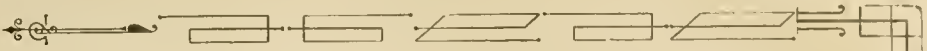


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PORTRAIT AND
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RECORD

—OF—

Kankakee County,

Illinois.

CONTAINING

Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens,

Together with Biographies of all the

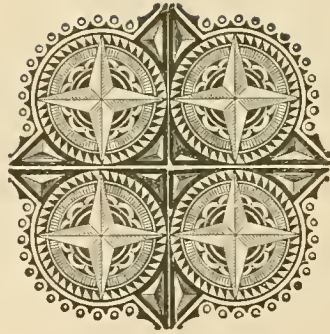
Governors of the **State**, and of the **Presidents**

OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO:

LAKE CITY PUBLISHING CO.

1893



PREFACE.



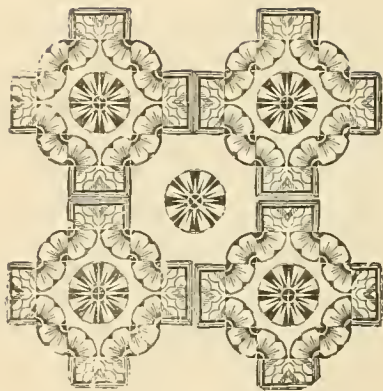
THE greatest of English historians, MACAULAY, and one of the most brilliant writers of the present century, has said: "The history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." In conformity with this idea the PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD of this county has been prepared. Instead 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 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.

May, 1893.

LAKE CITY PUBLISHING CO.



PORTRAITS
AND
BIOGRAPHIES

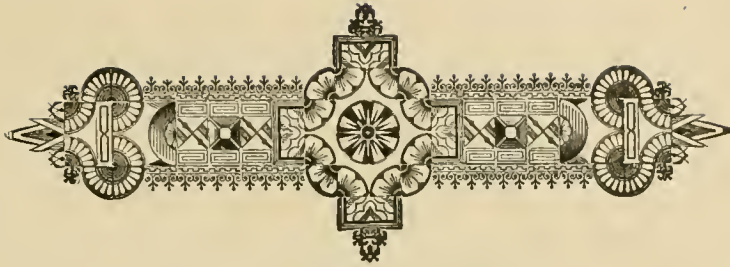
OF THE

PRESIDENTS

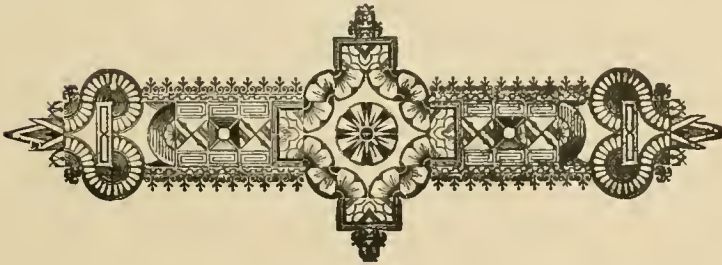
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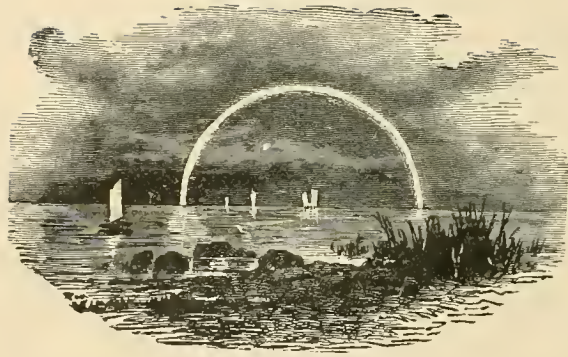
UNITED STATES

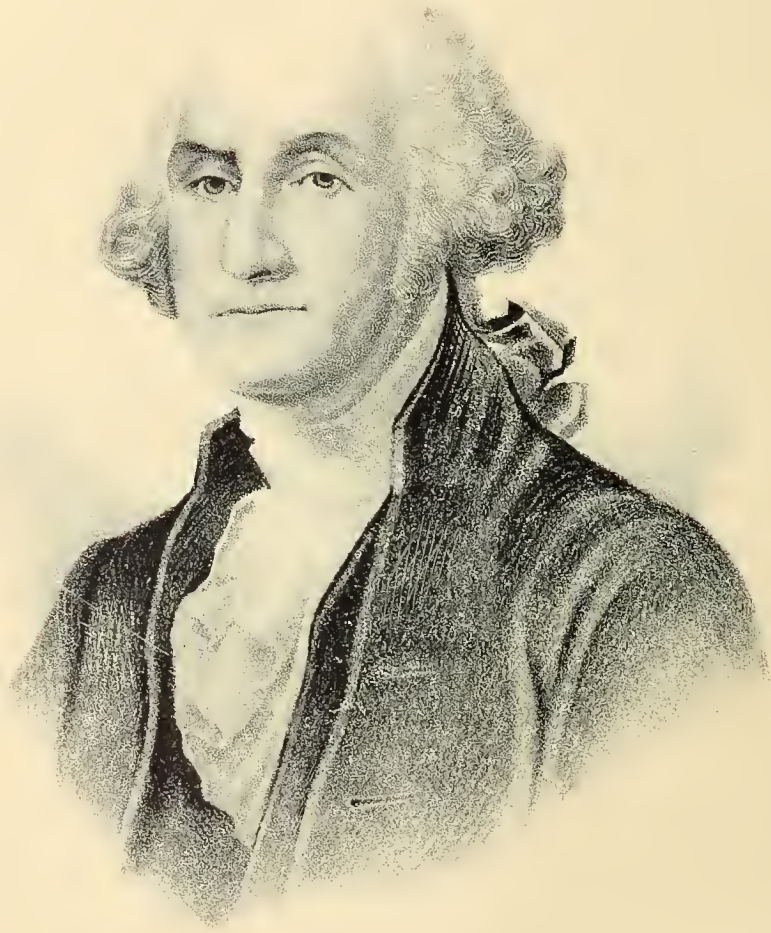





PRESIDENTS.








