackson, Mich., and thence to Joliet in 1850. The parental household consisted of three sons and three daughters, two of whom are deceased. Sarah E., (Mrs. Baird) is a resident of Walsenburg, Col.; Charity Maria (Mrs. Carson) is a resident of Joliet; John O., our subject, was the next in order of birth. W. F., Jr., is in the wholesale millinery house of D. B. Fisk & Co., Chicago; Elizabeth Acker remains at home; Edward C. is with his brother, John O., in the hardware store. The father died in Joliet June 1, 1879. He was prominent in local affairs and had been a member of the City Council a number of years. The mother is still living on the West Side, in Joliet.

Mr. Barrett acquired his education in the common school and subsequently for a time was engaged as a clerk in the hardware store of T. P. Ford. He was married September 16, 1873, to Miss Mary C., daughter of Benjamin Warren of Worcester, Mass. Mr. and Mrs. Barrett have no children. Mr. Barrett votes the straight Republican ticket, but has declined to assume the responsibilities of office.



**N**ICHOLAS KORST, whose home is on section 5, Jackson Township, is the fortunate owner of two hundred and seventy-three acres of valuable land, a part of which lies in Joliet Township. The most of the buildings upon the estate were erected by himself, and they include every needful and convenient structure, all well built, well designed, and kept in perfect repair. The other improvements which have been

made upon the estate are equally as good, and it needs but a glance to assure even the most unobserving of the fact that industry, frugality, and enterprise are prominent traits in the character of the owner. A mention of his name secures the additional information that he is numbered among the public-spirited and reliable citizens of the section in which he has made his home for many years.

The birth of this gentleman took place in the Kingdom of Prussia, September 24, 1827, and he acquired a good understanding of the more important branches of education, under the system which Germany so generously provides. He learned the trade of a stone-cutter, following it both in his native land and after coming to America, for many years. Believing that in the United States he would have a better opportunity to use to his worldly advantage the energies which nature had bestowed upon him, he emigrated in 1857. He bade adieu to his native land June 27, and landed in New York at noon, August 12. He came direct to Chicago and thence to Joliet, near which city he lived until 1873. He then settled on the farm where he now lives, still following his trade in connection with his farm work.

When Mr. Korst made his first appearance in Joliet he was accompanied by his wife and three children, and his capital in trade amounted to twenty shillings. The property which he has accumulated and the manner in which his family has been reared, is one of the best proofs that he possesses the qualities above mentioned. He is a man of more than ordinary intelligence, in whose society an hour can always be spent to advantage and his personal character is such as to cause him to be regarded with great respect. He has been useful in the community as School Director and Overseer of Highways. In politics he is a Democrat. He and his family are communicants of the Catholic Church.

The faithful companion of Mr. Korst is a lady of his own country, born September 3, 1830, and bearing the maiden name of Catherine Surges. The rites of wedlock were celebrated between them November 27, 1852, and since that day Mrs. Korst has shared as a devoted helpmate in the toils and

successes of her husband. They are the parents of eleven children—Susannah, Simon, John, William, Barbara, Michael, Mary, Frank, Nicholas and Peter, now living, and Mathias, who died in infancy. Susannah is now the wife of Edward Baum; Simon lives in Chicago; John in Jackson Township; William, in Minnesota; Barbara is the wife of Joseph Rodymaker; Mary is the wife of Jacob Eis.



**EDWARD HOWARD AKIN.** This name will be remembered by the older residents of Will County as belonging to one of its most prominent citizens and successful men. He was born in Johnstown, N. Y., July 3, 1815, and departed this life at his home, in Joliet, December 26, 1880. He was the offspring of a good old family, being the son of Abraham and the grandson of Edward Akin, the former of whom spent his last years in Lockport, Will County, Ill.

The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Asenath Matthews. When his son was but a boy, Abraham Akin removed with his family to Onondaga County, N. Y., and purchased a farm of five hundred acres near Syracuse, upon which he settled, and where Edward H. grew to manhood. The latter when twenty-one years old left the farm and entered a store at Liverpool, N. Y. This movement was the result of a long mental conflict under the conviction that he was fitted for something better in life than labor in the field. He laid down his hoe one day and told his mother that if he could make his living in some other way he would never hoe another row of corn.

The parents of our subject remained on the farm in New York State as long as the father was able to engage in active labor. They then came to this county, and the father died three years later, in Lockport, in 1846. The mother died July 28, 1872, at the same place. Mr. Akin, of whom we write, putting his resolve into execution, entered a store in Liverpool, N. Y., where he began his mercantile career. Later, in company with his father, under the firm name of Akin & Son, he carried on general merchandising at Liver-

pool, N. Y. He also engaged in the manufacture of salt at Liverpool, and continued a resident of Onondaga County, N. Y., until removing to Berrien County, Mich., in the fall of 1817. Later, he went to Chicago with his family, and there his eldest son, John, was born. On account of the breaking out of cholera, he left Chicago and returned to the residence of his parents in Lockport, Ill.

In April, 1850, Mr. Akin, in company with a party from Lockport, crossed the plains to California, driving mules and oxen, and arrived at his destination after a three months' journey. He occupied himself at mining successfully along the Yuba River, also at Placerville and Sacramento. Returning to Lockport in October, 1851, he purchased his mother's farm. In 1851 he removed to Joliet and established a stave manufactory and cooper shop. This enterprise proved successful and gave employment to twenty men continually until 1864. For six years afterward Mr. Akin engaged in the manufacture of flour at Hennepin. He returned to Joliet in 1867 and, in company with others, carried on a woolen mill, of which he was Superintendent. He subsequently embarked in the real estate business and followed this until his death, which occurred December 26, 1880.

Mr. Akin laid out the subdivision, of which he was owner, which is now called Brooklyn, and erected the Akin Block in 1877. He was regarded as an enterprising business man and contributed his full share toward the growth of his adopted city. He was a Mason in good standing, having attained to the Knight Templar degree, and in politics, he was an ardent Republican. He regularly attended the Central Presbyterian Church, of which he was a supporter, and also a Trustee during the later years of his life. He was one of the founders of the People's Loan & Homestead Association, of which he was also a Director, and one of the Directors of Oakwood Cemetery. He was likewise Treasurer of two Masonic bodies.

Mr. Akin was married June 10, 1840, in Cortland, N. Y., to Miss Sophronia C. Merrill. This lady was born September 18, 1818, and is the daughter of Abel and Charlotte (Curtis) Merrill, who spent their last years in New York State.





Wm. E. Henry



Her father died when Mrs. Akin was only three years old. The four children born of this union are all living. Charlotte was born September 3, 1812, at Liverpool, N. Y., and resides with her mother in Joliet; Lucy H., who was born in Liverpool, June 18, 1816, also resides with her mother; John J., born August 26, 1848, married Maargareta S. Miller, of Philadelphia, Pa., is Secretary and Treasurer of the Cable Company owned by the Chicago Syndicate, and makes his headquarters at Los Angeles, Cal.; Edward C. married Louise, daughter of the late Judge Josiah McRoberts, is State's Attorney for Will County and is a resident of the city of Joliet. He read law under the instruction of George S. House, was admitted to the bar and is one of the most successful practitioners in the county. Mrs. Akin has been a member of the Presbyterian Church since 1835, and since 1854 of the Central Presbyterian branch. She is a lady greatly respected in her community and enjoys the friendship and acquaintance of its best people.

We clip the following, in regard to Mr. Akin, from the *Joliet Republican*: "Both in public and private life Mr. Akin was held in high respect and admiration. As a husband, none were more loving and kind. As a father, he trained his children to be men and women of the world, and able to fill their parts in the play of life. As a citizen, Mr. Akin has left a bright and honorable record, and yet, though he has passed from among us, he left behind his better part—the legacy of his honorable example."



**W**ILLIAM E. HENRY. Examples of persistence in a chosen vocation and of honest labor followed by success, are numerous, and it is ever a pleasure to record the lives of those who furnish them. A portrait of the subject of this biographical record appears on the opposite page. He is one of those men who have spent many years in one calling and whose lives are marked by honorable dealing and moral principle.

He is now engaged in the real-estate business at Joliet, where he has long resided.

Joseph and Nancy (Apgar) Henry, the parents of our subject, were of German descent and natives of New Jersey, in which State the father was engaged in farming. He died at the age of about sixty years, and his wife passed away in 1864. Their family comprised three sons and four daughters, of whom the subject of this sketch is the first born. George died at the age of nineteen years; Jacob A., is living in Joliet; Mrs. Lydia A. Lowe resides in Fredericksburg, Ohio; Mrs. Rebecca Swackhammer lives in New Jersey; Mrs. Catherine Washburn, now deceased, resided in Massachusetts; Mrs. Ellen White, a widow, lives in Joliet.

The subject of this sketch opened his eyes to the light in New Germantown, Hunterdon County, N. J., November 21, 1820, and passed his boyhood days in his native State. At the age of twenty years he began his career as a railroad man by obtaining a position in the track department of the Hartford & New Haven Railroad. For thirty-three years he continued to do railroad work, during that time laying about two thousand miles of track in seventeen different States. His last venture in that line was a contract for laying one hundred and sixty-five miles of the track of the Grand Trunk Railroad, from Valparaiso, Ind., to Lansing, Mich., and terminated unfortunately, as he has never yet received his pay.

In 1849, Mr. Henry removed to Wellington, Ohio, and made it his home until 1854, when he returned to his native State, ten years later coming to Joliet, Ill. Here he connected himself with the Chicago & Alton Railroad, as Roadmaster, continuing with that company until 1870, when he took the contract before mentioned, which proved an unremunerative one. During the years of 1863, 1864, he had charge of the railroad tracks, bridges, etc., in the army of the Potomac. At the time of the battle of Antietam, Md., he was laying the horse-car road from Pennsylvania Avenue to the Post-office and Navy Yard in Washington City, as its contractor. The Chickahominy bridge was built by him, as contractor, before the war. In 1873, he was elected Mayor of Joliet, and under his faithful oversight, the interests of the city were

rapidly developed. In 1876, having permanently retired from the railroad business, he opened a real-estate office in which he yet continues.

In politics Mr. Henry is a life long Democrat. James K. Polk having received his first ballot in the State of Connecticut, when a property qualification was required in order to secure the right of suffrage. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity which he first joined in Cleveland, Ohio, January 24, 1850.

The first marriage of Mr. Henry took place January 20, 1815, his bride being Miss Elizabeth Stannard, of Westbrook, Conn., who shared his fortunes until 1854, when death removed her from husband and family. She was the mother of five children, two of whom are yet living, their names being George W., and Jacob J., and both being residents of Joliet. On January 20, 1856, Mr. Henry contracted a second matrimonial alliance, his companion being Miss Susan C. Shurts. This union has been blessed by the birth of seven children, of whom those named below are yet living. John is the general manager of the Hubbard Publishing Company in St. Louis, Mo.; Elmer is engaged in the crockery business in Joliet; Joseph E., is a furniture dealer of this city; Flora and Lillie remain with their parents.



**G**EORGE J. MUNROE, Attorney-at-Law, in Joliet, and President of the Citizens' Loan and Trust Company, of Kansas City, Mo., holds an honored place in the commercial circles of this county. During the twelve years in which he has made a specialty of loans, he has successfully handled \$1,818,000 mainly for Eastern parties. He also handles municipal bonds and other negotiable securities. At present Mr. Munroe advances his own money largely in making loans and in purchasing securities, afterwards selling them to investors at home and in the East and realizing handsome returns.

The subject of this notice was born February 11, 1853, in Baraboo, Wis., and is the son of John and Adelia (Paddock) Munroe who are still living and

residents of Baraboo, Wis. John Munroe was born in 1833 in Munroe County, N. Y., where he lived until reaching man's estate. He then emigrated to Southern Wisconsin, but five years later changed the scene of his operations to Sauk County, of which he was a resident forty-two years, and engaged in farming pursuits. Then wisely retiring from active labor he removed to the city of Baraboo, where he and his wife are highly respected and are prominently connected with the Unitarian Church.

The parents of our subject were married at Baraboo, Wis., in 1851. Mrs. Adelia (Paddock) Munroe was born in 1833 in Antioch, Lake County, Ill., where she was reared to womanhood and received a good education. She taught school some time prior to her marriage. Of this union there were born three children, all of whom are living, viz: George J., our subject; Ward, who conducts a cold storage warehouse in Baraboo; and Bessie, the wife of Frank Teal of that city. The elder Munroe was prominent in local affairs during the years of his active life, holding the office of Township Treasurer and School Director, and during the Civil War was entrusted with a large amount of funds to pay off the discharged soldiers at Madison, Wis. He was a strong Union man and uniformly voted with the Republican party. For many years he was one of the Commissioners of Sauk County.

The Munroe family is of Scotch origin and was first represented in this country by the great-grandfather of our subject, George Munroe, who crossed the Atlantic at an early day and settled in Munroe County, N. Y., and which in all probability was named after him. The great-great-grandfather was also named George, and was one of the pioneer farmers of Munroe County, N. Y. Their descendants have inherited in a marked degree the worthy and substantial traits of their ancestors, being men who have held important positions and who have almost uniformly been found worthy of the trusts relegated to them.

The subject of this notice pursued his early studies in the schools of his native city and when a youth of sixteen years repaired to Oberlin, Ohio, and entered the famous Oberlin College, of which he was a student two years. Later he attended the Normal School at Lebanon, Ohio, and from which

he was duly graduated and subsequently followed the profession of a teacher in the Buckeye State. For some time he was Principal of the school at Marlboro, Ohio, which numbered six hundred pupils. Thence, in the year 1874, he removed to Chicago, Ill., for the purpose of reading law. He was admitted to practice by the Supreme Court at Springfield in 1877, and soon thereafter came to Joliet, where he followed his profession successfully to the present time. In the early days of Kansas City his attention was called to its growing prosperity and he accordingly made some investments which have proved very valuable. The Citizens' Loan & Trust Association commenced business February 1, 1889, and at the close of the first year was enabled to make a most satisfactory report of the condition of the company which has already established itself firmly in the confidence of the business men of that place. No small credit is due to President Munroe for the successful manner in which it has been conducted.

The subject of this notice was joined in wedlock with Miss Addie Simond, of Joliet, November 21, 1877. The following year Mr. Munroe entered upon the regular practice of his profession in the same office which he now occupies and where he has transacted a very successful business. Mr. and Mrs. Munroe occupy a snug home in the Seventh Ward of the city, and are now the parents of two bright children, a daughter and son, Jennie and Harold. Mr. and Mrs. Munroe are both members in good standing of St. John's Universalist Church.

Mrs. Munroe was born May 22, 1856, in Joliet, and is the daughter of Salmon O. and C. J. (Treat) Simond, who were natives of New York. Mr. Simond was one of the pioneer farmers of Munroe County, N. Y., but after coming to Joliet became identified with its educational interests and was elected Superintendent of Schools. He won his way into the confidence and esteem of the community by his straightforward and upright life and held various offices, the duties of which he discharged in a manner creditable to himself and satisfactory to all concerned. He died at his home in Joliet, May 30, 1888. His widow is now living with her son-in-law, Mr. Munroe. She bore the maiden name of Jane Treat, and was born in Cat-

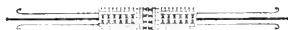
taugus County, N. Y. To her and her husband there was born a family of two children, Mrs. Munroe being the only one now living. The Simond family were among the earliest settlers of this county, and made for themselves a good record in connection with its growth and development.

CHARLES H. BLOGG. In a city like Joliet the subject of fuel is an important one and a trade in that necessary article furnishes occupation to many dealers. The subject of this sketch, although he has not been engaged in business here for any great length of time, has already built up a fine trade. He handles all grades of hard coal together with the Wilmington and Indiana block coal. His boyhood was passed upon a farm, and in the pursuit of agriculture he was engaged until 1888, when he established his present business. His nature is an energetic one, and his early training developed those traits which are needful to a successful business career and secured for him the practical education without which a man can scarcely succeed.

Mr. Blogg is still quite young, having been born June 22, 1851. His birthplace was Norwich, England, his parents removing to Lockport, Ill., when he was about six years of age, and he is the oldest of six sons and two daughters born to them. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen organization and of the First Presbyterian Church. His private character is above reproach, while in knowledge of general topics and current events he keeps pace with the times. The estimable lady who presides over his cozy home is the daughter of one of Will County's wealthy farmers, whose home is at Plainfield. Her maiden name was Mary Ann Goodson, and her parents were William and Sarah Goodson, whose voyage across the Atlantic was their wedding journey. Mr. and Mrs. Blogg were married February 14, 1877, and are the parents of one child, Mabel.

The parents of our subject are John and Maria (Hilling) Blogg, natives of England, whence they came to America in 1857. In England John Blogg

was a farm laborer and had spent twenty one years in the employ of one man. Reaching the United States he located at Lockport, Ill., spending some years in the employ of John Fiddlyment. He then engaged in farming for himself, first as a renter and later as the owner of real estate. The brothers and sisters of our subject are: William, whose home is in Florence, Will County; Mrs. Sarah Faulkner of Wilmington, this county; Edward, an engineer in the wire works at Lockport; Samuel, an engineer in Joliet; Mrs. Mary Dickson of Lockport; Albert lives in Wilmington; George and Henry reside in Florence.



**C**HARLES F. BLOOD. This gentleman needs little introduction to the people of Will County, as he has long been recognized as one of the leading men of Joliet. He is universally popular in both social and business circles and is possessed of more than ordinary ability, together with the energy and enterprise which seldom fails to win. After filling many positions of trust and responsibility in connection with the city fire department, he was promoted to the rank of Chief of Police, which office he held until June, 1890.

A native of the Empire State, Mr. Blood was born in Aurora, Erie County, February 11, 1811, and is a son of Horace and Nancy (Fairbanks) Blood, who were natives of Putnam, Vt., and were of Scotch extraction, the father born in 1804 and the mother in 1808. They spent their childhood and youth in the place of their birth and there, also, in 1828, they were married. Horace Blood was a harness-maker by trade but, in 1831, upon leaving the Green Mountain State, emigrated to New York and engaged in farming. He served with distinction in the Patriot War and was prominent in local affairs, serving as School Treasurer and Commissioner and occupying other positions of trust. Sojourning in New York State until 1869 the father of our subject then deciding to push on farther westward, emigrated to Jasper County, Ind., where he followed farming until his death, in September, 1889. He was a good man in the broadest

sense of the term and made for himself an honorable record for integrity and usefulness. The mother departed this life at the old homestead in Indiana, in 1887. Eleven children comprised the parental family, embracing four sons and seven daughters.

Mr. Blood was the second son of his parents, and at the breaking out of the Civil War enlisted when only a youth of seventeen years in the Tenth New York Cavalry. He gave a faithful service of three years to his country, serving under Gens. Stoneman, Pleasanton and Sheridan, in Kilpatrick's Brigade. He was with the latter at the capture of Pickett's Division and fought at Gettysburg and Antietam, following the army of the Potomac in all of its great movements and when it covered itself with glory. At Trevilian Station, Va., he was wounded in the foot, but not so seriously as to prevent his continuance with his regiment. He endured with fortitude the various hardships and privations of army life, and at the expiration of his term of service received an honorable discharge.

Returning now to his old home in New York State, Mr. Blood resumed his studies in the academy, where he remained one year. He then came to this county, locating in Plainfield in 1868 and engaged in butchering. Later he went to his father's home in Indiana where he sojourned two years. In the meantime he was married, June 29, 1871, to Miss Caroline Focannon. This lady was born in Montezuma, Ind., in 1818, and was the daughter of an old soldier of the late war who gave up his life for his country. Immediately after marriage the young couple came to Joliet and Mr. Blood became the employe of J. D. Paige in the bottling works, where he continued until 1879.

Being called upon now to discharge the duties of Assistant Township Assessor of Joliet Township, Mr. Blood entered upon the duties of this position which he held three years. Next he was made engineer of the City Fire Department and was thus occupied until the spring of 1888. Still advancing, he was next appointed Chief of Police, and introduced many reforms in connection with the force, which under his supervision increased in numbers and efficiency. At the close of his police duties, in June, 1890, he formed a partnership with T. P. Houghton, and commenced dealing in coal.

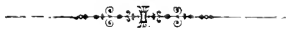




JACOB SPAULDING.

coke, etc. His business headquarters are at No. 731, Washington Street, and his patrons are numbered among the leading residents of the city.

To Mr. and Mrs. Blood there has been born a family of six interesting children, the eldest of whom, a son, Harry, died when four years old. The survivors are Otto, Ernest, Christine, Horace and Myra. They occupy a snug home on Bluff Street and enjoy the association of many friends. Mr. Blood belongs to Lodge No. 23, I. O. O. F. at Lockport, and Bartleson Post, No. 6, G. A. R. at Joliet, also Lodge No. 2, U. V. U. at Joliet.



JACOB SPAULDING is distinguished as being the oldest living pioneer of Wheatland Township, where he has made his home for nearly half a century, and it gives us pleasure not only to record his life in this volume, but also to present his portrait on the opposite page. He is a farmer and stock-raiser, carrying on his business at his well-appointed farm on section 21, so as to derive a good income therefrom, and, free from the necessity of constant labor that beset his early years, he can enjoy the fruits of a well-spent life as it declines toward its close.

Mr. Spaulding was born in Norfolk County, England, August 23, 1810, to Jacob and Mary Spaulding, who were also natives of that country. The early years of his life were spent in the land of his nativity, and he was reared as a farmer and laborer, receiving but few advantages in the line of education while he remained on his native soil. After coming to this country he attended the evening schools in this State, and acquired the rudiments of an education. In 1836 he took his life and fortunes in his own hands and emigrated to America, taking passage at Yarmouth on a sailing-vessel, and after a voyage of eight weeks and four days landing in Quebec, Canada. He did not, however, make a lengthy stay in the Queen's dominion, but crossed the border to Jefferson County, N. Y.

After working there as a farm hand for a few months, Mr. Spaulding then took up his residence

in Onondaga County. He was there for some three years, working as a farm hand, and in 1840 sought the pioneer State of Illinois. He hired out here for the first summer, but the next summer, being more independent, he began farming on shares. He was thus engaged for two seasons, and finally settled on his present farm in 1844. This he had purchased the year before from the Government, paying \$1.25 an acre for the eighty acres that then comprised his homestead. When he settled on it the surrounding country was very sparsely inhabited, and his farm was in a lonely place, there being no other house between it and Plainfield. A furrow had not been turned on the land, and our subject had to begin at the very beginning and evolve his farm from the wild prairie, the land being just as the Indians had left it.

A great deal of pioneer work has been accomplished by the systematic labor of Mr. Spaulding, and under his skillful hand the farm has become finely improved; he has added to its acreage until he now has one hundred and sixty acres of as fertile and finely tilled farming land as may be found in the township. Here he and his wife have built up a substantial home, supplied with all the necessities and comforts of life. To this good woman who presides over his household, Mr. Spaulding was united in marriage January 1, 1848. Mrs. Spaulding's maiden name was Jane Vinson, and she was born in Cornwall County, England, February 13, 1827. Her parents were William and Mary (Corry) Vinsen, natives of England. In 1833, when Mrs. Spaulding was in her sixth year, she accompanied her parents to America, sailing from Bedford, and after a voyage of eleven weeks landing on Prince Edward Island. On the very next trip of the vessel in which their journey had been made, she sank about a half mile from Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, but another ship rescued her passengers. The family lived on the Island until 1844, and in that year came to Illinois and resided in Kendall County for a short time. To Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding have been born ten children, six of whom are still living—Martha, wife of Lansing Lockwood; Edmund; Flora, wife of Hugh Lemmer; Cora, wife of Lewis Harford;

Frank; and Nina E., wife of James Peck. The names of the deceased children are: Jacob W., Mary P., Richard W. and Charles H.

Coming here when in the prime of a vigorous manhood, and having passed so many of the years of his life here, Mr. Spaulding is well known and is greatly esteemed, his reputation for veracity, integrity, and unostentatious piety being of the highest. As School Director and as Librarian of the Library, which positions he has held for several years, educational matters have received careful attention from him. He was at one time Pound Master. He and his wife are among the most respected members of the Baptist Church, and lead consistent Christian lives.



**J**OHNS FRIDLEY. This gentleman is one of those residents of Florence Township whose position demonstrates the ability which as farmers and financiers have marked their lives. Beginning his worldly career as a poor man on rented land, he has accumulated a large share of this world's goods, including a fine tract of two hundred and thirty-seven acres of productive land. It is situated on section 9, and attracts more than a passing glance from the passer-by on account of the large barns and other good out-buildings that adorn it, the neatness and order manifested in all its parts, and the homelike and well built residence, under whose roof one is sure that geniality and good cheer abound.

Mr. Fridley was born in Switzerland, in February, 1822, and is a son of Jacob and Mary Fridley, who spent their entire lives in that romantic land. The family is of German stock, as are most of the residents of the section of Switzerland in which they lived. He of whom we write is the sixth child of a family of nine sons and daughters. In his native land he was reared and remained until he was thirty-three years old. He then embarked for America accompanied by his bride, and made his home in Joliet for a few months. In 1856 he removed to Reed's Grove, Jackson Township, where he prosecuted his labors until 1870, at

which time he removed to the farm he now occupies. On this tract of land he has made the excellent improvements that mark it as the home of a man of energy and good judgment.

The lady who on November 28, 1855, became the wife of our subject, was known in her maidenhood as Miss Mary Yonker. She was born in Switzerland in 1829, and still lives to enjoy with husband and children the comforts earned by years of industry and prudence. The only son of our subject and his wife is John F., who on January 4, 1884, married Miss Mattie A. Yonker, of Morris; he remains at the old home assisting his father in the care of the estate. The only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fridley is Mary A. This lady on October 11, 1885, became the wife of Benjamin Yonker, of Morris, a half brother of her sister-in-law. They are now living on a farm in the same town-ship as her parents. The vote and influence of Mr. Fridley was given to the Republican party in whose principles he is a firm believer. He belongs to the Evangelical Church. Not only by his associate members, but by all to whom he is known, he is respected for his uprightness and ability, while the members of his family are likewise regarded with favor by their acquaintance.



**F**ITZ J. ROBINS, one of the oldest settlers of Wheatland, did good service as a pioneer of the county in the early years of its settlement, actively assisting in the development of its rich agricultural resources, and is now enjoying the fruits of his early labors in his pleasant home, finely located on section 27, on one of the best cultivated farms in the township.

Mr. Robins is an Englishman by birth, his native place being on the Isle of Wight in the English Channel, where he was born October 2, 1826, to James and Sarah (Holly) Robins. His paternal grandfather was Joseph Robins.

The subject of this sketch is the fourth child in his father's family, and passed the early years of his childhood on his native isle, remaining an inmate of the parental household till his sixteenth



year. He was then apprenticed to a general carpenter and wagon-maker in Devonshire, England, and had served for two years to learn the trade. Ambitious to see something more of life and to visit this country, of which he had heard so much, thinking that his prospects of earning something more than a mere livelihood would be better here than in the land of his birth, he emigrated to the United States in 1843, taking passage at Southampton on a sailing vessel, and after a voyage of about five weeks, landing in New York City. He came directly to Illinois and for a short time worked at his trade in Chicago. Observing the many advantages that the remarkably fertile soil of Illinois gave to the farmer, he abandoned his calling to give attention to agricultural pursuits, and in the fall of 1845, located on his present farm. This was at the time in a wild condition, he being the first white man to locate on it. His first work was to erect a small frame house, one and one half story in height and 16x26 feet in dimensions, which he made his home for a number of years. In 1871 he remodeled and added to it and made his present commodious, conveniently arranged dwelling. His farm comprises one hundred and twenty-five acres of land, which he has placed under good cultivation and has supplied with excellent improvements.

October 2, 1854, Mr. Robins and Miss Elizabeth Kinley were united in marriage. She is a native of Prince Edward Island, born July 3, 1832, and a daughter of William and Ann (Allen) Kinley. Her father was a native of the Isle of Man and her mother was born in Nova Scotia, both being descendants of a sterling English ancestry.

To Mr. and Mrs. Robins has been born a large family of children, of whom the following eight survive: William K., a resident of Cherokee County, Iowa; Alfred M.; Idell C., wife of R. S. Sager, of Story County, Iowa; Lucy A., wife of M. J. Kenison, of Story County, Iowa; Ethel M., wife of J. C. Eyer; Eva I., wife of Albert Lerner, Buena Vista, Iowa; Russell C., and Bertha. The names of the deceased children are Georgina, Lizzie, John J. and James.

Through his long residence here Mr. Robins is well-known, and he is regarded as a thoroughly

good man, whose life is guided by principles of rectitude and unswerving integrity, whose loyal citizenship is an honor to the place, and whose willing helpfulness and roundabout common sense makes him a good neighbor and a safe counselor. He favors all schemes for improving his adopted township, and did good service as Road Commissioner in the term that he held the office. He is a Prohibitionist in politics. He and his wife are members of the Baptist Church at Plainfield, and cheerfully give their support to every good work that is carried on by its pastor and members.



CAPT. EDWARD McALLISTER is classed among the leading farmers of Plainfield, where he has a farm that in point of cultivation and general improvement is considered one of the most desirable in the township. Our subject is a fine representative of the citizen-soldiers of the United States who fought in the late war and saved the Union from dissolution, and he won an honorable record as an intelligent, brave soldier and efficient leader.

The Captain was born in the town of Salem, Washington County, N. Y., December 24, 1828. His father, William McAllister, was a native of the same town, and a son of the Hon. Hamilton McAllister, a native of Scotland. He was born and reared in that country, and came from there to America accompanied by two brothers, one of whom settled in Philadelphia and the other in New York. The grandfather of our subject was agent for a company of large land-owners, and held power of attorney to do business for them. He was one of the three first white men who ever settled at Salem, where he took up a tract of timber land and cleared a fine farm. He soon began to take a leading part in public life, and was one of the foremost citizens of Washington County. He was its first Sheriff, and represented the county in the State Legislature. That was the time when each member had to pay his own expenses, and as money was scarce, many of the legislators had to resort to various expedients to foot their bills,

and it is told of him that his faithful wife made butter and sent it to Albany to pay his board. In the early days of settlement of the county there were no mills, and on one occasion his wife took a sack of wheat on horseback by an Indian trail to Albany, forty miles distant. The maiden name of the grandmother of our subject, was Sarah Dick, and she was born in Ireland, and was of Scotch ancestry.

The father of our subject grew to stalwart manhood in his native county, and followed agriculture all his days, placing himself among the most substantial and well-to-do farmers of the county. He inherited a part of the old homestead and bought out the interest of the other heirs in it, and there his entire life was passed in tranquillity and prosperity. The maiden name of his wife was Anna Shouder, and she was also born in Washington County. Her father, Andrew Shouder, is thought to have been a native of the same county, his ancestry originating in Holland. He was a farmer and also kept a tavern on the Troy and Whitehall Road. He spent his last years on a farm. The mother of our subject died on the old homestead eight years after his father departed this life. To that worthy couple were born six children, five of whom were reared to maturity. Archibald was a pioneer farmer of Plainfield, coming here in 1818, and he died in Chicago. William K. was for many years one of the most eminent members of the legal profession in Illinois. He was at one time Judge of the old Recorder's Court, of Chicago; from 1870 to 1873 he sat on the Supreme Bench of the State. After his resignation from that position he was again elected a member of the Circuit Court of Cook County, and served in that capacity until he was called to be Judge of the Appellate Court, and he held that office at the time of his death at his home in Ravenswood, Chicago, in 1888 or 1889. Our subject's sister, Catherine, married John C. Walker, and lives in New York State. His brother, Jesse, who was a farmer and stock man, is now deceased.

He of whom we write passed the early years of his life in his native State, but in the prime and vigor of the opening years of his manhood he left the scenes of his youth and his many friends, having re-

solved to see what life held for him on the boundless prairies of the "Great West," and coming to Illinois, he cast in his lot with the settlers of Will County, locating on the farm that he still occupies, and which under his careful and skillful management is made to yield large harvests and a comfortable income. He was busily engaged in agricultural pursuits when the first alarm of the war was sounded, and he was prompt to offer his services to his country. He previously been Captain of a company of State militia, and April 21, 1861, it was called out by the Governor and sent to Cairo, and was there organized as Company K, Tenth Illinois Infantry, but September 1 was mustered in as Company K, First Illinois Artillery, generally known and spoken of in histories as McAllister's Battery, in honor of its brave Captain. Our subject was soon solicited by Gen. Prentiss, the commander, to remain and take charge of the fort. The Captain hired men, whom he paid out of his own pocket, to recruit a company, of which he was commissioned Captain, and was in command at the battle of Shiloh, where his men, inspired by his presence and spirited example, did noble service. The hardships and privations of military life proved too great for even the hardy constitution of our subject, and soon after that battle he was obliged to succumb to sickness and to resign his position. He returned home, and as soon as sufficiently recuperated from ill-health, he resumed farming, and has ever since been prosperously engaged at that, having his farm of one hundred and sixty acres of choice farming land under high cultivation, and has it amply supplied with substantial, roomy buildings, and all the needed appliances for carrying on agriculture after the best methods.

Capt. McAllister had the good fortune to secure in the wife, to whom he was wedded in 1860, a true helpmate and companion, one who knows well how to make home pleasant and attractive. Mrs. McAllister's maiden name was Fanny M. Bebee, and she is, like himself, a native of Salem, N. Y., a daughter of Norman and Sophie Bebee. Five children have been born to our subject and his wife, namely: Carrie, Ada, Jessie, Clyde and William King, the latter being deceased.

Honorable and upright, a loyal citizen, true hus-





*Fred. Schrey*

band, tender father and faithful friend, in our subject township and county find an example of their best citizenship. The Captain votes with the Republican party, and is one of its strongest supporters in this vicinity. He is public-spirited and takes a deep interest in civic affairs, and has represented Plainfield on the County Board of Supervisors. Socially, he is a member of Plainfield Lodge, No. 536, A. F. & A. M. A man of clear and progressive views on all questions of general interest religiously, he is a Universalist, he and his family being members of the Universalist Society, of Plainfield.



**F**REDERICK SEHRING. The brewery interests of Will County acknowledge as among their leading men the subject of this notice, a portrait of whom appears on the opposite page. He is prominent in the affairs of Joliet and has been a member of the City Council since 1871. Of German birth and parentage, he was born in Laugen Duchy, Hesse-Darmstadt, December 19, 1831. His father, Weigand Schring, was a soldier in the War of 1813, in Germany, and married Margaretha Keim. They came to America in 1817, settling in Frankfort Township, Will County, where the father occupied himself as a farmer until 1854. That year he removed with his family to Joliet and conducted an hotel until 1860, while in the meantime, Frederick, who was fond of his books, devoted himself to study. At their home in Joliet, the parents both passed to their last rest.

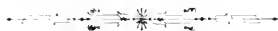
Mr. Schring began his business career as a Deputy Clerk in the Recorder's office of the county, where he remained until 1863. He was then elected County Treasurer and served two terms; in March, 1871, he was elected to represent his ward in the City Council, where he has since served with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He at an early age evinced unusual business capacities and in 1868, had accumulated sufficient means to go into business, which he did in company with a partner under the firm name of Joseph Braun & Co. With \$6,000 capital they established

what has now become one of the finest breweries in the Northwest. This was conducted successfully until January, 1883, when it was enlarged and incorporated under the title of the Fred Sehring Brewery Company, with our subject as President; Henry Sehring, Vice-President; H. F. Piepenbrink, Secretary and Treasurer, and L. J. Sehring, Superintendent. The new corporation started in with a capital stock of \$50,000, and the following month bought out the brewery of Henry Eder opposite. The brewery now has a capacity of thirty thousand barrels per year and give employment to twenty-five men. The plant occupies about five acres of ground and with its buildings and machinery is of great value, being one of the leading institutions of Illinois and furnishing the beverage not only to city of Joliet, but the towns surrounding.

The subject of this notice was married January 16, 1855, to Mrs. Louise Bez, and to them have been born six children, all living and named respectively: Susan E., Louis J., Maggie, the wife of H. F. Piepenbrink, Henry, Anna and George. The eldest son, Louis, was born in Joliet April 12, 1858, acquiring his education in the city schools and at an early age learned the brewing business at which he engaged with his father. He served through an apprenticeship with this at New York and Chicago, and then returning to Joliet, took charge in 1878, of the business of which he has since been Superintendent. Like his honored father he has been prominent in local affairs, representing the Third Ward in the City Council for two years (1885-86). Aside from this, however, he has devoted himself mainly to business and displays ability and judgment beyond that usually evinced by men of his years. He belongs to the various civic societies of the city and is highly spoken of by all who know him. The father certainly has reason to be proud of his son.

Our subject, politically, is a staunch Democrat. He has for many years been prominently connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, representing it in the Grand Lodge and is likewise identified with the Masonic fraternity. He has gained considerable distinction in politics, being nominated in the fall of 1871 by the liberal Democrats to the State Senate, against O. M. Marshall,

the Republican, and C. Frazier, the Granger candidate. Mr. Marshall was elected by twelve majority over Mr. Schring, who contested the election and proved the existence of one hundred and forty illegal votes—the committee reporting these in his favor. When put to the regular vote the Republicans and Grangers stood twenty-six for Marshall and twenty-three for Schring.



**M**ICHAEL RAPPAL. The farming community of Joliet Township recognizes a worthy representative in the subject of this notice, who pursues the even tenor of his way at a well-developed farm on section 7, and who exercises a considerable influence in his community. He is looked upon as one of its most reliable men, and has held the various local offices, serving as Commissioner of Highways six years, also as School Director, and in politics is a Democrat. He was reared in the faith of the Catholic Church, to which he and his estimable wife belong, attending services at Joliet.

In noting the antecedents of our subject, we find that he is the son of Samuel Rappal, a native of what was then the French Province of Alsace, but which now belongs to Germany. The mother bore the maiden name of Barbara Anser. She was a native of the same village as her husband, where they were married and lived for several years afterward. In 1846 they decided upon emigrating to America, and crossed the Atlantic in the spring of the year, coming directly to Will County, Ill., and settling in Joliet. The father occupied himself as a farmer, and died there in the spring of 1867. The mother survived her husband a number of years, dying at the home of her son, our subject, about 1885.

To Samuel Rappal and his good wife there was born a family of five children, the eldest of whom was he whose name heads this sketch. He was a native of the same province as his parents, and was born August 25, 1833. He was a lad of thirteen years when the family emigrated to America, and he sojourned with them about four years thereafter. In the spring of 1850, when a youth of seventeen

years, he started for California, joining the caravan which was hastening thither in search of gold. After an absence of about eighteen months he was content to return home, and thereafter followed the peaceful pursuits of farm life. In addition to this he has also been considerably interested in buying and shipping horses, especially during the war, and for some time afterward.

Mr. Rappal was married, in Chicago, Ill., September 1, 1853, to Miss Antoinette Drendel. This lady was also a native of the Province of Alsace, and was born May 7, 1833. Her parents were of German ancestry, and are now deceased. She came to America with her parents about 1846, and of her union with our subject there have been born six children, viz: Teresa, Louisa, Mary (the wife of John Kiep), William, Anna and Joseph. The five unmarried children remain at home with their parents. Mr. Rappal, about 1867, purchased his present farm, which comprises two hundred and sixty acres of choice land, upon which he has effected good improvements. He has been industrious, frugal and temperate, and has acquired a competency.



**J**OHAN J. RINCKER is the owner and occupant of one of the fine farms in Crete Township. He is the representative of a family of considerable prominence in Nassau, Germany. His father, Phillip H. Rincker, was born in Prussia and became a mechanic, owning a bell and brass foundry and manufacturing machines, that being the business in which his father and grandfather before him had been employed. He married Elizabeth Tribnel, who was also born and reared in Nassau, and who, like her husband, came of a good German family. Mr. Rincker was successful in business, leaving his foundry to one of his sons who is continuing it with credit to his worthy sire. The bells that peal in all the prominent churches of Germany were cast at the Rincker foundry. Mrs. Rincker died when seventy years old, her husband surviving a few years and breathing his last at the age of seventy-five. They were prominent members of the German Reformed

(Presbyterian) Church and were not only highly regarded on account of their connection with families of note and their abundant means, but on account of their personal character and genuine worth. Their family comprised ten children, seven sons and three daughters. Four of the children came to America and two of them have since died. Of the entire family but two sons and one daughter are now living.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in Nassau, November 21, 1819, and received a fine education in his native tongue, as well as in Latin and French in his native city. He was the oldest but one, in the parental family. He learned the trade of a bell caster, together with a knowledge of the various departments of the business carried on by his father. While yet a single man he determined to make a home in America, and taking passage at Havre de Grace on the sailing vessel *Batavia*, he reached the western continent after a tedious voyage of four weeks. Landing was made in New York, September 12, 1817, this being before the establishment of Castle Garden in that city.

Mr. Rincker had many of the experiences known to the early emigrant when starting out in this country among entire strangers, and was often imposed upon before he arrived at Buffalo. He had a ticket to Chicago, but was obliged to stop and earn money to buy his bread, having become penniless. He finally met a man who proved a friend in need and gave him a supply of eatables and sent him on his way rejoicing. Probably no prouder man ever lived than was Mr. Rincker at that time. He soon reached the new city of Chicago, which he thought the muddest place on earth.

H. W. Rincker, a brother of our subject, had come to this country some time before, and upon reaching this State and his brother's home, he of whom we write joined him in the establishment of a bell casting foundry, the two continuing in partnership four years. During this time they cast the bell weighing eight thousand pounds, which, from its position in the courthouse, tolled forth the calamity which in 1871, befell the city that has now risen, Phoenix like, from her ashes into a more glorious life. The failing health of Mr. Rincker decided him to leave the noise of the shop and the

city streets, and severing his connection with his brother he came to Will County, in the fall of 1851, and became a farmer here. He purchased one hundred and thirty-five acres of land in Crete Township, the most of which was unbroken, and the greater part of it covered with timber. This he cleared and improved, subsequently adding to its extent until his estate now comprises two hundred and ninety-five acres, the most of which is in an excellent state of improvement. His efforts have made of the farm what it is to-day, a most comfortable home, and the source of a sufficient income to supply the wants of the family and make provision for declining years.

One of the most important steps in the life of Mr. Rincker, was his marriage, which took place at the home of the bride in Cook County. His chosen companion was Miss Helena Pusheck, who was born in Slesceal, Prussia, November 2, 1821, and had lived in Illinois from her fifteenth year. Her parents, Christian and Hannah R. (Hupsch) Pusheck, had emigrated to the United States and settled on a farm twelve miles west of Chicago. There the father died when sixty years of age, his wife surviving him fourteen years and being seventy-five years old at the time of her death. Both were well-known to a large number of the citizens of Cook County, and ranked among the best of the Germans who had sought homes in America. They were members of the Lutheran Church, and carefully reared their daughters in the principles of right living as well as in habits of usefulness in domestic life.

To Mr. and Mrs. Rincker eleven children have been born, all being yet alive except Ottelia, one of a pair of twins, who died when two years old. Charles married Miss Lena Rinne on whose father's farm, they are now living; Frank, who is unmarried, lives on a farm in Minnesota; August, who married Matilda Letz, operates a farm in Watonwan County, Minn.; William, is his father's assistant at home; Emma is the wife of Andrew Rademacher, a farmer in Crete Township; Anna married Leno Knessner, a wood engraver whose home is in Chicago; Mary is the wife of William Reithel, who occupies a farm in Calhoun County, Iowa; Matilda is the wife of Henry Meier, of Watonwan County, Minn.;

Helena, is now in Chicago; Johanna, is with her parents at home. The entire family are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Riecker is a sturdy Republican. After having been in this country twelve years he made a trip to the home of his boyhood, spending about two months with his old friends, but very glad to get back to America again at the expiration of that time. The various members of the family are manifesting the traits of character, kindness of manner, and business tact and energy that make them worthy to bear the name which has descended to them.



**R**OBERT J. BOYLAN, the owner of a good home on section 15, Jackson Township, is a pioneer of the county and as such deserves notice in this volume. He was born in Sussex County, N. J., January 23, 1806, and lived there until he attained his majority, learning surveying and civil engineering after finishing the ordinary branches. He went to Onondaga County, N. Y., where he lived about seven years, during that period taking for his wife Miss Angelina Brown. That lady was born in Onondaga County, March 11, 1811, and died in Jackson's Grove, this county, February 6, 1841. To her had been born three children—James, who died in California; Mary, who was bitten by a rattlesnake and died June 15, 1836, and Mary Jane, now widow of C. M. Kellogg.

In November, 1831, Mr. Boylan came to what is now Will County, locating in Jackson's Grove where he has followed farming in connection with surveying. He at one time owned over two hundred and fifty acres of land but now owns but one hundred and four. Upon this he has made all the improvements it bears. He has held the office of County Surveyor eight years, has been School Treasurer twenty-six consecutive years, was Road Commissioner and Treasurer of the Board sixteen consecutive years, and Township Assessor eight years. He has taken quite an active part in political affairs and is the only surviving member of the convention that was called in 1836 to organize the Democratic party of Will County. He is also the

only survivor of the petitioners for the setting off of this county, which was done at Vandalia, January 6, 1836. In former years he acted with the Democratic party, but is now a Prohibitionist. He and his estimable wife belong to the Baptist Church, in which he has been a member for fifty years and she for nearly as long.

The present Mrs. Boylan became the wife of our subject in Wesley, this county, June 10, 1841. She bore the maiden name of Margaret M. Freer and was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., June 18, 1819. By this marriage there are six living children—namely: Lavinia, wife of A. D. C. Bugbee; Clara, widow of William Aldrich; Albert W.; Alice, wife of W. A. Palmer; Nellie, wife of Albert E. Noel, and Robert J., Jr. The deceased are Villetta, wife of George Stuppler, who died June 12, 1888, and Eugene who died at the age of six years.



**A**DDISON COLLINS, although born in Rochester, N. Y., grew to manhood in this county, living in Homer Township until the summer of 1881. He then removed to New Lenox Village and, abandoning the occupation of farming in which he had previously been engaged, has been living a retired life. He owns an excellent farm of two hundred and forty acres in the township in which he formerly resided. His natal day was October 25, 1832, and he is the second child of the Hon. Addison and Sabrina (Ball) Collins. His father was born in Lenox, Mass., March 29, 1796, and his mother, December 18, 1806. They first settled in Rochester, N. Y., thence going to Berkshire, Tioga County, where they remained until the fall of 1833. They then emigrated to Illinois, locating in the "Yankee settlement" of this county, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

Addison Collins, Sr., studied and practiced law in Rochester, N. Y., but after coming West devoted his attention to farming. He was elected on the Democratic ticket to the State Legislature and served one term. He also acted as Supervisor and Justice of the Peace, and was the first County Sur-







*Coniza Smith*



*C. C. Smith*



veyor of Will County. He passed away March 27, 1864, his widow surviving until August 29, 1875.

The subject of our sketch was married in Chicago, January 9, 1857, to Miss Catherine P., daughter of the late Zachariah W. and Sarah (Harding) Lynx. She was born in Madison County, N. Y., June 17, 1839. To herself and husband seven children have been born. Orline, the firstborn, died when twelve years old; Albert is a druggist in Pueblo, Colo.; Eliza died at the age of six months; Tunis L. is in the express business in Chicago; Mary is the wife of John C. Broadie, of New Lenox Township; Ella is a student in the Joliet High School; Cora completes the family circle. Mr. Collins is a staunch Republican. Mrs. Collins is a member of the Baptist Church.



**C**HARLES C. SMITH. It is a pleasure to incorporate in this volume a sketch of the life and labors of C. C. Smith, of Channahon, and to present on the opposite page his portrait, together with that of his estimable wife. He is well and widely known as the possessor of a large landed estate, is considered one of the best business men in the county, and looked up to for his financial ability and the many pleasing traits of character which he possesses. So wide is his hospitality that he may be said to keep an open house, wherein cordial greeting and good entertainment for mind and body are met with. In his domestic relations Mr. Smith is exceptionally affectionate and liberal, and he is well repaid by the culture and noble characters of his offspring for the advantages which he has bestowed upon them.

The birthplace of Mr. Smith was Jefferson County, East Tenn., and his natal day May 2, 1818. His parents, Barton and Faithy (Moore) Smith, were the children of Revolutionary soldiers. The Smiths were of the old Tennessee and the Moores of the old Virginia stock, and both lines of English ancestry. Barton Smith was the youngest in a family of six boys and three girls. All his brothers were present at the battle of Horse Shoe Bend with Gen. Jackson, and he, himself, had started to

join the forces, and was several hundred miles from home when taken back by his friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Barton Smith removed from Tennessee to Fountain County, Ind., and early in June, 1835, settled in Joliet, Ill. Mr. Smith bought a lot, upon which a little log house stood, and here in due course of time he made a good home. He carried on a farm, but continued to reside in Joliet until his death, in 1862. He was Police Magistrate and Deputy County Collector, and in various ways served the county. His wife survived him about thirteen years. Their family consisted of four children, our subject being the eldest and the only one now surviving. Melinda became the wife of William Walters, and both she and her husband are now deceased, leaving a family; Lucinda married Thomas Hunter, and they died leaving two children; William J. made his home at Geneseo, and when called hence left a family of six children.

Charles C. Smith was eight years of age when his parents removed to Indiana, and in Fountain County much of his boyhood and youth were spent. When the family removed to Joliet the young man started out as a peddler, making a regular trip through Cook, Iroquois, Vermilion and Will Counties with a wagon, and visiting the different localities every six weeks. In those days there was but little money in circulation, and barter and exchange was the rule. Young Smith traded his goods for everything on which he could place a value—cattle, horses, hides, tallow, butter, eggs, coon skins and ginseng root. These he would take to Chicago and trade for more goods. This occupation he followed for nine years, becoming well known and having his coming looked forward to by householders as an event of importance.

The next business enterprise of Mr. Smith was to rent the tract of land upon which he now lives, and to collect all the stock which he owned along the route from Danville hither. He paid \$5 per year for a tract of land upon which thirty-five acres had been broken and where a comfortable house had been built. Two years later, in 1850, he bought the one hundred and forty acres which he was cultivating, and to which he has since added largely. For many years he herded his cattle on

the open prairie. He has now twenty-nine hundred and fifty acres of land, all joining, but some lying within the boundary of Wilmington Township. For many years he was connected with the creamery, and he also had a State contract to furnish the State Prison with beef for eight years. During one year of this time the value of the meat furnished was \$33,000.

On July 24, 1850, that being the year in which he purchased his home, Mr. Smith was united in wedlock with Miss Corenza Burr. This estimable lady is a daughter of Warham and Nancy (Cummings) Burr, natives of New York and North Carolina respectively. Mr. Burr was a school teacher during his earlier life, but eventually became the occupant of a farm in Jackson's Grove, this county, where he died September 6, 1861, his wife following him to the tomb seven months later. Mrs. Burr was a daughter of William and Sarah (Hunt) Cummings, with whom she lived until her marriage, which took place in the Hoosier State. The Burrs afterward removed to Cook County, in 1833, first settling eight miles above Wilmington, now Will County, afterward removing to the village, and thence onto the farm. They were the parents of ten children, four of whom lived to maturity. These are: Mrs. Smith, of this sketch; Sarah, wife of Lemuel Short, of Grundy County; Ira, now a resident of Kansas; and Selina C., wife of Charles J. Longemire, of Kansas City, Mo. One member of the family was killed in the battle of Chickamauga, Tenn., during the first day's fight, his body being left on the field. He and Mr. Longemire belonged to the same regiment—the One Hundredth Illinois Infantry.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Smith is made up of ten sons and daughters, all living but one who died in infancy—Barton, the eldest, is a member of the law firm of Baker, Smith & Baker, of Toledo, Ohio; he married Miss May Searles, and they have two children—Clifford Charles and Mildred; Emma J. is the wife of Herman Unland, of Hutchinson, Kan., and the mother of three children—Corintha C., Lloyd Burton and Bloss Chester; William T. is in the real-estate business in Minneapolis, Minn.; he is married and has four children—Winfred William, Ethel May, Ruth and an infant; the

maiden name of his wife was Mary H. Fowler; Ella May is the wife of Wallace B. Douglas, a lawyer of Moorehead, Minn., and they have two children—Harold M. and Leila Louise; Charles W. now occupies one of his father's farms; he married Margaret A. Miller, and has one son—Charles Claibourne; Lucy M., wife of Frank A. Miller, of Joliet; Cora Ada is the wife of Dr. H. F. Hicks, a dentist of Joliet; Eva Sarah is yet at home; Floyd Herman is now attending school. All have collegiate educations except the younger members of the family, who will receive the same advantages in due time.

Mr. Smith is a Democrat, and was elected on the party ticket for Supervisor of the town. He has also held as many minor offices as he would take, but his large business has precluded his holding them at all times. He is prominent in the lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Masonic fraternity, having been connected with the former order for forty-seven years, and the latter for thirty years. He was the first member initiated in each of the lodges to which he belongs. They are Powhan Lodge, No. 29, I. O. O. F., and Channahon Lodge, No. 262, F. & A. M. He has helped to institute a number of other lodges.



**NATHAN BENNETT.** The record of Nathan Bennett is one to which he can point with just pride as that of an excellent citizen, a faithful workman, a kind friend and an affectionate member of the family circle. He is of English birth and parentage, his early days having been spent in Midland where his eyes opened to the light in 1815. His parents were Samuel and Margaret (Ashley) Bennett, and the former was an engineer in the employ of the Crown, continuing an honorable service until his death.

The gentleman of whom we write was reared in the manner usual to the son of an artisan and after acquiring his education, learned the trade of puddling, in the government service. In 1868 he came to America selecting St. Louis as his first abiding place. There he was engaged in the Brem-

en Mills for some months, after which he came to Joliet, Ill., and entered the employ of the Joliet Steel Works. In 1873, he began assisting in the manufacture of steel, at which he has continued until the present time, a period of twenty-one years—a record that could only be made by sobriety and faithfulness. In addition to this Mr. Bennett is engaged in connection with the firm of Demart Bennett in an extensive trade in fine carriages, their place of business being No. 210 North Ottawa Street.

The dwelling that Mr. Bennett owns and occupies on Mississippi Avenue is presided over by a lady who became his wife in 1867. She was known in her maidenhood as Miss Mary Ann Guy, and is a woman of worth of mind and heart. The happy union has been blessed by the birth of six children, named respectively, Sarah Ann, Albert Edward, Edith, Mabel, Marion, and Robert Arson. Mr. Bennett is devotedly attached to his home as well he may be.

The Amalgamated Society has repeatedly made Mr. Bennett its President and he has been the Treasurer of the Society of St. George since its organization, having been a charter member. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias Lodge, No. 36. He is numbered among the members of the Ottawa Street Methodist Episcopal Church.



**S**IMON HAUSSER. As a contractor in stone work, Mr. Hausser is well known throughout Will County, in which he has operated extensively in his line, and has proved himself a man prompt to meet his obligations, and one who can always be trusted. He fulfilled a contract of stone work on the Alton Roundhouse, the County Jail, St. John's Catholic Church, the St. Joseph's Hospital and Convent, and for many of the prominent residences of Joliet and vicinity. His long experience and close attention to business, together with his industry and a sensible economy, have placed him financially in a position of independence.

The early home of our subject was in the king-

dom of Bavaria, where he was born April 13, 1819. He is the son of George and Eva (Niedhammer) Hausser, the former of whom was a stone mason, as was also his father before him. George Hausser spent his entire life in his native land, dying in 1846. The mother came to America in May, 1854, and died at the home of her son Simon, in Joliet, September 15, 1851. The parental family consisted of ten children, seven of whom emigrated to America, and only four of the seven are now living—one in New York, one in New Jersey, and two in Joliet.

Mr. Hausser learned the trade of a mason in his native country, Bavaria, remaining there until 1847. Then, a man of twenty-eight years, he resolved upon emigrating to America, and embarked upon the long voyage in company with a younger brother. They landed in New York City, where Simon sojourned about two years, working at Port Jarvis, N. Y., going from there to Lyons, N. Y., and thence to Batavia, Ill. We next find him in Aurora, this State, whence he emigrated to Joliet in 1849, arriving August 15.

In Joliet Mr. Hausser worked at his trade for a time, and then, desirous of seeing more of the country, went down to New Orleans. He only sojourned, however, for a brief time in the Crescent City, deciding that there were few more desirable locations than the city of Joliet, to which he accordingly returned, and has since made it his home.

In Joliet also Mr. Hausser found a wife and helpmate, being married, November 22, 1853, to Miss Francisca Horn. Mrs. Hausser was born October 23, 1832, in Neukirchen, Bavaria, and came to Joliet with friends in 1853. Of this union there have been born twelve children, ten of whom are living. Mary, Mrs. Hagen, is a widow and resides in Joliet; Teresa, Mrs. Steiner, and George are living in Joliet; Anna remains with her parents; Charles is an ordained priest of the Catholic Church, and officiates as assistant priest of Columbia Church, in Ottawa, Ill.; Joseph, who has also received priestly orders, is an assistant priest, stationed over the parish of the Holy Trinity Church, Chicago; Caroline and Alphonso remain under the parental roof; Simon and Henry are pursuing their

studies in St. Francis College, at St. Francis, Wis.

Mr. and Mrs. Hausser have also an adopted son, Alexander, an orphan, who has made his home with them for about four years. It is a matter of great satisfaction to Mr. Hausser that two of his sons are priests in the Catholic Church, in the doctrines of which he himself was trained from boyhood, and also that two other sons are likely to choose the same pious calling for their vocation in life. Mr. Hausser has been connected with the church since his boyhood, and belongs to the Third order of St. Francis. In politics he is mainly independent, aiming to support the men whom he considers best qualified for office. As a business man and a citizen, he has made for himself a good record, and enjoys in a marked degree the esteem of those around him. He is mostly retired from active business, and occupies a comfortable home, situated on a rise of ground on Broadway Street, overlooking a large portion of the city.



**JAMES B. AUSTIN.** This gentleman bears the reputation of being one of the most public-spirited citizens of Homer Township, and he is closely identified with its agricultural interests, successfully tilling one hundred and fifty acres of land on section 11, and in addition to this makes a specialty of fine Norman horses. For the past nine years he has officiated as Highway Commissioner and School Director, and may always be found on the side of the enterprises calculated for the advancement of the community, socially, morally and financially. In politics he is a sound Republican, thoroughly in accord with the principles of his party, which he has always labored earnestly to advance. He is more than ordinarily intelligent and well-informed, keeping up with the topics of the day, and in his social life has always distinguished himself as one of the most hospitable men of his neighborhood.

The subject of this notice was the eldest in a family of six children, and was born in Ontario County, N. Y., July 1, 1823. He lived with his parents until a boy of eight or nine years, then

went to live with his uncle, Ira Austin, with whom he remained until reaching his majority. When he was sixteen years old he came with his uncle to this county, and after becoming of age took up one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 11, where he built up the comfortable home which he now owns and occupies. He was married in Du Page Township November 19, 1851, to Miss Laura Saunders. The young people settled in their own home, where were born to them four children and where the mother died July 2, 1865. Their first-born child, a son, William, died when about one year old; Albert remains at home with his father; Estella became the wife of William Orahoad and died in Homer Township, December 1, 1879; Lyman is a resident of Dakota.

Mr. Austin contracted a second marriage, in Homer Township, October 22, 1867, with Miss Betsey McGregor. This lady was born in Scotland, November 17, 1845, and when five years old came with her parents to America. The latter were Henry and Jeanette (Malcom) McGregor, both of whom were also born in the Land of the Thistle, but are now residents of Cook County, this State. To Mr. Austin and his present wife there have been born nine children, viz: Jenny, who died when ten years old; Buell P.; Ira W., who died at the age of three years; Charles H., who died when four years old; James H., John McG., Homer C., Hattie J., and George W. The latter died when about four years old. Mrs. Austin is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In August, 1862, Mr. Austin entered the Union army, enlisted in company F, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, and served two and one-half years, until February 1, 1865. His duties were mostly in the Quartermaster's department, and he consequently took part in no battles. He belongs to Lockport Post, No. 401, G. A. R., at Lockport.

Lyman Austin, the father of our subject, was, like himself, a native of Ontario County, N. Y., and married Miss Sarah Heacock, who was also a native of that county. They lived there for a time after their marriage, then removed to Medina County, Ohio, and from there to Cass County, Mich. After a sojourn of some years in the Wolverine State they joined their son in Homer Township, this







*Geo S. Hinckel*

county, and here spent their last days. They were honest and upright people and without making any great stir in the world performed life's duties in a creditable manner and are kindly remembered by all who knew them.



**G**EORGE S. HINCKEL. Among the rising young members of the legal profession in Joliet, may be properly mentioned the subject of this notice, whose portrait appears on the opposite page, and who is yet in the early prime of life. He has before him bright prospects for wealth and honor, and in future years will undoubtedly stand high among the attorneys of Illinois, as he now holds a conspicuous rank among those of Joliet.

The native place of Mr. Hinckel was the city of Albany, N. Y., and he was born July 6, 1860. His immediate ancestors are Charles and Julia (Schwartz) Hinckel, the former a native of Germany and the latter of New York State. The father traced his lineage to a German family of distinction, and in his youth received a military education and training, afterward serving in high official capacities in the German and American armies. Early in life he crossed the Atlantic, having determined upon making a home in the United States, and located in Albany, N. Y., where he remained until 1874. That year he came to Illinois, and settling in Will County, soon became a prominent man in politics, affiliating with the Republican party. Soon after locating in Joliet, he was appointed, about 1876, Deputy Sheriff of Will County, and was subsequently elected Police Magistrate.

The subject of this notice was the only child of his parents and pursued his early studies in the private schools and academies of his native State. In 1874 he came to Chicago, where his studies were ended and his business career begun. In 1883 he located in Joliet, and, while serving as Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court, entered upon the study of the law, under the instruction of the eminent lawyer, George S. House, Esq. In the meantime he held the above mentioned office nearly five

years. He was admitted to practice by the Supreme Court in December, 1887, but did not commence the regular duties of his profession until the 1st of November, 1889. He is a sound Republican, politically, and is also a prominent member of the military order of Sons of Veterans, and of the chief social organization, the Union Club.

Mr. Hinckel contracted his present matrimonial ties July 15, 1889, at the bride's home in Brooklyn, N. Y., with Miss Nellie J. Dobiacki. Mrs. Hinckel was born October 2, 1865, in Brooklyn, N. Y., and both she and her husband are connected by ties of relationship with some of the best known and most highly respected families of the East. They live in comfort in a neat home in the eastern part of the city, and number their friends among its cultured people.



**J**OHAN RANFT. There is scarcely a line of business that is not represented in Joliet, where commercial and manufacturing enterprises seem equally prominent. The business in which the subject of this sketch is engaged is that of the manufacture of all kinds of soda water, ginger ale, and similar beverages, charging fountains, etc. His experience has been somewhat varied, but his career has proved that he is one of those men who can gain support where others would fail, because they could work at but one occupation. Mr. Ranft came from far across the sea, his birthplace having been Waldeck, Germany, where his eyes first opened to the light January 16, 1813. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Schneider) Ranft, and his father's occupation was that of a farmer.

In his native land, he of whom we write, was employed as a domestic servant until 1866, when he determined to seek a different field in the land across the sea. Leaving behind him the other members of the family, none of whom have come to America, he took passage and ere long landed in New York. He found employment as a farm hand in New Jersey, receiving \$15 per month for his services, and remaining in the East somewhat over a year. He then came to Chicago and thence

to Joliet, near which place he engaged in farming two years. He then entered the employ of the Schering Brewing Company, serving them five and one-half years. The next enterprise in which he engaged was to open a saloon on Bluff and Jefferson Streets which he carried on five years. In 1885 he opened a pop factory and since that time has busied himself with the manufacture of beverages as before stated.

On September 14, 1873, Mr. Rauff was united in marriage with Miss Katherine Metzger, who judiciously managed his household affairs for several years. She was removed by the hand of death November 10, 1882, leaving one daughter, Anna. The present wife of Mr. Rauff bore the maiden name of Augusta Reimers, and is a daughter of Henry and Anna (Eggers) Reimers. She was united to our subject October 25, 1883, and has borne him three daughters—Bertha, Mary and Linda.

Mr. Rauff generally votes the Democratic ticket. He is of a social nature, particularly so among his fellow country-men and finds many friends. He belongs to the Independent Order of Old Fellows, to the Sharp-shooters, and to the Joliet Saengerbund.



**C**HRISTOPH HINZ. Washington Township has become the home and the field of the successful labors of many German-born citizens, whose thrift and uprightness are recognized by those around them and afford an excellent example to the rising generation. One of these worthy German-American citizens is Christoph Hinz, whose home is on section 19. The farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of well-tilled land which bears the improvements usually made by a man of enterprise and has been reclaimed by him from its wild and primitive condition. His first purchase was of eighty acres to which he subsequently added an adjoining tract of the same extent.

Mr. Hinz is of excellent German ancestry, his immediate progenitors being John and Mary (Biel-feldt) Hinz, both of whom were born in Mecklen-burg. There the mother died in the forty-fourth

year of her age, leaving five sons and two daughters. In 1855 father and children crossed the briny deep, leaving Hamburg September 15, and landing in New York City seven weeks later, their passage having been made on the sailing ship "Rudolph." The family came directly West and settled in Cook County, Ill., but some years later the father and his son Charles removed to Kansas City, Mo., where the father breathed his last in 1882, at the age of seventy-nine years. He was a worthy citizen and a consistent member of the Lutheran Church.

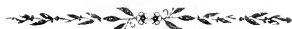
The subject of this biographical notice was born May 18, 1820, and was well reared in habits of industry and firmness of moral principle, but without educational advantages. After the family came to America he continued to reside in Cook County for eight years, and in 1865 removed from Dunkard's Station to Washington Township, this county. Here he has been engaged in general farming, and has become known as a good farmer, a reliable citizen and a man of kindness in domestic and social relations.

The first marriage of Mr. Hinz took place in the land of his nativity, to Miss Elizabeth Shelt. To them were born two sons, Henry and John, before they accompanied the other members of the Hinz family to the United States. They had been in Chicago but eleven days when the wife died, at the early age of thirty-eight years. Her son Henry married Dora Ostermeyer and is engaged in trade at Beecher, this county; John married Mary Starter and is farming in Washington Township.

The second marriage of Mr. Hinz took place in Cook County, his bride being Miss Magdalena Bade, who was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, April 12, 1832. Her parents were Jacob and Sophia (Hein) Bade. Her father was a laborer who died at the age of fifty two years. The widowed mother with her six children crossed the Atlantic in 1857 and made her home in Northern Illinois. In her last days she came to live with her daughter, Mrs. Bade, dying at her home in 1887, at the advanced age of eighty-four years and three months. She and her husband had belonged to the Lutheran Church.

The present union of Mr. Hinz has resulted in the birth of three children; Sophia, Bertha and

Herman. Sophia married William Meyer, and died leaving five children; Bertha became the wife of Charles Henget, a mechanic, whose home is in Arlington Heights, Cook County; Herman remains with his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Hinz belong to the Lutheran Church, and their children are also identified with that religious body. The elective franchise is exercised by Mr. Hinz in behalf of the candidates of the Republican party. Mr. Hinz is a fine specimen of physical manhood of the German type, and he possesses sterling qualities of character, being particularly noted for his honesty, and straightforward manner and dealing.



**G**EORGE H. BRANNON, M. D., now located at Manhattan, enjoys a large practice in the town and surrounding country. Both he and his brother Londus are quite young, possessed of abundant energy and thoroughly skilled in their profession, having been graduated from well-known and reputable institutions. They are pleasantly located on Main Street.

Dr. G. H. Brannon is the youngest in a family of five children born to John and Sarah (Marker) Brannon, of Decatur County, Ind. The father was born in New Jersey but later lived in Ohio, where he followed farming for some time. When about thirty years old he removed to the Hoosier State, choosing a location near Greensburg, where he is now living retired on a fine farm. He served throughout the Mexican War as a private. Mrs. Brannon was born in Butler County, Ohio. The worthy couple are now seventy-seven and seventy-four years of age, respectively. Mrs. Brannon belongs to the Presbyterian Church. The children are Laura, Isophene (now Mrs. Fescus) and Weller, all on the home farm, and the two brothers who live in Manhattan.

The subject of this sketch was born near Greensburg, Ind., November 25, 1863, and was reared on a farm, enjoying such educational advantages during his boyhood as could be obtained in the district schools. When sixteen years old he entered the college at Richmond, pursuing his studies in that

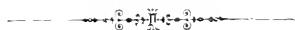
excellent institution about four years and leaving one term prior to the completion of the course of study. When seventeen years old he had begun teaching, spending his vacations in pedagogical labors until he left the college, when he devoted himself entirely to the work for two years. During one year of this time he held the Principalship of the Harris City Schools, which occupied a commodious building 86x87 feet.

Mr. Brannon had been studying medicine to some extent for several years, and in 1885 he took up the work more thoroughly under Dr. Clark, of Waynesburg. After reading under that excellent preceptor two years, he entered the Hospital College of Medicine at Louisville, Ky., from which he was graduated in June, 1889. He came at once to Manhattan, where his brother was already located, and entered into partnership with him. In the few months which have elapsed since he began his labors, he has acquired an excellent reputation for general intelligence, professional skill and well-bred manners. He is not content to rest upon his oars, but is constantly adding to his store of professional knowledge by using the medium of medical journals and all the professional literature of the day. He belongs to the Alumni Association of his Alma Mater, and to Alert Lodge, No. 395, F. & A. M., in Indiana. His political adherence is given to the Democratic party.

Londus Brannon, brother of our subject, was born in Decatur County, Ind., November 25, 1857. His early life was spent similarly to that of his brother, and in youth he also began the study of medicine. He was graduated from the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati in 1882, and devoted the first year of his practice to the citizens of Greensburg, Ind., and vicinity. In 1883 he located in Manhattan, where, before his brother's arrival, he had secured a large practice. He had not only accomplished this, but he had earned the reputation of being a skillful practitioner, and had become very well liked by the community. He is considered one of the most enterprising citizens of the village, and one to whom added years will bring more extended knowledge and even greater success.

Dr. Londus Brannon was married in October, 1887, to Miss Eliza Jones, the marriage ceremony

taking place at the home of her parents in Peotone. The bride was born in Wilton Township, this county, and is the daughter of Robert and Elinor (Atkinson) Jones, natives of Yorkshire, England. Mr. Jones was for some years a prominent farmer in Wilton Township, but is now living retired at Peotone. Mrs. Brannon possesses the intelligence and culture which makes her a worthy companion of one of her husband's ability, and adds to the popularity of their home.



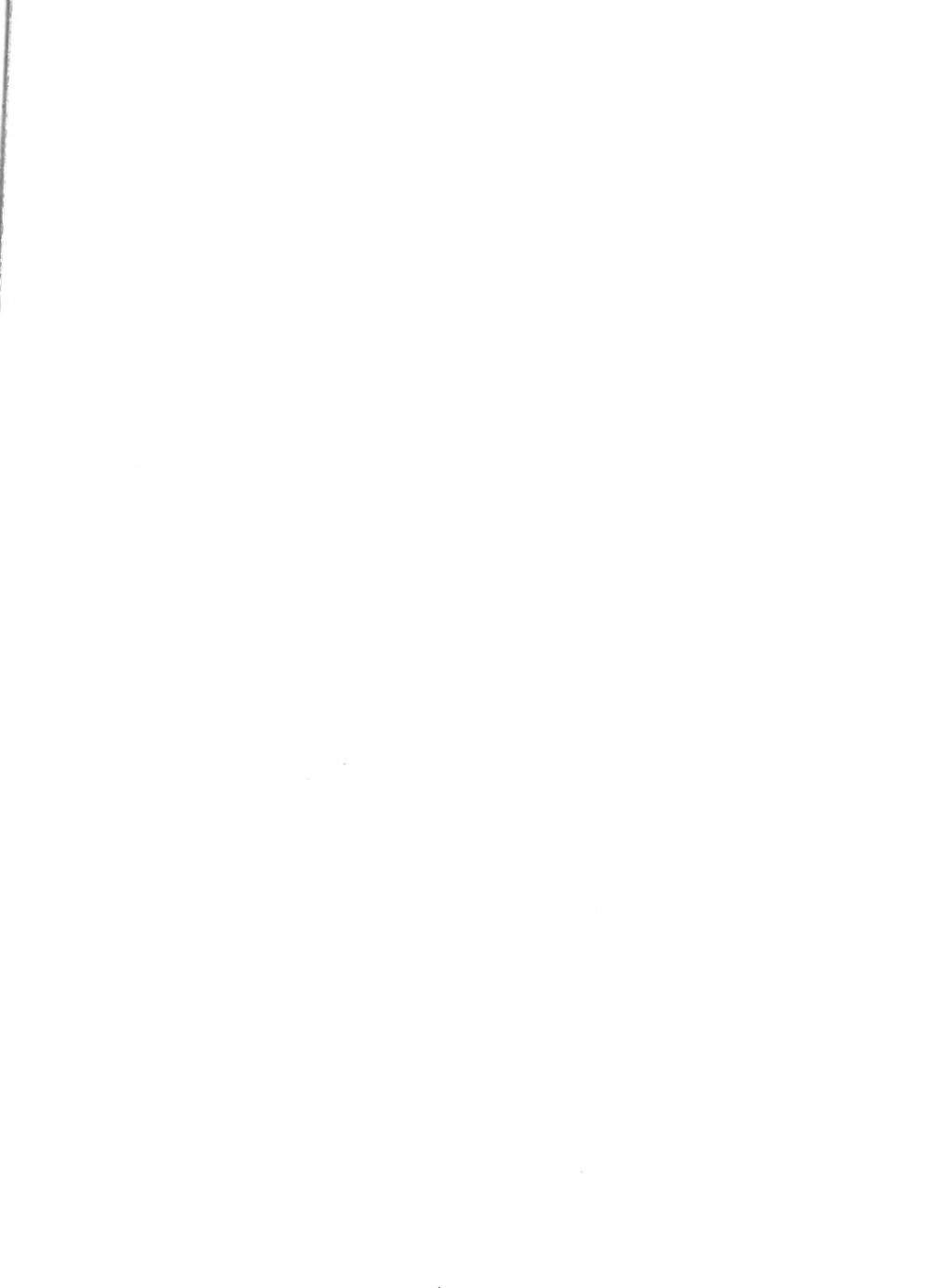
**L**ESTER G. COLEGROVE has been identified with the agricultural development of Will County since the early days of its settlement, and is a fine representative of the sturdy, intelligent, enterprising pioneers who came to this State half a century or more ago, and have since improved valuable and highly productive farms from the wild prairies. For many years he has made his home in Plainfield Township, and is closely associated with its material prosperity and its social and religious welfare.

He was born in the town of Fairfax, Franklin County, Vt., April 23, 1818. His father, Clark T. Colegrove, was, it is thought, born in Connecticut, and his grandfather was Nathan Colegrove, who was one of the early pioneers of Franklin County, making the removal to that part of Vermont with a team. He bought a tract of timber land, and from the primeval forest hewed out a farm on which he lived till death closed his mortal career. The father of our subject was bred to agricultural pursuits, but he never owned a farm of his own, being employed by others. He resided in Vermont until 1846, when he came to Illinois, and for some years lived in the town of Wheatland. He subsequently removed to Blue Island in Cook County, where both he and his wife died of cholera in the same week. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Nellie Ingersoll, and she was of New England birth.

Lester Colegrove was reared on a farm in his native town, receiving the advantages of an education in the local schools, and at the age of sixteen

commenced to work out by the month. He was thus employed until 1838. He was ambitious to improve his condition and make something more of himself than he could in the sleepy little New England town where he resided, so he determined to start westward, and in the year mentioned we find him on his way to Illinois with but \$5 in his pocket, but in his strong muscles, his determined will and high courage, he had better capital. He procured a ride to Berlinton and there took passage on a steamer for Whitehall, whence he went on the Champlain and Erie Canals to Buffalo, working to pay the expenses of the trip. At Buffalo he embarked on a steamer, having agreed to work for his passage to Chicago. From the latter city he started for Lockport on foot, and as the canal was then in process of construction, he labored on that for one month and was then taken sick. He was ill for two weeks and then came to Plainfield, and in 1839 worked a farm on shares. The country round about was still in a wild and unsettled condition, there being no railroads or canals here, and Chicago, thirty-six miles away, was the nearest market. At that time deer, wolves and other kinds of game abounded. In 1841, Mr. Colegrove bought a tract of wild prairie land in Pekin Township, and at once with characteristic energy, entered upon its improvement. He built a small frame house, riving the shingles by hand, and in the years that followed erected more substantial buildings and placed the land under good tillage. He resided on that farm until 1875 and then rented it, having purchased the farm on which he now resides. He has added to the dwelling-house and made it into a commodious and tastefully fitted-up abode, and he has otherwise beautified the place, planted shade and ornamental trees, besides making other valuable improvements. He still owns the farm which he bought in 1841, and has added to his first purchase, until it now comprises two hundred and twenty-one acres of highly cultivated land.

In the month of January, 1842, Mr. Colegrove was united in marriage with Miss Lucretia Ingersoll, a native of Vermont. Her father, Chester Ingersoll, was a native of Massachusetts and was one of the first settlers of Will County. He bought the land from the Government in the village of





R. M. W. W. W.





the campaign through the Carolinas, when he was commissioned Captain of Company A, Sixty-fourth Illinois Infantry, and was twice brevetted for gallant and meritorious service as Captain and Major. At the close of the war he went with his regiment to Washington, and was present at the Grand Review. He then proceeded with his regiment to Louisville, Ky., where he was mustered out, and as a mustering officer signed the discharge papers of over ten thousand soldiers.

After leaving the army Maj. Woods was summoned to Springfield by Adj. Gen. I. N. Haynie, and there he wrote the histories of all the Illinois regiments for the Adjutant-General's report, these making nine volumes. In the spring of 1866, he wrote the constitution and by-laws, charter, etc., for the Grand Army of the Republic, which was originated by Dr. B. F. Stephenson, and of which Maj. Woods was the first Adjutant-General. Soon afterward he organized the various departments throughout the Northwest. The original charter of Decatur Post, No. 1, has his name upon it.

In 1868 Maj. Woods repaired to Chicago, Ill., where he was variously engaged, and for four and one-half years officiated as chief clerk during the construction of the United States Custom House and post-office, in that city. In 1877 he was appointed Insurance Examiner of Illinois, and during his incumbency of this office it became his duty to proceed against and close up, in the courts of the State, the Republic Life, the Protection Life, and Chicago Life Insurance Companies. This employed his time until 1879, and then turning his attention to the newspaper world, he purchased the *Joliet Republican* of James Goodspeed. He conducted this successfully until 1883, then purchased the *Joliet Sun*, which he merged with the *Republican*. In 1888, reaching out still farther, he purchased the *Daily* and *Weekly Press*, and consolidated the three papers under the name of *Republic and Sun*. He is an able journalist, making an interesting local paper, which has become one of the indispensable institutions of Will County. Its political complexion reflects his own convictions and sympathies, which have been in harmony with the principles of the Republican party since he became a voter. He has an ad-

mirably equipped office, including a job department and book bindery, fitted out with all the machinery and other appliances necessary to do first-class work. The paper has a healthy subscription list, and the job department is generously patronized by the people of Joliet and Will County.

Maj. Woods was married, October 5, 1867, in Chicago, Ill., to Miss May Florence Miner. Mrs. Woods was born April 8, 1851, at Harding, Ill., and is the daughter of Samuel E. and Asenath (Darrow) Miner, who were natives of Massachusetts, and are now residents of Phoenix, Arizona. Two children, a daughter and a son, have been born of this union, Alice M. and Miner R., who still remain with their parents. The family residence and its surroundings, forms one of the attractive homes of Joliet, and is located in the southeastern part of the city.

Elsewhere in this volume the reader will notice a lithographic portrait of Maj. Woods.



**J**OHAN N. GEUTHER. The old saying that truth is stranger than fiction, is one with which we are all familiar, and yet which often is unheeded while we go on blindly supposing that strange incidents only belong to the works of fiction. The life of the enterprising citizen whose history it is our purpose to sketch, has been marked with experiences somewhat out of the usual order. He is the oldest of three children, whose ancestry is noted in the sketch of John George Geuther, found elsewhere in this ALBUM. He was born in Saxe Coburg Gotha, Germany, January 4, 1825, and reared in the village of Weidhausen.

The educational privileges of young Geuther were somewhat limited, as the schools were principally held during the winter months, but he improved such opportunities as were afforded him. He early took up farm labors on his father's land and he also partially learned the trade of a baker from his Grandfather Geuther. When he was eighteen years old his father wished him to come

to America to see what opportunities this country afforded, and he therefore left Bremerhaven in 1811, landing in New York City, after an ocean voyage of thirty-five days. In addition to his other attainments he had learned basket-making from his father, and at that trade he worked five months in the metropolis.

The summer having passed, young Geuther turned his footsteps southward, and reaching Charleston, S. C., completed the trade of a baker and worked some five years as a journeyman. He then opened a bakery in the same city, having his residence on Sullivan's Island, near Ft. Moultrie. His sentiments were all in favor of the Union, and after the breaking out of the Civil War he was ordered by Southern officers to quit the island. In 1862 he went into the city, and a few months later to Mt. Pleasant, where he remained virtually in hiding, as he could not get North. As he was not able to continue his occupation he was obliged to live on what he had saved, and his capital gradually diminished.

After the war Mr. Geuther opened a bakery in Mt. Pleasant, and through a providential circumstance became acquainted with the whereabouts of his parents, between whom and himself there had been no communication for years. During this time the parental family had emigrated to America and were living in Will County, Ill. A man who had lived at Frankfort, went onto a plantation near Mt. Pleasant and bought bread from our subject. A receipt being given him, he noted the name upon it and said that he knew the father and brothers of the signer, and that they would be glad to hear from or see him. A correspondence was at once opened, and, as soon as possible, our subject closed up his business and came North to visit his family, whom he had not seen for twenty-six years.

After spending a few months with his friends Mr. Geuther returned to South Carolina, sold his possessions there and moved to Mokena, Ill., April 4, 1870. He located on one hundred and sixty acres on section 31, Green Garden Township, which had been purchased by his father before the war. The improvements upon it were poor but they have been replaced or added to until the estate is now in an excellent condition. Agriculture, of

which he obtained a slight knowledge in his boyhood, has been well learned by him since he took up his residence in the North, and he is succeeding well in his enterprise.

Mr. Geuther has built a commodious and substantial residence, barn, corn crib and other farm buildings, has further improved his place with drain tile and good fences, many rods of well-kept hedge serving to outline his fields. The land is watered by Forked Creek and every acre is tillable. Oats and corn are the principal grain crops, in the cultivation of which three teams are employed. He keeps thirteen cows and raises draft horses of the Clydesdale breed. Mr. Geuther has also invested in South Dakota land, having three hundred and twenty acres in Douglas County, which comprises two improved farms which are operated by his children. Credit is due him for his success, particularly as he was obliged to begin at the bottom of the ladder after the war, as the money which he had was Confederate script and consequently valueless.

The first marriage of Mr. Geuther took place in Charleston, S. C., in 1857. His bride was Miss Bertha Kaffe, who was born near Bremen, Germany, and who died in Charleston in 1866. She left three children—Bertha, who is married to Christ Beeler, and lives in Douglas County, S. Dak.; William, who is in the employ of a railroad in Sioux City, Iowa; and Christ, who operates a farm in South Dakota.

The second marriage of Mr. Geuther took place at Mt. Pleasant, S. C., in 1869, and has been blessed by the birth of eight children—George, Lizzie, Lawrence, Caroline, Amelia, Augusta, Helena and Edith, all of whom are at home. The mother of this interesting family bore the maiden name of Augusta Bose, and was born in Stibnitel, Prussia, October 31, 1839. Her father, Johan Bose, was born in Voline, and was an overseer of fishermen; her mother, formerly Miss Anna Bairns, was also a native of Prussia. Mrs. Geuther was reared to the age of thirteen years in her native place and continued to live in the German Empire five years longer. She then sailed for America in the "Ghost," which made the voyage from Bremen to Charleston, S. C., in six weeks. This was in 1858,

and the young lady worked in Charleston until the war, when she went to Wallhallow, three hundred miles north. There she remained until the close of the war, when she returned to Charleston. She is an excellent housekeeper, a devoted mother and a good neighbor.

Mr. Geuther is a very intelligent man and his long residence in this country has given him an excellent knowledge of the English language. His personal characteristics are such that he is well liked by members of the community, and his business energy has given him prominence. He belongs to the Lutheran Church in which he holds the office of Trustee, and he is serving efficiently as School Director of his district. In politics, he is a Democrat. He has served on both grand and petit juries.



**JOHN SCHROEDER & SON.** Among the flourishing business houses of Manhattan that which is conducted under the above style is by no means least. On the contrary, the Messrs. Schroeder are among the largest dealers in the town, carrying a large stock of groceries and general merchandise, which includes dry-goods, clothing, boots and shoes. The firm also deals in flour and salt, and handles a large amount of produce. Their stock is well selected, thoroughly adapted to the needs and wishes of those who patronize the establishment, and the sales being conducted according to the strictest honor and by men whose courtesy is unfailing and whose willingness to oblige is apparent to all, the reputation of the firm is constantly growing.

The senior member of this firm is a son of Prof. John Schroeder, who was born in Kerr-Hessian and was graduated from a German seminary after a six-years' course of study. He taught in different towns in Hesse and died at the age of forty-six years. His wife was Philippine Schucht, a Hessian lady of worth, daughter of Martin Schucht, a wealthy farmer and miller, and an influential citizen who held various public offices in Kerr-Hesse. Prof. Schroeder and his wife reared three children to manhood and womanhood. They are Charles, a

farmer of Wilten Township, this county; John and Maria (now Mrs. C. Justus, of Rosewood, Chicago). Going back another generation in the ancestral line we find Prof. Anton Schroeder, also an able teacher, who was born in Handa Kerr-Hesse.

John Schroeder was born in Germany and reared under favorable home influences. His father died when he was nine years old, but he remained with his mother until he had entered his teens, when he began the labors of life as a clerk in a general store in Hesse-Cassel. After sojourning there three years he went to Gottingen, where he clerked until he was twenty years old. During this period he took private lessons in French, book-keeping and music. When twenty years old he entered the German army, serving two years and two months in the First German Rifle Battalion, Third Company. The life of a soldier was most distasteful to him and as soon as his term was completed he made preparations to join his brother and sister in America, they being at that time at Blue Island, Cook County, Ill.

October 15, 1856, the good ship, "Union," Capt. Clausen, spread her sails and left the harbor of Bremen for a voyage across the Atlantic. Among the passengers was Mr. Schroeder, who landed in New York, January 3, 1857, whence he came at once to Chicago by rail. His brother was engaged in wagon-making at Blue Island and he took up the same trade, working with him, and also in Chicago and Michigan City, Ind. In the fall of 1860 he came to Will County and located at Wilton Center, where he engaged in the manufacture of carriages and wagons. He built a residence and shop, and worked up an excellent business, at which he continued to labor until 1882. He then abandoned wagon-making to operate a farm of eighty acres adjoining the village, of which he had been the purchaser.

In the spring of 1887, Mr. Schroeder removed to Manhattan, forming the present partnership with his son and buying the general merchandise stock of Knapp & McGovney. He continued to handle agricultural implements, in which he had begun to deal at Wilton Center, until January, 1890, when that branch of the trade was abandoned. The means which Mr. Schroeder has invested in his

business is not his only possession, but he owns town lots and a residence, which is valuable and attractive. His business energy and tact are not excelled in the city and all who know him agree in the verdict which pronounces his success but a merited reward.

The marriage of Mr. Schroeder was celebrated in Thornton, Ill., February 7, 1859, the lady of his choice being Miss Annie Justes. She was born in Munden, Prussia, and her father, Joseph Justes, was also a native of that place. He emigrated with his family about 1858, making his home in Blue Island, Cook County, where he continued to work at his trade of a shoemaker until his death. Mrs. Schroeder possesses a fine character, is a notable housewife, and has been devoted to the interests of her husband and the children, whom she has reared to habits of usefulness.

The family of John Schroeder includes eight sons and daughters, of whom Mary, Dora and Katie still linger by the home fireside. Clemence, the first-born, is senior member of the firm, and his life will be more fully detailed below; the second child is Emma, now Mrs. Rose, of Wilton Township; the third is Louis, who is married and farming his father's acres; the fourth is Annie, now Mrs. Mackey who lives in Manhattan; the fifth is Mrs. Sophia Gerdes, of Wallingford.

His fellow-citizens have not allowed Mr. Schroeder to exert his abilities entirely in personal affairs but have called upon him to act as Collector and School Director. In both of these offices he served while residing at Wilton, and he also helped to organize the society and build the house of worship for the Lutherans in that place. He is a charter member of the church there and is justly considered one of the pillars therein, having ever been an active worker. In politics he is a staunch Republican.

Clemence Schroeder, junior partner in the firm of J. Schroeder & Son, was born at Wilton Center, August 1, 1860. He is a young man of rare business qualifications and a degree of enterprise which indicates that if his life is spared he will become one of the most influential business men of Northern Illinois. His traits of character and disposition are such as to win and keep friends, and everyone

has a good word for him. He was reared in his native place and there afforded excellent school advantages, also having the privilege of six months' attendance at a German school in Glassville, Ind.