G. 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 19, but upon the express condition that he receive no salary. He would keep an exact account of expenses and expect Congress to pay them and nothing more. It is not the object of this sketch to trace the military acts of Washington, to whom the fortunes and liberties of the people of this country were so long confided. The war was conducted by him under every possible disadvantage, and while his forces often met with reverses, yet he overcame every obstacle, and after seven years of heroic devotion and matchless skill he gained liberty for the greatest nation of earth. On Dec. 23, 1783, Washington, in a parting address of surpassing beauty, resigned his

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

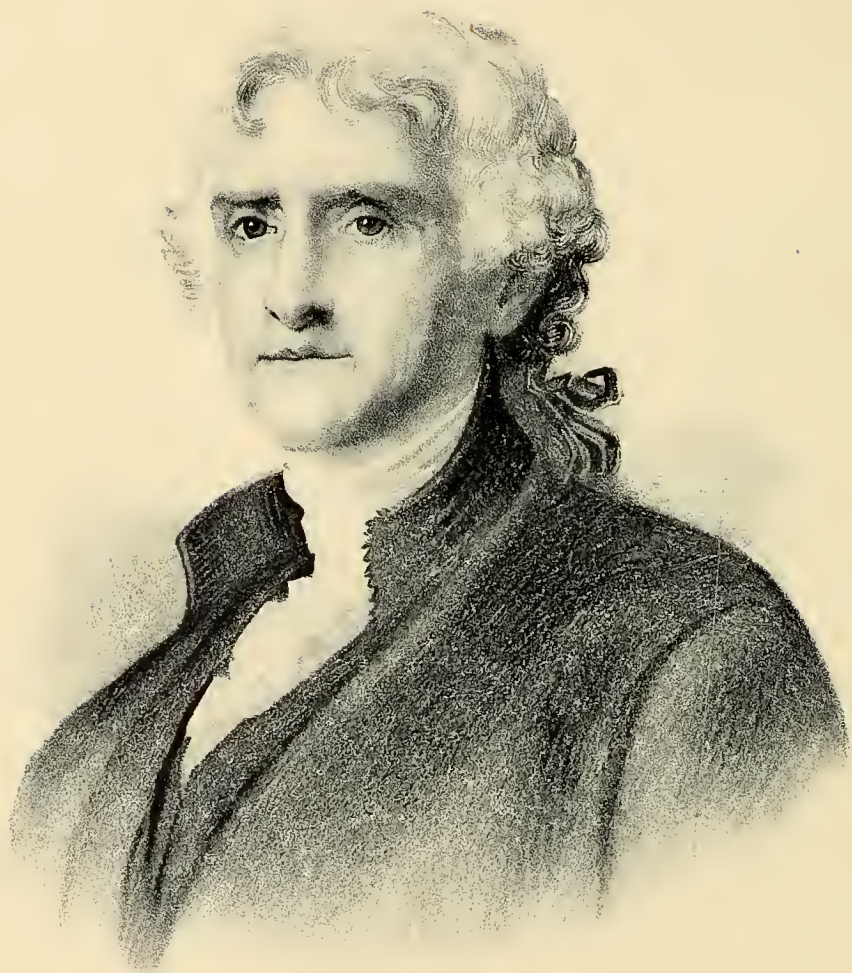
While Mr. Adams was Vice President the great

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

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

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

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



Dr. Jefferson



THOMAS JEFFERSON.



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

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

Immediately upon leaving college he began the study of law. For the short time he continued in the practice of his profession he rose rapidly and distinguished himself by his energy and 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.

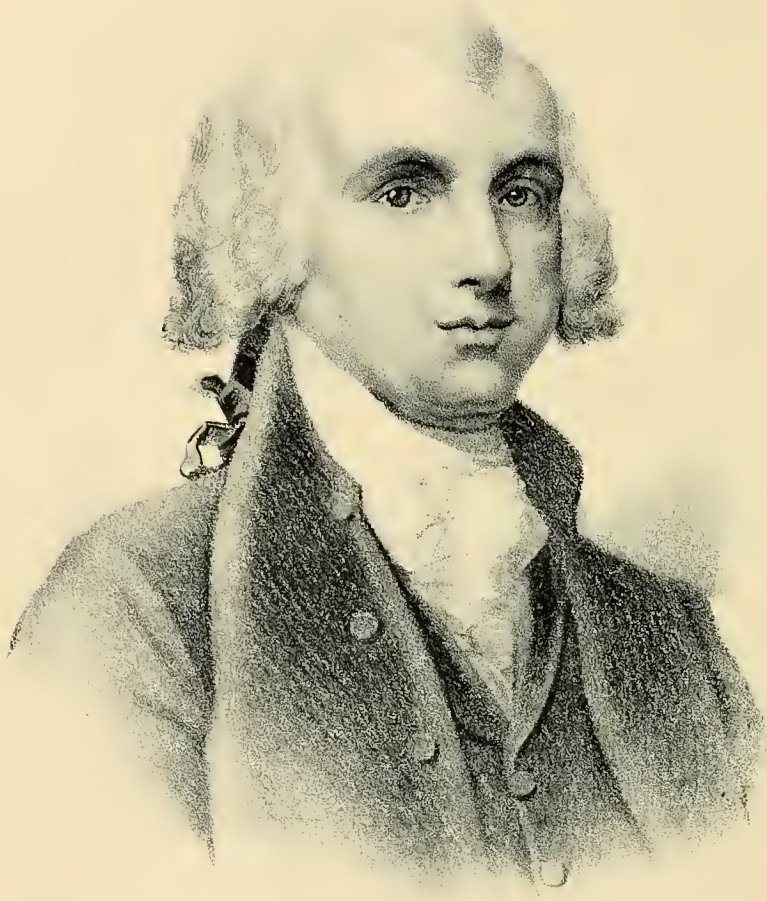
The fourth of July, 1826, being the fiftieth anniver-

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

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

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

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



James McQuinn



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 im-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



James Monroe



JAMES MONROE.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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

At the end of his second term Mr. Monroe retired to his home in Virginia, where he lived until 1830, when he went to New York to live with his son-in-law. In that city he died, on the 14th of July, 1831



J. Q. Adams



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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