Returning to his home after this course of study, young Schroeder, who had not long before entered his teens, began to assist his father by painting carriages and wagons. The air of the paint room, which had to be tightly closed during much of the work which he performed, proved injurious to his health, and he left the shop and went upon the farm. There he engaged in agricultural labors, finding his health much benefited by his out-of-door life, which he continued until 1884. He then came to Manhattan, where for a year he was employed as a clerk by Elliott & Bryant. He next accepted a similar position with Knapp & McGowney, in whose employ he remained until the first of March, 1887. His employers were then bought out by himself and father and the new firm instituted, which is prosperous and popular.

The virtues and acquirements of Miss Sophia Krapp, a native of Mokena, won the affection of Mr. Schroeder and, his wooing having proved successful, she became his wife April 20, 1887. The young couple have one child, a bright little boy named Alvin. Mrs. Schroeder is a daughter of Martin Krapp, a German stock dealer, who has been for a number of years engaged in stock-dealing and the meat business in Mokena.

Clemence Schroeder is one of those through whose efforts the town of Manhattan was incorporated. He is now serving his second term as a member of the Board of Trustees and he held the position of assistant Postmaster a little over year. He follows his father's example and teaching in being a staunch Republican, and he also belongs to the German Lutheran Church at Wilton.



**N**AT. J. ROWELL, senior member of the firm of Rowell Bros., is, with his partner, transacting a thriving business as a dealer in gravel, cobble stones and sand, operating two pits of thirty feet depth, convenient to the railroad

tracks, and having all the necessary facilities in connection therewith. He also deals considerably in real estate. He is numbered among the rising young business men of Joliet, popular in society and having before him a fair outlook for the future.

A native of the town of Clarkson, N. Y., Mr. Rowell was born June 26, 1858, and was brought by his parents to this county when a child of two years. They lived on a farm until he was fourteen years old and then removed to the present residence of the family on Richards Street. Young Rowell, during his boyhood attended the academy in Joliet and subsequently was a student in the University of Minnesota one year. Later he was in Chicago University four years, from which he was graduated with high honors in 1878.

Returning now to Joliet, Mr. Rowell became interested in newspaper work, and for one year was city editor of the *Republican and Sun*. Upon severing his connection with this paper he repaired to Washington, D. C., to assume the duties of a government office. He resigned this in 1885, and returning again to Joliet, became interested in real estate and insurance to which he confined his attention until 1889. That year he extended his business as already stated.

The parents of our subject were Hopkins and Mary E. (Blood) Rowell, likewise natives of Monroe County, N. Y. and the father born in Clarkson in 1809. There was born to them a family of five children, all of whom are living; the father is now deceased and the mother still living in Joliet.



JAMES McNAMEE, managing editor of the *Press* and Secretary of the Joliet Press Publishing Company, although only a resident of the city for three years past, has become favorably known to the greater portion of its people and is looked upon as a thorough business man, fully competent for the position which he has assumed. He was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, October 13, 1848, and there and in England spent the first thirty-two years of his life. At

an early age he became interested in newspaper work, and going over to England, was for fifteen years engaged as a journalist, meeting with more than ordinary success.

Finally, in August, 1881, Mr. McNamee determined upon emigrating to America, and after crossing the Atlantic, located in New York City, where he was in the employ of different newspapers until going to Philadelphia, Pa. He sojournd there until coming to the West. Upon reaching this county, he located at once in Joliet, and was employed as editor of the *Press* prior to the reorganization of the company, and when this was effected, having by his good habits and steady attention to business secured the confidence of those with whom he was associated, he was chosen for his present position. He has proven a proper man for the place and has exerted no small influence in bringing the *Press* to its present efficiency and prominence. He was reared in the Catholic faith of his forefathers and belongs to St. Mary's Church. His parents were John and Mary McNamee, natives likewise of County Tyrone, Ireland, and who are now deceased.

While a resident of the city of Middlesborough, England, Mr. McNamee was wedded, July 27, 1876, to Miss Flora O'Neill. Of this union there have been born six children, all of whom are living, and named respectively: John, Peter, James, Philip, Mary and Joseph. The little family occupies a neat home in the Seventh Ward and enjoys the friendship and acquaintance of its cultivated people.

The Joliet Press Publishing Company was incorporated October 6, 1889, with a capital stock of \$20,000, of which \$5,000 was paid up. There has since been added \$10,000 to the paid-up stock. The officers are: Dr. William Dougall, President and Treasurer; James McNamee, Secretary and Managing Editor. The Board of Directors consists of five members, viz: Dr. William Dougall, James McNamee, D. M. Stiles, Capt. James Miller and M. J. Kane. The office is thoroughly equipped for both newspaper and job printing, having, since the consolidation, increased its facilities by the putting in of new machinery and presses of the most approved make. The outlook is flattering, and as

the establishment is in the hands of some of the most capable business men of the city, there is little question that the enterprise will be an entire success.



**J**OHN FRIDLEY. In passing through Florence Township, a visitor is struck by the prosperous appearance of many of the rural homes, and the eyes are especially attracted to some of the residences that dot the landscape. Among those thus conspicuous is that of Mr. Fridley, a commodious building of pleasing design, which is accompanied by fine barns and other structures needful to a flourishing agriculturist. The fertile acres that surround the dwelling show that the owner is a master hand, for, although the land is now rented, nothing is allowed to gain a look of neglect or in any wise indicate a loss of its former progressive attitude.

Mr. Fridley is a native of the far-famed land of Switzerland, where his eyes opened to the light March 26, 1838. He is the only child of John and Elizabeth Fridley, the former of whom spent his life in that time and the latter still lives there. When nineteen years old, young Fridley came to America, settling in Florence Township, this county, on a tract, where he remained from 1857 until 1876, when he became the occupant of the estate he now owns. This comprises two hundred and forty acres on sections 10 and 11. All the buildings on the place have been made by him, and to his energy is due every improvement that makes of the estate so valuable a piece of property.

Inheriting a devotion to country that is characteristic of the German stock, whence he derives his origin, Mr. Fridley devoted some of the best years of his life to the protection of the flag of the Union. In 1862 he joined the army as a private in Company G, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, and he served until the close of the rebellion. His campaigning was done in Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia, and during it he fought in several of the most noted contests of the war, among them being Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge,

Kenesaw Mountain, Resaca, and the various battles of the Atlanta campaign. At Kenesaw he was wounded and disabled for a time. He was mustered out of the service at Nashville, and going to Chicago, there received his discharge July 1, 1865. He is numbered in the ranks of the Republican party, but takes no part in politics other than to cast his vote when occasion requires.

An important step in the life of our subject took place on Christmas Day, 1866, on which date he was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary A. Dallenbach, of his own township. This estimable lady was the widow of Christian Dallenbach, by whom she had two children—John W. and Frank. She was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and still lives, enjoying with her companion the fruits of industry and the esteem of many friends. She is a member of the Evangelical Church. To her and her present husband a son was born, E. Franklin, from whom they were compelled to part when he was eleven years old.



**W**ILLIAM HELDT. This gentleman owns and occupies a valuable estate of two hundred and forty acres on section 35, Washington Township, and is numbered among the enterprising and progressive agriculturists of the county. He has improved most of the land which comprises his estate, and put up all the buildings upon it, which include every necessary and convenient arrangement for the carrying on of the work of the farm. He was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, March 1, 1825, and grew to manhood in his native country, acquiring a good education and the practical knowledge which has been of use in his mature years. He is the son of natives of Mecklenburg who came with other members of their family to America and died here. A fuller history of the family will be found in the biography of E. Heldt.

The gentleman of whom we write was married in his native land to Miss Hannah Stedt, who was born and reared in the same province as himself and whose parental history is included in the

sketch of William Stedt, elsewhere in this ALBUM. Soon after his marriage Mr. Heldt and his wife started for America, taking passage at Hamburg and landing in the metropolis, whence they went at once to Chicago, later making a settlement in York Township, DuPage County. There Mr. Heldt began to work as a laborer on the railroad, subsequently becoming the operator of rented land. In the latter manner he was engaged until 1864, when he came to Will County and purchased his first land. In his efforts to obtain a good home he was ably seconded by his good wife and they toiled hard together until her death, which occurred June 30, 1888. She had reached the age of fifty-two and one-half years.

The family of Mr. Heldt consists of eleven sons and daughters. Minnie died at the age of twenty years, Emma at the age of three, and Fred at the age of two. Henry married Steinie Grauges, and occupies a farm in Washington Township; William who lives on a farm near Joliet, married Vinie Keichemeister; Mary is the wife of Louis Fieah, a farmer in Washington Township; Charles remains with his father and helps to work the farm; Herman, John, Emma and Ameal are also at home.

Mr. Heldt is an earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party. He is connected with the Lutheran Church, with which his wife was also identified. He is held in good repute as an honorable and industrious man, a reliable citizen, and a kindly parent.



**J**OSEPH HARPER. The farming and agricultural interests of New Lenox Township recognize a worthy representative in Mr. Harper, who owns and occupies a well-developed farm on section 12, where he has first-class buildings and all the other appurtenances of the well-regulated country estate. The hand of thrift and industry is apparent at all points, and presents a pleasant picture of the results of energy and perseverance.

The Harper family is of English origin, and Thomas Harper, the father of our subject, was

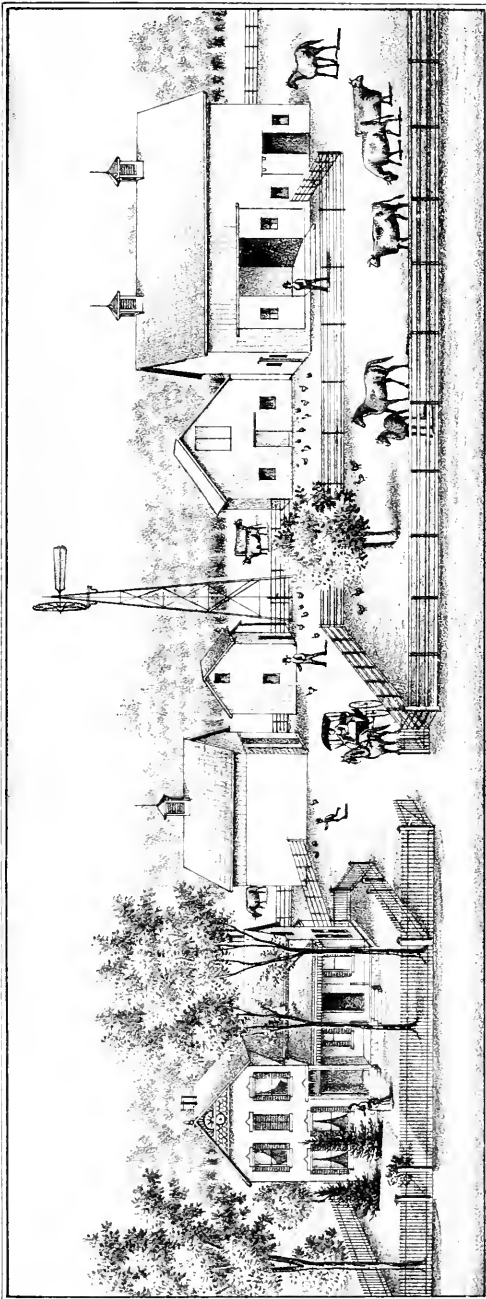
born in Westmoreland County, England, where he was reared to man's estate and was married. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ann Wilson, was born in Lancashire, and the parents came to America in 1852. They settled in Lockport, Will County, Ill., but only sojourned there two months, removing then to Frankfort Township, where they lived five or six years. Their next removal was to New Lenox Township, this county, where the father selected land on section 12, and built up a permanent home. There he and his estimable wife spent the remainder of their lives, both dying in 1870.

To the parents of our subject there was born a family of nine children, of whom Joseph was the sixth. His native place was Westmoreland County, England, and the date of his birth August 3, 1836. He emigrated to America with his parents and remained a member of the household until about the time of reaching his majority. His home since coming to this country has been mostly in Frankfort and New Lenox Townships, and he has uniformly followed farming pursuits. His property embraces one hundred and ninety-four and one-half acres of choice land, and the improvements which we now see upon it have arisen through the labors and good management of the proprietor.

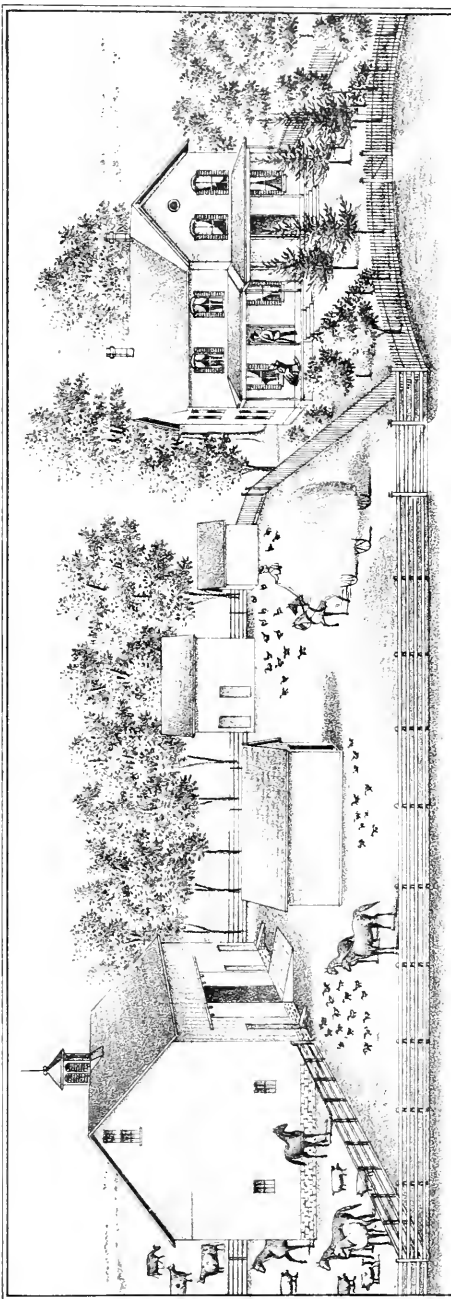
Mr. Harper was married April 15, 1862, at the bride's home in Frankfort Township, to Miss Isabella, daughter of Tilford and Lucy Ann (Owen) Duncan. The parents of Mrs. Harper were natives of Kentucky, whence they emigrated to Illinois about 1833, and located among the pioneers of Frankfort Township. There the father spent the remainder of his days engaged in farming pursuits, and died in November, 1865. The mother is still living. Their family consisted of eleven children, six of whom are living. Mrs. Harper, who was next to the eldest, was born in the town of Frankfort May 21, 1844, acquired her education in the common schools and remained under the parental roof until her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Harper are the parents of three children. The eldest, a daughter, Della J., is the wife of George W. Robinson, of Joliet. George W. and Warren T. still remain at home with their parents. Mr. Harper, politically, is a sound





RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH HARPER, SEC. 12, NEW LENOX TWP. WILL CO. ILL





Republican, while he and his good wife are prominently connected with the Baptist Church, attending services at Mokena. They are people highly respected in their community, and have one of the pleasantest homes in the township. Their residence, both in exterior finish and inner decorations, is a beautiful one, and is represented by a view on another page.



**J**OHAN SWEEDLER. Whatever may be truthfully said of the evils of emigration, and whatever effort the citizens of America may make to prevent the landing upon our shores of the masses who have been flooding our ports of entry, it is nevertheless beyond dispute that to foreign countries we are indebted for many of our best citizens. These are the men who have come, not from the haunts of vice or pauper homes, but who have been reared in honorable and frugal habits, and who, while seeking a broader field for their energies, do so with the intention of assisting in the best development of the country to which they come.

In the Empire of Germany, John Sweedler was born November 26, 1819. He received the excellent education which the Fatherland bestows upon all. After remaining in his native land until the spring of 1857, with his wife and young son he crossed the Atlantic, to make a home in America. They landed in New York, whence they went direct to Blue Island, Cook County, and there they sojourned several years. Then selecting a location in this county, Mr. Sweedler bought eighty acres of land on section 23, Jackson Township, where he has since resided. He has added to his original purchase, his estate now amounting to one hundred and thirty acres, on which he has erected excellent buildings and made other improvements. His labors are characterized by zeal, prudence and thrift, and it needs but a glance at his home to assure the visitor that the family enjoy their worldly possessions.

The wife who accompanied Mr. Sweedler from

the Fatherland was born there October 13, 1821, and bore the maiden name of Mary Hammond. She shared her husband's cares and successes until the fall of 1870, when after about twenty years of wedded life, she closed her eyes to earthly things, the date of her decease being September 21. She had borne her husband two children: Edward, whose natal day was March 23, 1855, and Augustus, who was born November 25, 1858. The oldest son is now living in Manhattan Township, having on February 15, 1883, married Miss Amelia Klingler; they have two children, John Edward, born May 9, 1883; and Lloyd Elias, November 21, 1884.

A second matrimonial alliance was contracted by Mr. Sweedler, March 31, 1872. His companion was Fredericka Deutschmann, a native of Germany, who was born May 18, 1839. She was about eighteen years old when she came to America, and in this township her marriage to our subject took place. This union has been blessed by the birth of four children. Alvin was born August 7, 1873, and died April 15, 1877; Clarence E. was born April 29, 1876; March 1, 1878; Willis R., May 11, 1881. Mrs. Sweedler is a consistent member of the German Baptist Church and endeavors to rule her household in such a manner as to fit her offspring for useful and honorable careers. The brotherly kindness, which is so prominently kept before the minds of the members of the religious body to which she belongs, wins for her the good will of all her neighbors. Mr. Sweedler is a staunch Republican. Although not identified with any religious body, his life has been an upright one and he receives from his fellow-citizens a due measure of respect and approbation.

On another page the reader will observe a view of Mr. Sweedler's pleasant and commodious residence, with the rural surroundings.



**G**EORGE S. HOUSE. This gentleman is one of the leading members of the bar of Northern Illinois, and undoubtedly stands at the head of the profession in Joliet. He is persistent, studious, and devoted to his calling.

displaying in the conduct of cases given to his charge, a knowledge of legal precedents, principles of law and equity, and a knowledge of human nature such as few men possess. Not only is he recognized as a legal light of the first magnitude, but his social qualities and general intelligence make for him a place in the best circles of society.

The House family formerly belonged in the Empire State, Oneida County being the birthplace of Rodney House, the father of our subject. In the same county Judith Stillman was born and became his wife. Mr. House was a wagon-maker. In 1833 he came to Illinois, settling in Cook County in that portion afterward called Grundy County; two years later he became a resident of that section now known as Will County. To him and his estimable wife two children were born—Rodney, Jr., and George S.

On March 1, 1835, in what was then Grundy County, George S. House opened his eyes to the light of day. He attended the district schools, and after securing a fundamental education, entered the academy at Rome, N. Y., where he prosecuted his studies three years. He then became a student in Hamilton College, N. Y., from which he was graduated in the class of 1856. Having chosen the law as his life work, he began its study and after a complete course at Columbia Law School, N. Y., was graduated therefrom in 1859. Returning to Illinois he located in Joliet and began a practice which has redounded to his credit, and has been the means of securing just decisions in many cases. With the exception of two years spent in Chicago and four years in army life, Joliet has been the home of Mr. House since he first opened his office here.

Under Gen. Donaldson, of the Quartermaster's Department, Mr. House acted during the war, being Auditor and Cashier in the general disbursing office at Nashville, Tenn., and Louisville, Ky. He has been corporation lawyer for the Chicago, Wilmington & Vermillion Coal Company, and for the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company. His political affiliation is with the Republican party.

The home of Mr. House is presided over by a lady of culture and refinement, who is held in the highest esteem in the circle of society in which she

moves, and by many in humbler walks of life who know her kindness of heart and generous regard for those in need. She bore the maiden name of Virginia A. Osgood, and became the wife of our subject June 27, 1860. She is a daughter of Uri Osgood of this city. To Mr. and Mrs. House six children have been born, named respectively; George Clinton, Harry O., Virginia Chamberlain, Gould, Robert and Hazel. The eldest son is now at work for the Chicago & Wilmington Coal Company. The youngest son, Robert, is highly commended for the courage and coolness which he displayed in saving the life of a school companion who was on the point of drowning. Virginia C. was married, April 10, 1890, in Joliet, to Frank E. Chamberlain. The younger members of the family do honor to the parental care which has been bestowed upon them, being well informed, courteous and of good habits.

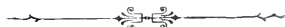


WILLIAM IRELAND is foreman of the pattern department of the Fox plant which is under the control of the Illinois Steel Works Company, by whom he has been employed for the past nine years. For a score of years he has been engaged in the same business, in which he is a master workman, a fact that is thoroughly appreciated by his employers. He was born in Kirkwall on the Orkney Islands, north of Scotland, July 26, 1842, and was engaged in Glasgow and London in pattern-making. Having determined to seek a home in the United States, he crossed the Atlantic in April, 1872, and obtaining a position in the Cleveland Rolling Mills at Cleveland, Ohio, resided in that city for nearly a decade. He then removed to Joliet, Ill., which has since been his home.

Mr. Ireland married Miss Emily Roylance, of Chelford, Cheshire, England, who has proved herself a devoted companion to her husband, and mother to the children who have been born to them. The pleasant dwelling at No. 820 Irving Street, which was built by Mr. Ireland, bears an appearance of order and refinement which none but a thorough housekeeper could impart, and thorough

hospitality is dispensed under its roof. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Ireland comprises five living children, named respectively, Edna, Emily, John, Margaret and James.

In the Peoples' Loan & Homestead Association, of which he has been a member since he came to Joliet, Mr. Ireland holds the office of Director. He belongs to the social orders of Masonry, the Knights of Pythias, the Royal Arcanum and the St. Andrew's Society, and has held nearly all the chairs in the different orders. He also belongs to the Athenaeum and is a singing teacher there. He votes with the Republican party and during the last Presidential election belonged to the Protective Tariff Glee Club. His religious belief coincides with that expressed by the creed of the Presbyterian Church with which he is identified. He is thoroughly respected by his fellow-men as an unpretending and useful member of society, a reliable workman and a Christian gentleman.



**T**HOMAS BENNETT is engaged in the livery business in Joliet, having an establishment well furnished with good steeds and equipages of various descriptions, and so conducted as to deserve and receive a fair share of public patronage. He has quite an extended experience in this occupation in which he embarked in 1872. In earlier years he spent much time on the Pacific coast, having at the early age of nineteen years taken his place in the great army of gold seekers who, upon the discovery of the precious metal in California, rushed thither. As a forty-niner he saw many phases of life which he would not have witnessed had he remained in the East, and passed through many scenes the relation of which would afford abundant food for thought.

The parents of our subject were Henry B. and Sarah (Frank) Bennett, of the Empire State, who came to Illinois in 1845. Their first home was in the vicinity of Aurora, but in 1881, they took up their abode in Joliet. The occupation of the father was that of a tiller of the soil. He passed away in 1886, ripe in years; his wife had preceded

him to the silent land, breathing her last in 1881. They were the parents of two children, he of whom we write and Sarah, now Mrs. Morse, of California.

Thomas Bennett was born June 26, 1830, in Montgomery County, N. Y., and his early years being passed upon the farm, he received such training as was customary to farmer's sons and the education for which the common schools afforded facilities. He was in his teens when he first became acquainted with the Prairie State to which he accompanied his parents, but which he left in a few years to seek the Eldorado to which the thoughts of so many were turning. He spent fourteen years on the Pacific coast, engaged in mining and the stock business, after which he returned to this State and became a farmer. Not many years had elapsed, however, before he abandoned agricultural life to embark in the business which he is still successfully carrying on.

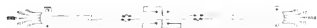
An important event in the life of Mr. Bennett transpired in December, 1868, it being no less than his marriage to Miss Carrie P., daughter of Laban Clark. One son has come to bless the union. He received the name of Allen and upon him have been bestowed all the advantages which parental love and the means possessed by the father could compass. He is still living under the parental roof. Mr. Bennett is a believer in and a supporter of the principles of the Republican party. He stands well among his fellow-men and his estimable wife is also highly regarded throughout the community.



**C**HARLES LARAWAY. The parents of the above-named gentleman were James and Elizabeth (Pocock) Laraway. The former was born in Albany County, N. Y., and the latter in London, England. Their first home after marriage was in Oneida County, N. Y., whence, in 1852, the mother came to Illinois, the father following in 1853, and their home from that time being with their son, our subject. The father died January 22, 1856, and the mother in March, 1859. They had ten children, of whom Charles was the fifth. He was born June 29, 1825, in Oneida County, N. Y.,

remaining there until 1852, when he came to Will County. Here he bought eighty acres on section 35, Joliet Township, where he has since made his home. He has erected excellent buildings and added to his original estate until it comprises two hundred and nine acres. He has always followed farming, and is successful in its pursuit.

In Herkimer County, N. Y., Mr. Laraway was united in marriage with Miss Nancy E. Cheetles. She was born in the county in which she was married, and died at her home in this State, October 8, 1871. She belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church. To herself and husband nine children were born, seven of whom are yet living: Albert is a farmer in Iowa; Charles is in business in Joliet; George W. lives at home; Russell is a clerk in Joliet; Marion, John and Arthur W. are still with their father. In Monroe County, N. Y., June 17, 1875, Mr. Laraway was again married, his bride being Miss Julia A. Sweetman, who was born in Deerfield, Oneida County, November 17, 1830. Both are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Laraway has been School Director and is a member of the Democratic party.



**G**EORGE Y. SMITH has pursued the occupation of farmer and stock-raiser very successfully, and is now living in retirement in his pleasant home on section 1, Plainfield Township. He was born in Miles, Centre County, Pa., August 8, 1813. His father, John Smith, was a native of the same State, born in Berks County, a son of Peter Smith, who was a native of Germany. From the best of information at hand it is gathered that the latter came to America with his parents in Colonial times. He married in Pennsylvania, taking as his wife Anna Mary Harter, a native of that State. He was a mechanic, and followed the trade of a shoemaker and cooper, and spent the remaining years of his life after coming to this country in Centre County.

The father of our subject was reared and married in his native State. He was bred to the life of a farmer, and carried on that occupation in Centre

County until 1824, when he removed to that part of Stark County now included in Summit County, Ohio, his wife and four children accompanying him, the removal being made with a team, and taking their household goods along with them. Mr. Smith located on a tract of timber land belonging to his father-in-law, and became identified with the pioneers of the State. The log house into which he and his family moved had but one door and one window, and there was no chimney. At that time deer and bears were plenty and were occasionally seen quite near the settlements. There were no railroads for years, and the nearest market was at a lake port. Mr. Smith cleared quite a tract of land and resided there until 1848, and then removed to Greensburg, where his death occurred the following year. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Yerrick, and she is supposed to have been born in Pennsylvania. Her father, Anton Yerrick, is thought to have been born in that State, and was of German antecedents. He was a farmer in Centre County and there died at a ripe old age. The mother of our subject died in 1850. She had nine other children besides himself, namely: Peter, Polly, Susan, Elizabeth, Sallie, John, William, Simon and Lydia.

The son of whom we write was in his eleventh year when his parents removed to Ohio, and he remembers well the incidents of pioneer life there. He received his education in the pioneer school taught in a log cabin on the subscription plan. He lived with his parents until his twentieth year, and then commenced to learn the trade of a wagon-maker at Uniontown, serving nearly two years, and then went to Greensburg and established himself in the business, continuing there until 1851. In that year he came to Will County accompanied by his wife and six children, making the entire journey with a team. They settled on land on section 1, Plainfield Township, which he had purchased here in the spring of that year. There was a house on the place at that time, and he lived in that two years and then removed to his present commodious residence.

Mr. Smith was married, in October, 1836, to Magdalena Ream, a native of Summit County, Ohio, and a daughter of George and Catherine Ream.

They have had eight children: Sarah, wife of Isaac Henry; John, William, Conrad, George, Adam and Amos. Mary married George Ferner and is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Smith joined the Evangelical Association many years ago, being among its most active members and are classed among our most desirable citizens.



**M**ALCOLM N. M. STEWART was born July 21, 1834, in Amsterdam, Montgomery County, N. Y., to Peter and Elizabeth (Buckmaster) Stewart, natives of Scotland and New York respectively. He emigrated to America when young, and was married in the county in which his son was born. Peter Stewart followed the trade of a stonemason, and built the first locks on the Erie Canal and several of the first buildings of the Brooklyn Navy Yards. He came to Wilmington in 1835, and in the fall of that year returned to New York to bring his family here. They went by Lake to Detroit, Mich., and by team to Chicago, this State, and landed in Wilmington about September 1, 1836. Here he bought land, paying \$2,000 for one hundred and sixty acres, which is still owned by the subject of this sketch and two brothers. Here he also lived until his death, in 1868, having passed his four-score years, the mother dying some years previously. While working at his trade he superintended all the stone work in the Illinois and Michigan Canal, and was a man of prominence and good circumstances. Politically, he was first a Whig and later an Abolitionist, and was President of the Underground Railroad, and quite an influential and active politician, afterward becoming a Republican. He was quite instrumental in getting the right of way for the Chicago & Alton Railroad, and journeyed to Washington on its account. Religiously, the father of our subject was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and built the church at Wilmington of his own means, principally. Before his death he had taken all the degrees of Masonry.

The parents of our subject had ten children born to them, namely: John W., Edward W., Mary,

George T., Malcolm N. M., Catherine, James N., Minerva, and a pair of twins who died in infancy. Our subject was reared in Wilmington, and received his education in the public schools. In 1861 he joined the army as a private with the Chicago Dragoons, but in September, 1861, owing to the fact that this company neither belonged to the State of Illinois nor the United States, they were ordered back to Chicago, where Mr. Stewart then joined the One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, Company A. Soon afterward he was promoted to First Lieutenant of his company, and, while in the Atlanta campaign, was commissioned Captain of the company and served in that capacity for some time. He was then promoted to be Major of the United States Volunteers, in which he served until the close of the war, first in the Twenty-first and last in the Fourth Army Corps.

The subject of this notice participated in the following hard-fought battles of the Civil War: Perryville (Ky.), Stone River, Tullahoma, Chickamauga, siege of Chattanooga, Mission Ridge, siege of Knoxville, Buzzard's Roost, Resaca, Calhoun, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Franklin and Nashville. At the close of the war he was honorably discharged and returned home, where he has remained ever since, commencing the occupation of farming. He has been connected with the First National Bank of Wilmington, having been a stockholder since its organization, and now holds the position of Teller of the Bank. He still has considerable farming interests in Will County, and gives much attention to the breeding of blooded horses. He started in life with a small capital, and has made all he has by his own efforts.

An interesting event took place in the life of our subject May 30, 1871, when he became the husband of Miss Anna McIntyre, of Wilmington, a daughter of the Hon. Archibald J. and Jane (Whitten) McIntyre, natives of New York and Canada, and of Scotch extraction. They became the parents of two children—Jean and Margaret, both living, their ages being sixteen and twelve years respectively.

Malcolm Stewart has always taken an active interest in political affairs, but is not an aspirant for office. His views coincide with those of the Republican

platform. He is not a member of any religious denomination, but supports the Presbyterian Church. Socially, he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, being enrolled in Bowen Post, No. 17, at Wilmington, which is one of the oldest posts in the State. He has served as Commander of the same, and has filled all the chairs.



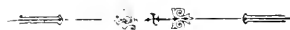
**J**AMES G. ELWOOD. This gentleman has been prominently identified with building, real estate, and many other public enterprises of Joliet. He is an able financier, has a meritorious record as a soldier, and has served with honor in public capacities. He is the eldest son and only surviving child of the late Nelson D. Elwood, and was born in Lockport, May 6, 1839. Joliet became his home in 1843, and here he obtained his fundamental education. He spent three years at the military school in New Haven, Conn., and the years 1857-58-59 in Geneva, Switzerland, and Berlin, Prussia, closing his schooling at the Frederick William University, in the last named city.

In July, 1862, Mr. Elwood formed a company and entered the Union service as Captain of Company B, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry. During the battle of Stone River, January 2, 1863, he was appointed Assistant Adjutant-General of the brigade, and in that capacity he continued to serve until the close of army life. His gallantry was unmistakable and the zeal with which he opposed the efforts of treacherous hands to tear some of the stars from our nation's banner was such as to add to the enthusiasm of his comrades and those whom he led to battle.

At the conclusion of the war Mr. Elwood spent two years in Cincinnati, Ohio, and three in Chicago, and in 1870 returned to Joliet with his family. He served two years as a member of the City Council, his term beginning in 1872, and in 1877, he was elected Mayor, holding the chief place in the municipal government two years. He was the first Mayor under the present city charter. He has been active in Masonic affairs, and in 1881 served

as Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Illinois, having filled various positions from Junior Warden of Joliet Commandery, No. 1, to that of Grand Commander. He is now President of the Joliet Masonic Association, which is erecting a \$60,000 edifice for the use of the order.

Mr. Elwood has been connected with the Joliet Gas Company since 1861, was Secretary for twenty years and is at present Managing Director. In connection with ex-Mayor Paige he built the Telephone Exchange here, and for four years he managed the water works now owned by the city. He is Secretary and Superintendent of Oakwood Cemetery. He and his family move in the first circles of Joliet, their intelligence and culture being duly appreciated by their acquaintances.



**A**MOS HARRISON. Amid all the fine estates of Green Garden Township, that which comprises one hundred and eighty acres on sections 29, 30 and 31, is noticeable for its careful cultivation, orderly appearance and excellent improvements. The land is watered by Forked Creek and is all tillable, well adapted for the raising of grain and also as a grazing ground for stock. It is seven miles from Manhattan, and its inmates can therefore enjoy much of what is most attractive in town life. The dwelling is an attractive and comfortable structure, and all the outbuildings are in keeping with the appearance of the residence. Pleasure and profit are found in the care of a fine orchard, and it and one and a half miles of well-kept hedge add to the beauty of the estate.

The gentleman of whom we write is a son of John Harrison, a Lincolnshire farmer, and Elizabeth (Smith) Harrison, who was born in the same shire. The former lived to the extreme age of ninety-two years, but the mother died when fifty years old. They were members of the Episcopal Church, upright in character and industrious in habits. Of the ten children who were born to them but two are now living. Henry, the elder of these, is in the wool business in England. The maternal



grandfather of our subject was John Smith, a shepherd who, while tending his sheep one morning dropped dead.

Amos Harrison was born in Appleby, Lincolnshire, England, April 25, 1833, and was reared in the village, enjoying the advantages of good common schools during his early years. When but ten years old he began to earn his own living by hoeing and other employments suited to his boyish skill, drifting into heavier labors and finally hiring out upon a farm. He intended to learn the mason's trade, but upon going to the place where he expected to begin his work, he found the building already quite high and determined not to try his hand there. Among other work which he did was that of cutting timber in the woods.

Having concluded that the United States afforded a broader field for his energies and that here the prospect of advancing his material prosperity would be much better than in his native land, George Harrison turned his face westward in 1858. On the 28th of May he left Liverpool on the sailer "Empire State," which encountered severe storms in her passage. For six days and nights the billows heaved wildly and the ship seemed doomed to destruction, but it finally outrode the waves and anchored in New York Harbor eight weeks after leaving the English port. This was at the time of the first attempt to lay the Atlantic cable, and the same gale which threatened the "Empire State" was disastrous to the "Merrimac."

Making his way up the Hudson River, and by rail to Buffalo, he crossed to Chatham, Canada, where he worked on a farm for some of his friends from July until fall, without wages. Crops were very poor and prospects somewhat discouraging. In the fall, however, he began working for wages, remaining in the Dominion until November, 1860, when he took up his abode in Will County, Ill. He spent the winter in Lockport, and in the spring, in partnership with George Andrews, bought forty acres of railroad land in Green Garden Township. Mr. Andrews operated the farm and our subject began working out for others, boarding with his partner seven years. The two bought an additional forty acres three years after, and another eighty in 1866. After their second purchase Mr. Harrison worked

a part of the land and in 1868 he built a substantial dwelling upon it.

The writer after Mr. Harrison came into the township he and Mr. Murdie bought a corn-sheller, which they run for four years. During 1869 the partnership between Messrs. Harrison & Andrews was dissolved and the one hundred and sixty acres of land which they owned were divided between them. The same year our subject sold forty acres of his share for \$10 per acre and purchased one hundred acres of his present estate. Upon it there were no improvements, and all that it now bears are the result of his industry and earnest efforts. He moved his residence onto his original purchase here, which he has since made his home. He has been very successful in the cultivation of grain, to which he devotes one hundred acres of his land, and from which he reaped a large crop last season. Eighty acres are used as pasture and haying ground, whercon Holstein cattle, Poland-China swine, and a good grade of draft horses find food and intelligent care.

Mr. Harrison is now serving his second term as Justice of the Peace, having been elected to the office in 1885, and re-elected in 1889. For fourteen years he has been School Director and he is still serving acceptably in that position. He is a staunch Republican and has advanced the interest of his party as a delegate to county conventions. He possesses more than ordinary intelligence and displays as deep an interest in the welfare of those about him and the further development of the country as he does in his personal affairs. Since 1868 he has been identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and no more active member of the congregation can be found than he. He is Class-Leader and Steward of the church and Superintendent of the Sunday-school, as he has been for years.

The wife of Mr. Harrison was a lady of intelligence, and the nature which made her sympathize in all his aspirations and assist in her own sphere in all his labors. She was known in her maidenhood as Miss Catherine Marshall, and was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1832. She came to America in 1868, and in Green Garden Township was united in marriage with our subject, June 30,

She was torn from her happy home by an untimely death, January 11, 1886, leaving two children—Henry M. and Annie Lina, both of whom are still with their father on the home farm. Mrs. Harrison was a daughter of Thomas Marshall, a gardener in the mother country.

**D**AVID RYBURN, though not among the earliest settlers of Will County, occupies an honorable position among its pioneers, and as an active, intelligent, thrifty, practical farmer has promoted its agricultural interests, and is classed with its most successful and well-to-do farmers and stock-raisers. He is the proprietor of a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres (finely located in Plainfield Township) whose rich harvests have brought him wealth so that he is enabled to spend the declining years of a busy, useful life at his ease in a home that is replete with comfort.

Our subject is a Scotchman by birth, born in Stewarton, Ayrshire, September 26, 1821. His father, John Ryburn, was born in the same shire, and spent his entire life in his native land. His father of the same name as himself, was a life-long resident of Ayrshire, and for many years engaged in business as a manufacturer of Scotch caps. The father of our subject was reared in his native Scotland, and for some years was successfully engaged as a carrier, having several teams and doing expressage between Stewarton and Glasgow and Kilmarnock. He was still engaged in the business when his active life was suddenly closed by death in 1827. He died on the road under circumstances that led to the belief that he had been robbed and murdered. The maiden name of his wife was Agnes Stewart, and she was a native of Stewarton. Her father, John Stewart, was a farmer, and spent his entire life in Scotland. She came to America and passed her last years with her children, dying at the home of our subject in 1887, at the advanced age of ninety-one years. The following is recorded of the four children born to her: Thomas came to Illinois in 1811, and passed the remainder of his life

in La Salle County; our subject was the next in order of birth; Elizabeth married James Collins, and resides in Joliet; Charles went to California, and from there to Australia, where he was when last heard from.

David Ryburn of this brief biography passed his boyhood and the opening years of his manhood among his native hills, and as soon as large enough commenced work on a farm. He was ambitious, however, to do more for himself than he could in the place of his birth, and lured by the bright prospects held forth in this country for an active, enterprising, capable young man to make his way to a competence at least, he determined to see what life had for him in America, and in 1816 he set sail from Glasgow on the ship Agnes, and landed at New York forty-two days later. He then proceeded up the Hudson River to Albany, from there by rail to Buffalo, thence by steamer to Chicago, where he hired a team to take him to Aurora, then a small village. After a few weeks sojourn there he came to Will County and bought a tract of wild prairie land in Plainfield Township, on section 6, paying \$5 an acre for it. After completing the purchase he went to Lisbon, in Grundy County, and while there assisted in the harvest. At that time the most of the grain was gathered with a cradle, a cradler getting four dollars a day. The following year Mr. Ryburn entered actively upon the improvement of his land. Then farming was carried on under difficulties, as fine farming machinery was not in general use, and there being no railways it was difficult to get the produce marketed, as Chicago was the nearest market till the canal was constructed. Our subject resided on that place until 1856, and then sold it at a good advance, and bought his present farm. This he has under admirable tillage, has it amply supplied with the best modern machinery, and has a substantial set of buildings, everything about the place indicating superior management on the part of the owner, and showing that he has met with more than ordinary success in his attempts to found a home on a foreign soil.

In the accumulation of this handsome property Mr. Ryburn has been ably assisted by a devoted and helpful wife, to whom he was united in mar-





Jan 25 1871  
William Gungor

riage in 1851. Her maiden name was Margaret Cochran, and she is also a native of Scotland. Five children have blessed their marriage to them, as follows: John S., a successful physician; Alexander C. and Thomas, practical and intelligent young farmers at home; Agnes, the wife of Willis Braimard, of Fairburg, Neb.; Margaret died at the age of fifteen.

Mr. Ryburn is well and favorably known in Will County with whose interest his own have been associated for upwards of forty years, and his character for probity, straightforwardness in all his transactions, and for unswerving rectitude is generally recognized, and has gained him a name that is honored by all who come in contact with him either in a business or in a social way. His inherent Scottish traits of foresight, sagacity and excellent business habits have been potent factors, not only in gathering together a competence, but have made him useful as a citizen in his adopted country. He and his wife were reared in the Scotch Presbyterian Church, and have ever since consistently clung to the faith of their fathers. Mr. Ryburn is identified with the A. F. & A. M. as a member of Plainfield Lodge, No. 536.



**W**ILLIAM GOUGAR. The Gougar family is widely and favorably known throughout New Lenox Township as having borne no unimportant part in the development of its agricultural resources. The subject of this notice is one of the worthiest representatives of the family and was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, August 24, 1818. His father, William Gougar, was a native of Berks County, Pa., and was married in early manhood to Miss Catherine Abel, who is likewise a native of the Keystone State.

The parents of our subject left Pennsylvania in 1818, and settled in Pickaway County, Ohio, where they resided eight years. They then emigrated to Vermillion County, Ind., and sojourned there until June, 1831. That year witnessed their arrival in this county, which was then in-

cluded in Cook County, and they settled on section 18, in what is now New Lenox Township. The father followed farming all his life, and departed hence March 31, 1861. The mother had passed away January 6, 1851, also dying at the old homestead.

To William Gougar and his wife Catherine there was born a family of eleven children, nine sons and two daughters. William, Jr., was the fifth child and was twelve years old when his parents came to Illinois. He learned the art of farming in all its details, obtained a practical education in the common school and remained a member of the parental household until a man of thirty-two years. About this time the California gold excitement was attracting large numbers to the Pacific Coast and Mr. Gougar decided to join the caravan, left home April 1, 1859, and set out overland to the Golden State. He arrived at his destination early in July and engaged in mining, also the raising of vegetables for three years and three months.

At the expiration of this time, becoming satisfied with his Western experience, Mr. Gougar returned home via the Isthmus and remained with his father until his marriage. This important event occurred December 28, 1859, the bride being Miss Clarissa, daughter of Baldwin and Hester M. (Biekle) Hawkins. Mr. Hawkins was born in New York State, forty miles from Rochester, while his wife was a native of Pennsylvania. After marriage they settled in Danville, Ill., where they lived two years, then removed to a farm five miles west of Kankakee, where the mother died in 1852. Mr. Hawkins survived his wife for a period of twelve years, his death occurring at the same place in April, 1861.

To the parents of Mrs. Gougar there was born a family of six children, four of whom lived to mature years. Mrs. Gougar was the fourth child and was born in Kankakee County, February 19, 1839. She lived there until her marriage, acquiring a common-school education and becoming familiar with all useful household duties. After her marriage with our subject they settled on a farm on section 20, New Lenox Township, where they have since lived. Mr. Gougar is a land-

owner to the extent of five hundred and sixty acres, comprising one of the finest bodies of land in New Lenox Township. He has effected fine improvements, including a set of convenient modern buildings, while he keeps himself posted in regard to all matters connected with agriculture and avails himself of the most improved machinery in the cultivation of the soil.

Our subject and his estimable wife are the parents of four children—Joel W., who is farming in New Lenox Township; Hester M., who died in infancy; Helen and Frank at home. The Democratic party finds a warm supporter in Mr. Gougar. He has held the various minor offices of his township and with his wife is a member in good standing of the Episcopal Church, together with their daughter Helen and son Frank. Mr. Gougar in December, 1888, revisited California and the scenes of his early operations in the mining district, returning the 1st of April, 1889.

We invite the attention of the reader to a lithographic portrait of Mr. Gougar, which appears on another page of the ALBUM.



**P**ATRICK BRISCOE has for many years been closely connected with the farming and stock raising interests of Will and Grundy Counties. He came to Illinois nearly forty years ago, and has not only been a witness of the marvelous development of this part of the country since that time, but he has had a hand in promoting it. He has by hard labor, directed by wise judgment and practical skill, improved a farm that is in all particulars, the choicest in the neighborhood.

Nicholas Briscoe, the father of our subject came to America from the land of his birth in 1850, and settled in Grundy County, Ill., and in 1855 he moved with his family to Minnesota, and took up a claim sixty miles above Minneapolis, which was at that time a small village, and in 1857 returned with his family to Grundy County. His death occurred in that county, August 3, 1882, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. His wife died at the age of seventy-four, the year fol-

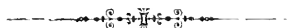
lowing, and both are now sleeping their last sleep in Grundy County. There were twelve children born to them, of whom three daughters and two sons are now living. One brother died in Atchison, Kan., where his family of five children live. The youngest sister of our subject was married soon after the family moved to Minnesota, to William Harrison, and now lives in Little Falls. Ellen married Thomas Daly, and lives in Missouri; Mariah married James Meade, of Grundy County; Peter is a farmer of An Sable Township, where he has two hundred acres of land, and is at present Supervisor.

Patrick Briscoe was born in 1835, and after attaining manhood he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Grundy County, which he sold afterwards and bought another in the same locality. In 1879 he came to Channahon Township, and here he purchased a fine farm, just outside the village, beautifully located on the DuPage River near its mouth. It is well fitted up with good buildings, the land is under excellent tillage and it has a fine orchard of apple and other fruit trees, and the place is also adorned with beautiful shade trees, and there are some fine springs on the place. One hundred and fifty-five acres of it lie in a body and he has one hundred and sixty acres in Grundy County, and he operates it all with the assistance of his boys. He has always paid especial attention to stock raising and does a profitable business in that line.

Mr. Briscoe and Miss Julia Dempsey were united in marriage in 1868, and in the pleasant home that they have built up, nine children have been born to them, of whom, six boys and two girls are now living, namely, Nicholas P., aged, twenty-one, John nineteen, Mary A., seventeen, Michael J., fifteen, Ellen eleven, William J., seven, Richard A., four, and Edward T., the baby. Julia died at the age of three years. Mr. Briscoe is a sincere believer in the advantages of a solid education and is giving his children good opportunities for schooling. Mrs. Briscoe was born in Boston, Mass., in 1850, a daughter of Michael Dempsey, and came with her parents to Kendall County, this State when she was eight years of age.

Mr. Briscoe is possessed of far-seeing sagacity and

energy so combined to those useful qualities of prudence, thrift and steadiness, that he could not fail to do what he has done to make life a success. He takes an active interest in the affairs of his adopted county and in 1888 was elected Justice of the Peace of the town of Channahon, and is still serving, discharging the duties of his office with ability and credit. In politics he sides with the Democratic party, though he often exercises the privilege of voting as he chooses without regard to party affiliations. Religiously, he and his family are devoted members of the Catholic Church of Minooka.



**A**LFRED WARNER. Of honorable ancestry, Squire Warner has throughout his long life conducted himself so as to bring no discredit upon the name he bears, but, on the contrary, add to its lustre. He occupies a high position in Wesley Township, with whose agriculturists he has long been numbered. His farm comprises one hundred and twenty acres of improved land on section 21, a frame residence and all necessary farm buildings, and a due supply of orchard and shade trees, making it attractive, and adding to its value.

William Warner, the grandfather of our subject, was a Revolutionary soldier, and after the war became possessed of much property. He had a large amount of Continental money, which became utterly worthless. He, therefore, being unable to pay his debts, was informed upon by Tories and imprisoned for debt. His eldest son, Asahel, was born in Columbia County, N. Y., and being but a lad at the time of the Revolution, was not able to do soldier's duties, but accompanied the army, employing himself in running bullets for those who could take part in the scenes of strife. During the War of 1812 he was able to exert his strength against the enemies of his country, and rose to the rank of Major.

After his father was imprisoned, it fell to Asahel Warner to support the family, and he earned money by hiring out by the month. He married

Sarah Ketchum, a native of the same county as himself, and going into Livingston County, the young couple built up a home there. They became the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the only survivor. The father was a member of the State Legislature of New York, representing Livingston County. His record in war and peace is one to which his son can refer with just pride. He died in the Empire State in 1816, and the mother in 1833.

In Livingston County, N. Y., May 19, 1811, the eyes of our subject opened to the light of day. He was reared upon a farm but given most excellent educational advantages, first obtaining an academic education at Chittenango Polytechnic Academy, under Prof. Yates, and later attending college at Lima. He remained at home until twenty years of age, when his father divided the property among his children and our subject took possession of his patrimony, and therewith began his personal career.

Young Warner remained in the Empire State five or six years, then made a trip to Ohio, where he married, returning with his bride to his native State. After a sojourn of about three years they became residents of Medina County, Ohio, where they remained five years, Mr. Warner being employed in mercantile pursuits during that period. In 1818 he came to Illinois, and having purchased land warrants in Chicago, he located four hundred and eighty acres in Kankakee County. The next year he brought his family hither and settled on a farm now owned by the sons of Asahel Warner.

After remaining there two years, our subject removed to his present farm, which was at that time raw land. The residence first occupied by the family was destroyed by fire in 1856. Mr. Warner had gone on a trip and his wife was alone at the time. She bought a store building at Rockville, five miles east, had runners put under it and it was hauled to the Warner farm the same day. In 1853 Mr. Warner went to Australia, via New York and Cape of Good Hope, remaining there twenty three years. He returned via the Sandwich Islands and San Francisco, again took possession of the farm, and has since remained with his

family. During his absence Mrs. Warner had charge of the farm and resided there until 1861. She then moved to Wilmington, sojourned there two years, and then went to Rockford, which she made her home until the return of her husband. Their affairs were in competent hands, Mrs. Warner having business capacity and judgment.

Mrs. Warner bore the maiden name of Rachel L. Curtis. She was born May 24, 1819, in Marcellus, N. Y., was finely educated and prior to her marriage was a school teacher. Prof. John McGregor, of Scotland, President of the Sharon Academy, at Medina, Ohio, was the instructor under whom she completed her studies. President Garfield was at one time under the instruction of the same noted educator. Mrs. Warner possesses literary talent of a high order, and the articles from her pen frequently find place in the newspapers and magazines. She became the wife of our subject February 14, 1839. They are the parents of four children—Norman C., Clara Elizabeth, Richard Allen and Harvey Alfred. The two latter were twins, and are deceased.

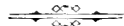
The son, Norman C., was born November 26, 1839. He finished his studies at Aurora, Ill. In September, 1861, he was enrolled in Company E, Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry—Yates Phalanx—and served until 1865. At the battle of Deep Bottom, Va., August 16, 1861, he was severely wounded in the right lower limb by a minie ball. Amputation at the knee took place on the field and he fell into the enemy's hands and was carried to the hospital and returned to the Union lines again. He was then sent to Hampton Hospital, Fortress Monroe, where his mother joined him, remaining two months and giving him her loving care. In 1866 he secured a clerkship in the War Department at Washington, spent the evenings in study, and entered Columbia Law School, from which he was graduated in due time. After being admitted to the bar, he settled in Rockford, Ill., where he still resides, occupying a prominent place among the legal fraternity and well known for his services as City Attorney. The daughter, Clara Elizabeth, is the wife of Everett E. Hudson, banker and insurance agent in Yankton, Dak.

The parents of Mrs. Warner were Col. Norman

and Elizabeth (Lampson) Curtis, natives of Connecticut and Vermont respectively. The father was a farmer, a soldier in the War of 1812 and a Colonel in the Ohio State Militia. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis spent the first few years of their wedded life in the Empire State, and then removed to Medina County, Ohio, where the wife died in 1854. Col. Curtis came to Illinois in 1855, and died here in 1881, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. His family consisted of seven children, Mrs. Warner being the second; three of them are now living.

The labors of Squire Warner, aided by the good management of his wife, have resulted in securing to them a goodly share of substance, which they employ in procuring reasonable enjoyments and aiding in good works. In Medina County, Ohio, Mr. Warner was Assessor, and in his Illinois home he has long served as Justice of the Peace. He has always been interested in politics, votes the Democratic ticket and has been a delegate to county conventions. A reliable citizen, an intelligent and well-bred man, he is duly esteemed, while the womanly nature, fine talents and thorough breeding of his wife give her a position fully equal to his own in the opinion and regard of those about them.

Harvey Warner, a brother of our subject, came to Will County in 1849, settling on the farm now owned by the Linton family. Another brother, Asahel H., came here in 1851. Both are now deceased.



**J**OHN T. DIXON, who now holds the official position of Supervisor of Florence Township, has been identified with the agricultural interests of this county since 1869. He was born in Wilmington Township, June 23, 1858, and spent the first six years of his life there. He then accompanied his parents to Grundy County, in that part of the Prairie State sojourning a few years. Farming was chosen by him for a life work, and well has he demonstrated his fitness for this line of employment. In Emmet County, Iowa, he owns one hundred and fifty-six acres of fine land that he rents to a tenant, while himself occupying



and operating rented land in this county. The one hundred and twenty acres on which he carries on his enterprise is carefully managed and well repays the efforts of the operator. It is located on section 15.

The immediate progenitors of Mr. Dixon were John and Elizabeth (Singleton) Dixon, natives of England, who came to America and to this State early in the '50s. Their family comprised nine sons and daughters, of whom our subject was the second in order of birth. He has served as Clerk of Florence Township three years, and the estimation in which he is held by his fellow-citizens is shown by the fact that in the spring of 1890 they elected him to the office of Supervisor. He is a Republican of the deepest dye. His character is an honorable one, and his reputation admirable.

On February 15, 1888, Mr. Dixon led to the hymeneal altar Miss Grace Morey, an estimable and educated young lady who makes of their abiding place a home indeed. She was born in Florence Township, and is a daughter of Smith R. and Louise (Smith) Morey, natives of Pennsylvania and Illinois respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Dixon have one son, a charming infant, named Ralph M.



**W**ILLIAM BEUTHEN. If genius is a capacity for hard work, as it has been defined by a noted literateur, then this gentleman deserves to be called a genius. He has been a hard worker all his life, and this combined with close economy, has given him possession of a fine farm, in which he may well take pride. It comprises two hundred and sixty acres on sections 11 and 13, all in a body, and all under improvement and wisely managed. There are two residences upon the estate, that now occupied by Mr. Beutien and his family having been built in 1868 at a cost of \$1,600. It is cozy and attractive, stands in fitting surroundings and is the center of a happy home life. The modern barn was put up in 1879, at a cost of \$817.

Our subject is the youngest of eight children born to Fred and Caroline (Race) Beutien. The

father was a soldier in the Prussian Army, and both were natives of that kingdom. Mr. Beutien died in 1853, and in 1860 the mother came to America, dying at a goodly age, in 1884. Four of her children are now living.

William Beutien was born in Prussia, February 22, 1836. During his boyhood and youth he obtained a common school education, and at the age of seventeen years took his father's place at the head of the household. In 1857 he emigrated to America, landing at the metropolis, whence he came direct to Chicago, Ill., there securing a situation as a farm hand in the county. For two years he remained at one place, then spent two months on another farm, next becoming a laborer on a railroad in Southern Illinois. Nine months later he resumed farm work on an estate in DuPage County, where he remained three years and eight months.

We next find Mr. Beutien in Will County purchasing a farm with the savings which close economy had secured, and while working his estate, putting in more or less time on the Illinois Central Railroad. At the two employments he occupied himself three years, then selling the farm, which he had changed materially from the condition in which he took possession of it, he bought that on which he still lives. He carries on mixed farming, and raises standard bred stock, hiring help as he needs on the estate.

The wife of Mr. Beutien was known in her maidenhood as Miss Augusta Richter, and became Mrs. Beutien August 19, 1863. She is a daughter of Charles and Fredricka (Dengge) Richter, of Prussia, her father having been a carpenter. He died in his native land in 1862. Mrs. Beutien was born in that kingdom March 25, 1812, and received a common-school education. To her and her husband twelve children have been born, eight being now alive. These are: Amelia, wife of Henry Monk, of Peotone Township; they have four children; Augusta, wife of John Knapp, and mother of one child, their home also being in this township; Mina, Bertha, Victor, Alvina, Edda, and Julius, all at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Beutien belong to the Evangelical Lutheran Church, in which he has been a

Trustee. For eighteen years he has been School Director in District No. 1, and no member of the community takes greater interest in the cause of education than he. He saw to it that his offspring secured all that the public schools could give them. He is now Pathmaster, and was Road Commissioner three years. For eighteen years he has been a Director of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of Green Garden. He votes the Republican ticket, and is quite interested in the political questions of the day. We may mention that when Mr. Bentien arrived in America he was \$7 in debt, and that, the sum which seems so small to him now, was at that time quite a weight upon his mind.



**S**AMUEL RUSH HAVEN, M. D. The demise of this distinguished member of the medical profession, scientist and traveler, took place at the home of his brother, the Hon. Dwight Haven, in New Lenox, and was learned with regret by the many personal friends he had made, as well as by hosts to whom his reputation had made him familiar. He was born in Sheridan, Chautauqua County, N. Y., January 29, 1827, and came to what is now the renowned city of Chicago, in the fall of 1837, with his parents in an emigrant wagon, little dreaming that in years to come he would become a prominent resident of the city which was to be built up there.

The parents of our subject settled on a farm in New Lenox, Will County, and there young Haven acquired his elementary education. His taste leading him to desire to become a physician, he entered Rush Medical College, in Chicago, working for his board while pursuing his studies there and matriculating in 1847. In 1850, still owing debts contracted while attending school, he caught the gold fever and went to California, where he dug the precious metal, and also practiced his profession. Both occupations proved profitable to him, and he was enabled to pay the indebtedness, before alluded to, and establish himself well upon his return to the States.

After sojourning on the Pacific Slope until 1853,

Dr. Haven returned to Chicago, and formed a partnership with Dr. J. W. Freer. When the war broke out he volunteered on the first expedition, under Brig. Gen. Swift, to Cairo, April 21, 1861, subsequently becoming a Brigade Surgeon, with the Army of the Potomac. He gained distinction in the field, first under Gen. Grant and later under Gen. Heintzleman, being promoted to the position of Division Surgeon with the rank of Major, and finally becoming Corps Surgeon, with the rank of Colonel, under Gen. Hancock. He was through all the battles of the Peninsular campaign under Gen. McClellan and the other commanders of the Eastern Army. At the close of the war he was offered a Colonelcy in the regular army by President Lincoln, but refused.

After the war Dr. Haven retired from active practice and became a very successful real-estate dealer, displaying business acumen of a high order, and retrieving his fortunes, when the great fire in Chicago had left him almost penniless, by a quick appreciation of the needs of the time and a dauntless pushing forward. The abundant means that he possessed enabled him to gratify his taste for travel and research, and he acquired a reputation as a scientist and student, fully equal to that he had obtained in the pursuit of his professional labors. His journeyings had included almost every part of the known world, and his investigations were particularly earnest in the line of medical science.

Dr. Haven was a great lover of books, his reading giving him such a profound knowledge of general literature that he was regarded by his acquaintances as a veritable encyclopedia of interesting information. His conversational powers were far above the average, making him an entertaining companion. He was one of the band of early Abolitionists and Free-Soilers who helped to shape the politics of Northern Illinois. Although brought up in the strict faith of the Congregational Church, his religious views became largely modified and broadened in later years.

For some time past Dr. Haven had been spending his winters in Florida, and at the time of his death had a handsome winter home in process of construction at Clearwater Harbor, on the coast of that State. His wife, who survives him, was Miss

Jane Stowell, daughter of E. C. Stowell, deceased, formerly a well-known real-estate dealer of Chicago. The marriage rites of Dr. Haven and Miss Stowell were celebrated in 1854.



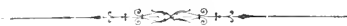
**T**HOMAS TRAINER is a rich farmer of Custer Township, where he has been reared from youth up, and his standing in the community where he is so well known is the highest. His father, William Trainer, was a native of Wightonsire, Scotland, and born in 1798. His mother, whose maiden name was Margaret Moore, was born on the Isle of Man, in 1808, and was there married at the age of twenty-five, the father of our subject then being thirty-five years old. They remained on the Isle until 1853, and then started for America, but while on the passage the family were sadly bereaved by the death of the devoted mother who was buried at sea. The father and remaining members of the family, landing at New York, came direct to Illinois, and he bought a farm on section 14, Wilmington Township, of Lyman Francis. His daughter Margaret, who was only fourteen years of age, kept house for him; she is now deceased. The family lived on that place for eight years, when the father sold the property and the ensuing two years lived in Grand Prairie, near Dwight. At the expiration of that time he came to this township, and purchased the homestead on section 13, which is now occupied by our subject. This remained his home till death closed his mortal pilgrimage, in 1882. He was the father of seven children, three of whom are now living.

Thomas Trainer was the fifth child of the family, and was born on the Isle of Man, in the month of July, 1811. He was twelve years of age when he left the place of his nativity and came with his father to America. He gleaned a good education in the common schools, and on his father's farm a substantial knowledge of agriculture in all its branches, and has always been occupied in farming pursuits and since coming here with his father has been a resident of the homestead that the latter

then purchased. He and his wife have a comfortable home on the Kankakee River, and he is operating one hundred and eighty-one and three-fourth acres of land, all lying in a body and all well improved. He carries on mixed farming, raising a diversity of crops, and having his pastures well stocked with standard grades of cattle.

March 5, 1874, Mr. Trainer and Miss Elizabeth McDonald were united in marriage. Her parents were John and Mary McDonald. Her father lived to be seventy-seven years of age and her mother is now fifty-nine years old.

Mr. Trainer is a whole souled, genial man and has many warm friends in the place where so much of his life has been passed. He is generous in supporting all schemes that will in any way improve the township, and has always been a liberal supporter of churches though not a member of any. He has been a Director of schools in this district, No. 1, and has also served as a Pathmaster, and, altogether, is one of our most useful and trusted citizens. In his political views he is a staunch Republican and has worked hard in the interests of his party.



**J**OHAN STEPHEN. The habits of thrift and industry, to which the subject of this notice was trained from boyhood, have followed him through his latter years, as is indicated by his surroundings. We find him supplied with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, and the owner of one of the finest farms in Joliet Township, comprising two hundred and fifty acres of land on section 18, upon which have been effected good improvements.

The early home of Mr. Stephen was on the other side of the Atlantic, in the Province of Alsace, then of France, but now belonging to Germany, and where he first opened his eyes to the light, July 18, 1839. His father, John Stephen, and his mother, whose maiden name was Adelia Haude, were likewise natives of that province, where they were reared and married. They lived there until 1846, then deciding upon emigrating to America,

and repairing to Havre, boarded a sailing vessel which in due time landed them safely on American shores. They proceeded directly to Cuyahoga County, Ohio, but lived in that State only six months, coming thence to Illinois and settling in Joliet Township, this county. The father engaged in farming, and they sojourned there a number of years, then removed to the city of Joliet, where the last seven years of their life were spent. The five children born to them consisted of four sons and one daughter. Of these John was the third child.

Mr. Stephen was a boy of seven years when his parents emigrated to America, and he still has a dim recollection of his old home in France, and of the scenes and incidents attending the voyage to America. He lived with his parents thereafter until twenty-three years old, when he was married and settled in the town of Troy, living there two years. Thence he returned to the old homestead, which is now his property. He was married in Joliet, October 13, 1863, to Miss Rachel, daughter of Ignatz and Mary (Walter) Schall. The parents of Mrs. Stephen were also natives of Alsace, and emigrated to America about 1817, settling near Rome, N. Y. Later they came to this county and lived in the town of Troy for several years. Later they too, like the parents of Mr. Stephen, removed to Joliet where the mother died, and Mr. Schall is still living there. They were the parents of ten children, of whom Mrs. Stephen was the youngest. She is a native of the same province as her husband, and was born June 28, 1815. She was thus less than two years old upon coming to America with her parents, and recollects nothing of the land of her birth. She, as well as her husband, is thoroughly Americanized and in full sympathy with American institutions.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen are the proud parents of nine living children. They are all at home with their parents and bear the names respectively of, Clara O., Mary R., John E., Frances M., Josephine A., Adeline A., Amelia E., Lenora S., and Raymond A. Mr. Stephen upon becoming a voting citizen identified himself with the Democratic party. He has served as a School Director in his district four years, and as Highway Commissioner

six years. Both he and his wife are prominently connected with the Catholic Church. In addition to general farming he makes a specialty of stock-raising, and realizes therefrom handsome returns.



**M**ICHAEL DOYLE. It affords great pleasure to the biographical writer to record the success of a man who, beginning life with no means, has accumulated a competency, and while doing so has reared his family in useful habits and good principles and acted the part of a worthy citizen. One of this class is Michael Doyle, whose pleasant home is located on section 35, Jackson Township, and who is numbered among the general farmers of this well developed county. He is a native of the Emerald Isle, born in Mohill, County Leitrim, November 1, 1832, and was about eighteen years old when he came to America. Landing in New York he went to New Haven, Conn., in or near which city he lived five years. During this time he was employed at different occupations in which he could gain a support, or which promised to better his condition.

At the expiration of the period mentioned, Mr. Doyle came to Illinois and entered the employ of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company, his location being at Wilmington, this county, for a time, after which he was engaged seven years in sawing wood for the same company. During this time he had hoarded his resources, and was then able to purchase eighty acres of land, upon which he has since resided. He has made various improvements, and has added to his landed estate, from time to time until his possessions now amount to seven hundred acres, the most of which is in Jackson Township. A complete line of farm buildings may be seen upon the estate, their excellence attracting the attention of every passerby, as they are much better than the average among farmers.

In New Haven, Conn., Mr. Doyle was united





George Sperry.



*Mrs. George Sperry.*





in marriage with Miss Catherine Marin, a native of County Monaghan, Ireland. She bore a part in his cares, economics and successes until 1874, when she was removed from earth, breathing her last at her home in this township. She was the mother of six children, of whom the fourth, John, died in April, 1888, at the age of twenty-seven years. James and Frank are now living in Florence Township; Michael, in Jackson Township; Peter lives in this township; and Thomas still remains at home.

The second marriage of Mr. Doyle took place in Wilmington, July 6, 1875, his bride being Miss Ellen Kavanagh. This estimable woman was born in this county, February 19, 1853. She has borne her husband four children—Joseph, Mary, Nellie and Onnie, who are being carefully trained in habits of courtesy and usefulness by their good mother, and having their minds developed as their years will permit.

Mr. Doyle has been Highway Commissioner and School Director for several years. His political affiliation is with the Democracy. He and his wife and family are enrolled in the Catholic Church. Mr. Doyle is not lacking in the natural intelligence and accurate perceptions which are proverbial with the Irish race, and his abilities have been developed and his mind stored with information, so that he is now more than ordinarily intelligent.



**G**EORGE SPERRY. The traveler in going past the Sperry homestead invariably turns for a second glance, as there is an air of comfort and plenty about it that is exceedingly pleasant to the eye. He at once singles it out as the result of more than ordinary enterprise and industry—a home whose proprietor possesses all the attributes of a good citizen, one who has first looked after the comfort of his family, and who next, as a member of the community, presents an example to those around him which is well worthy of imitation. Mr. Sperry is well-to-do, financially, owning besides his farm, valuable city property in

Joliet. He is widely and favorably known throughout the township, and is numbered among its leading men.

The fifth in a family of seven children, our subject is the son of James and Fanny (Pixley) Sperry, and was born in the town of Henrietta, Monroe County, N. Y., April 27, 1837. His early life was spent at his father's farm, and his first studies were prosecuted in the common schools. Later he attended Monroe Academy in East Henrietta. He remained a member of his father's household until reaching his majority, and soon afterward was married and settled in Lewiston, N. Y., where for many years he was employed as a collector. The young wife lived only about one year after her marriage, and after her death Mr. Sperry went to Rochester, and in company with E. D. Hallock was engaged for about two years in the sale of agricultural implements.

In 1856 Mr. Sperry came to this county, and during the first winter was engaged as a school teacher in Homer Township. After his second marriage he settled on the farm which he now owns and occupies, and in connection with its cultivation has also followed the profession of a teacher. After the outbreak of the Civil War, in July, 1862, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company C, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, and for nearly two years served as a private. He was then commissioned First Lieutenant of Company F, Twenty-second New York Cavalry, and served in that capacity for four months, being then promoted to a Captaincy. He remained with the same regiment, and on the 21st of July was brevetted as Major. In charging a battery near Fisher's Hill he was run over by his own squadron, and received injuries which incapacitated him for duty for one month. On account of this he now enjoys a pension from the Government. He was present in some of the great battles of the war, namely: Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Rocky Face, Resaca, Winchester, Cedar Run and Waynesboro. The close of the war found him Acting Brigade Quartermaster, responsible for a million dollars and with certificates of non-indebtedness from every department of the service.

Mr. Sperry was first married in Lewiston, N. Y.,

to Miss Mary D. daughter of the Hon. Bates Cook, who was formerly State Comptroller of New York under Gov. DeWitt Clinton. Mrs. Mary D. Sperry died without children in 1854. The second wife of our subject, to whom he was married in the spring of 1857, was formerly Mrs. Emily C. (Hopping) Peck. This lady was born in 1831 in New York, and is a daughter of Henry and Lucy (Paddock) Hopping, who are now deceased. Henry Hopping died in 1851 in California, whither he had gone with a brother, the Hon. Curtis Hopping, who subsequently became one of the leading citizens of Sacramento, and there died recently, a wealthy man. Another brother, Enos, was educated at West Point and became a Brigadier-General. He was with Gen. Scott in his Mexican campaign, where he died. His remains were brought to his former home in Syracuse, N. Y., and buried with honor by his grateful countrymen.

The wife of our subject was first married to Oliver F. Peck, who died in Homer Township, leaving one child, a daughter, Henrietta. The latter married F. E. Rowley, and died in Manhattan Township in 1882. Mrs. Sperry is proud of wearing the white ribbon as a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. She would feel honored to be well known as a defender of prohibition and equal suffrage. Mr. Sperry is a strong supporter of the Republican party, having taken an active part in political affairs, and in his temperance views he is a radical Prohibitionist.

James Sperry and his estimable wife, the parents of our subject, were natives of Great Barrington, Mass., and settled in Henrietta, Monroe County, N. Y., after their marriage, living in that place many years. Thence they removed to the city of Rochester, where they spent their last days. Mr. Sperry was a man of decided views, and during slavery times was a prominent Abolitionist. The parental family consisted of four sons and three daughters, five of whom are living, as follows: Henry H. Sperry, former Superintendent of the Document Room, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., and Custom House officer in New York City from 1868 to 1871, is now living retired from business in Rochester, N. Y.; Dr. M. M.

Sperry also lives in Rochester and is a prominent man in his profession; Edward lives at Battle Creek, Mich.; our subject, and Sarah A., who lives in Baltimore, Md., complete the family list.

A portrait of the gentleman whose life is thus briefly recorded, and also that of his wife are presented on another page of this volume.



SEMPRONIUS S. CHAMBERLAIN, undertaker and senior member of the firm of S. S. Chamberlain & Sons, of Joliet and Lockport, was born in Henrietta, Monroe County, N. Y., August 19, 1817. He is the son of Luther C. Chamberlain who kept the old-fashioned tavern in that rural village known as the Henrietta House. It was located in the midst of some of the finest farming lands of the famous Genesee Valley, as was also the old time Monroe Academy, which the boy entered at an early age and in which he received his rudimentary instruction. At the age of fifteen years he was taken by his father from that thriving neighborhood to the State of Illinois, the start being made in January, 1833, and this being before the days of railroading the boy rode the entire distance on an Indian pony.

Reaching Chicago, then only an Indian station and trading post, they tarried a few days and then continued their journey southward thirty miles, to one mile and a half east of Lockport, where they located in Lockport and Homer Townships. The father made a claim on Government land and improved a farm on which he lived four years, thence removing to Peoria County in 1837. The young man entered Jubilee College, Peoria, from which in due course of time he was graduated with academic acquirements. He returned to Lockport in 1844 and began as an architect and builder, taking contracts for the erection of warehouses and other edifices. To him was committed the erection of the large warehouse of Messrs. Norton & Co., of Lockport, whose business has grown to enormous proportions, their flouring mills being well known as among the most extensive in the country.

Four years after his arrival, Mr. Chamberlain

put up a store for himself and embarked in his present business. During the fatal cholera season of 1854, which lasted for about thirty days, he worked men night and day making coffins, which was done wholly by hand at that time. The call was absolute, and only by putting in every hour of the twenty-four could the demand be supplied. In that perilous period, Mr. Chamberlain went personally to nearly every house where death occurred, sometimes as many as eight a day in a village of twenty-five hundred inhabitants. The coffins were made of walnut or whitewood, with walnut flat tops, and lined and trimmed inside with book-muslin headings.

In 1873, Mr. Chamberlain started an establishment in Joliet, first occupying a frame building of his own erection on Chicago Street, but subsequently moving into the fine store, No. 119, (Warner Block) opposite his former site. These premises are expressly fitted for the business and have a depth of ninety feet, with a front of plate glass. The commodious office is entered directly from the street, being separated from the store room by a partition of walnut and ash panels with a glass top. The office, without any attempt at display, has an air of refinement and good taste. In the inner room is an elegant cabinet of ten samples of work, either of which can be brought to view in a moment by lowering a hinged panel. Beyond this room is one opening on the alley, which is devoted to receiving, trimming etc. The establishment is connected by telephone with the other establishment at Lockport, a distance of five miles, with the dwelling at No. 617 Clinton Street, and with the Joliet Telephone Exchange.

Mr. Chamberlain is a man of advanced ideas and has exhibited throughout his long business career a remarkable degree of energy and tact. Although his location is near Chicago, he always carries a large stock of goods; he is a judicious buyer and as his trade is mostly among the more prosperous people of Joliet and vicinity, his stock is largely composed of the finer grades of cloth and metallic trimmings. It is doubtful if there is a funeral director in the country who takes more pride in his stable or more pains to keep his valuable horses in good trim. He owns two spans which rank among

the best in Northern Illinois. One is a pair of dark bays with heavy manes and tails; the other, a pair of Morgan Blackhaws, recently brought by him from Lexington, Ky.

Being a lover of the equine race, Mr. Chamberlain becomes peculiarly attached to the steeds that have done him service. As an illustration of this, he has in pasture a team that had worked for a little over ten years and are yet in good condition. He refuses to sell them, saying, "They will be cared for by me through the rest of their lives." Four of the harnesses used by our subject were built for him by Messrs. Crane, Breed & Co. of Cincinnati, two purchased by Merts & Riddle of Ravenna, Ohio; one white harness built by Cunningham, of Rochester, N. Y. Mr. Chamberlain never takes part in politics but has frequently had public office tendered him. He invariably declines, having always felt that his most important duty was to attend strictly to his legitimate business.

To do justice to our subject we ought to devote some time to his high personal character, but must content ourselves with a remark from the *Joliet Sun*:—"No man is better known or regarded with higher esteem in this vicinity than S. S. Chamberlain, a gentleman of sterling integrity. We have known him for forty years and know whereof we speak."

With Miss Elizabeth S. Gray, of Homer, this county, Mr. Chamberlain was united in marriage January 19, 1812. The bride was a daughter of Alfred and a sister of Capt. George M. Gray, of the Pullman Palace Car Line. She was born in the Empire State but came to Illinois at an early day. For nearly half a century she shared in her husband's joys and sorrows, ever devoted to his comfort and the welfare of the children whom she had borne. She entered into rest April 9, 1889, mourned by many friends whose sympathy is with the family in their sore bereavement. She was a member of the Congregational Church. The union was blessed by the birth of two sons only, George N. is one of the firm and resides in Joliet; Charles G. is in charge of the Lockport branch of the business.

The father of our subject was born in Columbia County, N. Y., in 1789, and took part in the War

of 1812. After its conclusion he married Miss Thankful Talmage of Litchfield, Conn., and settled in Monroe County, N. Y. For a time he engaged in farming, subsequently embarking as a hotel-keeper, a business that he followed fifteen years. He was a prominent man in his location, especially in educational affairs, being a Trustee and Director in the Monroe Academy and helping to build up the early schools of Western New York. He was Postmaster of Henrietta for many years. Upon coming to Illinois as mentioned above, he bought extensively, and built the first frame house in his section of country, neither in Joliet, nor Lockport, any other than log houses being then standing. After leaving Lockport he spent seven years in Peoria, thence going to Milton, Wayne County, Ind., where he engaged in the grain and warehouse business. There he remained until his death in 1878; the mother had breathed her last in 1852. Luther C. Chamberlain was a member of the Episcopal Church. He was the father of three children—Lewis L., of this county; S. S.; and Ellen M., wife of Norton Davis of Monroe County, N. Y., who died February 9, 1890.



**G**EORGE DIXON, a representative farmer and stock-raiser of DuPage Township, is pleasantly located on section 32. His fine estate comprises two hundred and forty acres, a part of which is well-developed land upon which a full line of substantial buildings have been erected and such other improvements made as are usually the work of a man of enterprise and good judgment. Mr. Dixon is a self-made man who labored long and arduously to gain a good home and is now enjoying a merited reward for his efforts.

The natal day of our subject was Christmas Day, 1832, and his birthplace Lincolnshire, England. His parents were Robert and Susan Dixon who lived upon a farm and reared their son amid its toils and limited advantages. His education was but meagre, as the opportunities he had were not equal to those of American youth of the same class even at that date, but observation and native in-

telligence have largely overcome the deficiency and he is to-day a well-informed man.

In 1851 young Dixon emigrated to America, leaving Liverpool on the sloop "Underwriter," which reached New York after an ocean voyage of seven weeks and three days. The young man came direct to the Prairie State, found employment as a farm laborer in Cook County and worked by the month fourteen years. He then bought a tract of land in Newaygo County, Mich., and was identified with the farming interests of that section several years. He finally purchased the land he now occupies, renting it out three years and then removing hither.

On September 11, 1869, the marriage rites were celebrated between Mr. Dixon and Miss Mary J. Burgess, who was born in England, October 12, 1810. She is a daughter of Heaton and Jane (Clark) Burgess, who emigrated to America in 1867, and made their home in Will County, Ill., for a number of years. They removed to Cook County, where the father died in 1884 and the mother still lives. They had nine children, of whom the living are, Mrs. Dixon; John and Samuel who reside in this county; William, George H., Charles R. and Thomas E., who live in Cook County; and Betsey, wife of Harry Pollard, of Pike County.

Mr. Dixon is a Democrat, but usually votes for the man rather than the strict party principle. He is a reliable citizen, an enterprising farmer, a kind neighbor, and receives his just share in the respect of those who know him, while the wife of his bosom has her friends among them to whom her virtues have endeared her.



**C**HARLES B. HAYWARD. No more genial, companionable or intelligent gentleman is to be found in the city of Joliet than the above-named, who is at the head of the C. B. Hayward Printing Company. He thoroughly understands the printer's trade, in which he has had practical experience, and for quite a number of years was an editor, gaining high rank in journalistic circles for

his energy, versatility and unchanging devotion to principle. During the late war he passed through trying scenes but no amount of persecution or danger could turn him from his devotion to what he thought right. Those who wielded the pen in defense of the Union exerted an influence which cannot be measured, and to them honor belongs as well as to those who served their country on the tented field.

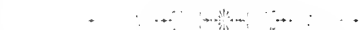
In the Hoosier State in the first half of the nineteenth century, lived Thomas Hayward and two brothers, who managed a tannery at Fairfield. Thomas married Miss May A. Hill, among the members of their family being a son, C. B., who opened his eyes to the light July 1, 1843. He had one brother and two sisters, all living. About 1855 the parents removed to Columbus, Ind., whence four years later they moved to Carthage, Mo. During the war Mr. Hayward removed to Ft. Scott, Kan., at its close becoming a resident of Springfield, Mo., where he died in 1869.

At the age of ten years, he of whom we write went to Indianapolis to learn the trade of a printer, remaining there about five years, and then accompanying his parents to Carthage, Mo., where he opened a news and job office. His Union sentiments aroused the Southerners, who compelled him to take refuge, along with others, in Kansas. He then went to Ft. Scott and established the Ft. Scott *Monitor*, securing a military escort to bring his family hither from his former home. While at Ft. Scott he was appointed United States Deputy Revenue Collector. At the close of the war he removed to Springfield, Mo., where he engaged in the printing business.

The next place of abode of Mr. Hayward was Marseilles, Ill., to which place he came in 1870, taking up the occupation of traveling agent for the paper mill at that point. The following year he came to Joliet and took charge of the job printing department of the *Republican*. In 1872 he started the Joliet *Star*, which he published ten years, selling it at the expiration of that period to the *Republican*. In 1883, he went to Santa Fe, N. M., where he was connected with the New Mexican Printing Company. Being appointed Postmaster by President

Arthur in 1881, at Santa Fe, he held that position until 1886, when he returned to Joliet. On New Year's Day following he organized the company which he still manages, although on April 1, 1890, the firm name was changed to the C. B. Hayward Company.

April 7, 1872, Mr. Hayward married Miss May E. Munroe, at the home of the bride's father, George Munroe, Joliet, April 7, 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Hayward are the happy parents of four living children: Josie, Thomas, Charles M., and Ruth, and mourn the death of a son, George, who was taken from them September 14, 1881. Mr. Hayward is recognized as among the leading Republicans of this county and this part of Illinois.



**D**INEAS K. ROWLEY, late a resident of Homer Township, departed this life at his homestead on section 19, February 22, 1889. He was a native of New York, and the son of Jirah Rowley, whose wife bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Brace, and both were natives of New York State. When about eighteen years old young Rowley came to this county, within whose limits he made his home the remainder of his life, which terminated when he was in the seventy-second year of his age, his birth taking place November 5, 1816. His native place was Victor, N. Y.

Mr. Rowley was married at Sugar Grove, Kane County, Ill., November 1, 1843, to Miss Jane A., daughter of Isaac and Abigail (Tew) Sanford. The parents of Mrs. Rowley were natives of Massachusetts, whence they emigrated to Marshalltown, Iowa, and died, the mother in 1876, and Mr. Sanford in 1875. Mrs. Rowley was born in Savoy, Berkshire County, Mass., August 23, 1824. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Rowley settled at the present homestead, which Mrs. Rowley has managed with rare good judgment since her husband's death. The farm comprises one hundred and eighty acres of fertile land embellished with good improvements. Mr. and Mrs. Rowley identified themselves with the Methodist Episcopal Church

many years ago, in the faith of which Mr. Rowley died, and with which the widow still remains connected.

There was born of their union a family of seven children, the eldest of whom, Adelbert C., married Miss Sarah B. Phillips, and is a resident of Kane County; Mary E. is the wife of John Mitchell, and they live in Chicago; George died when fourteen months old; Fred E. was first married to Henrietta Peck, who died, and he then wedded her cousin Josephine. He lives in Livingston County; Alice S. is the wife of Jerome Paddock, of Homer Township; Jane S. died January 8, 1874, when an interesting young lady of nineteen years; Frank A. married Miss Helen E. Savage, and occupies himself at farming in Homer Township. Mrs. Rowley has a pleasant home and an intelligent family, and is a lady held in high esteem in the community.



**JOHN F. DAGGETT, M. D.** The reputation of this gentleman as a well-read and successful physician and surgeon, is not confined to Joliet, where he now makes his home, but reaches far beyond this city. For nearly half a century he held the first place in the ranks of the profession in and about Lockport. He is justly regarded as one of the ablest general practitioners in this section of the State, while as a surgeon he has high repute, his skill and good judgment justly placing him among the leaders in operative and highly successful surgery. Beginning his medical career with a fine theoretical knowledge, he has been studious, discriminating, and desirous of adding to his store of learning all that modern investigation has to enrich the fields of therapeutical science.

Dr. Daggett was born in Charlotte, Vt., February 19, 1815, and began his life's labors as a teacher at the early age of sixteen years. After continuing pedagogical work three years he entered the Medical School at Woodstock, Vt., and subsequently one at Pittsfield, Mass., being graduated from the former in 1837. One year later he came West, and September 10, 1838, opened an office in Lockport, Ill., where he continued to reside until 1886, when he

took up his abode in Joliet. During this period of practically half a century (1838 to 1886), he was continuously and laboriously engaged in the active practice of his profession. In the early days when the now thickly settled region had only a scattered population, and the now populous city of Joliet had but a few hundred people, his professional ride extended in a circle to Naperville, Summit, Blue Island and Monee, and he was often called in consultation with physicians of these towns and of Joliet, Wilmington, Plainfield and Lemont.

Dr. Daggett has for many years been a member of township, county and State medical societies. He has always been prominent in the development and management of the local affairs of Lockport, has been Supervisor of the town, in the County Board, Treasurer of the School Board, and member and President of the Village Board of Trustees. He was always conservative but liberal in the various official positions which he occupied, performing his manifold duties to the satisfaction of the people he represented. The citizens of the Senatorial District in which Dr. Daggett lives (which at that date, 1871, consisted of the counties of Will, Kankakee, Kendall and Grundy, by far the most populous senatorial district in the State) recognized his culture of mind, excellent judgment and deep interest in all that is elevating and progressive, and felt that their interests would be advanced by him in the legislative halls of the State. They therefore sent him to the Senate, and the result proved that they were not wrong in their estimate of his worth. He was a zealous, efficient member, whose record in the capital added to the laurels he had already won as a member of a learned profession. By prudence he has amassed a goodly sum and now owns valuable real estate in both Lockport and Joliet.

In 1842 the rites of wedlock were celebrated between Dr. Daggett and Miss Angeline Talcott, a native of New York and a member of a prominent pioneer family that came to Illinois in 1834. She was a sister of Edward B. Talcott, the well-known civil engineer who supervised the construction of the Illinois & Michigan Canal, and who later was Superintendent of the Chicago & Galena Railroad; also sister of Manuel Talcott, of reputable memory in Chicago as a prominent business man and lib-

eral philanthropist—all now dead. After a short but happy married life Mrs. Daggett closed her eyes in death in 1841. A second matrimonial alliance was made by the doctor in 1846, the lady whom he chose for his companion being Miss Cleora Parsons, of the Empire State. This estimable woman had borne him five children, of whom but two are now living, Mrs. Hugo Boehme, of Joliet, and Mrs. Col. R. G. Mayo, of Woodbridge, Orange County, Fla., and in her care and management of the household economy had shown her devotion to home duties, while not neglecting those she owed to neighbors and the world, when from a pulmonary disease she gradually declined for two years, then, lamented by all who personally knew her, she departed this life June 1, 1889.

In the evening of life Dr. Daggett enjoys the respect that accrues to honesty of purpose and uprightness of life. Well supplied with worldly goods, serene in the consciousness of duties done, he is going peacefully down the hill of time. He has always been a firm supporter of religion and a liberal contributor to the building, support and maintenance of churches of all denominations in Lockport, and is likewise a liberal and cheerful supporter of the common and high schools of the town. For the years of 1888-89 he was President of the "Pioneer Association" of the old settlers of Will County, and by his efforts did much in adding to the effects and the interesting history of the early residents of the county. But few of his early associates in business and professional circles are now living.



**S**AMUEL LOVE. Joliet Township is the home of the above-named gentleman who lives on section 25, his farm including one hundred and sixty acres in this Township and twenty acres adjoining. Since settling here he has given his attention entirely to agriculture, in which he is winning the success which ever waits upon industrious efforts. He was born in County Cavan, Ireland, in 1822, and grew to manhood in

his native country. Upon coming to America he made his home in New York for several years, becoming a resident of this county in the fall of 1856. He was a contractor and builder and followed his trade in Joliet some twelve or thirteen years. He then married and settled upon the farm which has since been his home.

The wife of Mr. Love is a daughter of the late John Cooper, of New Lenox, and bears the name of Elizabeth B. She has borne her husband five children—John W. C., Samuel E., Hattie J., Mary E. and Annie M. J. Mr. Love has been Highway Commissioner and School Director. In politics he is a Republican. He and his worthy wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**A**BEL BLISS, JR. One of the finest farms in New Lenox Township is that owned and occupied by the gentleman with whose name we introduce this sketch. As an agriculturist, he is thorough and skillful, and as a business man shrewd and enterprising, wise in his investments and possessing the energy which admits no such word as "fail." His dwelling is one of the finest in that section, and is flanked by a good barn and all the necessary outbuildings erected in modern style of architecture and providing all the comforts and conveniences of modern life. The whole forms one of the most attractive homes in Will County. The proprietor is a man widely and favorably known, and comes of one of the best families of Northern Illinois.