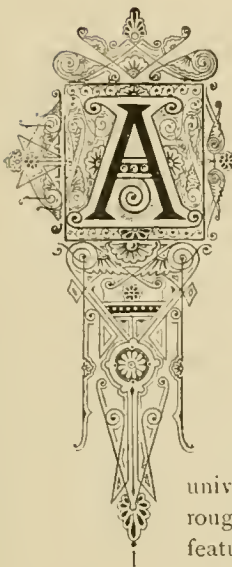
On the 21st of February, 1848, he rose on the floor of Congress, with a paper in his hand, to address the speaker. Suddenly he fell, again stricken by paralysis, and was caught in the arms of those around him. For a time he was senseless, as he was conveyed to the sofa in the rotunda. With reviving consciousness,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



Andrew Jackson



ANDREW JACKSON.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

sessions,—a distance of about eight hundred miles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The fort was stormed. The fight was utterly desperate. Not an Indian would accept of quarter. When bleeding and dying, they would fight those who endeavored to spare their lives. From ten in the morning until dark, the battle raged. The carnage was awful and revolting. Some threw themselves into the river; but the unerring bullet struck their heads as they swam. Nearly everyone 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. V., Dec. 5, 1782. He died at the same place, July 24, 1862. His body rests in the cemetery at Kinderhook. Above it is

a plain granite shaft fifteen feet high, bearing a simple inscription about half way up on one face. The lot is unfenced, unbordered

or unbounded by shrub or flower.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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


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



W. H. Harrison



WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.




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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

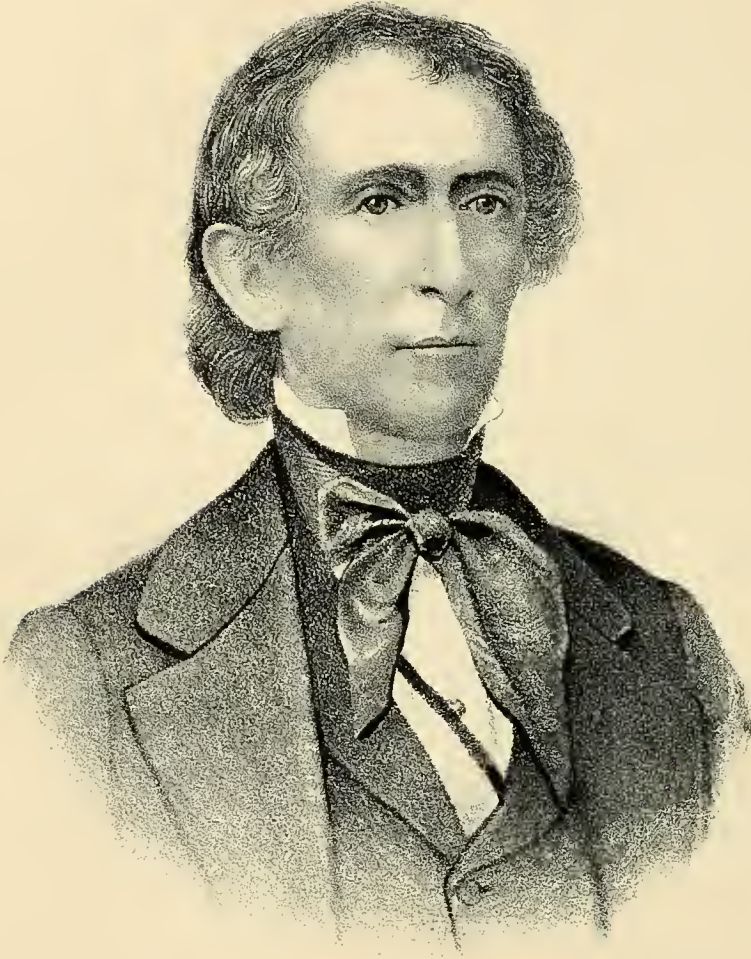
He won the love of his soldiers by always sharing with them their fatigue. His whole baggage, while pursuing the foe up the Thames, was carried in a valise; and his bedding consisted of a single blanket lashed over his saddle. Thirty-five British officers, his prisoners of war, supped with him after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

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

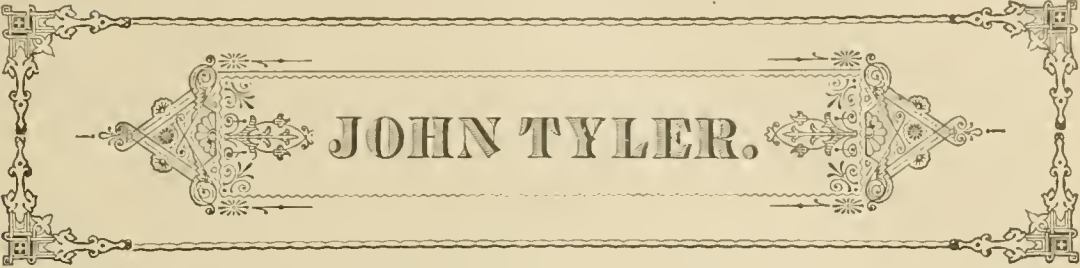
In 1819, Harrison was elected to the Senate of Ohio; and in 1824, as one of the presidential electors of that State, he gave his vote for Henry Clay. The same year he was chosen to the United States Senate.

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


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



John Tyler



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 counsellors whose views were antagonistic to his own? or, on the other hand, should he turn against the party which had elected him and select a cabinet in harmony with himself, and which would oppose all those views which the Whigs deemed essential to the public welfare? This was his fearful dilemma. He invited the cabinet which President Harrison had selected to retain their seats. He recommended a day of fasting and prayer, that God would guide and bless us.