The subject of this notice was born at the homestead where he now lives August 8, 1853. His father, Abel Bliss, Sr., was a native of Wilbraham, Mass., and was born February 9, 1810. The mother bore the maiden name of Lucinda Blake. She also was a native of the Bay State and born in Springfield, October 11, 1816. The parents were married in Springfield May 6, 1840, and at once started for Illinois, coming to this county and settling on section 18, New Lenox Township. There the father gave his undivided attention to agricultural pur-

suits and lived to a ripe old age, being called hence December 25, 1883. He had visited Will County first in 1837.

The father of our subject possessed the unlagging industry and patience which is necessary to success, and became the owner of five hundred acres of land in New Lenox Township. He erected a neat and substantial set of farm buildings and surrounded himself and his family with all the comforts of life. He was an active member of the Methodist Church in which he held the various offices, and in politics was a Republican and was one of the first Abolitionists in this section. The mother is still living, remaining at the old homestead with her son, Abel. To herself and husband there was born a family of seven children, of whom Abel was next to the youngest.

The subject of this notice remained with his parents during his boyhood and youth, pursuing his first studies in the common school and later attending for two years the High School at Englewood. Afterward he became a student of the Illinois University at Champaign. His tastes and inclinations led him to desire to become a Civil Engineer, but on account of his father's accumulated years and by his wish, he abandoned the project, and after his school life was over, returned to the farm where he has since followed agricultural pursuits.

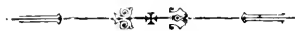
After the death of his father Mr. Bliss began operating a part of the large farm. He is now the owner of three hundred and forty acres of land in New Lenox Township; besides this he owns a large ranch of nine hundred and sixty acres in Gage County, Neb. He was married in this township February 21, 1877, to Miss Nettie, daughter of Stanton and Isabella (Doig) Lynk. Mr. Lynk is represented on another page of this ALBUM. Mrs. Bliss was the eldest of a family of six children, three sons and three daughters, and was born in New Lenox Township, September 25, 1837. Of her union with our subject there has been born one child only, a daughter, Florence L. August 22, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Bliss are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Bliss has officiated as Steward and Trustee. He votes the straight Republican ticket and

has held the office of Township Collector and School Trustee. He is Trustee of the Methodist Camp Ground Association, and Secretary of the New Lenox Mutual Insurance Company.



**G**EORGE L. FRANCIS. This gentleman is the owner and occupant of a fine farm of three hundred and five acres on sections 10 and 15, in New Lenox Township. He is the tenth in a family of eleven children and was born on his father's homestead October 5, 1856. He grew to manhood amid the usual surroundings of a farmer's son, receiving his education in the common schools and the high school at Englewood. His tastes led him to adopt farming as his life work and the township in which he was born has been his continuous home.

On June 21, 1877, Mr. Francis was united in marriage with Miss Anna, daughter of Thomas Doig, of the same township. The family history of Mrs. Francis will be found in the sketch of her father, on another page in this ALBUM. She was born October 20, 1856, and like her husband has been a life-long resident of New Lenox Township. The union has been blessed by the birth of three children—Frank D., Laura D. and George H., Laura died when sixteen months old. Both Mr. and Mrs. Francis belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Francis is serving in the capacity of School Trustee.



**C**HARLES FRANCIS. This gentleman has been a life-long resident of New Lenox Township and engaged in agricultural pursuits from his youth. He owns about three hundred acres of land on which are adequate improvements. His natal day was August 17, 1847, and on his father's farm he grew to manhood. His early education was obtained in the common schools of the township and supplemented by an attendance in







*Dr. L. M. Baercheck, m.d.*

Joliet. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, which took place at the bride's home, February 5, 1872.

The chosen companion of Mr. Francis was known in her maidenhood as Mary E. Haven, and is also a native of New Lenox Township, in which she was born March 22, 1851. She is a daughter of the Hon. Dwight Haven, whose biography occupies another page in this ALBUM. Her education was obtained in the schools of the township, and those of the city of Chicago. She has borne her husband seven children, all living excepting the first born, Hattie, who died at the age of eight years. The survivors are named respectively, Charles H., Alice M., Helen J., Walter E., Maggie L. and Fred. Mr. and Mrs. Francis belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church and he has been Superintendent of the New Lenox Sunday-school for several years. His political adherence is given to the Republican party.



**D**R. CARL M. BAERCHECK. The lives of many men are humdrum and uneventful, only marked by a steady purpose and a quiet performance of the daily duties, while around some romance loves to linger, and in their lives interesting or unusual events are common. The subject of this biographical notice, who has been engaged in the practice of medicine in Joliet for about a quarter of a century, is one whose life has been marked with a more than the usual amount of romance. Even his descent is unusual, his father, for whom he is named, having been a native of France, his grandfather of Poland, and his mother, Anna Matinas, a native of San Tondair, Spain. He is the eldest of sixteen children born to his mother, while his father's second wife bore six children; he is the only one of the family in America, whither he came in 1859.

Dr. Baercheck was born in Lorraine, France, February 6, 1818, and at the age of seventeen years he ran away from home in company with a brother and four companions. He studied medicine in Paris and in the University at Bonn, on the Rhine, and also in Switzerland. In 1842 he began the

practice of his profession in Metz, Alsace, France, now a Province of Germany. He went to China in 1845, on the French warship "Grand Napoleon," on which he afterward embarked for the Crimea, becoming a surgeon in the Second Division, Second Corps, and serving throughout the Crimean War. He was with Carl Robert, Gen. Baelhrsgel and Gen. McMahon in Africa, following the destinies of the army during the entire struggle, meeting with experiences such as few men participate in or witness. When he determined to seek a home in the new world, he did not leave behind him the exciting and interesting scenes, but after reaching America he still carried on his former manner of life. Landing in New York in 1859, he went to Boston, where he worked in a drug store for a time, but we soon find him again in the metropolis whence he went to Philadelphia and enlisted in the Union Army. Joining the Eighteenth Pennsylvania Regiment, his name was attached to the muster roll of Company D, which was composed of Frenchmen. They were with Ellsworth at Alexandria and fought in the first battle of Bull Run.

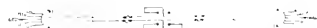
His medical knowledge becoming known, Dr. Baercheck became Hospital Steward and after holding the position six months, went to Pittsburg, where he intended practicing his profession. He soon entered the Provost Marshal's office in that city, and again became an army surgeon, laboring as such three years. Among his patients now are many whom he treated in the army, together with their friends. While performing the hazardous duties which devolved upon him, he received two wounds, the one at City Point, and the other at Gettysburg, at the latter place a ball passed through his arm.

After the war Dr. Baercheck came to Joliet, where he has since practiced. He is a specialist, devoting his attention to chronic cases, and in the discharge of his extensive practice ships prescriptions and medicine to various parts of the country, where his reputation as a physician is well known. He has met with some misfortunes since coming here having been burned out in 1878. He is truly cosmopolitan in his feelings, having gleaned an extended knowledge from his travels, which have embraced South America, Europe, Asia, Africa and

Australia. He gives his political allegiance to the Republican party. For those who enjoy the account of adventures and a traveler's observations, Dr. Baerecheck proves an extremely entertaining companion, when once he begins to speak concerning his past life. He is well known in Joliet, where he is regarded with respect for his intelligence and professional attainments, his gentlemanly nature and honorable character.

In Switzerland, in 1848, Dr. Baerecheck was united in marriage with Miss Helena Haines, who shared his fortunes until July, 1874, when she was called hence. Six children were born to her, three of whom are yet living. In 1876 the Doctor contracted a second matrimonial alliance, his companion being Miss Jennie Atkins, a lady of English descent, who has borne him nine children, only three of whom are living.

A portrait of Dr. Baerecheck accompanies this brief biographical review.



**W**ILLIAM H. LANFEAR. Among the prominent farmers of Homer Township, may be properly mentioned the subject of this notice who has unquestionably been a success, not only as a tiller of the soil, but as a member of a community more than ordinarily intelligent. We find him comfortably situated on section 29, the possessor of a well-regulated farm which he has improved with good buildings and where he has not only surrounded himself and his family with the comforts of life, but laid up something for future needs. He is numbered among the most highly respected men of the township in whose material welfare he has always evinced a warm interest. He has served as a Highway Commissioner and School Director, and given his unqualified support to the Republican party. The Baptist Church has recognized in him for many years one of its most active and useful members.

The sixth in a family of ten children, Mr. Lanfear was born December 25, 1830, at Sempronius, Cayuga County, N. Y., and when a boy of five years came with his parents to this county, they

settling in Homer Township where he was reared to man's estate. He acquired such education as was afforded by the common schools, and at an early age learned the various arts of farming choosing these for his life vocation. Shortly after reaching his majority he was married February 25, 1852, at the bride's home in Homer Township, to Miss Emily M., daughter of the well-known late Deacon Levi Savage, mention of whom is made in the sketch of Amos Savage, elsewhere in this volume. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Lanfear settled on his present farm and as years have passed they have taken their place among its best people. Early in life they identified themselves with the Baptist Church and have sought to do good as they have opportunity, rearing their children in the way they should go and proffering uniform kindness to their neighbors.

The father of our subject was Asa Lanfear, who was born in Mayfield, Montgomery County, N. Y., in 1793. The mother bore the maiden name of Olive Burgess, and was a native of the same place as her husband and born in 1797. After marriage they continued to reside in Mayfield for a time, then removed to Sempronius where they lived until 1835. That year they emigrated to Illinois and the father secured a farm on section 29, Homer Township, where he and his good wife spent the remainder of their days. Mr. Lanfear was called hence June 23, 1871. The mother survived her husband a number of years, her death taking place June 15, 1883. Nine of the ten children born to them lived to mature years and eight are now living, being located mostly in this county.

Mrs. Lanfear was born July 24, 1830, in Granville, Washington County, N. Y., and was a mere child when her parents came to Illinois. She was trained by a careful mother to all useful household duties and was well fitted to become the partner of a good man's home. Of her union with our subject there have been born seven children, of whom but three are living. The eldest, Mary A., is the wife of Joseph Brown, and they live in New Lenox Township; Albert H., married Miss Minnie L. Fisher, and occupies himself at farming with his father; Nettie E., remains at home with her parents. The deceased children are Asa W., who died when

sixteen years old; Ida M., who died at the age of three and one half-years; Charles E., who died when an infant of eight months, and Willie H., who died when about two years old. The farm of Mr. Lanfeur comprises two hundred and thirty-four acres, the larger part of which is devoted to general farming and the remainder-furnishes ample facilities for the accommodation of live stock.

**JAY GORDON.** A good representative of the younger element of citizenship in DuPage Township, is found in the person of Jay Gordon, who resides with his mother on section 16, and owns a half interest in one hundred and ninety acres of land in the township. He is meeting with success in the agricultural work to which he is giving his attention, as he formerly did in the field of pedagogy, in which he labored several winters.

The ancestors of our subject are supposed to have been English, and his parents were born in the Empire State. David and Tryphena (Beebe) Gordon, removed to Will County, Ill., in 1853, when he of whom we write was but a few weeks old. They located in the western part of DuPage Township, on section 19, on land that was somewhat improved a few acres having been plowed, and in an old frame house they took up their abode, residing there about two years. Then they removed to the farm that is now occupied by the widow and son, and where the father died July 23, 1880.

The means possessed by David Gordon when he came to this section were limited, and he and his family endured some of the privations incidental to pioneer life, but all was borne uncomplainingly by the sturdy man and wife, who felt that the future held comfort for them and their offspring. Mr. Gordon was a citizen who could be relied on to bear a hand in whatever promised to advance the interests of the region, or aid those about him to greater ease and prosperity. He voted the Republican ticket. He was fairly successful in a worldly sense, leaving an estate of one

hundred acres of unincumbered land as the result of his life's work.

The widow of David Gordon and mother of our subject is now in her sixty-ninth year, and enjoys good health for one of that age. She has four sons, namely: Emory, who lives in Hamilton County, Iowa; Jay, our subject; Frank, residing in Hamilton County, Iowa; and Eugene, who was married February 22, 1882, to Miss Alvina Sears, of this township, and has three children, named, Nettie, David and George; he lives with his mother and brother Jay on the homestead. Mrs. Gordon is one of the oldest living pioneers of the township and is cherished by the older inhabitants, also having many friends among the younger people.

Jay Gordon was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., May 8, 1853, but was reared in this county amid the scenes of pioneer life. He was educated in the public schools of the county, after which he attended the Northwestern College, at Naperville, DuPage County, for six months. Subsequently the young man engaged in teaching, acting as an instructor during thirteen fall and winter terms of school and during the summers devoting his attention mostly to farming. He is a Republican, and on the party ticket was elected Clerk of DuPage Township, in 1881, officiating a year. His character is a manly and upright one, his manners are pleasing, and he has many friends who look forward to seeing him occupy a yet more prominent place in the county as years roll by.

**DANIEL BIRKETT** is eminently a self-made man, and is a fine type of the class who, in building up their own fortunes have been important factors in securing the prosperity and promoting the growth of their State, county and township. This gentleman came to this county more than half a century ago, a poor man with scarcely a dollar that he could call his own, yet today he is numbered among the men of wealth in this part of the State. For many years he has

been extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits and owns one of the largest and most valuable farms in this county, which is exceptionally well improved and under perfect management. Besides this he owns several other farms. His beautiful home in Plainfield, one of the finest residences in the village, is fitted up with all modern conveniences, and is comfortably furnished.

Our subject is a native of England, born in the County of Cumberland, December 21, 1811. His father and his grandfather both named like himself, were also natives of that county. His grandfather was a farmer and landowner and lived to be upwards of ninety years old. The father of our subject was reared and married in the place of his nativity, and there carried on the occupation of a farmer and spent his entire life, his remains now lying in Ireby Churchyard. The maiden name of his wife was Jane Raitton, and she was also a native of Cumberland County. Her father, Joseph Raitton, was a tiller of the soil, and spent his entire life in that county. The mother of our subject died in the place of her birth. She and her husband reared seven children, as follows: John Joseph, Mary, Jane, William, Daniel, and Ann, our subject being the only one of the sons who ever came to this country.

He was reared and married and remained in his English home until 1835. He was of an ambitious, venturesome turn of mind and resolved to try his fortunes in the United States of America, and in that year set sail from Liverpool in the month of January, on the good ship "St. Lawrence," and on the 6th of March disembarked at New York, after a voyage of six weeks and four days. He was accompanied to this country by his wife, and they stayed in New York City nearly two years before coming to Illinois, making the journey hither by the Hudson River and Erie Canal to Buffalo, and thence by lake to Chicago, which they then found to be a small place. At that time our subject was very poor and was glad to find employment on the canal which was then in process of construction. Mrs. Birkett proved herself to be a true helpmate, and shouldering a part of the burden of support of the family, she boarded forty of the workmen. Mr. Birkett built an oven of stone and clay for her

to cook by, as when they commenced housekeeping they had no furniture. He bored holes in a log of their cabin and inserted poles to make a bedstead, using their chest for a table and boxes for seats. Mr. Birkett worked on the canal for one season and then located on land in Cook County, living there until 1839, when he came to Will County. This was then very sparsely settled, the land was in the hands of the Government and for sale at \$1.25 per acre. Deer, wolves, and other wild animals were roaming at will over the wild prairies and were often troublesome to the new settlers. At that time there were no railways in the State and Chicago was the nearest market, to which the pioneers took their grain with ox teams. Mr. Birkett rented land two or three years, and then purchased one hundred and twenty acres of the Government in what is now Wheatland Township. He built a frame house and broke a few acres and then sold the land and all his stock. He then invested in another tract of wild prairie land in the same township, and for a year rented improved land, and during the time broke and fenced and built on his own property, and then settled there. He continued to live on that place until 1856, when he disposed of it at an advance and located on another tract of one hundred and sixty acres of wild land adjoining the farm that he had previously purchased. He erected suitable buildings, improved the land and resided on it until 1872, when he sold the farm and bought a place near by on which he built a dwelling, which he made his home until 1880. His next move was to Aurora, where he bought land and built and there dwelt for a few months, when he sold at a good price, and returning to Wheatland was there until 1885, and in that year came to his present beautiful home in Plainfield.

Mr. Birkett and Miss Ann Ray were united in marriage June 2, 1831. She was a native of Cumberland County, England, born May 22, 1815. Her grandfather, John Ray, who was of Scotch parentage, was a landowner in that county and there spent his entire life engaged in agricultural pursuits. Mrs. Birkett's father was also a farmer, and passed his whole life on his native soil. Mr. and Mrs. Birkett have reared seven children, of whom the following are recorded: Ann, married Thomas

King; Daniel R.; Louisa M. married John Varley; Elizabeth Esther married Charles Varley; Olive A. married Nicholas Kanaff; Lavina J., who is the widow of William Irwin, lives with her parents; and Mary J., who married Jay Hyland. The wedded life of our subject and his wife has not passed without its attendant sorrows in the death of four of their children, as follows: Jane died at the age of two years; Henry R., when eight months old; Mary J. at the age of eight years and eight months; and John, aged six weeks.

Mr. Birkett is a man of strong character, self-reliant and self-helpful, and has always managed his affairs in a thoroughly business-like manner, evincing remarkable discernment and discretion. With the wealth thus acquired he makes judicious use, being liberally and charitably disposed and doing his share to promote all schemes for public benefit. This venerable gentleman and his estimable wife are honored and respected not only for what they are, but for what they have done to promote the growth of the county and establish its material prosperity, and they are well worthy of a place in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM.



**J**OHAN O. PIEPENBRINK. A high place among the farmers, stock-raisers, and dairy-men of the county must be accorded the gentleman above named, who has made a fortune by hard labor, prudent economy and business shrewdness. He has experienced all that is known to a poor man who makes a settlement in a new county, among the disadvantages under which he labored being that of having to pay thirty-six per cent. per annum for the money which he borrowed. He always managed to meet his payments when due, and his ability to make money has been clearly demonstrated. He came to Crete Township in 1849, taking up his abode in a small log house, which had not sufficient cover on it to keep the snow and chilly blasts of winter from entering. From this small beginning has grown a landed estate of more than seven hundred acres, a part of which is now owned by the sons. A good part of

the wealth of Mr. Piepenbrink was made by cheese and butter making, from which he has now somewhat withdrawn. He has in former times kept more than one hundred cows, and made all the milk into cheese and butter, which went to the city of Chicago. The home-stead, situated on section 11, has been occupied by our subject for the last twenty years, and is a well-improved farm, occupying a prominent place in the list of Will County's rural homes.

That part of the Kingdom of Prussia which is known as Hesse-Cassel, has furnished to this county a number of her best citizens and most enterprising farmers. To it we are indebted for the subject of this sketch, who was born in that far-away land April 24, 1826. His father, H. H. Piepenbrink, was also born in Prussia, and was of pure German ancestry. His occupation was that of a farmer. He married Miss Lettie Meier, who was born and reared in the same German State as himself. They spent their entire lives in their native country, the husband dying when fifty-five and the wife when forty-five years of age. They were numbered among the most worthy citizens of the section, both being active members of the Lutheran Church and earnest in their discharge of every duty. Their family consisted of three sons and a daughter, he of whom we write being the second son and child. He is the only member of the family who came to America, and with the exception of his sister, the only survivor.

J. O. Piepenbrink grew to manhood under the parental roof, receiving an excellent education, his advantages being more favorable than those of many of his countrymen. His father was wealthy, and able to bestow upon his children all the learning they desired, although the property at his death fell to his eldest son. After he became of age our subject received an appointment in the army, but was induced by his father to let the latter pay the tax for his release and return to his home. He married a lady of his own village, Miss Sophia Wille, with whom he set sail from Bremerhaven April 3, 1849, landing in New York City on the 1st of May following. They came by rail and water to Chicago, and thence to their new home in this county, where they have since made

such a splendid record and where they have many friends, particularly among the natives of their own country.

Mrs. Piepenbrink is a daughter of Conrad and Sophia (Oldrag) Wille, who were reared and married near Hesse-Cassel, Germany, and began life after the style of the well-to-do Germans. They spent their lives in comfort on a large farm—for that country—dying shortly before reaching the age of fifty years. They were prominent members of their community, and active in the work of the Lutheran Church. Their family consisted of seven children, most of whom came to the United States and are yet living. The wife of our subject is the fourth of the family, and was born January 2, 1826. She was well reared and received a good German education, and the knowledge of domestic affairs which has been useful to her as a helpmate and mother.

Eight children make up the family circle of our subject and his wife, all being residents of Crete Township. J. Otto and Henry F. are the subjects of biographical sketches which appear in this volume. J. Otto married Miss Dora Orkenberg; Henry F. was married to Miss Maggie Schring; Conrad married Sophia Engelking; William married Sophia Meier; John married Louisa Dornier; Phillip married Louisa Diersen. All these are farmers. Ellen married Henry Sporleder, also a farmer; Sophia is the wife of John Diersen, a hardware merchant in Crete Village. Mr. Piepenbrink is not an office-seeker, but is a sound and reliable Republican. He and his wife take an active part in the work of the Lutheran Church, to the support of which they contribute liberally; they are charter members of the organization in this county.



**G**EORGE MUNROE. The wholesale grocery interests of Joliet are worthily represented by the subject of this notice with the firm of George T. Relyea & Co., of which he is the senior member.

Mr. Munroe belongs to one of the best nationalities on the face of the globe, having been born in

Lanarkshire, Scotland, and first opened his eyes to the light April 1, 1821. His parents were Daniel and Jane (Richmond) Munroe, who were likewise of Scotch birth and ancestry, and who emigrated to the United States in 1827, settling in Brownville, Jefferson County, N. Y. They brought with them three children—George, Angus and Barbara. The family remained residents of Jefferson County until 1819, then emigrated to Illinois, locating in Will County where the father died in 1860. The mother had passed away at Brownville, N. Y., about 1829.

For thirteen years after coming to this county Mr. Munroe engaged in farming in Florence Township. In the meantime he was recognized as a valued addition to the community and filled with credit many of the local offices. In 1862 he was elected Sheriff on the Democratic ticket and that same year removed to Joliet, assuming the duties of his office in November following. Subsequently he served three years as County Treasurer, but in the meantime in company with his son, George H., engaged in the retail grocery trade, being first located at the corner of Jefferson and Chicago Streets. They remained there ten years and then removed to the Opera House Building where they did business six years. The well-known firm of George Munroe & Son has existed since 1865.

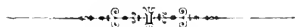
Mr. Munroe with his son, George H., established the first wholesale grocery store in Joliet, and with his old book-keeper, Mr. Relyea, is the oldest representative of the wholesale grocery business in this city. G. Munroe & Son put up the Hotel Munroe Building which they still own and they occupied the ground floor for their wholesale trade until 1889, when they erected an elegant stone building, 65x120 feet in dimensions and three stories in height into which the new firm, G. T. Relyea & Co., removed and which they now occupy. For the last five years George and George H. Munroe have dealt extensively in real estate, under the firm name of George Munroe & Son, the latter, George H., being the active manager, and who has contributed largely to the building up of the business part of the city.

Mr. Munroe occupies a fine residence, No. 1204 Cass Street. He has been prominent in local affairs, representing his Ward in the City Council, serving



as School Trustee and in various other capacities. Socially, he belongs to the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, A. F. & A. M. in each of which he has held the different offices and he is prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, serving as Trustee at the present time. He has been in some official capacity in the church since coming to Joliet and gives to it a liberal support.

Miss Sarah M. Hentze of Brownville became the wife of our subject December 22, 1842. Mrs. Munroe was born in Brownville, N. Y., April 30, 1822, and is the daughter of Henry and Charity (Gould) Hentze, who were natives of New York and spent their last years in California and Illinois. This union resulted in the birth of five children, four of whom are living, viz: George H., Jane Amelia, the wife of Rev. G. R. Van Horn, now Presiding Elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rockford; Mary Elizabeth, Mrs. C. B. Hayward; Edwin, traveling salesman for the firm of Reed & Murdock, Chicago Street.



**C**HARLES F. BAUMANN, is an intelligent and enterprising man, very popular in the community in the best circles of which his family move. He was born in Saxe-Weimar, Germany, March 6, 1835, and reared in his native village. He is the third of five children born to Charles F. and Caroline W. R. (Krauen) Baumann. The latter was a daughter of the Rev. Mr. Krauen, a minister of the Lutheran Church and both parents were born in Wetsdorf. The father was a linen-weaver and fuller, and he also operated a small farm.

In 1853, he emigrated to America, making his first location in Richton Township, Cook County, Ill., where he engaged in farming. He subsequently rented a farm in Will County and still later bought eighty acres in Frankfort Township, where he resided until his death in 1874. His wife had died the previous year. He belonged to the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The parental household included Paulina, Mrs. Steckish, who died in Frankfort; Mrs. Caroline

Metz, who lives in Minnesota; our subject; August who was killed at Ft. Donelson, having been Corporal in the Twentieth Illinois Infantry, in which he had enlisted in 1861; and William, whose home is in Wilmington.

The subject of this notice was reared in Germany and attended the common schools until fourteen years old. He then worked at his father's trade until the spring of 1853, when the family came to America. They embarked at Bremen on the sailer "Yorkshire" which made Quebec in fifty-three days. Coming at once to Illinois, the young man worked on his father's farm a few years and in the spring of 1857, went to Minnesota. He drove an ox-team at St. Peter, but not being pleased with the country he returned in the same manner after a sojourn of but three months. He was still unmarried and had gone to Minnesota to accommodate a brother-in-law.

When Mr. Baumann returned to Illinois he resumed farming and the following spring rented land in partnership with his father and brother. In 1862 he purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Frankfort Township, broke the soil upon it and improved and operated it until 1866. He then sold the farm, stock and implements, and locating in Frankfort started a saloon in partnership with his brother. They subsequently dissolved the connection and buying out the business, our subject has continued it alone from that time. He put up the building which he now occupies in 1868, it being 53x38 feet and occupying two and a half lots. Besides this property Mr. Baumann owns seven acres adjoining town, and one hundred and sixty acres in Martin County, Minn.

The lady who presides over the home of our subject became his wife July 26, 1863, the ceremony taking place at her home in Franklin Township. She bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Klebber, and is a native of Gietzenheim, Hesse Darmstadt, Germany. She is a daughter of John Klebber, a farmer who settled in this county about 1852, and who is now living with our subject.

To Mr. and Mrs. Baumann ten children have been born. John W. is clerk for Burrell & Co., in Chicago, and Charles B. is now in Coal City, Ill.; the latter formerly clerked for Barney Belshewski.

of Frankfort for six years. The children still at home are, Annie, August, Lizzie, Freddie, Caroline, Ida, Oscar and Arthur.

Mr. Bannam is a Republican of the staunchest sort and has served his party as delegate to county conventions and in other capacities. He was Village Trustee for six years. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, holding membership in a Joliet lodge and is a member of the Evangelical Church. He is one of the most influential men in Frankfort and is an efficient worker for the upbuilding of the town.



**N**EEDHAM P. COOPER. A pleasant farm of about three hundred and forty acres in New Lenox Township is owned and operated by the gentleman above named, who has erected an excellent set of buildings and made other good improvements upon his estate. His home is located on section 10, where the greater part of his life has been passed. He was born in Brown County, Ohio, May 29, 1833, and was about eighteen months old when his parents removed to the Prairie State, where he grew to manhood upon his father's farm. He is the fourth of seven children making up the parental family, the others being William, who lives in Kankakee County; John W., deceased; Ann, deceased, who was the wife of Robert J. Broadie; Thomas F., a farmer in New Lenox Township; Elizabeth E., wife of Samuel Love, and Lydia J., deceased, who was the wife of Norman Carl.

The father of our subject was the late John Cooper who was born in Pennsylvania in October, 1800, and who died in this county in 1875. The mother was Lydia (Perry) Cooper, born in 1807, in Brown County, Ohio, where her marriage took place and she and her husband lived until the fall of 1834. They then came to what is now Will County, and settled on section 10, New Lenox Township, taking up the burdens which the early settlers endured. Mrs. Cooper breathed her last in the fall of 1853.

The gentleman of whom we write was married June 26, 1856, to Miss Margaret Louisa Francis.

She was born on the old Francis homestead in New Lenox Township, January 3, 1834, and is probably the first white child born in Will County. She is a daughter of the late Abraham Francis, whose history is incorporated in a sketch of A. Allen Francis, elsewhere in this ALBUM. She was the mother of seven children, as follows: Ella, who died in infancy; John, who died when about two and one-half years old; Frankie, who died when twenty months old; Margaret L., who is the wife of Jefferson Doig of New Lenox Township; N. Perry, who lives at home; Allen F., who is clerking in New Lenox, and Jessie M.

Mr. Cooper acts with the Republican party. He has served as Assessor one year and as Constable four years. He and his good wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church in which he has held the offices of Steward and Trustee.



**W**ILLIAM H. FLAGG, a son of one of the very first settlers of the county, whose biographical sketch appears in this volume, was born on the farm that he now owns and occupies in Plainfield Township, one mile from the village on the Chicago road, May 8, 1841, being the date of his birth, he being the ninth child of Reuben and Betsey (Kendall) Flagg. He was reared under pioneer influences, and since attaining manhood has taken his place among the most intelligent and progressive of the farmers and stock-raisers of his native county, whose interests he seeks to promote materially and morally.

Our subject received his education in the primitive pioneer schools of his early days, and as soon as large enough went to work on the home farm, always remaining with his parents until death separated them. He gained a good practical knowledge of agriculture and inherited a part of the old homestead, whose acreage he has since increased by purchasing other tracts of land, till it now contains one hundred and sixty-five acres of land, whose fertility and productiveness is unsurpassed in this county. It is under a high state of cultivation and is amply provided with modern machin-





*William D. Eaton*

ery for various purposes, and he has erected a fine set of frame buildings, and everything about the place evinces thrift and careful management on the part of its owner.

Mr. Flagg and Miss Margaret Van Horn were united in marriage in 1867, and they have established one of the coziest and most attractive homes in the neighborhood, the scene of generous and friendly hospitality. Their pleasant home circle is completed by their five children—Kate O., Bessie L., Warren L., Henry C., and Burr W.

Mr. Flagg is a man of many fine characteristics, is thoughtful, discriminating, self-reliant, and clear-sighted, is a good worker, and is a credit to the place of his nativity, where he is held in universal respect whether in social or in a business life, by the people who have watched his career from youth up, and by all with whom he associates. He holds advanced views in regard to religion, and is a thorough advocate of the Universalist faith as preached by the Rev. Jacob Merrifield, in the church of that denomination in Plainfield.



**W**ILLIAM PENN CATON. A few years since there passed from life's active scenes a gentleman who had been conspicuously interested in the most important affairs of Will County, and whose portrait is presented on the opposite page. He was prominent in political and religious circles, and was first a member of the Whig party. Upon the organization of the Republican party he became a strong supporter of its principles, and during the late war was a staunch Union man.

The native place of the subject of this notice, late a resident of the city of Joliet, was Orange County, N. Y., on the Hudson River, and he was born March 28, 1815. His immediate progenitors were Robert and Hannah (Dean) Caton, who were Quakers in religion and worthy representatives of that peaceable sect. Robert Caton was born May 22, 1761, and was three times married, Hannah Dean, the mother of our subject, being the third wife. The father died April 6, 1815, when our

subject was only nine days old. The mother died April 16, 1836, aged fifty-eight years.

In Oneida County young Caton spent the first eighteen years of his life. Then, setting out for himself, he repaired to Ann Arbor, Mich., and sojourned there three years, being employed as a clerk in a general store. In 1836 he went to Chicago, Ill., and clerked there and in Milwaukee, Wis., until the following year. Then, returning to Chicago, he sojourned in that place briefly, and finally took up two thousand acres of Government land in Cook County, Ill., situated about sixteen miles northwest of the present site of Chicago, where he lived until the year 1848. In the meantime he was married, on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1844, at the bride's home, on the north branch of the Chicago River, Cook County, to Miss Elizabeth Steele.

Returning now to Chicago, Mr. Caton secured an office as inspector of canal boats, an important position, which he held until 1856. Then, removing to the vicinity of Plainfield, this county, he engaged in farming until 1871. He now decided to retire from active labor, and removing to Joliet, remained a resident of this city until his death, March 22, 1886. During the late years of his life he suffered very much from ill-health. While a resident of Chicago he was connected with the Plymouth Church, in which he officiated as Deacon. After coming to Joliet he joined the First Presbyterian Church and held the same office in this church for many years. He became prominent in mercantile circles in the Garden City, and for a time was engaged in banking.

The estimable wife of our subject, Mrs. Elizabeth (Steele) Caton was born May 30, 1819, in Elizabethtown, Essex County, N. Y., to Jonathan and Theodosia (Nichols) Steele. Jonathan Steele was a native of Hartford, Conn., and was born in 1777. From his native place he removed to Elizabethtown, N. Y., and in 1812 had charge of the arsenal at Elizabethtown, fitting out the troops for the campaign on Lake Champlain. His wife, Theodosia, was born in Vermont, October 16, 1780, and died in Elizabethtown, N. Y., when her daughter, Elizabeth, was only three months old. Subsequently the father removed to New York City,

and lived there until removing to Chicago, Ill., in 1837. Mrs. Caton thus looked upon the now great city when it was a village of a few houses, and she has watched its gradual growth to a great metropolis with more than ordinary interest. She sailed from Buffalo on one of the first lake steamers which ever plied the waters of old Lake Michigan.

To Mr. and Mrs. Caton there was born a family of nine children, five of whom are living: William Edward, a resident of Grand Rapids, Mich., is married and the father of three children; Hannah E. is the wife of T. A. Mason, of Joliet, and they have two children; Charles A., a resident of Ottawa, Ill., is married and the father of three children; Albert R. and wife are living in Plainfield; Minnie E. remains with her mother. Mrs. Caton, since the death of her husband, has managed the estate in an admirable manner, and is a lady greatly respected in her community.



**C**HRISTOPH SALZMANN. The development of the agricultural resources of Washington Township, has been largely due to the efforts of foreign-born citizens, particularly to natives of the German Empire. Many of them have made their home here, and taking tracts of unbroken prairie land, devoid of buildings, have soon converted the virgin soil into smiling fields of golden grain, in the midst of which substantial dwellings and outbuildings have been erected. This has been the case on the homestead of Christoph Salzmänn, who owns eighty acres of excellent land on section 30.

The father of our subject was Paul Salzmänn, a native of Northern Germany, and a linen-weaver by trade. He died when but forty-six years old, leaving four sons and two daughters, most of whom are now deceased. His wife was Mary Erbach, also a native of Northern Germany, in which she spent her entire life, breathing her last when sixty years of age. Both husband and wife were life-long members of the Lutheran Church.

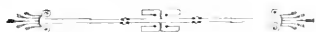
The gentleman of whom we write was born September 12, 1821, in Saxe-Coburg, Germany,

and having lost his father when but five years of age, was reared by his worthy mother. When he had reached the proper age he began to learn the trade of a linen-weaver, in which his father had been so skilled a workman and in which he also attained proficiency. He was thirty-two years old and yet a single man when he was drawn to America by what he had heard of the openings which this country presented for a man of energy. He left Bremerhaven May 20, 1853, on a sailer that required fifty-four days to make the voyage to New York City. He came at once to Cook County, Ill., in which he made his home until 1862, with the exception of one year spent in Iowa. During this time he was engaged as a farm laborer and had been hoarding his resources in order to buy himself a home. Coming to Will County he secured the tract of prairie which his well-directed efforts have converted into his present well-improved and well-cultivated estate.

The lady whom Mr. Salzmänn won for his wife and, with whom he was united in marriage in Cook County, was Miss Sophia Shoof. She was born in Mecklenberg, Germany, June 23, 1830, and reared and educated in her native land. In 1856 she accompanied her parents and other members of the family to America, whence two brothers had preceded them. They crossed the Atlantic on a slow sailer from Hamburg to New York, the entire family coming direct to the Prairie State, and settling at Oak Park, Cook County. There Henry Shoof died in 1870, at the ripe age of seventy-one years. His widow afterward came to live with her daughter, Mrs. Salzmänn, and died at her home in 1872, when seventy-nine years old. Both Mr. and Mrs. Shoof were members of the Lutheran Church, kindly of heart and industrious in habits. After reaching Chicago their daughter earned her livelihood as a domestic until her marriage to our subject.

The happy union of Mr. and Mrs. Salzmänn has been blest by the birth of seven children, and they mourn the loss of a daughter, Sarah, who died when a year old. Of the surviving members of the family circle, Rosa is living with a sister in Thornton, Ill.; Frank married Anna Kratchmar and lives in Chicago, where he has a saloon; Emma A.

is the wife of William Maxwell, a quarryman, in Thornton; Robert, a promising young man, is at home and working the homestead and an eighty-acre tract of land which belongs to himself; Christy M. is attending school at Thornton; Jessie G. is at home. Mr. Salzmann is a member of the Republican party, and he and his good wife belong to the Lutheran Church, by whose principles they endeavor to guide their daily lives.



**L**INK, though of foreign birth, came to this country in his boyhood and was reared under our institutions and educated in our schools, and to-day, in the vigor of a stalwart manhood, scarcely past its prime, is a prosperous and successful citizen of one of its richest farming communities, the possessor of a farm in Troy that is as valuable and well improved as any to be found in this section of Will County.

Mr. Link is a native of Alsace, Germany, where he was born August 1, 1845, to Joseph and Mary Ann (Striker) Link. When he was eleven years of age his parents emigrated to America and came directly to Joliet, where they lived for five years. In 1863 they purchased a part of the farm in Troy Township now owned and occupied by our subject. Here they remained making their home with him until death called them hence, the father dying in February, 1888, at the age of seventy-five years and one month and the mother April 3, 1889, aged seventy-five years, seven months and twenty-five days. They left a family of three children—Ellen, wife of Xavier Beath, a farmer of Troy; our subject; Mary, widow of Joseph Metzgar.

He of whom we write, received an excellent common-school education. He was reared to farming pursuits and remained on the homestead of his parents, finally buying the farm of them. He has been very much prospered in his vocation and has added to his first purchase a large tract of fine farming land comprising two hundred and sixteen acres, so that his farm is now composed of two hundred and ninety-six acres of land well tilled and finely improved. He has built a large and

conveniently arranged barn and is preparing to build a commodious and substantial residence, and has other suitable buildings.

The marriage of Mr. Link with Miss Christina, daughter of Michael and Caroline Eigsted, took place in 1872. Mrs. Link's parents came from Prussia in 1855, and spent the remainder of their lives in Joliet, leaving two children at their death. Seven children complete the present household circle of our subject and his wife. Frank, John, Mary, Albert, Lizzie, Josephine, and baby Louisa. Mr. Link aims to give his children each two years schooling in the church as he desires to have them well educated. They all speak good German and the elder ones have good English educations.

Mr. Link has well improved his opportunities, laboring unceasingly, carrying on his work with skill, and sound, clear judgment, so that he has achieved a proud place among the most wide awake and successful of our farmers in this part of the county. His fellow-citizens, marking his ability in carrying on his own affairs, have called on him to aid in the management of public business. He has been Highway Commissioner for three years and also Collector for the Township, and has faithfully filled the position as School Director for sixteen years, the school of District No. 5, being located on his farm. He and his wife are true Christians and members in good standing of the St. John's German Catholic Church of Joliet, their children also being communicants of that church. In politics he is a sturdy Democrat, though he is not confined to party ties, but in local elections votes for the man whom he thinks is best fitted for the office.



**D**AVID ROSENHEIM, one of the pioneer clothing men of Joliet, has, by a thorough understanding of his business, built up an extensive and lucrative trade, having among his friends and patrons the leading men of the city. He is still comparatively a young man, approaching the forty-third year of his age, having been born December 11, 1847. His native place was in the kingdom of Wurtemberg, and his par-

ents were Benedict and Babette (Metzgar) Rosenheim, who were likewise of German birth and ancestry, and who spent their entire life on their native soil.

Our subject, arrived in Joliet in the spring of 1863, having made the passage on the steamship "China." He engaged first as a clerk with his brother, and then became proprietor of the business. By steady application thereto and courteous treatment of his customers, he has attained to a good position socially as well as in a business way, and like most of those of his nationality who have sought their fortunes on the soil of America, he is now comparatively independent.

Mr. Rosenheim was joined in wedlock with Miss Augusta Lindauer at the bride's home in Joliet, June 18, 1878. This lady was born in the same town in Germany as her husband, and was his playmate during their school days. Her father, Julius Lindauer and his wife, were of German birth and parentage. Mr. and Mrs. Rosenheim are the parents of four bright children—Bert, Julian, Myra and Sidney. The little family occupies a snug home in the city where they enjoy all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.



**J**ENSEN BROS., proprietors of the celebrated "Paradise Farm," are among the most intelligent, active and enterprising farmers and stock-raisers in Will County. Their farm, on section 30, Channahon Township, lies on the upland, near the mouth of the Desplaines and Kankakee Rivers, where they unite to form the Illinois. From the bluff on which they live they have a magnificent view for many miles up the Kankakee, and on a clear day can see Wilmington, Braidwood and other surrounding towns. Our subjects came here in 1875 and bought a small part of their present estate, lying in the forest, and since then they have done so well financially that they have added to their original purchase and now own four hundred acres of valuable land. By extraordinary exertions and perseverance they have cleared about one hundred and

forty acres of this and have it under the plow, devoting the remainder to pasturage for their large herds of stock, the land being especially adapted to that purpose. They have provided it with ample buildings, each having a comfortable dwelling, and there are good barns and other outhouses on the place.

The Messrs. Jensen early took the advantage of the adaptability of their land to stock raising, and have made a speciality of that line, raising horses, cattle, hogs and sheep, all of the best grades. They have a fine thorough-bred Holstein bull, and a herd of thorough-bred cows, making a speciality of this breed; while in horses they have the heavy draft Clydesdale and Norman stock; in sheep they have nothing but the Shropshire; and in hogs they have the celebrated Poland-Chinas. These gentlemen have by no means confined their operations to agricultural pursuits, but have branched out in other directions since coming to Will County, in 1869. They own and operate a steam threshing machine and corn sheller, and furnish power for drilling artesian wells. They were the first to buy and operate the now very common road grader, taking road grading by contract, and have made all the roads in the township of Seward, Grundy County, and have done considerable work in the city of Chicago, grading all the streets of Evergreen Park and Washington Heights.

Louis and Augustus Jensen, of whom we write, are natives of Norway, their birthplace being on the shores of the beautiful lake Mjarson. They came to America when Louis was eighteen years of age and Augustus was but sixteen. A twin brother of the latter, John, accompanied them. He is now numbered among the well-to-do farmers of Grundy County, having a good farm but a few miles from his brothers. They came directly to Chicago, and from there to Minooka, where they had an uncle living, and where each accepted work at anything at which they could turn an honest penny.

Louis Jensen was married to Miss Clara Moe, of Chicago, in 1880, she also being a Norwegian by birth. They have two daughters and one son—Annie Pauline, Ida Fredericka and Warner.

Augustus Jensen was married, in 1881, to a Dan-



ish-German lady, Miss Catharine Hensen. They have two children: Louisa Dora Missa, seven years of age; and Walter Nelson, a baby.

The Jensen brothers, by their courage, foresight and business enterprise, have been very influential in advancing the financial status of the township, and are numbered among its most invaluable citizens. In politics they are a little mixed, being rather inclined to the Greenback order. They were educated in the tenets of the Lutheran Church and still abide by that faith.



**WASHINGTON D. STEWART** is one of the oldest residents in point of settlement in Custer Township, and has been a very efficient aid in developing its fine agricultural resources. He was born July 30, 1826, in Wayne County, Ohio, a son of John and Elizabeth (Motz) Stewart, natives of Pennsylvania. They were married in that State about 1820, and moving to Ohio, became early settlers of Wayne County, where the father carried on farming and where they made their permanent home till death called them to a higher life, she dying in 1876, and he in 1880. They had eleven children, eight of whom are now living. The son of whom we write was their sixth child. His early educational advantages were limited and after he was eight years old, he never attended school again. Ambitious, however, to better his education, later in life he pursued his studies and became quite a proficient, especially in mathematics. During his youth he was kept in attendance at the Postoffice and bar of the tavern belonging to his father, but at the age of nineteen he began life for himself. For some years he engaged in handling stock and in general trading until he had quite a sum of money. In 1847, he came to Illinois and bought his present farm, locating land warrants for four hundred acres. He did not however, settle here then, but went back to his home in Ohio, and in 1850 returned with his family to make his permanent residence here. The two hundred and eighty acres of land comprising his farm have been put under excellent tillage and he has erected a sub-

stantial set of buildings. He first erected a frame house and in 1868, built his present more commodious residence at a cost of \$2,800. He has given his attention to stock-raising and farming, and formerly raised some very fine blooded cattle.

Mr. Stewart was married April 23, 1845, to Miss Rosella Tanner, a daughter of Stephen Tanner, of Wayne County, Ohio, a pioneer farmer of that locality. Mrs. Stewart was born November 21, 1826, on her father's homestead in Wayne County, and received the advantages of a good common-school education. Mrs. Stewart departed this life March 27, 1888. Of the six children born of her marriage with our subject, two are now living: Ella, wife of Joseph Myers, who lives with our subject; and Emma.

Our subject occupies a worthy place among the pioneers of the county, and during his long residence in Custer Township has shown himself to be a good citizen who has always taken an interest in its welfare and who has served it faithfully while in public office. For many years he has been a Director of the school district and for eight years has served with credit as Justice of the Peace. He has been Township Clerk and Road Commissioner. He has always taken an active part in politics and keeps himself well posted on the political issues of the day. He has been a sound Democrat from his youth upwards, though in local affairs, he votes for the man regardless of party.



**MEYER, M. D.** For about eighteen years Dr. Meyer has been the leading physician and surgeon of Beecher, where he established himself in 1872, and where he has built up a large and successful practice. He was thoroughly educated in the science of therapeutics, and had an extended experience as an army physician and surgeon, as well as a private experience of many years, before he became a resident of this place. His theoretical knowledge and skill in the use of remedial agents is unquestioned, while in the use of the scalpel he was equally well versed.

The father of our subject was Michael Meyer, a

native of Prussia, who served his country as a soldier for nine years, chiefly under Napoleon. He lived to the extreme old age of one hundred and two years, dying in the land of his birth. His first wife bore the maiden name of Mary Francen. She was the mother of two children, our subject and a brother, Michael, Jr., who also came to this country. The latter died in Chicago after having served twenty years as detective and policeman there. The mother was noted in her country for her medical skill and education, she having practiced midwifery for many years; she died at the ripe old age of eighty-seven years. She and her husband belonged to the Catholic Church.

Dr. Meyer was born in one of the Rhine Provinces of Prussia, September 11, 1821, and was carefully reared by his parents, who bestowed upon him all the advantages possible in the way of obtaining knowledge. When he had reached the proper years he entered the medical college of Bon, Germany, where he studied six years. He was then graduated, and entering the Prussian Army spent nine years in discharging the duties devolving upon an army physician and surgeon. He had charge of many serious cases, and performed many critical surgical operations, as he has since done in America.

The knowledge which Dr. Meyer had obtained of the United States led him to believe that a broader field would be opened before him in this country, and he therefore determined to leave his native land and seek a home in the New World. In the fall of 1854 he engaged passage for himself and family on a vessel which sailed from Antwerp to New York. They reached the latter city after a perilous voyage of sixty-five days. Storms swept the vessel clear of its masts and rigging, and the five hundred passengers nearly died from starvation before the desired haven was reached. The Doctor came at once to Chicago and opened an office in that city, where he pursued his chosen calling with marked success until 1872. He then removed to Beecher, which has since been his home, and the center of his well-directed efforts to alleviate the sufferings of mankind.

The first wife of our subject was Miss Theresa A. Haerman, a native of one of the Rhine Provinces, in which she spent her entire life, dying

when but twenty-three years old. She left one child, Lena, now the wife of Adam Rauen, whose home is Chicago, and who is connected with the water-works there. Dr. Meyer chose for his second companion Miss Gertrude Hann, who was also born and reared in a Rhine Province in Germany. This marriage has resulted in the birth of a large family, four of whom are now living. Of the eight who have been removed by death, all died young and most of them in infancy. The survivors are Michael, Peter, John and Anna. The first is foreman of the painting department of the car shops; he is a clever artist, wielding the brush in other lines than those required in the business. He married Miss Augusta Heinz. Peter is a prominent fresco, sign and landscape painter, and he also evinces considerable artistic talent; John is employed in the Cook County Court House; Anna is the wife of John Pauly, a dealer in wines and liquors, at No. 100 Randolph Street, Chicago.

Dr. Meyer is a believer in the principles embodied in the Democratic platform, and in all national elections supports it with his vote. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, being enrolled in Blue Lodge No. 740, Grand Park. The entire family belong to the Catholic Church. The Doctor owns some fine property in Chicago.



**W**ILLIAM COOK. For many years this gentleman resided on a fine farm on section 16, Crete Township, Will County, and this land, through his energetic management, was converted into one of the most pleasant estates in the township. He also owned land on section 17, comprising altogether one hundred and twenty-five acres. He dated his arrival in this county from May 10, 1850, after which he gradually built up a finely improved farm and accumulated a fair share of this world's goods. Toward the close of his life he retired from his more arduous labors and spent his declining years in ease and comfort. His death occurred at his home, July 14, 1890, when he had attained the ripe old age of eighty years, four months and nineteen days. For six years preced-

ing his death, his activity was somewhat lessened by the lameness which resulted from a fall he then received. Politically, he was a Democrat, and in his religious belief was a consistent member of the Methodist Church. His intelligence, uprightness and useful life and industry were recognized by his acquaintances who accorded him their highest esteem.

In Lincolnshire, England, many years ago, lived and died Thomas Cook, a small landowner. He married Sarah Holmes, a native of the same shire, who died when sixty years old. This worthy couple were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for thirty years, and for years their home was a meeting place for the congregation on every Wednesday night. They also had prayer-meeting every Friday night and class-meeting every Sunday for some years, these facts illustrating the faithful interest which they felt and manifested in the cause of Christianity. To them were born nine children, the subject of this sketch being one of younger members of the family, and the only one who came to the United States.

The natal day of William Cook was February 25, 1810, and his birthplace in the northern part of Lincolnshire, England. The early years of his life were spent in acquiring knowledge, but at the age of thirteen years he left school and began to learn the trade of a shoemaker. He served under Richard Michaelwait in Winterton, in his native shire until he was twenty years old, after which he worked as a journeyman for a time. He then set up a shop in the place where he had learned his trade, and there married Miss Elizabeth Adkinson, the daughter of well-to-do parents, by whom she was well reared. She was born in Blygton, England, in 1803 and in her native shire grew to womanhood. There her mother died, and a few years later her father came to the United States, where he lived to be quite old. Joseph Adkinson was a tailor. Upon coming to America he settled near Monroeville, Ohio, where he owned a large property.

After the birth of their first child and the death of the same, our subject and his wife set out for the United States, leaving their native land February 25, 1831. They took passage at Hull on a brig frigate, and after a voyage of some seven

weeks landed in New York City, whence they journeyed to Monroeville, Ohio. There Mr. Cook followed his trade of a shoemaker one year, and then purchased a small farm on which he lived for some time. After fifteen years of residence at that place he went to Lake County, Ind., and for two years made his home near Clinton, whence he removed to this State and county.

Here Elizabeth (Adkinson) Cook died in 1865 when about sixty-two years of age. She attended the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was the mother of eight children, of whom but two are living. Thomas resides in Onarga, this State; his wife bore the maiden name of Margaret E. Fellows, and was a resident of Plainfield. George, who lives at Council Bluffs, Iowa, married a Miss Shipley for his first wife, and for his second a Mrs. Davis.

The gentleman of whom we write contracted a second matrimonial alliance, the ceremony taking place in Chicago, Ill., and his chosen companion being Mrs. Mary A. (Mitchell) Hoskins. She was born in England, whence she came to America in early womanhood. She died December 12, 1878, when past middle life, leaving one daughter, Julia A., a refined and well-educated young lady. Mrs. Mary Cook was identified with the Methodist Church, and by her former marriage had one child, Frank, a successful merchant at Geneseo.



**E**DWARD D. HOWLAND, M. D. Although still quite young in his profession and indeed in years, this gentleman is rapidly building up for himself a reputation as a skilled physician which gives promise of leading him to a front rank ere many years shall have passed over his head. He is a close student who is not content with the knowledge he has already obtained, but by every means in his power is constantly adding to it information regarding the latest discoveries and the theories of older and more skilled physicians. His quickness of apprehension, his mental culture and his honorable character give him popularity in society and a reputable name among his fellow-men.

The parents of Dr. Howland are Elihu and Jane

(Baldwin) Howland, natives of Litchfield County, Conn., who came to the Prairie State in 1840, and who at present reside in Ottawa, Ill. The father was a farmer and the early life of our subject was surrounded with the usual scenes and influences of country living. He was born in LaSalle County, this State, October 13, 1858, and obtained his fundamental education in the public schools. In the State Normal University at Normal, Ottawa High School and Mt. Carroll Seminary, he extended his fund of knowledge, and completed his general course of study.

Having chosen medicine as the science to which to devote his energy, young Howland began reading in the office of R. M. McArthur, M. D., at Ottawa, and after a time entered Rush Medical College, Chicago. He pursued his studies there during the years of 1883-84, and then practiced one year with Dr. Wilcox in Michigan. After this practical application of the theories and principles of therapeutics he returned to Rush College in 1885, and was graduated therefrom the following year. On looking about for a field of labor he was led to Lockport, in which he located the year of his graduation. Dr. Howland is an Odd-Fellow, a Mason and a consistent member of the Baptist Church.



**WILKENING.** The name which stands at the head of this biographical outline will be at once recognized as belonging to one of the most energetic business men of Crete and one of its leading merchants. He ranks as one of the finest salesmen in Northern Illinois in which region he commenced building his fortunes and where he has gained a competence. Under the firm title of C. Wilkening & Co., our subject and his brother Frederick are operating one of the most complete dry-goods establishments in Will County and commanding a large portion of the patronage of its best citizens. The brothers were assisted in the establishment of their present enterprise by their honored father, a man of more than ordinary ability and from whom the sons have inherited the talents which have brought them success. The

present firm was organized in 1880, and located in a fine building at the corner of Main and Exchange Streets, the most eligible business site in the town.

In due time, owing to the rapid increase in trade, more room was needed and so they removed their old brick store, 26x60 feet, to another lot further south and began the construction of one of the best buildings in the city, which they now occupy. The second floor of this building was designed for a public hall, but the firm are obliged to utilize it for the storage of a part of the \$40,000 stock of goods which they carry. The Wilkening Block, two stories in height, is 51x60 feet in dimensions, facing on Main Street and comprises two stores with a basement joining the old store-room. The latter is used for a grocery department and there are three large warehouses in the rear from which many hundred pounds of butter and many thousand dozens of eggs are shipped monthly. The main building was completed in 1886, and contains a full line of a finely-selected stock of dry goods, tastefully arranged and which never fails to attract attention. Besides these there is a special cloak and shawl department, also clothing and gentlemen's furnishing goods, together with different departments for carpets and oil cloth, toys, etc. It is thus most properly called the Department Store and neither time nor money has been spared to make each attractive and convenient.

The business career of Mr. Wilkening began at an early period in his life and from the start he has kept in view one end and aim—that of excelling in his chosen calling. We find him officiating as a clerk at the age of fifteen years and he completed his business education in Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College. His father in former years was a farmer, owning land in Crete Township, and at that homestead our subject was born March 24, 1855. He grew up vigorous in mind and body and at an early age learned the self reliance which has been largely the secret of his success. Both in social and business circles he is a general favorite, being prompt to meet his obligations and more than ordinarily well informed. In politics, he is a Democrat and in religion he conforms to the doctrines of the Lutheran Church. In all that goes to make a man reliable and trustworthy, he is a fine exponent of

his substantial German ancestry. With the single exception that he still remains a bachelor, Mr. Wilkening has creditably performed all the obligations of an honest man and a good citizen. In addition to his mercantile interests Mr. Wilkening deals quite extensively in real estate and from this source also realizes handsome returns.

**H**ENRY GRABE so ordered his daily walk and conversation that his life was an example worthy the consideration of all who desire to honor their manhood. He took an active part in all that meant the real advancement of the township, was interested in the cause of religion, industrious and hard working in the affairs of this world, and kindly and affectionate in his domestic and social relations; an honest and reliable citizen was removed by death when he breathed his last at his home in Washington Township, April 14, 1882.

The eyes of Mr. Grabe opened to the light of day in Germany, in 1821. He grew to maturity under the charge of good parents, developing the natural virtues and talents he possessed and being grounded in the firm principles that led to the reputation he won. When about twenty-two years old he set out from Bremerhaven, and reaching the shores of America made his way to the Prairie State and settled in Crete Township, Will County. His first home was on eighty acres of new Government land, but in the fall of 1867 he changed his residence to Washington Township. Here he purchased two hundred acres of land on section 21. It was almost unbroken but he at once began to make improvements, and after some years he found himself pleasantly surrounded with good buildings and other tasteful improvements. Here he carried on a successful agricultural career until called hence, when he left to his mourning household that best of all inheritances—an honored name. In politics he was a sound Republican, and religiously was a member of the Evangelical Church, to which faith Mrs. Grabe also adheres.

The marriage of Mr. Grabe and Miss Catharina Schwirena was celebrated in Chicago. The bride

was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, July 26, 1831, to Fred and Ingel (Miller) Schwirena. Her parents were natives of the same kingdom, and there the father died when sixty-two years old. He was a Lutheran in religious faith. The widowed mother came with her six children to America and located in Cook County, Ill., dying there at the same age that her husband had reached. Mrs. Grabe lived near Chicago until her marriage, manifesting the qualities that won the regard of our subject and that have kept the esteem of all who know her.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Grabe resulted in the birth of nine sons and daughters. Henry, Jr., married Miss Augusta Schencka and is now living at Manhattan, Kan.; William is with his mother, assisting her to operate the large farm; John, who is a shoemaker in Crete, married Miss Sophia Rennie; Mary is the wife of Fred Meyer, their home being in Riley County, Kan.; Conrad married Miss Emma Sitzel and lives in Kankakee County, working at his trade of a blacksmith; Cara is the wife of Charles Ruge, of Chicago; Louisa married Fred Bowermaster, who lives in Oak City, Iowa; August is a blacksmith and is now living in Brunswick, Lake County, Ind.; Sophia is at home with her mother.

**W**ILLIAM J. ADAM, Secretary and Treasurer of the Joliet Paper Company, is a native of Joliet, and is classed among the most intelligent and enterprising of its young business men. He was born in this city, September 18, 1852. Here in the city schools he laid a solid foundation for his future career. After attaining manhood, he first entered the business world through the doors of his father's flouring mill, which stood where the paper mill now stands. In 1887 he began the manufacture of barb wire and such line of goods, in company with his father, and they have already built up a thriving business, from which they derive a desirable income.

Mr. Adam and Miss Lizzie Folger, were wedded November 28, 1874, and to them has come one child, whom they have named Folger. Mr. Adam

is a thoughtful, clear-headed, energetic man, of good personal habits, and is highly considered by all about him, both socially and as a business man. He is a leading member of the Central Presbyterian Church, of which he is Trustee, and in politics gives his allegiance to the Republican party.



**H**ORACE I. MESSENGER, of Homer Township, is comfortably situated at his father's old homestead on section 33. It comprises a fine body of land, two hundred and eighty-seven acres in extent, and is embellished with a set of good buildings, together with all the other appurtenances of the well-regulated country estate. Mr. Messenger is a modest, unassuming citizen, whose course in life has been such as to commend him to the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has had dealings. His life-long habits of industry have resulted in the acquirement of a competence, and he is in the enjoyment of all of the comforts, and many of the luxuries of life.

In noting the parental history of the subject of this sketch, we find that his father, Horace Messenger, was a native of Chenango County, N. Y., and born April 26, 1807. The mother bore the maiden name of Fannie Shedd, and she was born in Oswego County, N. Y., June 13, 1810. They were married in their native State, and came directly to this county in 1835, settling in Homer Township, in June of that year. They were among its early pioneers, and in Homer Township thereafter sojourned until called hence. They were not long separated, the father dying August 31, 1882, and the mother July 3, 1884. Their family consisted of five children, the eldest of whom, a son, William, died when three years old; Mary J. is the wife of Benjamin White, of Geneseo, this State; Frances is a resident of Joliet; Horace I., our subject, is the next in order of birth; Helen also lives in Joliet.

Mr. Messenger was the fourth child of his parents, and is the only living son. He was born in Homer Township, February 5, 1844, and therein spent his early years, attending the common schools

and becoming familiar with the various details of farm life. He completed his studies in Knox College, Galesburg, Ill. During the third year of the Civil War he entered the ranks of the Union army, enlisting February 29, 1861, in Company F, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and served seventeen months. During that period he became fully acquainted with the hardships of a soldier's life, although escaping some of its sterner features. Aside from this, he has always followed agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Messenger was married May 31, 1883, in Lockport, Ill., to Miss Bell Fox. This lady was born in Ashtabula, Ohio, October 13, 1849, and is a daughter of Gibson Fox, who still resides there. In politics Mr. Messenger is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and as a Union soldier, belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic.



**S**IMON HOHENSTEIN occupies a pleasant farm three miles from Frankfort Station, the estate comprising one hundred and sixty acres on section 25, Frankfort Township, watered by the south branch of Hickory Creek, and joined by the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railroad. All the land is tillable except the timber, and is adapted for the raising of both grain and stock, in which Mr. Hohenstein occupies himself. He keeps a good grade of cattle and hogs, uses two teams on the place, and carries on a thriving agricultural business.

Mr. Hohenstein is descended from honorable German ancestors, both lines having been resident in Hesse-Darmstadt. His paternal grandfather, Johannes Hohenstein, was a farmer, and his father, Balthasar, engaged in the same occupation, and that of fruit-raising. The latter came to America in 1851, and tilled the soil in Green Garden Township, this county, until he retired to live with our subject; he is now seventy-eight years old. He belongs to the Evangelical Church. His wife bore the maiden name of Catherine Ditzel, and was a daughter of Jacob Ditzel, also a farmer. She breathed her last in this county, in 1860. The parental family included three sons—Simon, Conrad,

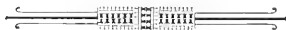
and George. The second son enlisted in 1861, in the Twentieth Illinois Infantry, and served until he lost his life at the battle of Jackson, Tenn. The youngest son lives with our subject.

Simon Hohenstein was born in the village of Messel, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, September 17, 1837, and being reared on a farm, early acquired the rudiments of his father's occupation. He attended the common schools from the age of six to fourteen years, acquiring a good education. Three years after the completion of his studies, the family determined to emigrate to America. They sailed on the "Bremerhaven" in May, 1851, and after an ocean voyage of forty-nine days, stood on shore in New York City. Thence they took a boat to Albany, the cars to Buffalo, a steamer to Detroit, and cars to Chicago, completing the journey to Green Garden Township, this county, by teams. A farm of eighty acres was purchased, and the new life was begun in a log house. This was the home until 1865, when the place was sold, and an improved tract on section 2, Frankfort Township, was purchased by our subject. There he continued his agricultural labors until 1883, when he rented it, and removed to the place which he now occupies, and which he purchased for \$55 per acre.

In April, 1863, Mr. Hohenstein led to the hymeneal altar Miss Charlotte Knapp, of Green Garden Township. This estimable lady was born in Bavaria, Germany, and came to America with her parents in 1850. She is a daughter of Carl Knapp, formerly a farmer in Green Garden Township, but who is now living in Frankfort. She has borne her husband ten children, named respectively: Simon, Charles, Daniel Conrad, Charlotte, Peter, Christian, Henry, Katie, and Carrie. The oldest son is married, and living on the farm on section 2; Charles is clerking in Batavia. The others are at home.

Mr. Hohenstein is one of the most influential citizens in Frankfort Township. He is now Assessor, and has held this office for fourteen years, being the oldest Assessor in the county. He was Collector of Green Garden Township one year, and of Frankfort Township one year, and has been a member of the School Board sixteen years. While living on section 2, he was School Director nine years, and

he has held a similar position in his present district seven years. He belongs to the Evangelical Church in Frankfort, and is now filling the office of Trustee. His political adherence has always been given to the Democratic party. He has served on the Petit jury, and was on the Grand Jury in 1890, and is prominently connected with all enterprises which promise to benefit the community.



**S**AMUEL GLASGOW, a fine type of the foreign element who, by sheer force of energetic persistence and well directed labor have made for themselves comfortable homes in this county and have secured a good competence, is a thoroughly practical, highly successful farmer, owning and managing a choice farm in Plainfield Township, and is well worthy of a place in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM, dedicated to the citizens of Will County.

Mr. Glasgow was born in the North of Ireland, five miles from Ballymena in the County of Ulster, November 8, 1842. His father and his grandfather both bearing the same name, Robert Glasgow, were natives of Scotland. The grandfather was a farmer and so far as known spent his entire life in the land of his birth. The father of our subject was reared and married in Scotland, and moving to Ulstershire, leased land and was actively engaged in farming and stock-raising there for many years. In 1868, he emigrated to this country, and bought a farm in Plainfield Township and was engaged in its management. After the death of his wife he made his home with our subject until his death, January 10, 1888, at the ripe old age of seventy-five years. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Margaret Dunsceath, and she was of Scottish birth. She died at her home in Plainfield, June 10, 1886. Of their children, one died in Ireland, and seven came to America, their names being as follows: Catherine, Maria, Samuel, Jane, Margaret, Martha and Robert.

The subject of this biographical review was reared and educated in the place of his nativity. He was early set to work on a farm and obtained

an excellent knowledge of agriculture in all its branches. He lived with his parents until he was twenty-two years old, and then engaged with a commission merchant as a buyer of produce, continuing with the same firm until 1868. In that year he came to America, hoping to insure his prosperity by settling in this great Republic. He landed at New York on the 13th of July, and coming directly to Illinois, sought and found employment on the farm of J. C. Carpenter, of Kendall County. He was with him two years and the ensuing year was employed on Judge Caton's farm, and then worked Esquire Corbin's place on shares for six years. At the expiration of that time he became a landowner in his own right, buying a farm on section 29, of Plainfield Township. Five years later he sold that and purchased the place where he now resides. This farm contains one hundred and eighty acres, well improved, and provided with a fine set of buildings and all the appurtenances for operating a farm to the best advantage.

May 14, 1861, Mr. Glasgow was united in marriage with Miss Martha Asdel, a native of the same place as himself, and of Scotch ancestry. They are now the parents of ten children: William J., Robert, Margaret J., Samuel, Catherine, James, Anna, George, Albert and Edward.

The citizenship of Plainfield received a worthy addition when our subject came here to reside, as he is a man of excellent reputation, is honest and truthful in all the relations that he sustains toward others, and is endowed with good practical sense and an excellent capacity for skillful labor, and the patience, without which he could not have accomplished what he has.



**S**TEPHEN J. WILLIAMS. This well-known and wealthy citizen occupies a fine farm on section 31, DuPage Township, upon which he was born September 22, 1849. He was fortunate in belonging to a family possessed of means sufficient to enable him to cultivate his talents and develop the powers of his mind at first class institutions, and has therefore obtained

a fine education. The rudiments were gained in the district schools of the home neighborhood, and when sixteen years old he entered the academy at Naperville, DuPage County, following a period of study there by one at Wheaton College.

The next institution attended by young Williams was the Plainfield College of Will County, afterward destroyed by fire, where he studied for a short time only, finally entering the University of Notre Dame, at South Bend, Ind., from which he was graduated in 1865. The same year he was selected by Gov. John Madison, of this State, to accompany the surveying party as assistant leveler, on the Union Pacific Railroad, between Omaha and San Francisco. Seven months were spent in that labor, then Mr. Williams returned to his home. His father at that time owned a coal mine at Braceville, Grundy County, and Stephen was sent to superintend it, which he did for two years.

After that experience in controlling affairs, Mr. Williams returned again to Will County, and settled upon the homestead, making it his home from that date. He owns a large body of land in the county, and in the agricultural work to which he gives his attention, and the rental of property, is meeting with a degree of success that stamps him as a worthy successor of a father who was a fine financier.

Mr. Williams has been twice married, and is the father of five children, named respectively: James, Thomas C., Maud C., Mary E. and Jennie. He has served as School Director, and as Township Supervisor has acted six years, satisfying the public, whose interests he serves. He is a Democrat, and on the party ticket was nominated in 1887 for the State Legislature, but defeated by his opponent, the Hon. Dwight Haven, the present representative. Probably few, if any, men in the county have a better education than Mr. Williams, or keep better informed regarding the course of events in this busy world, and certainly few can claim a deeper interest in the advancement of civilization and the growth of the country. The qualities exhibited by Mr. Williams are such as to gain respect, and he is looked upon as one of the leading members of the community.

The parents of our subject were Thomas and



Susan (Horner) Williams, the latter a native of Johnstown, Pa., and the former born in Cornwall, England, about 1809. The father came to America early in the '30's, the first business in which he engaged in Pennsylvania being the purchase of flax seed which he shipped to England. In this venture he lost all his money, and he therefore returned to his native land for further funds that were supplied him by his father. For about two years Mr. Williams was foreman in an iron mine in Ireland, after which he returned to the United States, and came direct to Illinois, this being in 1836.

The work then undertaken by Mr. Thomas Williams was the construction of a portion of the Illinois and Michigan Canal, in Will County, one and a fourth miles being built by him. He then became a contractor for railroad construction in this State and Wisconsin, continuing thus engaged until 1850, when he followed the great tide that was setting westward to the Pacific slope. He secured the contract for the levee around San Francisco, making considerable money on the job, and returning to Illinois in 1852, resumed railroad contracting herein.

In 1846 the family of Mr. Williams had settled on the farm now occupied by the son, our subject, and some time in the '60's the father abandoned his former line of labor, and devoted himself to home life thereon, remaining constantly with his family until called hence, October 14, 1881. His reputation was not confined to the county of which he was considered one of the most public-spirited citizens, but extended throughout the State and even beyond its borders, his contracts having been honorably carried out, and the workmanship upon them having stood the test for strength and durability. He was a bidder for the tunnel that supplies Chicago with water—the first to the crib—but Messrs. Fox & Howard had a few dollars the advantage of him and secured it.

Mr. Williams had served as Supervisor of Du Page Township six years, with credit to himself and his constituents. But a few days before his decease he was nominated on the Democratic ticket for the State Legislature, and it is quite probable that he would have been elected had not his career

been cut short by death. He was interred with the solemn rites of the Masonic fraternity, with which he had long been identified. He was a member of the Episcopal Church. In every movement that promised to benefit the community he bore an active part. The excellent education he had received, combined with pre-eminent business ability, made him a successful financier, and his liberal spirit inclined him to assist churches and other bodies in their work to improve society.

Mrs. Thomas Williams departed this life in 1879. Of the nine children comprising the family of the worthy couple, the only survivors are our subject and his sister Susan, widow of Frederick Haney, who lives in Brighton Park, Cook County.



**HENRY S. BROCKWAY.** Among the workers in handicraft in the thriving city of Joliet, none better deserve mention in a volume of this description than H. S. Brockway. He was born in Chemung, N. Y., being a son of Edmund and Elizabeth (Shoemaker) Brockway, both of whom were likewise natives of the Empire State. The father was born January 29, 1811, and the mother in February, 1817. They removed to Kendall County, Ill., in 1855, and after a time changed their location to Grant Township, Buena Vista County, Iowa, where the husband and father engaged in farming until his death, May 30, 1885. The mother died in November, 1851.

The natal day of him of whom we write was October 1, 1841, and he is the eldest son in a family comprising seven children. Having accompanied his father to the Prairie State in 1855, he attended the public schools and afterward entered Clark Seminary in Aurora, where he completed his studies. He began his career in life as a farmer, but after a brief period devoted to agriculture learned the trade of a carpenter and, coming to Joliet, began active business as a contractor and builder.

Many beautiful buildings that are ornaments to the city have been put up by him, among them being the Campbell and Stevens Blocks, the elevator and the residences of James Ashley and W. S.

Brooks. He is a man of the strictest integrity, punctual in the smallest details of his engagements and reliable in word and deed. He therefore enjoys the marked esteem of his fellow-men and the sincere friendship of those intimately acquainted with his worth of character.

At the head of the cozy home on Sherman Street is a lady of housewifely skill and fine character, between whom and our subject the rites of wedlock were celebrated November 13, 1878. She bore the maiden name of Nettie E. McCowan, is a native of this county and a daughter of parents who helped to subdue the prairie and are yet living as examples of the sturdy yeomanry of pioneer days. To Mr. and Mrs. Brockway two sturdy sons have been born: Henry S., whose natal day was April 28, 1884, and Jay McCowan, who opened his eyes to the light January 5, 1886. Mr. Brockway is an active member of the Richards Street Methodist Episcopal Church.



**G**ABRIEL NOEL. On a fertile and well-developed farm consisting of two hundred and twenty acres on section 9, Jackson Township, Mr. Noel pursues the even tenor of his way, gaining the good will of his fellows and winning maintenance from the soil. He was born in Portsmouth, Ohio, July 2, 1820, and grew to manhood on his father's farm, the parent adding the control of a saw-mill to his farm labor.

When twenty-seven years old our subject came to Will County, Ill., and on October 15, 1847, was married to Miss Elizabeth D. Zarley, daughter of the late Reason Zarley and his good wife. (See sketch of J. C. Zarley). This lady was born in this county November 22, 1830, is well educated, capable and of fine character. The union has resulted in the birth of twelve children, of whom five died in infancy. The living are Albert E. and Ervin R., farmers in Jackson Township; Calvin Z., clerk in the Hotel Royal; Elvis C., in the stone business in Chase County, Kan.; Susie E., wife of L. H. Lineberger, of Peotone; Rose M., wife of

C. W. Talle, of Jackson Township, and Frank G., still at home.

Mr. Noel has been Road Commissioner and held the various school offices. In politics he is a Republican, and both he and his wife are Universalists in religious belief. Farming has been the chief occupation of Mr. Noel since boyhood and he shows a thorough understanding of the business. His estate bears excellent improvements, and good cheer abounds within the dwelling, whose occupants are held in good repute by all who know them.



**A**LVIN J. KING, an honored resident of Plainfield, was born in Collins, Erie County, N. Y., May 13, 1824. He came of sterling New England stock, his father, Allen King, having been a native of Rhode Island, and his grandfather, Nathan King, who was a soldier of the Revolutionary War, is also supposed to have been born in the same State. He removed from Rhode Island to Vermont, and was an early pioneer of the town of Danby, in Rutland County. He resided there until 1811, and again became a pioneer, moving with an ox team to Erie County, N. Y. He bought land of the Holland Purchase Company in the town of Holland, and spent the remainder of his days there.

The father of the subject of this sketch was reared and married in Vermont and made the removal to Erie County, a few months before his father. He bought a tract of wild land in the primeval forests in the town of Collins, obtaining his patent from the Holland Purchase Company. His first work was to build a log house for the shelter of his family, and he then entered upon the hard task of clearing a farm from the wilderness. He felled the timber from quite a tract, and then sold it at an advance, and bought again, and he thus made three or four changes in the ensuing years, selling so as to make money each time, and was a resident of Erie County until his death. The maiden name of his wife was Virginia Thompson, and she was born in Westmoreland County, N. H. Her father, Joseph Thompson was a soldier in the Revolutionary War,

and two of his sons served with him in the battle of Saratoga. He was a farmer and spent his last years in Otsego County, N. Y. His wife spent her last years with a daughter in the town of Collins.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in his native town, and resided there until 1855. He bought a farm and was actively engaged in its cultivation until the year mentioned, when he sold it, and coming to Illinois, located in McHenry County, buying a farm in Seneca Township. He carried on farming and stock-raising with good success until 1882, when he sold his place there, and coming to Plainfield, bought where he now resides and is living in the enjoyment of the comfortable competence that his industry has brought him.

Mr. King was married in 1819, to Susan A. Southworth. She was born in Chautauqua County, in the town of Sheridan, N. Y., a daughter of Epiphias and Hannah Southworth. Three children have blessed their marriage to them: George M., a resident of Woodstock; Mrs. Robert Graves, of Plainfield; and John M., who lives in Woodstock. Mr. and Mrs. King are members of the Universalist society and for their great personal worth are held in high esteem by the people among whom they have come to make their home in their declining years.



**E**DWARD ETHERIDGE is a citizen of whom Joliet may well be proud, his life having been marked by uprightness, faithfulness and industry. He has won the attention of employers by the manner in which he has performed the work before him and shown that his was not eye service alone but was prompted by a sense of duty and self-respect. He was born in Worcester-shire, England, in which his parents also opened their eyes to the light of day and wherein they died at advanced ages. The father was one of twenty-two children, and worked at the trade of a brick-layer.

He of whom we write, learned the trade of his father at an early age and became a master workman. He came to America, landing at Portland, Me., and from there to Chicago, Ill., reaching the latter city

April 1, 1872. On the 11th of June following he came to Joliet and at once entered the employ of the Joliet Steel Company with which he continued until 1874. He then went to Pittsburg, Pa., becoming an employe in Braddock's Steel Works. On severing that connection he went to St. Louis, Mo., where he assisted in the construction of the blast furnaces of the Jas. Green Iron Works.

Mr. Etheridge next returned to Joliet, but after a brief period went to Crystal City, Mo., coming again to Joliet by request and making the connection that has not since been severed, except for a short time in 1877, when the mills were closed on account of the financial panic. During the years in which he has sojourned here, Mr. Etheridge has assisted in the erection of all the structures that go to make up the splendid plant of the Illinois Steel Company.

The pleasant home of Mr. Etheridge is presided over by an estimable woman whose many virtues and graces of mind and heart endear her to a large circle of friends. She was known in her maidenhood as Miss Eliza Sawyer, and is a native of the Mother Country, in which her wedding took place in 1866. She is the mother of four children, as follows: Sarah is married and lives in Joliet; George, an estimable and industrious young man, is now in Chicago; Martha and James are still at home. Mr. Etheridge is devoted to his home and its attractions are foremost in his eyes. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, and worships at the Ottawa Street Methodist Episcopal Church. He is an excellent citizen, interested in all that tends to advance the prosperity of his chosen home.



**T**HEODORE M. H. STARMANN is the fifth son and child of Jurgen F. and Amelia Starmann, his father being a well-known farmer and stockman of Manhattan Township. The young gentleman is one of the promising business men of the town of the same name, in which he opened an establishment for the sale of agricultural implements in the spring of 1889. He has already manifested good business qualities and

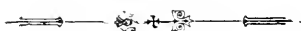
a degree of enterprise which gives bright prospects for his future success. He is popular in society, having a pleasing manner and great intelligence.

The parents of our subject were born in Holstein, Germany, and resided in the Fatherland until 1869, when with their family they emigrated to America, locating in Joliet, Ill. After reaching manhood Mr. Starmann dealt in grain for some years, but for two years prior to his removal to America he had been occupied as a teamster. After settling in Joliet he pursued various employments, working in a stone quarry, the roller mills, etc., until 1873, when he rented land in Manhattan Township and began tilling the soil. After having operated rented property four years he bought eighty acres near the northern line of the township and a few years later purchased eighty acres in New Lenox Township, which bordered on the Manhattan line. He established his home upon his new purchase, where he is still engaged in farming and stock-raising. A third purchase of eighty acres was made, this tract being in Manhattan Township, and he therefore now possesses three well-improved farms, comprising two hundred and forty acres. He is a Republican and a member of the Lutheran Church. His reputation is most excellent and his son is fortunate in having him as a backer in his own enterprise.

The parental family comprises eight children, as follows: Jurgen is a teamster in Manhattan; John is deceased; Gustavus is farming on the homestead; Edward is also on the home farm; the next is our subject; the younger brothers and sisters are: Peter, Catherine and Amelia, who are still under the parental roof.

Theodore Starmann opened his eyes to the light of day in Holstein, Germany, January 16, 1868. The next year he was brought to America and Joliet was the scene of his earliest recollections. He was reared in that city to the age of five years when his parents removed to the farm in Manhattan Township. Upon it and the one in New Lenox Township, the lad was reared to manhood, having the advantages of the public schools and learning the rudiments of farming. He remained with his father until he became of age, when his tastes having led him to desire a mercantile career, he

opened the establishment over which he now presides. The building which he occupies is owned by his father and under its roof will be found a good assortment of farm implements and machines, including Deering binders and Garr Scott threshers and likewise carriages and wagons. Mr. Starmann has also bought his brother Edward's stock of liquors and cigars and after July 1, will also be engaged in the sale of them. He is a true-blue Republican and a member of the Lutheran Church in Joliet.



**NORRIS UMSTED.** This county is famous for the richness of its soil, and for its many farms that are scarcely exceeded in production and the value of their improvements by that of any other section of our fair land, and this gentleman is represented in this volume as the fortunate owner of a large farm in Wesley Township, that compares favorably with any in this locality.

Our subject was born April 30, 1849, to Bazil and Julia Ann (Haynes) Umsted, natives of Ohio. The father was born in Ross County. His family originated in Pennsylvania and were early settlers of Ohio, where he was reared and married and himself and wife were life-long residents there, he dying in 1851, and she in 1890. They were parents of six children, five of whom are now living.

Their son Norris was bred to the life of a farmer, and received a good common-school education. At seventeen years of age he began life for himself and was employed on a farm until twenty-one, when he became the owner of the old homestead that had been his birthplace. He farmed at good advantage for several years and then decided to try agriculture in this State, and in 1871, bought his present farm in Wesley Township. He now has two hundred and forty-two acres of as fertile farming land as is to be found in this section of the country, all lying together and under excellent improvement. He has wrought many changes since taking possession of the farm, that have greatly increased its value, and has on it substantial build-





G. W. Coffey



Yours Truly  
H. Clay Carreby





ings which he has altered and made more convenient for his use. He carries on mixed farming, raising good crops and having his farm well stocked with standard grades of cattle.

He was married May 11, 1870, to Miss Margaret Foley, a daughter of Charles Foley. Her father was a native of Ireland, came to this country with his wife when quite young, and they are now residents of Ohio. The home circle of our subject and his wife comprises six children, as follows: Annie, Nellie, Minnie, Edward, Margaret and Retha, four of whom are now attending school in this district, and their father intends to give them good educational advantages. Mr. and Mrs. Umsted have lost two from their little flock. Mrs. Umsted is a worthy woman and a consistent member of the Catholic Church at Wilmington.

In the prosecution of his labors Mr. Umsted has shown a practical knowledge of his calling and has exhibited sufficient foresight and discretion to acquire a competency. He has a pleasant, obliging disposition and his willingness to lend a helping hand to anyone in trouble has won him the esteem of this community where he came to establish a home nearly twenty years ago. For the last ten years he has taken an active part in local educational matters and as School Director for his district has done what he could to procure the best of schooling for the children of the neighborhood. He takes an interest in the political issues of the day and votes the Republican ticket.



**HENRY CLAY CASSEDAY.** The subject of this notice is one of a prominent family in Will County, and the son of George W. Casseday, who emigrated to Paris, Ill., in 1824, and came to Joliet May 10, 1850. He became well-to-do, financially, and was the owner of about four hundred acres of land, running from the Michigan Central cut-off to the Illinois Steel Works, and thence to the canal north of the old city limits. The family residence is a fine large structure, occupying No. 1005 Jackson Street, and

with its surroundings forms one of the most attractive homes in the city.

George W. Casseday was born December 1, 1803, about nine miles from the Natural Bridge, Bedford County, Va. He there grew to man's estate, and subsequently removed with his parents to Troy, Ohio. On the 13th of January, 1824, he was married to Miss Delilah Murphy. This lady was a native of his own county, and born July 6, 1806. She went with her parents to Troy, Ohio, when quite young, where she was reared to womanhood. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Casseday removed to Paris, Ill., from there to Danville, and finally to Joliet, May 10, 1850.

The father of our subject upon coming to this county began dealing in real estate, and became owner of a large amount of land in Illinois. He held the most of this up to the time of his death, which occurred July 23, 1863. He laid out all that part of Joliet lying north of Jackson Street and extending to the city limits, this being known as Casseday's Addition. He was not a politician, with the exception of voting first the Whig and later the Republican ticket. His religious views coincided with the doctrine of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he held the various offices and assisted substantially in the erection of the church building at Joliet.

The widowed mother is still living at the old homestead in this city. The five children born to her and her husband were named respectively: David, Maria L., Henry Clay, Harriet N. and Mary E. David was born July 6, 1826, in Paris, Ill., and attained to manhood in Danville; he was a youth piously inclined, and at an early age began to study for the ministry. He joined the Illinois Conference, and after the removal of the family from Danville became connected with the Rock River Conference, with which he remained until the time of his death, May 5, 1862. He spent his last days at the home of his mother in Joliet. During the latter years of his life he was the Presiding Elder of Galena District. He first married Miss Rowena Welch of Perrysville, Ind., and she bore him two sons—George E. and David W. For his second wife David married Miss Ellen M. Hoag, of Plainfield, November 23, 1853, and of this

union there was born one son, now Dr. F. F. Casseday, who received his literary education in the Northwestern University at Evanston, from which he was graduated with the degree of A. B. Later he prosecuted his medical studies at the Homeopathic Medical College, Philadelphia, and is now a practicing physician of Kansas City, Mo.

Maria L. Casseday married Milton Partlow, of Danville, and became the mother of five children; she is now deceased. Harriet N. married Elias Tyler and removed to California, where she died January 17, 1877; Mary E. became the wife of John Durham, and they are now living in Danville, Ill.; Henry Clay, our subject, was born June 22, 1831, at Paris, Ill., and is still unmarried. He completed his education in Joliet, and has since been his mother's mainstay, looking after the old homestead and the business connected with the estate. During the Civil War he enlisted, in 1861, in Company B, Twentieth Illinois Infantry, and went with his regiment to Cairo. He was Assistant Quartermaster, and participated in the battle of Fredericktown, Mo., also in the engagement at Springfield, the same State. At the end of six months he received his honorable discharge, and is now one of the most honored members of the Grand Army of the Republic. Politically, he is a Republican. His portrait, together with that of his esteemed father, will be noticed in connection with this sketch. Mr. Casseday is a man of unassuming demeanor, quiet and retired in his habits, and enjoys the confidence of a large circle of friends.



**S**TANTON LYNK. It is a worthy ambition which makes a man jealous for the reputation of his town or township and incites him to contribute his moral and substantial aid to the enterprises calculated for its progress, socially, morally and financially. Mr. Lyнк has distinguished himself in this direction in a marked degree and is looked upon as one of the most useful members of his community. At the same time his personal interests and the comfort of his family have kept pace with his public benefactions and we

find him in possession of all that makes life desirable—a pleasant home and a competence for his declining years. He has been accompanied for many years on his life journey by one of the most estimable of ladies who shares with her husband the respect of the community.

A native of Columbia County, N. Y., Mr. Lyнк was born October 7, 1834, and came to Illinois with his father in 1852, and has since maintained his residence in New Lenox Township. He was reared to habits of industry and economy which have served him well all through life, and his education was such as was to be obtained in the common school. He worked with his father on the farm until a man of twenty-six years and then took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Isabella Doig, the wedding being celebrated at the bride's home in Homer Township, July 6, 1856. After his marriage he continued to reside at the old homestead of which he is now the owner and which comprises two hundred acres of choice land with first-class improvements.

To Mr. and Mrs. Lyнк there have been born a family of six children, the eldest of whom a daughter, Inaet, is the wife of Abel Bliss, of New Lenox Township; Zachariah W. married Miss Cornelia Finch and lives in Nebraska; Adelia is the wife of Walter Rowley, of Homer Township; Everette S.; Evalena and Erwin remain at home with their parents. Mr. Lyнк has been exceedingly careful in the education of his children who, after leaving the district school, completed their studies in the high schools of Joliet and Englewood. In politics, Mr. Lyнк votes independently and has never sought office, simply serving at one period as Highway Commissioner.

Zachariah W. Lyнк, the father of our subject, was born March 24, 1790, in Columbia County, N. Y. He was reared to manhood in that county and was married to Miss Sarah Hardy, who was born September 16, 1800, and reared not far from the early home of her husband. They were married in Columbia County and thence removed to Madison County, N. Y., where they settled upon a farm. In the spring of 1852, they decided upon seeking their fortunes in the Prairie State and accordingly coming to this county, settled on a farm on section 4, New Lenox Township, where they spent the re-

mainder of their days. The mother passed away January 8, 1860. Mr. Lynk survived his wife over eighteen years, his death taking place April 8, 1878.

Nine children were born to the parents of our subject and he was the eighth in order of birth. His sister Sarah became the wife of Frank Mesick, and died at her home June 16, 1877; Peter died in Iowa in 1879; Ann M. is the wife of Thomas Doig of New Lenox Township; William is retired from active labor and living quietly in the village of New Lenox; Sylvanus lives in Marshalltown, Iowa; Louis lives in Florida; Norman is a resident of this county; Catherine P. is the wife of Addison Collins of New Lenox Township.