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

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

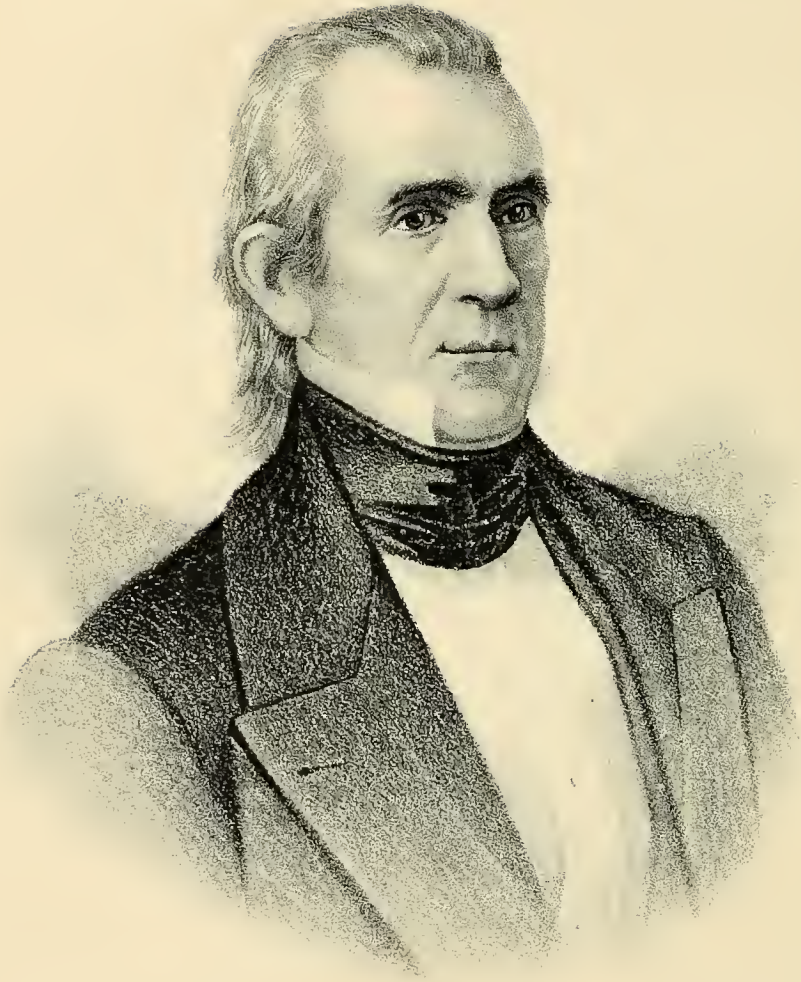
The opposition now exultingly received the President into their arms. The party which elected him denounced him bitterly. All the members of his cabinet, excepting Mr. Webster, resigned. The Whigs of Congress, both the Senate and the House, held a meeting and issued an address to the people of the United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

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

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

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

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



James 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 uncongenial occupation but a few weeks, when at his earnest solicitation his father removed him, and made arrangements for him to prosecute his studies. Soon after he sent him to Murfreesboro Academy. With ardor which could scarcely be surpassed, he pressed forward in his studies, and in less than two and a half years, in the autumn of 1815, entered the sophomore class in the University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill. Here he was one of the most exemplary of scholars, punctual in every exercise, never allowing himself to be absent from a recitation or a religious service.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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

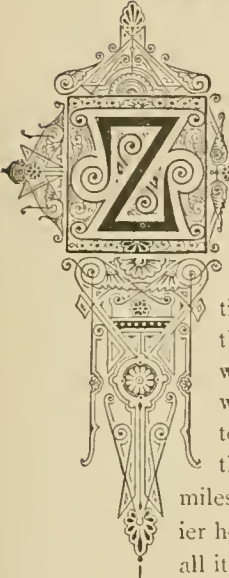
On the 3d of March, 1849, Mr. Polk retired from office, having served one term. The next day was Sunday. On the 5th, Gen. Taylor was inaugurated as his successor. Mr. Polk rode to the Capitol in the same carriage with Gen. Taylor; and the same evening, with Mrs. Polk, he commenced his return to Tennessee.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



Zachary Taylor.



ZACHARY TAYLOR.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The tidings of the brilliant victory of Buena Vista spread the wildest enthusiasm over the country. The name of Gen. Taylor was on every one's lips. The Whig party decided to take advantage of this wonderful popularity in bringing forward the unpolished, unadorned, 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.'

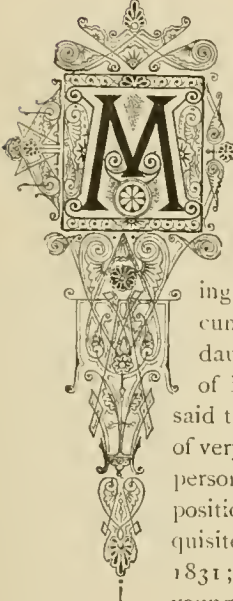
"Any allusion to literature beyond good old Dilworth's spelling-book, on the part of one wearing a sword, was evidence, with the same judge, of utter unfitness for heavy marchings and combats. In short few men have ever had a more comfortable labor, saving contempt for learning of every kind."



Millard Fillmore



MILLARD FILLMORE.



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

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

In consequence of the secluded home and limited means of his father, Millard enjoyed but slender advantages for education in his early years. The common schools, which he occasionally attended were very imperfect institutions; and books were scarce and expensive. There was nothing then in his character to indicate the brilliant career upon which he was about to enter. He was a plain farmer's boy; intelligent, good-looking, kind-hearted. The sacred influences of home had taught him to revere the Bible, and had laid the foundations of an upright character. When fourteen years of age, his father sent him some hundred miles from home, to the then wilds of Livingston County, to learn the trade of a clothier. Near the mill there was a small 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 hall—and then enters a law office, who is by no means as

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Franklin Pierce



FRANKLIN PIERCE.



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



JAMES BUCHANAN.

JAMES BUCHANAN, the fifteenth President of the United States, was born in a small frontier town, at the foot of the eastern ridge of the 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 repn-

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

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

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

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

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

Mr. Buchanan was far advanced in life. Only four years were wanting to fill up his three-score years and ten. His own friends, those with whom he had been allied in political principles and action for years, were seeking the destruction of the Government, that they might rear upon the ruins of our free institutions a nation whose corner-stone should

be human slavery. In this emergency, Mr. Buchanan was hopelessly bewildered. He could not, with his long-avowed principles, 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.