Mrs. Lynk was born November 9, 1836, in Philadelphia, Pa., and is a daughter of Andrew, Sr., and Isabella (Fife) Doig, both of whom are natives of Scotland and who are represented on another page in this ALBUM. They came to Will County in 1847, and settled in Homer Township where the mother died May 4, 1861. Mr. Doig departed this life in New Lenox Township, February 17, 1887. Their family consisted of ten children, of whom Mrs. Lynk was next to the youngest.

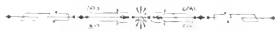


**HON. CHARLES B. GARNSEY**, Judge of the County Court of Will County, was elected to the office he now holds in 1882, and at the conclusion of his first term of office, in 1886, was re-elected. He was born in Livingston County, N. Y., October 25, 1842, and is a son of N. B. and Emily Garnsey. The father was a native of Saratoga County, but was educated in Massachusetts and adopted the occupation of farming. Judge Garnsey came to Will County in May, 1859, and has practically made Joliet his home ever since. His literary education was obtained in the East, and his legal studies pursued at the Chicago Law School, from which he was graduated in 1862. He entered the One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, July 30, 1862, and served through the war, with his command.

In 1865 Mr. Garnsey was admitted to the bar of this State, and at once entered upon the practice

of his profession in the city where he has since practiced continually. In 1877 he became associated with A. F. Knox, under the style of Garnsey & Knox, the partnership still existing. He was Corporation Counsel of the city of Joliet for two years.

Our subject was married in Wilmington, November 1, 1867, to Miss Mary A. Henderson. Mrs. Garnsey, who is an educated and refined woman, is a daughter of John D. Henderson, an old merchant of Wilmington, who is still living in that town. They have two sons—John H. and C. B., Jr., both of whom are now in school and will receive excellent educational advantages as they advance in years and knowledge. Judge Garnsey belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Joliet Commandery, No. 4.



**HON. HENRY H. STASSEN**, Clerk of the Court of Will County, has faithfully discharged the duties of this position for the past three years with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned. He has just passed his fifty-second birthday, having been born March 2, 1838, and is a native of the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, Germany, the parental home at that time being in the town of Westrum, Jeverland. His father, Harm H. Stassen, was also born in Jeverland, September 15, 1805. He learned shoemaking in early manhood and was married to Miss Metta Ulrichs. To them were born nine children in Germany, of whom Henry H., our subject, was the third. The family emigrated to America in 1854, landing in Monce, this county, on the 27th of June. The household then included four children, five of them having died in infancy. Maria E. died when forty-six years old; Metta became the wife of Christian Shrader and removed to Kansas, where she died; Mina is the wife of Frederick Peters, of New Baden, Tex.

The elder Stassen followed his trade two years after coming to this country, and then settled on a farm near Monce. Henry H. also learned shoemaking, at which he worked until he arrived in this

country. The father died November 16, 1886, at the age of eighty-one years. The mother passed away over twenty years prior to the decease of her husband, her death taking place September 3, 1865, when she was fifty-three years old, she having been born March 11, 1808. Both were members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, a congregation of which the father assisted in organizing in 1856 in Monee, Ill., and to the support of which he remained a liberal contributor. He rendered substantial aid in the erection of the church edifice and from first to last maintained a warm interest in the welfare and advancement of the society. He cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, together with his son, our subject, and both from that time forward gave their allegiance to the Republican party.

The subject of this notice learned shoemaking in his native land, and upon coming to America at once changed that occupation for farming. During the month of July which followed he worked for 84 and 1/2's board. In 1865 he returned to his native country (Germany) and on the 4th of February, 1866, was wedded to a maiden of his own province, Miss G. Maria Dudden. This lady was born August 27, 1846, in a neighboring village to that of her husband, which remained her home until her marriage. She is the daughter of Hillerich J. and Anne Dudden, who died in middle life and before their daughter was married.

In May, 1866, following his marriage, Mr. Stassen returned to this country arriving in Will County on the 4th day of the month, and for twenty-one years thereafter followed farming in Green Garden Township, where he had a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He was prosperous in his labors and invested his accumulated capital in additional land, so that in addition to the farm mentioned he has one hundred and fifty-five acres in Monee Township. His possessions are the result of his own unaided efforts, as he began at the foot of the ladder, without other resources than his native industry and energy.

Mr. Stassen is a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and in 1872 served as Assessor of Green Garden Township. In the spring of 1873 he was elected to represent the township in the County

Board of Supervisors, and with the exception of one year held the office by continuous re-elections until his resignation in 1886, when he entered upon the duties of his present position. He has always been a liberal and public-spirited man, interested in educational matters, and all other matters calculated to advance the people. He organized the first school in District No. 8, Green Garden Township, assisted in building the schoolhouse and officiated as Director from 1869 until leaving the district. In 1867 he assisted in organizing the Green Garden Farmer's Mutual Insurance Company, the first corporation of the kind in the State, and in the spring of 1868 was elected Treasurer of the company, which position he held until his resignation in January, 1887. This company began business without capital, charging one-half per cent. premium per \$100 on all property insured, and in 1886 had accumulated, after paying all losses and expenses of Government and organization, \$8,000. It had at that time over twelve hundred members. Its success was largely owing to the good management of its treasurer, who engineered it through many difficult places, and frequently went security for large risks.

Mr. Stassen also became interested in the Grange movement in 1873, which he has represented at various times and upon various occasions at their meetings and conventions. His title of Honorable has been fairly won by his service in the Twentieth General Assembly, to which he was elected in 1874. He served on various important committees, including Insurance, he being well qualified by experience as a member of such committee. He served his term acceptably, and in 1884 was once more nominated, serving this time in the Thirty-fourth General Assembly. In the meantime he formed one of the famous "one hundred and three" who were engaged in the six months' memorable struggle for the election of John A. Logan for United States Senator and in which, it will be remembered, they succeeded on the 19th of May, 1885.

In 1876 Mr. Stassen was made the nominee of the Grangers for Clerk of the Circuit Court and made an admirable race, although defeated as was expected. In 1886 he was elected to his present





*Yours Truly  
August Eriksen*

position, taking charge of the office December 6. He superintended the operations of his farm for a year thereafter, but in February, 1888, he removed his family to Joliet. During the summer of 1889 he put up a commodious, modern residence at the corner of Oneida and Nicholson Streets, where he now lives. In 1884 Mr. Stassen was elected President of the Farmers' State Insurance Alliance and served two years. Religiously, he belongs to the United Evangelical Lutheran Church.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born five sons, of whom but two are living, Charles J. married Miss Anna Albers and they reside on the farm; Menno H. lives with his brother and assists in the labors at the homestead. Comment is unnecessary relative to the position which Mr. Stassen holds among his fellow-citizens. He has become fully identified with the interests of this county and has contributed in no small degree to its growth and prosperity.



**A**UGUST ERIKSSON. The results of unflinching perseverance, prudent economy and investment, and good habits, probably find no better exponent in the city of Joliet than in the above-named gentleman, whose portrait is presented on the opposite page, and who is the proprietor of a fine stone quarry, being also engaged in contracting and building. The Eriksson stone quarry is located at the foot of Bowen Avenue on South Richard Street, and has a four hundred foot face; flagging stone from two to ten inches in thickness is gotten out, seventeen hundred carloads having been cut in the past year, and the best steam appliances being used in the quarry.

Mr. Eriksson was born in Sweden, January 7, 1851, was reared upon a farm, and came to America in 1876, without a trade upon which to depend, but full of pluck and energy. His first place of abode was Des Moines, Iowa, where he remained about three years, after which he returned to his native land. Having already with his own empty hands made a start in life, he embarked in business,

but in April, 1881, decided to return to America. Crossing the Atlantic, he traveled westward to Joliet, Ill., where he began working for Sanger & Moody, soon getting into mason's work, but being a non-union man, he was obliged to stop working, and he was thus forced into contracting. His principal contract was a three-story business block which he put up in 1882.

The first large contract of Mr. Eriksson was with George H. Munroe for the Munroe Block, and the second for a Catholic school at Lemont; the next large contract was for the Lombard and Bishop Wire Mill, and in 1883 he put up a block for Ed S. Munroe. In December, 1883, he bought the stone quarry described above, which in connection with his building, gives occupation to from fifty to one hundred men at different seasons of the year. In the summers of 1888 and 1889 he contracted for the office building and for the Fox plant for the Illinois Steel Company, the latter a \$22,000 job, and also the Atheneum Building. He now has the contract for the stone work for the new Masonic Temple and the new Presbyterian Church.

Besides the business enterprises mentioned, Mr. Eriksson is also building up a fine farm, having in the fall of 1887 bought twenty-five hundred acres in Greeley County, Kan. Its improvement was begun in the spring of 1888, and during the two years that have passed seven hundred acres have been placed under cultivation. He also builds and sells houses. All his worldly possessions, with the exception of \$2,000 received by him three years since, have been earned by his own exertions and saved by his prudence. Few, if any, men of his years can show so good a record financially speaking, or have a higher standing among their fellow-men for manly character and upright habits.

In the winter of 1882, Mr. Eriksson paid a second visit to Europe, and in 1885 spent the Christmas holidays in his native land, accompanied on this occasion by his family. He is a stockholder in the Borrowers' and Investors' Association, of which he was one of the organizers and is now a Director. His vote is always given to the Republican candidates, as he is a firm believer in the principles of that party. He and his wife belong to the First Lutheran Church.

Mr. Eriksson found a worthy companion and helpmate in Miss Anna Christine Anderson, a native of Sweden, with whom he was united in marriage in Chicago, December 6, 1881, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. C. B. L. Boman. Her wise oversight of household affairs, her intelligent mind and pleasing disposition make the home a pleasant one. The happy union has been blessed by the birth of four children, the three now living forming a bright and interesting group. They are named respectively: Frank A., David Alfred and Carl Antonias. The deceased child, who was the second born, bore the name of David Abiel.



**W**ILLIAM ADAM, an old and honored resident of Joliet, has long been connected with its business interests as the oldest lumber dealer in the city, having a large and well-stocked lumber-yard on the corner of Des Plaines and Van Buren Streets. He is also President of the Joliet Paper Company, which was incorporated here in 1888, with a capital stock of \$15,000 by himself and his son, and they also have a barbed fence and wire factory in the same building as their paper mill.

Mr. Adam was born in Renfrewshire, Scotland, February 1, 1821. He was a lad of eleven years when he came to this country in 1832 with his parents, James and Margaret Adam. They located in Montreal, Canada, and there the remaining days of his youth were passed. In 1850 he became a resident of the United States, coming to Joliet with his family, and for a period of forty years his life has been spent in this city. In 1853 he established a lumber yard here, and that being before the advent of railways in this part of the country, all of his lumber was brought to him by the canal. He also took charge of a grain business, and was much prospered in both ventures, and gained capital whereby he was enabled to branch out in other directions. He built the city roller flouring mill, in which he engaged in the manufacture of flour until it burned in 1887. He rebuilt on the same spot, and uses the present building as a paper mill,

and a wire mill, and a barbed fence factory, and is largely interested in the manufacture of those articles. This business, which is an extensive and constantly growing one, is conducted by himself and son, William J., under the firm name of William Adam & Son, a corporate company, which was incorporated in 1888, with our subject as President, and his son as Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. Adam is also prominently connected with the Peoples' Town and Home-stead Association, of which he was one of the first stockholders, he giving great encouragement to the organization of the concern. He has avoided all official and political life, although he is well-adapted for both, and he has given his whole attention to his business affairs. He is a man of keen intelligence, and in his travels he has gleaned an interesting fund of knowledge, and from his well-informed mind draws original topics of conversation, and is apparently well-versed in all questions of general importance. Last winter he passed the season in California, and has visited other parts of the country, and is quite a tourist.

Mr. Adam has been twice married. By his marriage with Jane Roach, in Canada, he had born to him A. R. and William J. His second marriage was with Miss Jane E. Martin, of this city, and to them have come two children, R. M. and Jeanette, now the wife of J. S. C. Royer, of Chicago.

As their interests are so closely connected, we are pleased to incorporate a sketch of the life of the son in this biographical review of the life and work of the father.



**B**ELVILLE A. GRANT. Lockport is not without its share of able business men and influential citizens, and chief among them is the gentleman above named, whose career has been marked by a degree of tact, energy, and success rarely equaled. The business in which Mr. Grant is engaged, is that of manufacturing wire, and his goods find customers in all parts of the United States. He has patented an appliance by



which fusel oil is used as a fuel, and this important piece of machinery is in successful operation.

The natal day of Mr. Grant, was October 23, 1841, and his birthplace Fleming County, Ky., in which he lived until about four years old. His parents, William S. and Mary A. (Tolle) Grant, then removed to Henry County, Iowa, where the son passed his youth in acquiring an education and a knowledge of the pursuits of a farmer and miller. After completing the course of study in the common schools he attended the high school at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. In 1861, while he yet lacked some months of having reached his majority, he entered the Union army as a member of the Forty-fifth Iowa Infantry, and displayed his gallantry in Missouri, Mississippi, and the West.

At the close of his honorable career as a soldier, young Grant returned to his former peaceful pursuits, ere long becoming a resident of the Prairie State, arriving in Lockport, June 1, 1867. Here he was engaged in various lines of business until 1878, when he entered the employ of H. B. Scutt & Co., wire manufacturers, as Superintendent. He remained with the company until 1881, when they sold out, and he, having thoroughly mastered the business, established a wire factory in Lockport, under the firm name of Grant, Harmon & Richards. Mr. Grant soon absorbed the whole business, and formed a stock company, by whom the business was continued for a year, after which it became the Baker Wire Mill.

Mr. Grant drew the plans and superintended the erection of the buildings for the new organization, and his great executive ability in the management of the business is shown by the fact that the mills which started on a capacity of fifteen tons per week, now use four hundred tons weekly. From the original plant has grown an establishment which employs three hundred and fifty men, and disburses large sums of money each month by which various departments of industry in the town are benefited.

The personal popularity of Mr. Grant is extreme, as was indicated by his election to the Mayoralty in opposition to two of the strongest men in the city, his candidacy being supported by the best element of society. He is a member of Gooding Post, G. A. R. The beautiful home of which he

took possession in the year 1888, is presided over by a lady of refinement and culture, with whom he was united in marriage on the 1st of December, 1886. She is a native of Will County, and was known in her maidenhood as Miss Ella Cagwin. To her has been born one daughter, Bertha Eloise, whose natal day was November 30, 1887, and who is a child of striking beauty, giving promise of becoming a charming woman.



ABIJAH R. STARR, the pioneer florist of Joliet, for many years conducted a flower garden attached to his residence grounds at the corner of McComber Street and Bowen Place. He came to Joliet in the spring of 1871 and soon afterward established the business which he conducted until 1888. He then sold out and rented his ground, and since that time has not been engaged in any active business. He had one of the finest gardens in the country and met with phenomenal success. His life-long habits of industry, however, will probably not permit him to remain long in idleness and it will not be surprising if in the near future he resumes his old occupation.

The subject of this notice was born March 25, 1832, in Ithaca, N. Y. His father, William R. Starr, emigrated from New York to Illinois in the pioneer days, settling in what was then Thorn Grove, but is now Crete Township, in 1831. He took up a tract of Government land from which he opened up a farm and lived there until his death, which occurred in 1856. Although not a politician he was a staunch supporter of the Abolitionist party, and for a time officiated as the Postmaster of Crete. He was born in Dutchess County, N. Y. He was there married to Miss Harriet L. Royce, who died at the family residence in Joliet, August 23, 1884. Abijah R. was the only child.

The subject of this sketch was only two years old when his parents came to this county, but when of suitable years and attainments he was sent back to his native place, where he completed his education. He was also a student in the boarding school at Berkshire, Tioga County. Then returning home

he remained with his father until a youth of eighteen years. In 1850, being seized with the California gold fever he crossed the plains via St. Joseph and Ft. Kearney, being on the road from May 1 until July 31, and locating in Hangtown. He worked in the mines about two years with fair success, then, anxious to reach home, sacrificed valuable interests and returned to the old farm. His father in the meantime had removed to Chicago and engaged in the hotel business.

Mr. Starr now had charge of his father's farm until the latter's death. In the meantime he was married, October 21, 1853, to Miss Sarah Ann Mogg. In 1864 he went to Wheaton, DuPage County, this State, where he engaged in the nursery business and became somewhat prominent in local affairs, serving as Street Commissioner. He also became interested in the mercantile business. Finally, returning to this county, he occupied himself as a general merchant until 1874. To him and his estimable wife there have been born three children, viz: Mary, born July 18, 1854, and now the wife A. C. Johnston, manufacturer of optical goods at Detroit, Mich.; Ellen A., born January 30, 1858, and the wife of Dr. C. H. L. Souder, of Rockwell; this daughter was graduated from the Homeopathic College of Chicago, and is engaged in the practice of medicine. Attie C. was born March 20, 1860, and married George T. Rolyea, a wholesale grocer of Joliet.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Abijah Starr, who was probably a native of New York, whence he removed to Patterson, and lived there until 1816. Thence he removed to Ithaca, where he died in 1824. He was a surveyor by profession, and married Miss Hannah Watts. Among the children born to them was William Russell Starr, the father of our subject, a native of Patterson, N. J., and born August 4, 1807.

Mrs. Sarah A. (Mogg) Starr was born in the town of Clay, Onondaga County, N. Y., June 1, 1830, to Jared and Lany (Young) Mogg and was there reared to womanhood. She came to the West in 1852. Jared Mogg was a native of Connecticut and born August 4, 1791. He was bound out at an early age but, being an ambitious lad and impatient of restraint, ran away to Schoharie County, where

in due time he met and married his future wife. They settled down upon a farm and Grandfather Mogg engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death.

Mrs. Lany (Young) Mogg was born in Seward, Schoharie County, N. Y., and was the daughter of Jeremiah Young, whose family consisted of twelve children. Jared Mogg's family consisted of fourteen children. Thirteen of these grew to mature years and there are still living six brothers and five sisters. Mr. Starr, politically, is a sound Republican, while he and his good wife are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Joliet.



CLAUS PAULSEN. The German-American citizens of this county have an excellent representative in the person of Mr. Paulsen, a successful farmer of Washington Township. His pleasant homestead is located on sections 25 and 36, and consists of one hundred and sixty broad and fertile acres, supplied with all the needful buildings erected substantially and designed attractively. When the present owner took possession of the place in 1863, there was but a small piece broken, the rest being wild land. He put forth his best efforts to make of it a home suited to his taste and the needs of his family, and well has he succeeded.

The natal day of Mr. Paulsen was February 25, 1811, and his birthplace Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. He is the youngest child in a family circle that included nine brothers and sisters, but four of whom are now living. He and two sisters came to America. The parents, John and Catharine (Brandt) Paulsen, passed their entire lives in their native kingdom, Schleswig-Holstein. He of whom we write grew to man's estate in the land of his birth, gaining a good education under its excellent school laws. When twenty-one years old he determined to seek a home in the land across the sea, of whose advantages he had heard.

Setting sail from Hamburg in April, 1862, on the "Otseal" Mr. Paulsen spent eight long weeks on the broad Atlantic ere landing was made at New York.





*J. M. Thompson*

Thence he went to Chicago and into Kankakee County, where he labored about a twelvemonth. He then came to Will County and in Monee Township spent some time as a farm hand. Ere long he determined to have a home of his own and therefore began to improve the land, which now rewards his efforts with an abundance of the fruits of the earth.

The efficient helpmate and companion of Mr. Paulsen in his labors to secure a competence was known in her maidenhood as Miss Sophia Hack. She is a daughter of Ernest and Sophia (Recoff) Hack, natives of Mecklenburg, Germany, who came to America in 1864, following some of their children across the sea. They settled in Will County, Ill., and here both died well advanced in years. They had six children, Mrs. Paulsen being the youngest; she was born in Mecklenburg, May 19, 1812, and was consequently twenty-two years old when she came to the United States. She has borne her husband nine children, two of whom died in infancy.

The surviving members of the family circle are: Bertha, wife of Henry Wherman, a farmer in Washington Township; John, Herman, Carrie, Henry, Louis and Emma, who are yet living under the parental roof. Mr. and Mrs. Paulsen belong to the German Evangelical Church, and politically, he is a staunch Republican.



**HON. JOHN M. THOMPSON.** Few residents in New Lenox Township have so strong a claim upon the consideration of the readers of this volume as the gentleman above named. He has borne an honorable part in the public affairs of a great commonwealth, won a gallant record for service during the Civil War, successfully and intelligently prosecuted a farmer's career, possesses a cultured mind and much learning in the law, and represents a family which has given many honored members to public life. His home is on a finely-improved farm where every necessary and convenient structure, first-class machinery and farm implements, and high grades of

stock may be seen. The estate consists of about six hundred acres which, when covered with growing crops, present an appearance of prosperity not to be surpassed in Northern Illinois.

The Thompson family is of English origin while the maternal ancestors of our subject sprang from Germany. His father, the late James Thompson, was born in Salem, Mass., and his mother, Sarah (Snure) Thompson, in Canada. Their first home after marriage was in the Dominion, from which they removed to Winnebago County, Ill., about 1840. Mr. Thompson first built a blasting furnace and afterward a factory in which he manufactured woollens and did custom carding and fulling. He resided in Roscoe until his death, which occurred in 1863. His widow survived until September, 1884, breathing her last in Rockford. Their family consisted of eleven children, of whom the following facts may be noted:

Clark W., a resident of Minnesota, died in April, 1885, at the age of sixty-one years; he was a State Representative, a member of the Constitutional Convention and State Senator several terms, bearing a prominent part in the political affairs of the State. He was also one of the Lincoln Electors, and the first President of the Southern Minnesota Railroad. He owned a tract of twenty-five thousand acres and established the town of Wells, which was named for his wife. Edward, a miller, residing in Blunt, S. Dak., has been a Representative and State Senator; Mary C. is the wife of James Abbott, of Beloit, Wis.; Eliza J. died in 1870; the next in order is the subject of this sketch; Agnes died in 1854 at the age of sixteen years; Anna is the wife of Maj. D. C. Wagner, of Chicago; James a resident of Fillmore County, Minn., was nominated to the Legislature but declined to run; Marie L. is the wife of Sedy Perry, of Rockford; Fanny A. is the wife of Dr. Manuel Quintero, of Lyons, France; Albert died when two years of age.

The natal day of our subject was October 22, 1832, and his birthplace Yarmouth, Canada. He was nine years old when his father removed to Illinois, and he prosecuted his studies at Mt. Morris and Beloit, Wis. After completing his classical education he was employed as clerk in a store and post-office at Roscoe for a year, then, in the fall of

1855, went to Hokah, Houston County, Minn., where for about three years he had charge of the business of his brother Clark. He next engaged in the real-estate business in the same place, and two years later turned his attention to the study of law. In 1859 he returned to Roscoe, Ill., continuing his legal studies there a twelvemonth. Assisted by F. G. Ensign and James B. Kerr, he raised a company of men under the first call for troops in 1861, to become a part of the Fifteenth Illinois Infantry. He tendered his services but was rejected, and returning to Minnesota entered the office of his brother Clark, who had been appointed Superintendent of Indian Affairs and was located at St. Paul.

There Mr. Thompson resumed the study of his chosen profession. In September he accompanied his brother up the St. Louis River and Lake Superior, assisting him in paying off the Nation's wards. He was nearly prepared for admission to the bar but was still determined to enter the army, and in October, 1861, enrolled himself as a private in Company K, Fourth Minnesota Infantry. In due time he was in the field, bearing his part in the many privations and dangerous scenes incidental to a soldier's life. He participated in ten of the hardest-fought battles of the war, among them being Inka, Corinth, Jackson and Champion Hills. From the ranks he was promoted to the position of First Lieutenant of his company and afterward solicited by the Colonel to act as his Adjutant. He was afterward unanimously elected Captain of Company E, and still later (January 14, 1863) promoted to be First Major of Cavalry and assigned to duty with the Second Minnesota. That regiment took part in the Indian campaign, and Maj. Thompson was assigned to the command of Ft. Ripley. He was finally detailed to serve on a court martial convened in St. Paul, Minn., and remained there until the surrender of Gen. Lee, when he resigned, his resignation to take effect May 1, 1865. At Forty Hills he received a slight wound and at Champion Hills, while leading his company to charge a battery, he was shot through the body. He was supposed to be mortally wounded, was so reported, and being left to die on the field was taken prisoner and held from May 16 until some

time during the following September when he was exchanged.

On account of the wound he had received, Maj. Thompson was led to adopt farm life, and in May, 1865, located a short distance east of Joliet. He has given his attention chiefly to his farm, placing it in a condition second to none in the county and making it the source of an abundant income. Having some years since returned to Minnesota for business purposes, he was elected to the State Legislature and resided in that State about two years, creditably discharging the duties of his official station. In 1867, accompanied by his wife, he visited the World's Fair at Paris, and traveled quite extensively on the continent.

In Joliet, January 14, 1863, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage with Miss Jennie M., daughter of Judge John J. and Priscilla (Moore) Davidson. Her father had been a Probate Judge in Indiana, but in Will County, of which he was one of the early settlers, he followed the occupation of a civil engineer. He died in New Lenox Township in 1811, his wife surviving him nearly forty years and breathing her last in the county seat in 1881. She was a native of New Hampshire and an estimable woman, under whose careful training her daughter grew to womanhood in possession of fine traits of character, useful habits and courteous manners. The family of which Mrs. Thompson is a member, consisted of herself and a sister, Rachel D., now the wife of H. N. Higginbotham, of the firm of Marshall Field & Co., Chicago.

Mrs. Thompson was born in New Lenox Township in December, 1840, and after acquiring a fundamental education entered Rockford Female Seminary, from which she was graduated in due time. She has borne her husband five children—Jennie M., John D., Helen, Agnes and Vera. The son is now a clerk in the dry-goods house of Marshall Field & Co. Agnes died when in her eighth year. The other daughters are at home, gladdening their parents with their increasing culture and true womanliness.

Maj. Thompson has taken quite an active part in political affairs, always endeavoring to act upon principle and fearing not to change his party affiliations as his views regarding party policy were

modified or his opinions as to the National needs diverged from a former standpoint. He was originally a radical Republican, but afterward became active with the Greeley faction. For some years he was independent, then affiliated with the Greenback party, by which he was nominated Secretary of State by acclamation.

In November, 1887, Maj. Thompson was elected Trustee of the State Grange of Illinois, Patrons of Husbandry, and in the fall of 1889 was almost unanimously re-elected to the same office on account of the prosperity which the order was enjoying under the business management of himself and colleagues. At Springfield, May 2, 1890, he was elected Chairman of a conference of the four organizations—the Patrons of Husbandry, Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association, Farmers' Alliance and Knights of Labor. They formed a federation known as the Farmers and Laborers' Conference, of which Maj. Thompson was elected first President.



**J**OHN WOODS, an old and well-known resident of Joliet, came West in a prairie schooner with his parents in 1812. He was then a mere child, born December 11, 1836, in Mercer County, Pa. The family located in Pike County, this State, but seven years later they removed to Galesburg, Knox County, where John obtained his education, completing his studies in Knox Academy. He learned the printing business with C. R. Fisk, and subsequently worked on the *Oquirwa Spectator*. His father in the meantime purchased the *Free Democrat* office at Galesburg, whereupon John went to work for him. When the latter disposed of his paper in 1858, John opened a job office.

Mr. Woods, in 1860, removed to Winchester, Scott County, where, in company with C. J. Selton, he published a Republican paper during the Lincoln campaign. After the election it was abandoned and Mr. Woods then went to Springfield. On the 1st of April, 1861, he decided to take Mr. Greeley's advice "Go West young man," and crossing the Mississippi located in Page County,

Iowa, and commenced farming. Upon the breaking out of the Civil War he, in company with others, organized a company of Home Guards, and on July 4, they organized a regiment, the First Iowa Militia, of which Mr. Woods was appointed Adjutant.

In September following this regiment volunteered under Col. Cramer and went into Missouri as far as St. Joseph. Adj. Woods, however, on the disbandment of the regiment the following month, returned to Springfield, Ill., and entered the quartermaster's department as a clerk under Capt. Bailhache. In 1862, in connection with Tom Lewis and his brother, he established a daily paper, the *Union Herald*. Subsequently they attempted to transfer this to Memphis, Tenn., but did not succeed. The office, however, was removed to Cairo, in August, 1863, but its politics being changed from Republican to Democratic Mr. Woods withdrew.

In 1865 our subject purchased a printing office at Cairo, Ill., which he conducted two years, and in 1867 repaired to Belleville, this State, and became manager of the *Weekly Advocate*, with which he remained for a period of ten years. In 1879 he came to Joliet with his brother and purchased the *Republican*, which they conducted until 1883. Mr. Woods was appointed Postmaster of Joliet, by President Arthur, through the recommendation of Congressman Cullen and others, his commission bearing date March 3, 1883, and during his term secured the establishment of the free delivery system for the city. In recommending letter carriers for appointment, however, he did not see fit to consult the wishes of the local leaders of the party then in power, which act gave color for the charge of "offensive partisanship" under President Cleveland's dictum, and resulted in the suspension of the offending Postmaster four months before the expiration of his term. He then formed a partnership with H. N. Marsh in the real-estate and insurance business.

Mr. Woods was married in Springfield, Ill., August 6, 1863, to Miss Jennie M. Dunn. There have been born to them four children, one of whom is deceased. The survivors are Charles Holcomb, William W. and Asa. Mr. Woods stands high in

Masonic circles, having attained to the Master and Royal Arch degrees at Belleville, where he served as Worshipful Master and High Priest. He received the Knight Templar Orders at Joliet and belongs to Commandery No. 1. He is serving his third term as High Priest of Joliet Chapter, No. 27, and has been an active promoter of the Masonic Temple enterprise, which magnificent building is now nearing completion.

**JACOB A. HENRY.** It is the common remark that there is not a more public-spirited man in the city of Joliet than he with whose name we introduce this biographical outline. He has been in all respects the architect of his own fortune, rising from an humble position in life to one of affluence, and is now one of the capitalists of Will County, and extensively engaged as a railroad contractor. Of New England antecedents, he was born in Hunterdon County, N. J., the date thereof being April 25, 1825.

Mr. Henry was reared a farmer's boy, and at an early age was made acquainted with hard work. The last active manual labor which he performed was driving a team at 87 per month, and of this small wages he was cheated by his employer, who failed in business. Then in 1842, when a youth of seventeen years, he entered the employ of the Hartford & New Haven Railroad Company, and assisted in laying the first tract on the canal road through the city of New Haven. In 1846 he emigrated to Ohio, and locating in Elyria, took his first contract in connection with a railroad in Ohio and Indiana. He superintended the construction of the northern division of the Sandusky road, then, in 1856, came to Illinois, and three years later became a resident of Joliet.

Thereafter Mr. Henry spent several years as a Roadmaster of the Chicago & Alton Railroad. In 1870, going to Texas, he filled the contract for the building of the Houston & Great Northern Railroad, which he completed in 1873. In the meantime, he also built a portion of the Southern Pacific, which involved a large amount of heavy work. In 1888

we find him operating in Arkansas, and since that year he has built one hundred and seventy-three miles of railroad. Few men in this part of the country have entered into larger contracts than Mr. Henry, or carried them out more satisfactorily. He enjoys the enviable record of having fulfilled every contract he has ever made to the letter.

Mr. Henry, in 1873, put up one of the most elegant residences in Joliet, this being located on Eastern Avenue, and still remaining the home of the family. Within and without it is indicative of cultured tastes and ample means, and forms one of the most attractive features of the city. Mr. Henry has always taken a lively interest in the growth and prosperity of his adopted city, and contributed liberally of his time and means to this end. For a city of its size, Joliet enjoys an unequalled system of street railways, the cars propelled by electricity, and this enterprise was inaugurated and carried out by Jacob A. Henry. Every enterprise which is calculated to advance the interests of the people, socially, morally, and financially, receives his unequalled support. Since the organization of the Republican party, Mr. Henry has been its staunch adherent. Although he has filled many positions of trust and responsibility, he has never been ambitious of official preferment, being content to work out his plans in a quiet way, and in this manner has accomplished a vast amount of good.

The subject of this notice was first married, April 26, 1846, to Miss Nancy, daughter of Ellis Briggs, of Winsted, Conn. Of this union there was born one daughter, now the wife of J. W. Folk, of Joliet. Mrs. Nancy (Briggs) Henry departed this life at her home in Joliet, January 23, 1878. In October, 1885, Mr. Henry contracted a second marriage with Mrs. Rachel (Hulsizer) Apgar.

**JAMES A. CLYNE, M. D.** Among the successful practitioners of Joliet may be mentioned Dr. Clyne, who located in the city in the fall of 1886. He is the surgeon of the Chicago & Alton Railroad, and aside from this enjoys a lucrative practice in the city and vicinity.







*Edward H. Werner, D.D.S.*

He is also a member of St. Joseph's Hospital Staff. He was born at Cohoes, N. Y., March 2, 1860, and is the son of James Clyne. The latter was also a native of New York State, where he was reared to manhood and married Miss Catherine Quinn. The mother of our subject was born in the northern part of New York, near the early home of her husband, and both are still living at Cohoes.

Dr. Clyne pursued his early studies in the common schools of his native city, and supplemented them by a course in the Business College at Cohoes, being a student in the class of 1878. He began the study of medicine in his native town, under the instruction of Dr. D. W. Houston and in due time entered upon a course of lectures at the Albany Medical College, which he commenced attending in the fall of 1883, and from which he was graduated in the class of 1886. While there, after a successful examination, he received a hospital appointment and remained in Albany until May, 1886, in the meantime having charge of a physicians' practice in the northern part of the State.

Soon after coming to Joliet, Dr. Clyne associated himself in partnership with Dr. G. C. Raynor, one of the prominent physicians of the city. Two years later he was appointed city physician, which position he still holds. He still belongs to Albany Medical Society, also the Will County Medical Society, and is the Medical Examiner for various life insurance companies. He is prominently connected with the Independent Order of Foresters, and is the court physician of the same. He has entered upon a successful career in connection with his chosen calling, to which he devotes his close attention and in which he is ambitious to excel. Politically, Dr. Clyne is a Democrat.



**E**DWARD H. WERNER, D. D. S. Although but little past his majority this young gentleman is manifesting that close attention to business which combined with his thorough understanding of his profession, will undoubtedly secure for him a high standing in the dental ranks and a fine reputation among those who need such

services as he can render. He has opened in Joliet one of the best dental offices in the county, furnished with all the modern appliances, and in the few months in which he has been established has started a rapidly increasing trade.

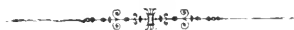
Dr. Werner was born in Joliet, December 9, 1867, and received his education in the public schools of this city. After making his choice of a vocation he became a student in the New York College of Dental Surgery, from which he was graduated in the class of '89, with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. He at once opened an office in his native city and in a short time set up his own home, taking for his companion in life Miss Leonora M., daughter of S. J. Barber. The rites of wedlock were celebrated between them January 22, 1890. Mrs. Werner is a charming young woman, educated and cultured, and endowed with many virtues of character.

The gentleman of whom we write is of German descent, his parents being natives of the German Empire. William Werner, the father, was born in Frankfort-on-the-Main, in Hesse-Darmstadt, February 5, 1831. At the age of sixteen years he was apprenticed at the trade of a mason and four years later emigrated to the United States. He spent three months in Stroudsburg, Pa., and in October, 1851, came West, locating in Frankfort, Ill. His first work here was as a stonemason on the Rock Island Railroad, which was then being built, but the next year he located in Joliet and began business as a contractor and quarryman. He erected many of the prominent buildings of this city, among them the Will County Jail, the Union Schoolhouse, the West Side Presbyterian Church, St. Mary's Catholic Church and others.

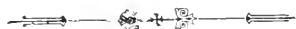
In 1856, William Werner was elected Commissioner of Highways and Treasurer, serving three years. In 1861, he became a member of the Board of Aldermen, serving in that august body four years. He also served on the Board of Supervisors seven years. During the late war he was Draft Commissioner, having been appointed in 1863. His wife was Miss Barbara Goebel, a native of Prussia, with whom he was united in holy wedlock September 7, 1853. The union was blessed by the birth of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch

is the youngest. The other members of the family circle are Frederick W. Werner, M. D., Frederick Charles, a harness-maker; and George W., a veterinary surgeon.

Dr. Werner's portrait will be found accompanying his personal sketch.



JAMES E. AUSTIN was born in Preble County, Ohio, May 7, 1825.



**E**L. SHAFFNER. The subject of this notice established himself in Joliet as a coal dealer about thirteen years since and is now located at No. 501, Washington Street. Formerly he was in partnership with his father, they operating under the firm name of B. Shaffner & Son, but for the last seven years Mr. Shaffner has done business alone. His yard is conveniently located near the tracks of the Alton and the Illinois Central Railroads, also the Santa Fe tracks. He has proved himself a good business manager and has built up an extensive patronage.

A native of Joliet, our subject was born October 1, 1852, and is the son of Benjamin Shaffner, who was born in Summit County, Ohio, in 1825. The latter came with his parents to this county about the year 1850, they locating in Manhattan Township. Grandfather Shaffner took up a track of Government land and there Benjamin lived with his parents until the time of his marriage. The maiden of his choice was Miss Caroline Larkin, of this county, and they commenced the journey of life together on a farm in Jackson Township, where they resided until their son E. L. was about five years old. Benjamin Shaffner then sold out and removed to Joliet where he commenced working at his trade of carpenter and finally drifted into wagon and carriage making. He also embarked in the grocery and provision business and finally became interested in the coal trade. He was prospered financially, and retired from the active labors

of life about 1883. He and his excellent partner are still residents of Joliet, occupying a comfortable home. Mr. Shaffner has been for many years a member of the Masonic fraternity, and in politics he is a Republican.

The subject of this sketch acquired his education in the schools of his native city and commenced his business career as an employe of the Joliet Iron & Steel Company. He rapidly advanced in the good opinion of his employers, being placed in the position of foreman, and having charge of the pay roll for about five years. About 1877 he engaged with his father in the coal trade with which he has since been connected. He added ice in 1886 and has several houses for the accommodation of this article, two on the east and two on the west side, and one in his yard. He usually obtains this from quarries, but this season (1890) is shipping from Winnebago, Wis.

Mr. Shaffner was married, January 22, 1877, to Miss Amanda Stanley, and they become the parents of four children, viz: Edwin Stanley, Frances M., Benjamin Francis and Lottie A., who died at the age of five years. The wife and mother departed this life May 13, 1885, at the age of thirty years. She was the daughter of Francis G. Stanley.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married May 18, 1886, was formerly Miss Martha J. George, of Doylestown, Ohio. She is the daughter of John George, who was formerly a resident of Joliet. There has been born of this union one child, a daughter, Clara Belle.



**C**ONRAD WILKENING. The subject of this sketch was born in 1856, in the township of Crete, attended the common schools until the age of fourteen, at which time he entered a general store in the village of Crete, and there by his aptness soon learned the rudiments of the business that in after years made him successful. Not being satisfied to enter the business world without a better knowledge of its methods, he took a course of study in the best business college of Chicago, graduating with honor. He at once secured a re-

sponsible position in one of the oldest commission houses of Chicago, which he filled with credit until 1880, when he located on the present site of his place of business at the corner of Main and Exchange Streets, under the firm name of C. Wilkening & Co. The building they then occupied was an ordinary sized general store, and was soon found to be altogether too small to accommodate the stock of merchandise they desired to place before the people of Eastern Will County. It was then moved south to give place for a building of brick, stone and iron, 51x60, two stories and basement, with fire and burglar proof vault and gallery on first floor.

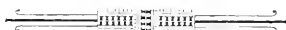
The establishment is one of which the citizens of Crete are and well may be proud, and is generally conceded by travelers to be the most nicely arranged store to be found in the country, containing the largest and best assortment of merchandise, and arranged in departments. In addition they transact quite an extensive banking and exchange business. In all of this work he has been ably assisted by his father, John Wilkening, an early settler of the township, and his younger brother Fred. He was united in marriage to Miss Ida Riebling, of Pittsburg, Pa., in May, 1890, and is at present erecting an elegant residence, and will soon be able to say "at home" to his many friends.



ALEXANDER DOIG, who is identified with the agricultural interests of New Lenox Township, is the ninth child of Andrew and Isabella Doig, whose history will be found in the sketch of Thomas Doig. He was born in Washington, D. C., October 17, 1841, and came to this county with the parental family, who settled in Homer Township. When about twenty-one years old he married, the happy event taking place December 31, 1862, and the bride being Miss Sarah C., daughter of the late Gilbert Van Duser. The maiden name of the bride's mother was Ann M. Lynx. She is now the wife of Thomas Doig, Mr. Van Duser having died April 12, 1852.

Mrs. Doig of this sketch is the elder in a family

of two children and was born in New Lenox Township, November 26, 1842. She has borne her husband four children named respectively, Melissa L., Grace B., Sadie and Gilbert A. The third born died in childhood. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Doig settled on Maple Street, in New Lenox Township, where they have spent the greater part of their married life. Their pleasant homestead comprises sixty-three acres, on which good buildings have been erected and other improvements made. For nine years Mr. Doig was engaged in the livery business and during that time was a dweller in town. In politics he is a sturdy Democrat. He has served as School Director, but with this exception has devoted his time entirely to his personal affairs.



AMOS EIB is the owner and occupant of a pleasant and fertile estate on section 7, Jackson Township, the same comprising one hundred and eighty-five acres. Upon it are to be seen the usual farm buildings, but of better construction than many, while the appearance of fields, fences and stock give the impression that Mr. Eib understands tilling the soil and caring for the produce of his fields and the increase of his herds.

The birthplace of Mr. Eib was Harrison County, Va., and his natal day July 29, 1823. He was a child of four years when his parents removed to Columbus, Ohio, two years later, the location of the family being changed to Fountain County, Ind. There they remained until 1833, when they came to this county and the youth of our subject was spent amid pioneer surroundings in the township of which he is an honored resident. The mother had died in Columbus, Ohio, and the father breathed his last in this county at the home of his son.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Catherine Gonter took place in Jackson Township, March 28, 1851. The bride was born in the province of Alsace, at that time a part of France, but now belonging to the German Empire, in April, 1831. Her parents, Michael and Catherine (Arnholt) Gonter, made a

settlement in Will County in 1849, and the father died in Jackson Township. The mother survives, now residing with her daughter, Mrs. William Brown.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Eibare, Levi H., a resident of Minden, Neb.; George W., a farmer in California; Albert N., a farmer of Jackson Township; Clara E., wife of Albert Cotton, and Susan B., wife of Alvin Spangler of Jackson Township. Mr. Eib has been School Director. In politics he is a good Democrat. He is held in good repute by his fellow-men as a reliable citizen, an industrious farmer and a man of kindly nature and upright life.



**ELLEN P. CARPENTER.** This gentleman has done much to forward the business interests of Will County, and as one who is disposed to support all measures tending toward the continuation of its prosperity, he is well worthy of representation in this volume. He bought a number of acres of land in Channahon, lying along the Wide Water Canal, as early as 1865, which, aside from its value as a farm, is one of the most beautiful places along the route from this township to Joliet.

Mr. Carpenter was born January 27, 1834. He was reared in the place of his birth until he was nineteen years old, and then came to Will County, where his brother Henry and a sister, Lucinda, were then living. His brother is a carpenter and still a resident of Joliet. His sister was the wife of Dr. G. Randall. Of his other brothers and sisters the following is the record: Mary A. was the wife of Thomas Logan and died in Springfield, Ill.; Wilber lives in Joliet; Charles in Dakota; Lucinda in Kansas, and a sister resides in Iowa. Alfred Carpenter, the father of our subject was a resident of this county in 1849, and died just before our subject came here in 1853.

Our subject taught school in Joliet in 1853, for one winter, and in the summer of 1851 went back to New York. Returning to this part of the country in the fall, in the following January he was united in marriage with Miss Helen Spencer and established a home. He lived on his farm in Channahon Town-

ship for three years, then was a resident of Troy for two years, and in 1860 commenced buying grain in Minooka, at the landing of the Wide Water Canal, and was thus engaged the ensuing five years, shipping both by canal and rail. In 1865 he turned his attention to farming, and bought one hundred and seventeen acres of land lying along the Wide Water Canal, his warehouse being just across the canal. He immediately moved into his residence there and has since made it one of the finest in the vicinity. In the adornment of the grounds he has been greatly assisted by Mrs. Carpenter's taste and skill. She is a great lover of flowers and has a garden in which are many choice varieties of roses and other beautiful plants, all of which are tended by her careful hand.