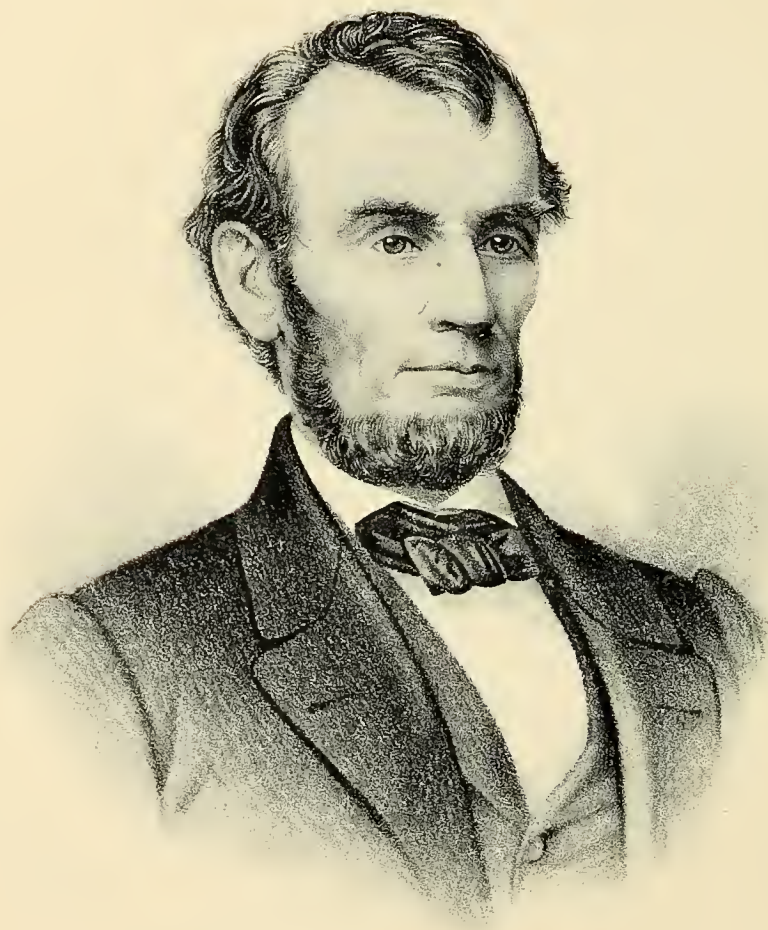
The opponents of Mr. Buchanan's administration nominated Abraham Lincoln as their standard-bearer in the next Presidential canvass. The pro-slavery party declared that if he were elected and the control of the Government were thus taken from their hands they would secede from the Union, taking with them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

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; Ft. Sumter 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 & comrade

A. Lincoln

ABRAHAM

LINCOLN.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

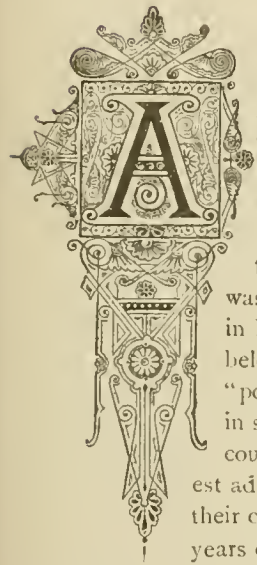
In the selection of his cabinet Mr. Lincoln gave to Mr. Seward the Department of State, and to other prominent opponents before the convention he gave important positions.

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

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



C. 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 ab-

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.

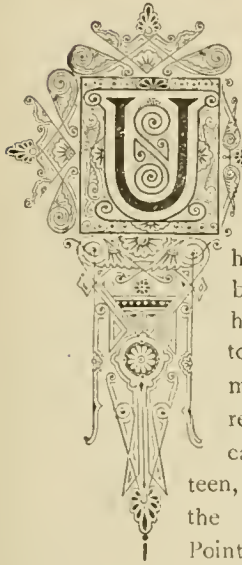
The President, for the remainder of his term, was but little regarded. He continued, though impotently, his conflict with Congress. His own party did not think it expedient to renominate him for the Presidency. The Nation rallied, with enthusiasm unparalleled since the days of Washington, around the 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 lieutenantcy, and was brevetted captain at Chalultepec.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

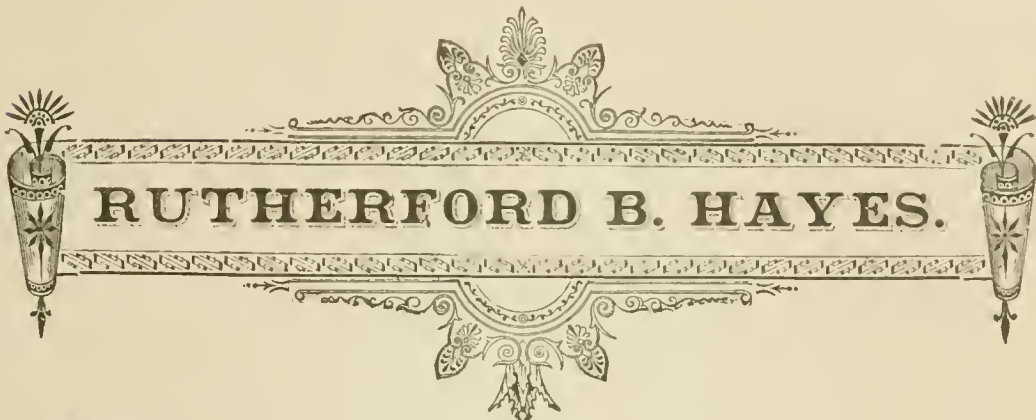
The National Convention of the Republican party which met at Philadelphia on the 5th of June, 1872, placed Gen. Grant in nomination for a second term by a unanimous vote. The selection was emphatically indorsed by the people five months later, 292 electoral votes being cast for him.

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

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



Sincerely
R. B. Hayes



RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, the nineteenth President of the United States, was born in Delaware, O., Oct. 4, 1822, almost three months after the death of his father, Rutherford Hayes. His ancestry on both the paternal and maternal sides, was of the most honorable character. It can be traced, it is said, as far back as 1280, when Hayes and Rutherford were two Scottish chieftains, fighting side by side with Baliol, William Wallace and Robert Bruce. Both families belonged to the nobility, owned extensive estates, and had a large following. Misfor-

tune overtaking the family, George Hayes left Scotland in 1680, and settled in Windsor, Conn. His son George was born in Windsor, and remained there during his life. Daniel Hayes, son of the latter, married Sarah Lee, and lived from the time of his marriage until his death in Simsbury, Conn. Ezekiel, son of Daniel, was born in 1724, and was a manufacturer of scythes at Bradford, Conn. Rutherford Hayes, son of Ezekiel and grandfather of President Hayes, was born in New Haven, in August, 1756. He was a farmer, blacksmith and tavern-keeper. He emigrated to Vermont at an unknown date, settling in Brattleboro, where he established a hotel. Here his son Rutherford Hayes the father of President Hayes, was

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

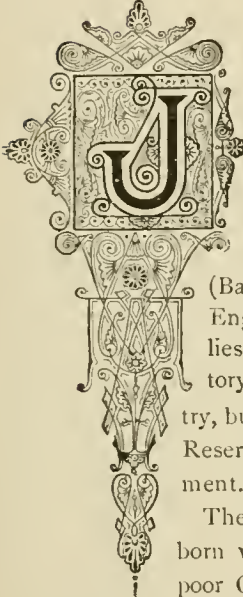
In 1876 he was the standard bearer of the Republican Party in the Presidential contest, and after a hard long contest was chosen President, and was inaugurated Monday, March 5, 1875. He served his full term, not, however, with satisfaction to his party, but his administration was an average one.