In 1868 Mr. Carpenter formed a partnership with Mr. Truby to buy and sell grain and lumber, with their headquarters at Joliet and Birds Bridge, the business being conducted under the firm name of Carpenter & Truby. They were together for some years and built up a large business, keeping their own line of boats in the summer on the canal, and in winter shipping by rail on the Rock Island Railroad, which runs close by their warehouse. These gentlemen were together until 1875, and then our subject sold out his interest to Mr. Truby, and has since lived on his farm. He has added to his original purchase seventy-one acres, on which is a good residence, which he uses as a tenement house, as he rents all of his land. Mr. Carpenter devotes his time to looking after his interest, investing his money as he sees fit and, as he is of a speculative turn of mind, he has taken many a bout with the bulls and bears on the Board of Trade in Chicago. Mrs. Carpenter was born in the city of Chicago, her parents being Thomas and Sarah A. (Van Dusen) Spencer. Her mother was a daughter of John Bingham, and they were all of New York. She came to Will County in 1834 with her husband. Mr. Spencer subsequently died in Kendall County when Mrs. Carpenter was but four years of age, her mother died in 1888 in Chicago, at the age of seventy-eight years. Mrs. Carpenter is a lady of no ordinary intelligence and attainments, and she has endeared herself to her many acquaintances by her pleasant ways and kindly acts.

Mr. Carpenter is one of the most influential and trusted citizens, and is a man of brain, decided character, and admirable tact. He is one of the most efficient civic officials, and through his liberality and public spirit this community has been benefited in more ways than one. He is now serving his third term of three years as Highway Commissioner of the township, having been re-elected last spring. He is also Treasurer of the township, having served in that office with distinguished ability for the last six years, and received his re-appointment last spring. He takes an active part in politics, and is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. Although not a member of any religious organization, he has served as Trustee of the church, which his wife attends, for the past fifteen years.

The chief sorrow of the otherwise happy wedded life of our subject and his wife has been in the death of their two children, a boy and a girl in infancy. But life's lesson may have taught them that it is better,

"Far better to smile with a deep content  
O'er their darlings quietly sleeping,  
O'er their little ones safe from all that can harm,  
Safe and quietly sleeping.

"The sun comes up and the sun goes down  
On sorrow and sin and aching,  
And to all the evil that's in the world  
Their darlings will know no waking."

**E**LDER STEPHEN R. BEGGS, the oldest preacher of the Methodist denomination in Northern Illinois, and an old-time and honored resident of Plainfield, was born on a farm in Rockingham County, Va., March 30, 1801, a son of James Beggs, who was born in the same county in 1768. Thomas Beggs, the grandfather of our subject was born in New Jersey, and James Beggs, his father, who was of Irish birth, came to this country in Colonial times and settled in that State. The grandfather of our subject was reared and married in his native State, Sarah Barnes becoming his wife, and before the breaking out of the Revolution,

migrated to Rockingham, Va. He joined the patriot army and became an officer of the Commissary Department and died in the service in 1779, or '80.

The father of our subject was reared and married in Rockingham County, and resided there until 1802, when he removed to Kentucky making the journey on horseback, his wife also riding on a horse and carrying Stephen in her lap. They resided in Kentucky three years and then settled in Clarke County, Ind., where Mr. Beggs cleared a farm from the timber and made it his home until his death May 13, 1835. His remains are buried in the Gazaway church yard. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Mary Custer, and she was born in Virginia and of English ancestry. The father of our subject was a Whig and was a member of the Indiana Territorial Senate for ten years. He and his wife both belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church. The latter died July 7, 1833. They were the parents of five sons and four daughters.

The subject of this sketch was set to work on a farm as soon as he was large enough to be of any assistance. In his younger days Indians still lingered in Indiana and were often hostile, and when the news of the Pigeon Roost massacre reached the settlement, all gathered at his father's and built a fortification around the house. They remained in that several days and then built block houses in different places. Our subject was early instructed in religion, and at the age of nineteen was converted, and at twenty-two commenced preaching at his father's home. In the same fall he joined the Missouri Conference that then embraced all of Illinois, Indiana, Missouri and Arkansas. He remained in Indiana until the fall of 1830, and then was appointed to the Tazewell Circuit, which included Peoria, Bloomington and Pekin. At that time there were three families residing on the present site of Bloomington, then called Blooming Grove, at Peoria not more than half a dozen families, and all the surrounding country was wild and unsettled. In July, 1831, he went to the village of Chicago and organized the first Methodist Church ever started there and he was the first minister ever stationed at that point. In 1832 he came to Plainfield and has called this his home since that time,

though he has lived away from here one or two years at a time while preaching at different places. In 1831 he held a camp meeting at Walker's Grove, as Plainfield was then called, the first held in this section.

Elder Beggs has been twice married, first in September, 1831, to Elizabeth L. Heath, a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, and she died April 7, 1866. His second marriage, December 30, 1868, was to Sarah R. (Dibble) Frost, a native of New York State. Our subject was the father of four children by his first marriage, Mary E., James W., George W. and Charles W.



**J**AMES JONES. The late James Jones deserves more than a passing notice, not because he acquired a solid financial standing, but because his home in Manhattan Township was a resort for many of the best people of the county, and because his personal traits of heart and mind gave him the respect and affection of all who became acquainted with his good qualities. He was one of those whole-hearted men who are ever ready to give liberally of their means, as well as of their time and energy, to all movements for the public good, and who, while having special likes in church or party, give honor to whom honor is due and display no bigotry. Modest and unpretending, he was yet one of the finest scholars in the county, excelling particularly in penmanship.

The father of our subject was Robert Jones, whose family consisted of three sons and three daughters; he was a native of Delaware, in which State his boyhood was spent. When he became a man he went to New York City and engaged in the mercantile business, becoming prosperous and finally carrying on a wholesale clothing house; importing the finest goods from abroad. In 1830 he came West to look after some investments, driving in a carriage from New York City and bringing his boys with him. In Chicago they found no boarding house but a shanty, were obliged to pay twelve and a half cents for a pail of water, and to buy bread to feed the horses and cattle which they had

brought with them. Mr. Jones had invested in Illinois lands, owning large tracts in various counties. He also continued his business in New York City, where he breathed his last.

The members of the parental family are: Sarah, now living in New York City; Anna, who died in 1872; Maria, living in New York; Frederick, formerly a merchant in that city, who died in 1875; James, our subject, and Robert, who came to Will County when our subject did, owned and operated three hundred and twenty acres of land here, but finally returned to the metropolis, where he died in 1889.

James Jones was born in New York City in the year 1820. During his boyhood and youth he sometimes accompanied his father to the West, enjoying the journey and the scenes which they encountered, as a bright boy can. He became a cadet at West Point and was graduated from the Military Academy at the age of twenty-one years. His father then started him in life with \$150,000 which he invested in ships, establishing a line which plied across the ocean. For several years he gave his time and attention to the shipping business.

One of his best vessels went down with all on board, and refitting another he sent it out under charge of a captain who had been highly recommended to him, for the purpose of trading his cargo for other goods in Africa. The captain sold the goods, reloaded the vessel with a return cargo, for which he did not pay, and absconded with his employer's money. News was sent to Mr. Jones, who at once crossed the ocean, visited the Governor of the place, but found that he could do nothing in the premises, as the absconder had fled into the interior. Returning with his cargo Mr. Jones determined to abandon the sea, and so embarked in the wholesale crockery, glass and pottery business with a partner.

The junior member of the firm of Jones & Decker ere long succeeded in getting funds into his hands, with which he ran away, and our subject became so disgusted with his experiences that he determined to come West. His good nature and leniency had proved his financial enemies, as they do that of many a man in a world which contains so many sharpers. Telling his father of his desire





as a soldier, he returned to the pursuits of agriculture in the southern part of this county.

In 1870, Mr. Hentze went to Dakota, where he continued his agricultural labors seven years. Having been seriously tormented by grasshoppers, he determined to leave the field to the insect hordes and returned to the Prairie State. He secured employment with Monroe & Sons in Joliet, retaining his position ten years, after which he spent two years in the employ of Monroe & Seaver. His next enterprise was to assume the management of the hotel over which he still has charge. He is a Republican and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

An important event in the life of our subject was his marriage, April 9, 1856, to Miss Ann E. Pelton, who has proved her worth as a wife and mother and is respected by her acquaintances. They are the parents of three children—Henry A., a painter in Joliet; William J., manager of the hotel; and Anna S., who assists in the oversight of the affairs of the hotel.



**W**ILLIAM A. NICOLAUS. Among the enterprising firms of the city of Joliet, none are more so than that of Nachbour & Nicolaus. Young in years, its members have thoroughly imbibed the spirit of progress characteristic of the age, and furnish models of what may be accomplished by persistent effort and close application to business. Their dry-goods establishment, occupying the lower floor of the Barber building, (the best in the city), is a model in systematic arrangement, completeness in everything which goes to make such an establishment first class, and would reflect credit upon the efforts of dealers in much larger cities. The success of the young men is in many respects phenomenal. From an humble beginning they have steadily advanced to the management of a large and constantly increasing business.

The subject of this sketch was born in Muscatine County, Iowa, December 23, 1861. His father, Henry J. Nicolaus, a grain dealer, possessed sys-

tematic business habits which were imparted to his children. He died November 1, 1872. His widow now lives in Wilton, surrounded by her children, with the exception of the subject of this sketch, having three sons and one daughter near her. She bore the maiden name of Margaret Frenzel, indicative of the German origin of her ancestors. The boyhood of our subject was passed in the quiet of home life until he reached the age of fourteen years, when he began laying the foundation for his future success, by becoming a clerk in a dry-goods establishment where he remained six years.

At the expiration of this time, young Nicolaus visited Chicago looking for a suitable location, and from that city came to Joliet in September, 1883. Engaging as clerk with a firm here, he acted in that capacity until the following January, when he became a partner in the business, the firm name being changed to Nachbour & Nicolaus, under which the business is still conducted. Mr. Nicolaus takes great interest in everything calculated to promote the welfare and prosperity of the city and the country contiguous thereto. He and his partner take just pride in owning some of the best horses to be found in Northern Illinois.

Mr. Nicolaus set up his own household on January 10, 1883, when he was united in marriage with Miss Louella L., daughter of L. L. Lane, of Muscatine, Iowa. This pleasing and intelligent lady invests their dwelling with the attributes of true home life, making of it the center of their social existence. Mr. and Mrs. Nicolaus are the happy parents of one child.



**J**EROME DOXTADER, whose life work has been farming, owns and occupies a valuable tract of land on section 21, New Lenox Township, in addition to which he owns property in the village of New Lenox. In a quiet and unassuming manner Mr. Doxtader has pursued his way in life, conscientiously discharging the duties which lay in his pathway, accumulating a comfortable share of this world's goods, and gaining esteem from all who know him.

From honorable German ancestry Mr. Doxtader derives the sterling traits of his character. His parents, John J. and Phebe B. (Dillenbach) Doxtader, were natives of Montgomery County, N. Y., in which they also departed this life. They had nine children, of whom their son Jerome was the youngest. He was born in the same county as his parents, his natal day being November 1, 1829. His life until his twenty-third year was spent in his native county, pursuing the opportunities afforded him for acquiring an education, and the agricultural work which he chose as his vocation. In the fall of 1851 he came to the Prairie State, and choosing a location in New Lenox Township, this county, has since resided here.

One of the most important steps in the life of Mr. Doxtader was consummated October 23, 1858, when in this township he became the husband of Delia Hartshorn. This lady is a daughter of David and Fannie (Mellen) Hartshorn, and was born in this township about 1810. She was a good woman, faithful to her duties as wife and mother, and exhibiting toward neighbors and acquaintances the kindness of a gentle nature and Christian spirit. She entered into rest July 24, 1878, mourned by a large circle of friends.

To Mr. and Mrs. Doxtader three children were born, namely, Willard E., John D., who died when nineteen years old; and Lydia L., who is now teaching in New Lenox. They received good advantages in the way of education and home training, and the surviving son and daughter are doing credit to the name they bear. Mr. Doxtader is a member of the Congregational Church, in the faith of which his wife died. He believes that the principles embodied in the Democratic platform are those best adapted to the needs of the people, and he therefore supports them with his voice and vote.



**A** M. CULVER, Superintendent and Manager of the Ashley Wire Works, in Joliet, is well known here and highly respected for his sobriety, honesty and industry. His career has not been devoid of exciting incidents,

and he has been "in perils oft" on fields of carnage and in dangerous campaigns, while even the peaceful arts he has pursued have not been without some liability to accidents.

Mr. Culver was born in Cazenovia, N. Y., May 18, 1812, and is of honorable ancestry. His grandfather, Col. Richard Culver, was a brave officer of the War of 1812. His mother belonged to the illustrious family that gave to our country "Old Tippecanoe" and our present honored President. The father, Richard R. Culver, was a merchant in Buffalo until 1819, when he disposed of his stock and removed to Wisconsin, engaging in farming until his death, in 1852. The farm was then sold and the family made their home in Waukesha, where Mrs. Paulina (Harrison) Culver died.

The education of him of whom we write was obtained in the public schools, and he began life as a harness-maker. He remained in Waukesha until 1856, when he came to Joliet. In 1861, at the first sound of the war-cry, he returned to his former home and enlisted in Company F, Fifth Wisconsin Infantry, under Capt. Irving Beam and Col. Cobb. The regiment was at once called into active service in the Army of the Potomac, and with that part of the Union forces went on the Peninsular campaign. At Williamsburg Mr. Culver was wounded in both legs and head, and received a furlough, subsequently being discharged on account of the injuries.

Too patriotic to remain at home while the country was still in danger, Mr. Culver re-enlisted after a partial recovery, joining the Third Wisconsin Cavalry, in Company D. With that body he was sent into the dangerous regions infested with bushwhackers, where many a deed of daring was done and many a hazardous journey performed by the brave men, to whom capture meant certain death. He was present at Pilot Knob and Independence, and made one of the band that captured Gen. Marmaduke, "the lion of the jungle." The tireless band to which Mr. Culver belonged followed Price to the Arkansas River and then turned to scatter Quantrell's guerrillas. After the war was ended and the rebels had laid down their arms, they were detailed to guard Gen. Butterfield during the construction of the route through the moun-

tains past Denver. Mr. Culver then rode back to Madison, Wis., and received an honorable discharge.

Coming back to Joliet, Mr. Culver engaged in roofing for a brief period, following which he was with the American Sewing Machine Company as general manager five years. After a season in the rolling mills he was requested by Oliver Bros., of Pittsburg, who had bought the plant of Seutt & Co., to take charge of a division in the Smoky City, and did so, moving to that place. He remained there three years and six months and then acceded to a personal request to return to Joliet and take charge of the Ashley Wire Works. The responsible position he then assumed he is still holding, satisfying his employers and pleasing his patrons.

In Joliet, in 1866, Mr. Culver was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Dice, a worthy woman, who lived until 1872. To them were born: Lewis E., who died in 1876; Charles; and Willie, who died in 1875. After the death of his first wife Mr. Culver remained a widower until June 11, 1882, when he led to the hymeneal altar Miss Catharine Green, a lady of great worth of character and many womanly accomplishments. She has borne him a winsome daughter, Ida Nettie, whose natal day was April 25, 1889. Mr. Culver is a member of Post No. 2, U. V. U., and holds the office of Lieutenant Colonel. He was reared to a belief in the tenets of the Baptist Church, and to it gives his support and personal influence. His wife also attends that church.



**J**AMES CURRY GRADY, of Joliet, was born in Dublin, Ireland, November 26, 1836, and spent his early years near his birthplace. Young Grady learned the trade of a mechanical engineer. He came to America in 1858, his first sojourn being at Portland, Me., whence he went to Toronto, Canada, and thence to Chicago, Ill., in 1861. He took a position on the Illinois Central Railroad, remaining in the Garden City until 1863, when he entered the employ of the Chicago & Al-

ton road, in whose service he has been continuously since that date. In 1864 he removed to Joliet, in which city he has since made his home. During these twenty-seven years of employment by the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company, Mr. Grady has been on all the branches of the system, and has drawn all kinds of trains. A still more remarkable fact connected with his career, is that he has never had an accident.

Mr. Grady is a son of Henry Grady, a native of Galway, Ireland. His parents came to Chicago by the way of New Orleans. The Southern branch of the family produced Henry Grady of Atlanta, Ga., the noted orator and journalist whose recent death was mourned far and wide.

Miss Ann Blake, a native of his own birthplace, won the esteem of Mr. Grady, and his wooing having proven successful, they were joined in holy wedlock according to the ritual of the Church of England, January 10, 1856, in Clonmel Parish, County Tipperary, Ireland. Their happy union has been blessed by the birth of nine children—Elizabeth, Henry, Will, John, Annie, Mary, Rosabel, Mabel, and James. The three eldest are married; Henry is a passenger conductor for the Union Pacific and Oregon Navigation Company, having risen through successive promotions; he is one of the most trusted railroad men on the Pacific Slope; his home is at Umatilla, Ore. Will is with the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railroad; John is Superintendent of the machinery in an extensive manufactory in Anderson, Ind. All the children were given excellent educations in the Joliet High School, and Annie is now a teacher in that institution, while Rosa was accorded the honor of being chosen a teacher immediately on graduation. Mary evinces a decided musical talent, and makes that her speciality.

Mr. and Mrs. Grady are members of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Grady has passed through the Masonic ranks of the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery. He enjoys the legitimate result of a life of honor and industry in the respect of his fellow-men, and the comforts of a cozy home on Eastern Avenue, presided over by a capable housekeeper, and blessed by the presence of cultured children and friends.

**H**ENRY SPANGLER. A stranger would not be in this county long without hearing the name which stands at the head of this biographical notice, and learning that it is the cognomen of a prominent citizen of Jackson Township, and one who is widely known throughout the county. At present this gentleman holds the office of Supervisor, a position in which he has served his fellow-men for several years, his continuance in it proving conclusively that the duties have been discharged in a satisfactory manner. This is not the only public capacity in which Mr. Spangler has acted. In 1882 he was elected County Treasurer, and for four years his financial ability and integrity were made useful in that capacity.

Pennsylvania was the native State of David Spangler and Amelia Batey, who became man and wife, and reared a family of nine children. They removed to Summit County, Ohio, in which the latter years of their life were spent. There their youngest child was born February 26, 1837, he being the gentleman of whom we write. He remained in his native State until he was twenty years old, in the meantime becoming well versed in the management of a farm, as his father was an agriculturist, and acquiring a good education.

Upon leaving his native State, Mr. Spangler repaired to this county, and at once made a settle-

ment on section 12, Jackson Township, engaging in agricultural pursuits. So successful have been his labors, that he now owns five hundred and sixty acres in Jackson and Manhattan Townships, and has an assured financial standing. Every detail of the work carried on upon his place is under careful oversight, and every part of the large estate evinces the taste and ability of the owner. A full line of buildings may be seen thereon, all substantial and well designed, while stock and machinery are excellent and sufficient in number and quantity.

The pleasant home of Mr. Spangler is presided over by a lady whose intelligence and grace add to the attractions of the hospitable dwelling. She was known in her maidenhood as Miss Rachael Grove, and was a native of Summit County, Ohio, in which her marriage to our subject took place. Mr. and Mrs. Spangler have four living children, named respectively: Samuel M., Ellery G., Alvin O., and Dora A. They mourn the loss of a daughter, Almada M., who died at the age of nine years. Mr. Spangler is a Democrat, and has taken quite an active part in political affairs. The family is regarded as a credit to the section in which they reside, and were a wish expressed regarding them, it would be that they might long continue their residence here, as their present health promises will be the case.







ONE of the most important factors in the business development and prosperity of a city, county or State, is its railroad communications. A retrospection of the history of the South Platte Country since the advent of railroad facilities, will convince the careful observer of the immense benefit resulting from the introduction of this essential adjunct of commercial enterprise. The following brief sketches of the leading railroads of this section of the great commonwealth will form an interesting feature of this ALBUM. It may be remarked in this connection that the roads referred to are not only the important corporations of Kansas, but stand among the first in the Nation.

#### Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific

IS among the oldest and most important trunk lines, having Chicago for its eastern terminus—the completion of this road in Illinois marked an important era in the development of the northern and western portion of the State, as well as contributing to the upbuilding of many thriving

manufacturing cities on its line—notably Joliet, Moline, Rock Island and Davenport; also with its two branches extending to Peoria, has opened up good markets for the extensive coal and agricultural resources of that locality, likewise giving a rapid impetus to the commercial and manufacturing resources of Peoria. Moline (except Chicago), is probably the most important and extensive manufacturing city on the line, and through the enterprise of the great Rock Island Route it has been enabled to lay down its manufactured wares to the farmers of Southern Iowa, Northern Missouri and Kansas, cheaper than by any other road, and the vast lumber interests of the cities of Rock Island and Davenport have by means of this line been enabled to reach the most important, as well as the most remote, places in Kansas. The Rock Island has always been in the very van of railroad progress; while always solid and substantial, yet it has ever been steadily and constantly building new lines and extending its system until it now ramifies into the best regions of the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys. Its lines extending to Denver, Colorado Springs, and other points in Colorado, offer unsurpassed facilities, to the tourist or man of business for elegant and comfortable traveling; its superb dining cars have among travelers made it renowned as among the best roads of the West. In brief the Rock Island Company has by a judicious system of permanent improvements, and by the in-

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roduction of all modern appliances which tend to the preservation of life and property, placed itself in such a condition, materially and physically, that its financial future cannot be affected by the contingencies which seriously affect other roads. Its success as one of the great highways of the West is an assured reality. It might be appropriately noted here that while much of this road's past success may be attributed to its admirable geographical location, embracing a very rich section of the country for local traffic, and with a terminus on Lake Michigan, the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers and Denver, the heart of the Rocky Mountain regions, equally as much is due to the stability of the management, and to the fact that the property has never yet become the foot-ball of speculators. It is not surprising that the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific has maintained a firm position as an investment in the moneyed centers of the world, and it has acquired a well-merited popularity with the traveling and shipping public. Its steel rails and well ballasted road-bed have long since made it the favorite with shippers, and its freight traffic is immense and growing. At Council Bluffs and Omaha, connections are made with all roads centering there. It is the most direct and shortest route between Omaha and Chicago—and hence the favorite of shippers. At Davenport a branch diverges to the Southwest, and extends to Kansas City, Leavenworth, Atchison and St. Joseph.

At St. Joseph the road crosses the Missouri and enters Kansas; at Horton the line diverges and extends up into Nebraska as far as Nelson; from Fairbury, Neb., the line extends through Northern Kansas to Denver, and Colorado Springs. From Horton the line leads in a southwesterly direction through Topeka, the capital of the State; thence to Herington, Hutchinson and to Liberal, the latter place on the line of the Indian Territory. At McFarland a spur extends in a northwestern direction through Manhattan and Clay Center to Belleville, where a junction is made with the main line to Denver, Col.; at Herington a short branch goes to Abilene and Salina. From Herington the line passes south through Wichita and Wellington to Caldwell, on the line of the Indian Territory.

With its accustomed energy this road was the

first to complete its line into the Oklahoma country, passing through Kingfisher, and having El Reno for its Southern terminus.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ROAD.

The whole number of miles operated by the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway at the present time, including second tracks and sidings, is about four thousand and ninety-three miles. The main track mileage in the following States is: Illinois, 236 miles; Iowa, 1,066.10; Missouri, 286.70; Kansas, 1,147.37; Nebraska, 140.97; Colorado, 376.06; and Indian Territory, 106.75—186.70 second track, and about 565.45 side track.

This company has a contract for joint use of track with the Hannibal & St. Joseph between Kansas City and Cameron Junction; with the Union Pacific Railway from Kansas City to North Topeka, also from Linon to Denver; and with the Denver & Rio Grande between Denver and Pueblo.

The principal shops of this company are located at Chicago, Ill.; Rock Island, Ill.; Stewart, Iowa; Trenton, Mo.; Horton and Goodland, Kan.; and Roswell, Colo. Solid trains, carrying all classes of passengers, are run through between Chicago, Denver, Pueblo, Colorado Springs, via St. Joseph, Kansas City and Topeka; through trains to Wichita, El Reno (Et. Reno), Hutchinson, Dodge City, Salina and Abilene. The line is equipped with first-class baggage, mail, smoking cars and coaches; chair cars of the latest improved pattern of chairs, and Pullman Palace Sleeping Cars. Dining cars are now running on all through passenger trains between Colorado points and Chicago, and also between Council Bluffs and Chicago, and eating-houses are located at convenient points on all divisions for the accommodation of local trains. It is contemplated to establish dining-car service on the whole line, in the near future. In regard to freight traffic, the management has a comprehensive system of through cars and way-billing to all prominent points in the West, Northwest and Southwest. Having their own rails between Chicago, Peoria and Kansas City, St. Joseph, Omaha and Denver, no delays or transfers between Chicago and any of these points. Also run through cars to the Pacific Coast via all lines having terminals on the coast.



Less than car-load shipments to all prominent points in through cars, thus avoiding transfers and delay. Special attention is paid to live stock from all points on the line. At present there is one hundred and eighty-seven miles of double track being operated, one hundred and eighty-one miles of which is located in Illinois, between Chicago and Rock Island; the balance in Iowa, from Davenport to what is known as Double Track Junction, about six miles west of Davenport on the Council Bluff line.

The experience of the past has clearly demonstrated that whatever is undertaken by the managers of the Rock Island is not merely done, but done well, that they possess to an almost unlimited extent the confidence of Eastern and European capitalists, and that they are remarkably shrewd and far-seeing in anything which affects the present or the future interests of their property.

It will be observed that all the great leading marts of trade in Kansas are tapped by this road, thereby giving to that portion of the West a strong and substantial competitive market with the great Eastern commercial centers.



#### Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway.

**P**OPULARLY known as the Santa Fe Route. The initial lines of this great system were first built from Atchison to Topeka, in 1869, and for many years the former city was the Eastern terminus of the road. The management of the Santa Fe, with wonderful energy, pushed out its lines in every direction into the young and growing State of Kansas, and in the majority of instances preceding settlement and civilization. This road was the first to penetrate across the southern part of Colorado, via Pueblo and Trinidad into New Mexico, until its lines penetrated the old adobe town of Santa Fe, whose citizens were half Spanish and half Mexican. As its course penetrated the wilderness it sometimes followed the old Santa Fe Trail, and generally not far distant at any time from the "trail" which had

been made famous years before by trappers and also by the Government freighters. The marvelous growth and development of the State of Kansas is in a great measure due to the enterprise and public spirit of the managers of the Santa Fe System. Not only did they devote their energy to the upbuilding of the road, but at great expense they maintained emigration and Colonial agents in the various countries of Europe, as well as in the Eastern, Middle and Southern States, thereby advertising the State of Kansas as no other State has heretofore been done. Its climate, its soil and great advantages to the home seeker were at times fully portrayed by the enterprise of this road—every fostering care was given to the stock and ranch men, to the merchant, the mechanic and the manufacturer to settle in Kansas—as a result we have here a State in the center of the Union, of boundless agricultural resources, settled by a wide-awake, enterprising and prosperous people. The Santa Fe owns and operates more miles of road in Kansas than any other line, with its vast system of East and West, North and South lines reaching every important town in the State, and penetrating sixty-three counties in Kansas. The magnitude of its business is immense. Its lines beginning at the Missouri River towns in Kansas are St. Joseph, Atchison, Leavenworth and Kansas City; extends south to Coffeyville, Arkansas City, Hunnewell, Caldwell, New Kiowa (thence to the Pan Handle of Texas), and north to Superior, in Nebraska; Concordia, Clay Center, Minneapolis, and other Northern Kansas cities. Its main lines and branches reach nearly every important city in the State. St. Joseph, on the Missouri side of the river, has a population of nearly one hundred thousand, and its wholesale trade is heavy throughout the West. Atchison is a growing city of about twenty thousand people; the Soldiers' Orphans Home of the State is located here. Leavenworth, with her thirty thousand people, is an important manufacturing center. Leavenworth was the earliest famous city of Kansas, as it was the original outfitting point for travel and traffic across the plains. The Kansas system may be described as a main east and west line, over four hundred miles in length, with branch lines extending in every direction where an area of

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particularly rich country, or some other special advantages invited a line of rails.

The road from Topeka, after 1869, was extended west and south, and then east to Kansas City by purchase of a line built by another company. From Kansas City, in 1887-88 the line was extended to Chicago, under the name of the Chicago, Santa Fe & California Road; in 1887, also the purchase of the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Road, and the extension of the Kansas lines through the Indian Territory to Texas, gave the company a line to the Gulf of Mexico. So that at the present time the Santa Fe system proper begins at Chicago, passes through Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Indian Territory, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, and has for its Southern terminals Galveston, on the Gulf of Mexico, and El Paso, on the Mexican frontier; and for its Western terminals San Diego and Los Angeles, on the Pacific Coast, (San Francisco being practically a Pacific-Coast terminal, as it is reached via Mojave, over the tracks of the Southern Pacific Railway); and for its Northern terminals Chicago, St. Joseph, Mo., Superior, Neb., and Denver, the capital of Colorado.

Chicago to Kansas City is practically an air line, being the most straight and direct of any road between the two cities. It passes through a large number of important towns in Illinois, including Joliet, with its great steel works, and other manufacturing interests. The next important place is Streator, a few miles south of the latter place; a branch extends to the thriving city of Pekin, on the Illinois River. From Streator the main line crosses the Illinois at Chillicothe, and extends through Peoria and Knox Counties to the beautiful and enterprising city of Galesburg, here it comes in competition with several lines of the Burlington System; thence running in a southwesterly direction through a rich and populous section, crossing the Mississippi at Ft. Madison, on a magnificent steel bridge. Here the company have established shops, that being the terminus of the two operating divisions of the road. From Ft. Madison by a spur Keokuk is reached. The line through Missouri shows very heavy construction work, made to secure what was desired in the way

of distance and grades. Along the Santa Fe new towns are springing up, and new industries are being developed. Twenty miles east of Kansas City the Missouri River is crossed by a steel bridge, so that the line enters Kansas City on the south side of the river. From Kansas City to Topeka the line runs on the South bank of the Kansas River; at Wilder and Holliday are points for the departure of branch lines—one northwest to Atchison, and the other southwest through Ottawa and Southern Kansas, being known as the Southern Kansas division of the Santa Fe System. From Lawrence to Topeka the road is still in the Kansas Valley, through a veritable garden. Native trees of great height overhang the railway here and there, and in the spring and summer the crops look green and luxuriant. The approach to Topeka is through the long yards, and by the vast machine shops of the Santa Fe Company, across various broad streets to a commodious brick station.

The general offices of the road are in Topeka, and occupy a handsome and commodious building near the State capitol. From Topeka to Denver the Santa Fe Route runs for about seventy-five miles in a southwesterly direction to the upper waters of Neosho River, at Emporia, passing through Osage County, where are found some of the richest coal fields of the West. At Newton the line diverges south through Southern Kansas, the Indian Territory and Texas to Galveston; continuing west from Newton the first city of importance reached is Hutchinson; here are some of the heaviest salt works in the United States, besides other extensive manufacturing interests. West of Hutchinson the line extends through a fertile, prosperous and rapidly growing district. The line is beautified here and there by many thriving cities and villages. At La Junta, in Colorado, the line for New Mexico, Arizona and beyond, turns south. Pueblo, sixty-five miles due west of La Junta, for years the terminus of the Santa Fe System, is a growing manufacturing city. It is admirably located with reference to the great ore-producing canons of Colorado. All roads leading to it, coal, iron, silver, gold, lead, copper, building stone, everything in fact which is produced in the greatest mining State in the Union, roll naturally down hill to Pueblo.

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Beyond Pueblo to the west are many thriving cities founded on mining and agriculture, notably: Leadville, the greatest mining camp in Colorado; while forty miles north, on the line of the Santa Fe, are the lovely villages of Colorado Springs, and Manitou, nestling at the foot of Pike's Peak. Manitou is at the mouth of a deep canon, and is one of the most lovely summer resorts in America. Near here is the famous "Garden of the Gods," whose wondrous beauty and grandeur is unsurpassed. From Colorado Springs westward, through Manitou and up the canon beyond Pike's Peak, the Colorado Midland Railway is pushing its way far toward the western borders of the State. Eighty miles north of Colorado Springs the Santa Fe line terminates at Denver, a magnificently built city of nearly two hundred thousand people. It is probable that no American city has so many features of unique beauty as Denver. Its splendid public buildings, and its broad avenues lined with beautiful residences, cozily located at the foot of the snow-capped mountains of the Rocky range, render it unlike any other city of its size in the world. The ride from Pueblo to Denver along the foot of the mountains is one never to be missed. The snow-covered peaks, the many combinations of sun and cloud, and rain and snow; the marvelous atmosphere, all combine to surprise and charm the beholder.

From Newton to Galveston, the line leaving the main east and west line in Kansas at Newton, runs directly south to Galveston. The first place of importance reached is the phenomenal city of Wichita, located on the Big and Little Arkansas Rivers, a city of thirty-five thousand people, where only a few years ago was an Indian trading-post. Wichita is one of the most remarkable cities in the West. It has a heavy and growing wholesale trade, and a large amount of manufacturing business, including the Burton Stock Car Works, the Dold & Whitaker Meat-Packing establishments. The city is handsomely laid out, and has many handsome public buildings, commodious business houses and spacious residences, situated on broad avenues, lined with beautiful shade trees. South of Wichita is a cluster of growing cities, comprising Winfield, Wellington, Arkansas City and Caldwell. Wichita

and Arkansas City have profited much by the opening up of Oklahoma to settlement. Entering the Indian Territory the line passes through a magnificent agricultural country, as yet almost wholly undeveloped. In Texas the principal cities on the line between the Indian Territory and Galveston, are Gainesville, Paris, Ft. Worth, Cleburne, Dallas, Morgan, Temple, Brenham, Houston and Richmond. Galveston, the terminus, is a rapidly growing city of fifty thousand inhabitants. It is charmingly situated on the Gulf Coast, and has an unsurpassed climate in both summer and winter.

From La Junta to El Paso, the line leaving La Junta climbs to the summit of the Raton Range, seventy-six hundred and twenty-two feet above the sea. On the way up it passes through the important Colorado towns of El Moro and Trinidad. The village of Raton is an important division point for the railway, and then comes Las Vegas and its famous hot springs, six miles distant from the main line, but connected with it by a short line with good equipments. At the Hot Springs is the Phoenix Hotel. The springs are unsurpassed anywhere in the world, and the hotel is conducted by the company in the most generous manner imaginable. The springs are forty-two in number, and are hot and cold, and have a variety of mineral properties which render them remarkably strong in their curative power. South of Las Vegas the line passes through fertile valleys, heavy forests, and black and rugged canons, until the valley of the Rio Grande is reached. A branch line from Lamy extends up the mountain to Santa Fe, the capital of New Mexico, next to St. Augustine, the oldest city in America. Santa Fe has a new State House, and its quaint old churches and dwellings are interspersed with modern structures. It should be seen before the peculiar charm of its antiquity has been entirely destroyed. Albuquerque, Socorro and San Marcial are the chief points between Santa Fe and El Paso. All are important points for the business of mining, cattle raising and general commerce. From Rincon a branch line leads to Deming, where junction is made with the Southern Pacific Railway, and to Silver City, and to the other mining towns of Southern New Mexico. It is the fortunate destiny of New Mexico generally, and the Rio

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Grande Valley particularly, to soon take front rank in the line of fruit production. The grapes produced in the Lower Rio Grande Valley are not surpassed in either quality or quantity by the product of any part of the Continent.

From Albuquerque to the Pacific Coast, in the heart of New Mexico, due west, the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad forms the main Santa Fe Route to California. The line passes through a great mining and stock-raising country, where the climate is perfect. Prescott, the capital of Arizona, is reached by a branch from Prescott Junction. Constant changes of scenery characterize the line, and the crossing of the Colorado Canon is one of the most remarkable accomplishments known in the railroad world. In Southern California the lines of the California Central & Southern reach every important city. Barstow, San Bernardino, Colton, San Diego, National City, Los Angeles, and a hundred other beautiful towns offer unequalled inducements to the seeker after health, wealth and pleasure. San Francisco and other cities of Central and Northern California are reached by the lines of the Southern Pacific by virtue of a special arrangement for traffic. Between Chicago and Kansas City meals are served on the finest dining cars; on the other lines and branches are superb eating-houses and hotels. No expense is spared in securing elegant accommodations; the supplies are secured from the best markets East and West.

From the resume thus given of the facilities possessed by the Santa Fe Railway, for interchanging traffic at its termini and various junctions, it must be apparent to the reader that the line is admirably

situated, and that in many respects it occupies a strategic position, superior to that of other trans-Missouri and Mississippi railroads. These advantages have been utilized in the past, as they will be in the future, in developing the localities through which the various branches extend, and to build up the permanent prosperity of the property whose history is so closely interwoven with the settlement, development and prosperity of the West beyond the Missouri River. Its local traffic compares favorably with that of other competing lines. To this purely local traffic must be added the contributions of its several termini, all large cities and prominent trade centers in the Missouri and Mississippi Valleys. With the growth and steady development of the manufacturing and other industries of Chicago, Kansas City, St. Joseph, Atchison, Leavenworth, Topeka, Wichita, Galveston, El Paso, Pueblo and Denver, the Santa Fe Railway must materially make corresponding strides toward attaining that proud financial position which has been the life dream of its originators and present owners. Under the present progressive and conservative management, all advantages of geographical position, and all the resources of the through line will be constantly utilized in building up the future prosperity of the road itself, and in developing the extended area of Chicago's commercial supremacy. The Land Grant from the Government amounted substantially to three million acres. In brief its commanding geographical position, coupled with its direct Eastern alliance for through business, must render the Santa Fe eventually one of the most remunerative of our Western railroads.



**The Wabash.**

**T**O THE public and our thousands of readers in general:—It will no doubt be interesting to all if we give a brief description of this road. The Wabash, as now known, has been operated under several names from time to time. It is the off-spring, as it were, of the first line of road projected in Illinois, then known as the Northern Cross Railroad, extending from Danville to Quincy. This was chartered in 1837, and upon it the first locomotive was placed in the winter of 1838–39, running from Meredosia, on the Illinois River, to Jacksonville. In 1842 the road was completed from Jacksonville to Springfield, and three trips were made per week. The track was of the old flat rail style, which was made by nailing thin strips of iron on two parallel lines of timbers placed at the proper distance apart, and running lengthways of the road. The engine as well as the road soon became so impaired that the former had to be abandoned, and mules substituted as the motor power. However, such locomotion was destined to be of short duration, for the State soon after sold the entire road for a nominal sum, and thus for a short time was suspended one of the first railroad enterprises in Illinois. But in the West a new era—one of prodigious industrial activity and far-reaching results in the practical arts—was dawning, and within thirty years of the temporary failure of the road mentioned, Illinois had outstripped all others in gigantic internal improvements, and at present has more miles of railroad than any other State in the Union.

The Great Western, whose name has been successively changed to Toledo, Wabash & Western, Wabash, and Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific, and Wabash Railroad, and The Wabash, the last of which it still bears, was an extension of the Northern Cross Railroad, above mentioned, and traverses some of the finest portions of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. It soon became the popular highway of travel and traffic between the East and the West. Through a system of consolidation, unparalleled in American railways, it has become a giant among them, and has added many millions of dollars to the value of bonds and shares of the various companies now incorporated in the Wabash system. The road

takes its title from the river of that name, a tributary of the Ohio, which in part separates the States of Illinois and Indiana. In looking over the map of the Wabash Railroad it will be seen that the line extends through the most fertile and wealthy portions of the center of the United States, having termini at more large cities than any other Western road. It was indeed a far-reaching sagacity which consolidated these various lines into the Wabash system, forming one immense chain of great commercial activity and power. Its terminal facilities are unsurpassed by any competing line. Its home offices are established in commodious quarters in St. Louis. The lines of the road are co-extensive with the importance of the great transportation facilities required for the products of the Mississippi Valley. This line passes through the States of Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan.

The various lines of road may be divided into the following:

	Miles.
St. Louis to Chicago.....	286
Toledo to Kansas City.....	662
St. Louis to Des Moines.....	360
Logansport to Detroit.....	207
Chicago to Lsketon Junction.....	123
Clayton to Keokuk.....	42
Bluffs to Quincy.....	105
Streator to Forest.....	37
Attica to Covington.....	15
Champaign to Sidney.....	12
Edwardsville to Edwardsville	
Crossing.....	9
Bement to Altamont and Effingham	63
Brunswick to Omaha.....	225
Roseberry to Clarinda.....	21
Salisbury to Glasgow.....	15
Centralia to Columbia.....	22

Miles of main lines and branches.. 2204

From the above main line and branches as indicated, it will readily be seen that the Wabash connects with more large cities and great marts of trade than any other line, bringing Omaha, Kansas City, Des Moines, Keokuk, Quincy, St. Louis, Chicago, Toledo and Detroit together with one continuous line of steel rails. This road has an immense freight traffic of the cereals, live-stock, various productions and manufactured articles of

the West and the States through which it passes. Its facilities for rapid transit for the vast productions of the packing houses of Kansas City and St. Louis, to Detroit, Toledo and the Eastern marts of trade, is unequalled. A large portion of the grain productions of Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois and Indiana, finds its way to the Eastern markets over the lines of this road. The Wabash has always taken an advanced position in tariffs, and its course toward its patrons has been just and liberal, so that it has always enjoyed the commendation of the business and traveling public. The road bed is one of the best in the country, and is ballasted with gravel and stone, well tied and laid with steel rails. The bridges along the various lines and branches are substantial structures. The depots, grounds and general property of the road are in good condition. The management of the Wabash is fully abreast of the times. The road is progressive in every respect. The finest passenger cars on the continent are run on its lines, and every effort made to advance the interests of its patrons. The passenger department is unequalled for the elegant and substantial comfort afforded travelers. On several of the more important branches of the system, dining cars are run.



#### Chicago & Alton.

THE Chicago & Alton has more miles of road in this county than any other line, and has been a great factor in the development of the western part of the county, and especially of the city of Joliet. In conjunction with the Illinois & Michigan Canal it furnished the first opportunity for the shipment of the immense output of the stone quarries of Joliet, and after the establishment of the iron mills and other manufacturing concerns, other roads came in to compete for the traffic. In one continuous line it connects the three great cities—Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City. The road has a large and increasing freight and passenger traffic, and its road bed is of a substantial and permanent character, while its rolling stock is always in first class shape.

#### Michigan Central.

THIS road will prove an important adjunct in the development of Joliet, inasmuch as it furnishes with its extraordinary connections the best of transportation facilities to the Eastern markets for the manufactured, farm and stone products of the county.



#### Illinois Central.

IN September, 1850, Congress passed an Act, and it was approved by President Fillmore, granting an aggregate of 2,595,053 acres of land to aid in building this road.

The Act granted the right of way, and gave alternate sections of land for six miles on either side of the road. The grant of land was made directly to the State. On the 10th of February, 1851, the Legislature of Illinois granted a charter to an Eastern company, represented by Rantoul and others, to build it, with a capital stock of \$1,000,000. The Legislature, in granting the charter and transferring to the corporation the lands, stipulated that *seven per cent.* of the gross earnings of the road should be paid semi-annually into the treasury of the State forever. This wise provision, in lieu of the liberal land grant, yields a handsome annual revenue to the State. This road has a total length of seven hundred and six miles in Illinois alone, connecting Cairo with Chicago and Dunleith, or from Cairo to Centralia one hundred and twelve miles, and from Centralia to Dunleith three hundred and forty-one miles. At Dunleith a fine steel bridge spans the Mississippi, connecting the former city with Dubuque, from which point a line traverses the State of Iowa, having for its western terminus the thriving city of Sioux City.

At Cairo the Ohio is spanned by a high and splendid steel bridge, over which through trains are run to New Orleans. This road is one of the great trunk lines of Illinois and the Mississippi Valley. Its principal leased line in this State is the Gilman & Springfield road, and with its Iowa and New Orleans divisions serves to mark it as one of the principal roads of the West.

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TRANSPORTATION.

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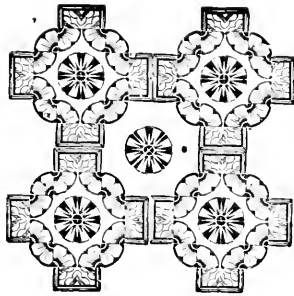
**Chicago & Eastern Illinois.**

**T**HIS important road passes through the townships of Crete and Washington, in this county, from north to south, having about thirteen miles, including side tracks, in the county. The principal stations are Crete and Beecher. This road furnishes fine facilities for the shipment to Chicago of the products of the above-named township.

**Elgin, Joliet & Eastern.**

**B**BETTER known as the Joliet Belt Line, with its numerous connections, has furnished superior facilities to the large manufacturing and quarry interests of the city, and has been a prominent factor in their development.







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