J. A. Garfield



JAMES A. GARFIELD.



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

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

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

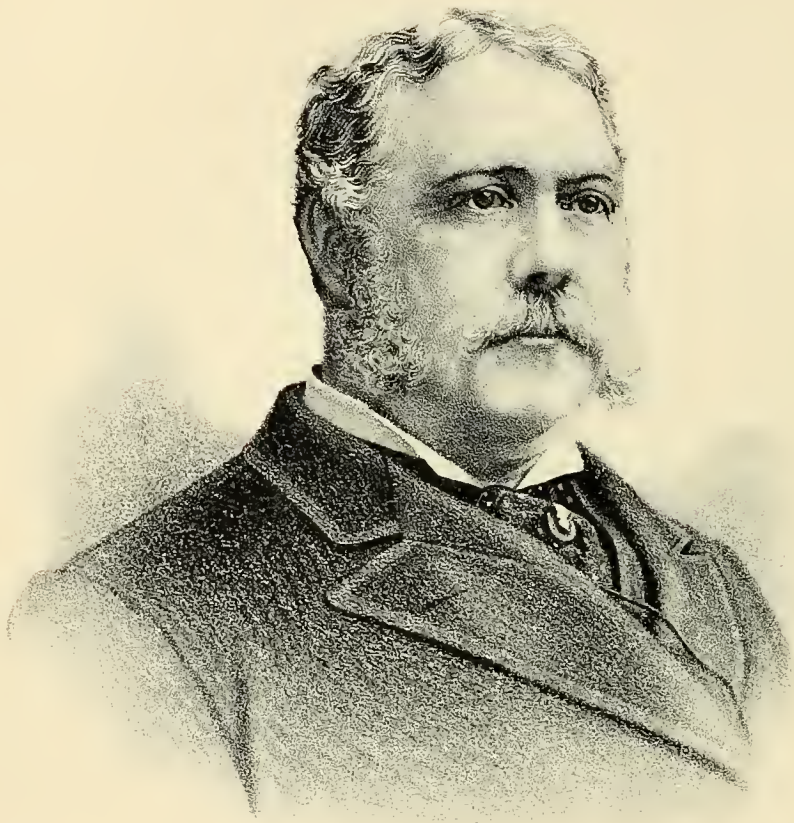
Mr. Garfield made his first political speeches in 1856, in Hiram and the neighboring villages, and three years later he began to speak at county mass-meetings, and became the favorite speaker wherever he was. During this year he was elected to the Ohio Senate. He also began to study law at Cleveland,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

The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with

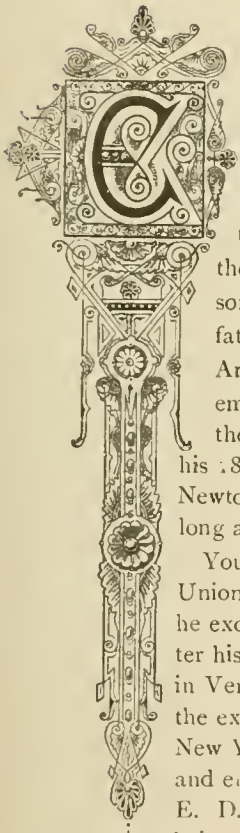
his brilliant services at Chickamauga, where he won the stars of the Major-General.

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

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



C. A. H. H. H.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

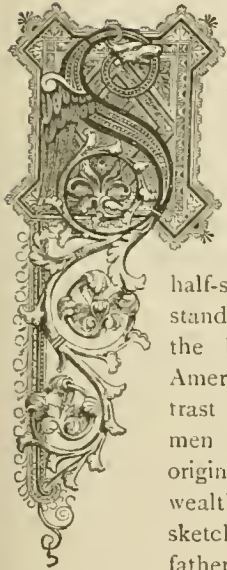
At last God in his mercy relieved President Garfield from further suffering, and the world, as never before in its history over the death of any other man, wept at his bier. Then it became the duty of the Vice President to assume the responsibilities of the high office, and he took the oath in New York,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



Grover Cleveland



S. Grover Cleveland.



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

with a large family and a small salary, moved, by way of the Hudson River and Erie Canal, to Fayetteville, in search of an increased income and a larger field of work. Fayetteville was then the most straggling of country villages, about five miles from Pompey Hill, where Governor Seymour was born.

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

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

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

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

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

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

in the administration of the municipal affairs of that city. In this office, as well as that of Sheriff, his performance of duty has generally been considered fair, with possibly a few exceptions which were ferreted out and magnified during the last Presidential campaign. As a specimen of his plain language in a veto message, we quote from one vetoing an iniquitous street-cleaning contract: "This is a time for plain speech, and my objection to your action shall be plainly stated. I regard it as the culmination of a most bare-faced, impudent and shameless scheme to betray the interests of the people and to worse than squander the people's money." The *New York Sun* afterward very highly commended Mr. Cleveland's administration as Mayor of Buffalo, and thereupon recommended him for Governor of the Empire State. To the latter office he was elected in 1882, and his administration of the affairs of State was generally satisfactory. The mistakes he made, if any, were made very public throughout the nation after he was nominated for President of the United States. For this high office he was nominated July 11, 1884, by the National Democratic Convention at Chicago, when other competitors were Thomas F. Bayard, Roswell P. Flower, Thomas A. Hendricks, Benjamin F. Butler, Allen G. Thurman, etc.; and he was elected by the people, by a majority of about a thousand, over the brilliant and long-trying 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.

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.

On June 2, 1886, President Cleveland married Frances, daughter of his deceased friend and partner, Oscar Folsom, of the Buffalo Bar. Their union has been blessed by the birth of one daughter, Ruth. In the campaign of 1888, President Cleveland was renominated by his party, but the Republican candidate, Gen. Benjamin Harrison, was victorious. In the nominations of 1892 these two candidates for the highest position in the gift of the people were again pitted against each other and President Cleveland was victorious by an overwhelming majority.



Benj. Harrison



BENJAMIN 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 Northwestern 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 lawyer 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.

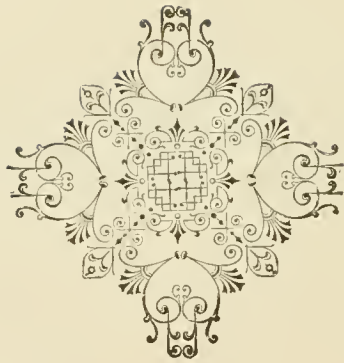
The political campaign of 1888 was one of the most memorable in the history of our country. The convention which assembled in Chicago in June and named Mr. Harrison as the chief standard bearer of the Republican party, was great in every particular, and on this account, and the attitude it assumed upon 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.



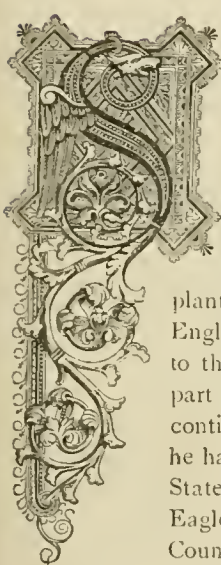




Shadrach Bond.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Edward Coles



Edward Coles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Norman Edwards



Ninian Edwards.

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 proportions in Southern Illinois. Although during the first three years of his administration he had the power to make new counties and appoint all the officers, yet he always allowed the people of each county, by an informal

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

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

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

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

Pro-slavery regulations, often termed "Black Laws," disgraced the statute books of both the Territory and the State of Illinois during the whole of his career in 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 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, it was heartily condemned by both President Jackson and Gov. Reynolds, who took precisely the same grounds as the Unionists in the last war.

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

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

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

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

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

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



Amos A. Ewing



Wm. L. D. Ewing.

WILLIAM 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





Joseph Duncan



Joseph Duncan.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

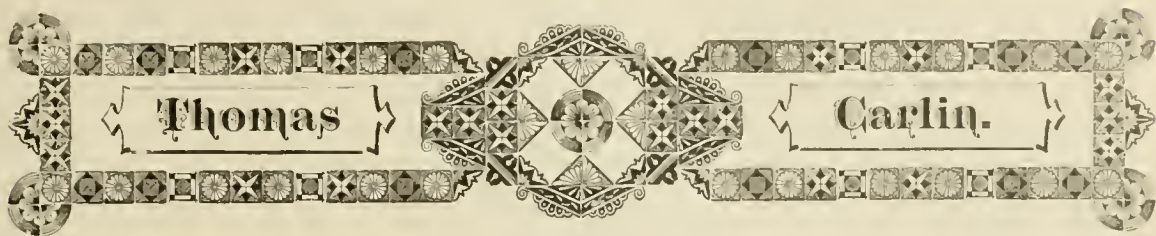
Gov. Duncan's term expired in 1838. In 1842 he was again proposed as a candidate for the Executive chair, this time by the Whig party, against Adam W. Snyder, of St. Clair County, the nominee of the Democrats. Charles W. Hunter was a third candidate for the same position. Mr. Snyder, however, died before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

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

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



Thos. Carlin



THOMAS CARLIN, the sixth Governor of the State of Illinois, serving from 1838 to 1842, was also a Kentuckian, being born near Frankfort, that State, July 18, 1789, of Irish paternity. The opportunities for an education being very meager in his native place, he, on approaching years of judgment and maturity, applied himself to those branches of learning that seemed most important, and thus became a self-made man; and his taste for reading and study remained with him through life. In 1803 his father removed to Missouri, then a part of "New Spain," where he died in 1810.

In 1812 young Carlin came to Illinois and participated in all the "ranging" service incident to the war of that period, proving himself a soldier of undaunted bravery. In 1814 he married Rebecca Huitt, and lived for four years on the bank of the Mississippi River, opposite the mouth of the Mississippi, where he followed farming, and then removed to Greene County. He located the town site of Carlinson, 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 Breese, Walter B. Seates, 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 1859 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.



THOMAS 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 Govern-

ment to give land to actual settlers; but upon her arrival at St. Louis she found the country ceded to the United States, and the liberal policy toward settlers changed by the new ownership. After some sickness to herself and family, she finally removed to Illinois, and settled some three miles south of Waterloo, but the following year moved nearer the Mississippi bluffs. Here young Ford received his first

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

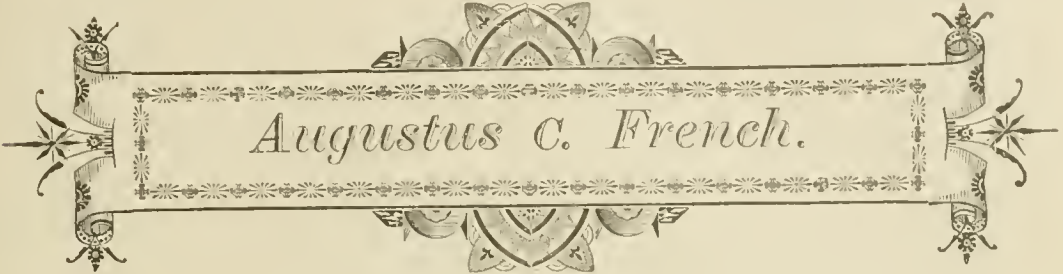
The Mexican War was begun in the spring of 1845, and was continued into the gubernatorial term of Mr. Ford's successor. The Governor's connection with this war, however, was not conspicuous, as it was only administrative, commissioning officers, etc.

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

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



Aug C French



Augustus C. French.

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

In early life young French lost his father, but continued to receive instruction from an exemplary and Christian mother until he was 19 years old, when she also died, confiding to his care and trust four younger brothers

and one sister. He discharged his trust with parental devotion. His education in early life was such mainly as a common school afforded. For a brief period he attended Dartmouth College, but from pecuniary causes and the care of his brothers and sister, he did not graduate. He subsequently read law, and was admitted to the Bar in 1831, and shortly afterward removed to Illinois, settling first at Albion, Edwards County, where he established himself in the practice of law. The following year he removed to Paris, Edgar County. Here he attained eminence in his profession, and entered public life by representing that county in the Legislature. A strong attachment sprang up between him and Stephen A. Douglas.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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

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



C. A. Mattison



Joel A. Matteson.

JOEL A. MATTESON, Governor 1853-6, was born Aug. 8, 1808, in Jefferson County, New York, to which place his father had removed from Vermont three years before. His father was a farmer in fair circumstances, but a common English education was all that his only son received. Young Joel first tempted fortune as a small tradesman in Prescott, Canada, before he was of age. He returned from that place to his home, entered an academy, taught school, visited the principal

Eastern cities, improved a farm his father had given him, made a tour in the South, worked there in building railroads, experienced a storm on the Gulf of Mexico, visited the gold diggings of Northern Georgia, and returned *via* Nashville to St. Louis and through Illinois to his father's home, when he married. In 1833, having sold his farm, he removed with his wife and one child, to Illinois, and entered a claim on Government land near the head of Au Sable River, in what is now Kendall County. At that time there were not more than two neighbors within a range of ten miles of his place, and only three or four houses between him and Chicago. He opened a large farm. His family was 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, *je* in 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 ballottings in the Legislature (1855), these men were dropped, and Lyman Trumbull, an Anti-Nebraska Democrat, was brought up by the former, and Mr. Matteson, then Governor, by the latter. On the 11th ballot Mr. Trumbull obtained one majority, and was accordingly declared elected. Before Gov. Matteson's term expired, the Republicans were fully organized as a national party, and in 1856 put into the field a full national and State ticket, carrying the State, but not the nation.

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

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

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

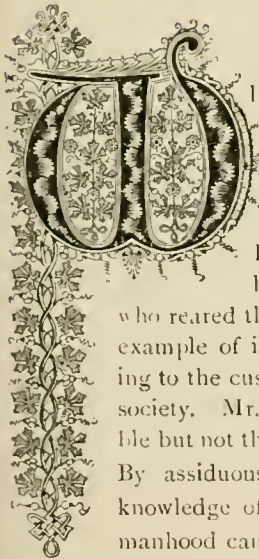
He died in the winter of 1872-3, at Chicago.



James B. Russell



William M. Bissell.



WILLIAM H. BISSELL, Governor 1857-60, was born April 25, 1811, in the State of New York, near Painted Post, Yates County.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

It was during Gov. Bissell's administration that the notorious canal scrip fraud was brought to light, implicating ex-Gov. Matteson and other prominent State officials. The principal 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 Revolu-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

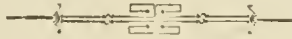




Rich. Yates



Richard Yates.



RICHARD 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.

Gifted with a fluent and ready oratory, he soon appeared in the political hustings, and, being a passionate admirer of the great Whig leader of the West, Henry Clay, he joined his political fortunes to the party of his idol. In 1840 he engaged with great ardor in the exciting "hard cider" campaign for 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 T. Logan for the same position,

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

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

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

Gov. Yates occupied the chair of State during the

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

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

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

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

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

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



R. J. Oglesby



Richard J. Oglesby.

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

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

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

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

pany of eight men, Henry Prather being the leader.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

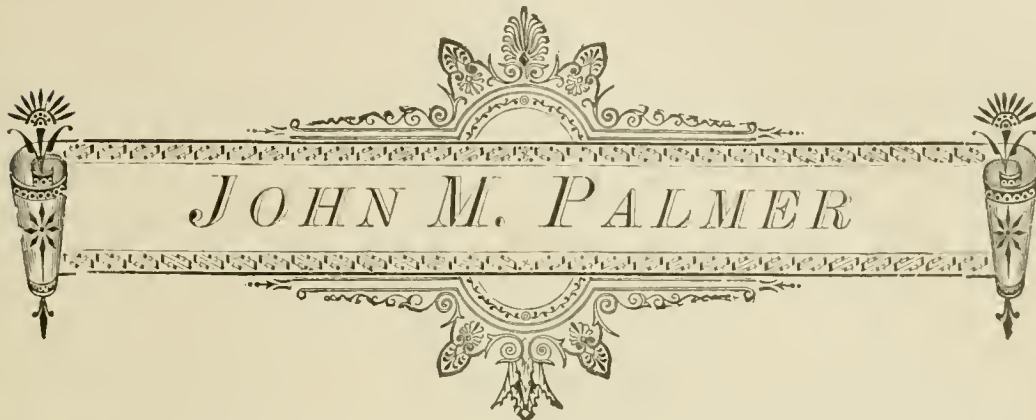
During the campaign of 1884 Mr. Oglesby was nominated for a "third term" as Executive of the State of Illinois, against Carter H. Harrison, Mayor of Chicago, nominated by the Democrats. Both gentlemen "stumped" the State, and while the people elected a Legislature which was a tie on a joint ballot, as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

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

He is quite an effective stump orator. With 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 Palmer



JOHN M. PALMER

JOHN 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 was put in nomination for the United States Senate by 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 Chickamanga, where his and Van Cleve's divisions for two hours maintained their position when they were cut off by overpowering numbers. Under Gen. Sherman, he was assigned to the 14th Army Corps and participated in the Atlanta campaign. At Peach-Tree Creek his prudence did much to avert disaster. In February, 1865, Gen. Palmer was assigned to the military administration of Kentucky, which was a delicate post. That State was about half rebel and half Union, and those of the latter element were daily fretted by the loss of their slaves. He, who had been bred to the rules of common law, trembled at the contemplation of his extraordinary power over the persons and property of his fellow men, with which he was vested in his capacity as military Governor; and he exhibited great caution in the execution of the duties of his post.

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

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


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

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

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John L. Beveridge



John L. Beveridge.

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

being over 80 years. They belonged to the "Associate Church," a seceding Presbyterian body of

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



McLellan



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. Practically

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.

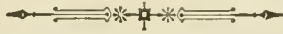
He has been married twice,—the first time Dec. 11, 1855, to Miss Hannah Fisher, by whom he had two daughters; and the second time May 5, 1863, to Julia Fisher. Mrs. C. is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which religious body Mr. C. is also in sympathy.



John M. Hamilton



John M. Hamilton.



JOHN MARSHALL HAMILTON, Governor 1883-5, was born May 28, 1847, in a log house upon a farm about two miles from Richwood, Union County, Ohio. His father was

Samuel Hamilton, the eldest son of Rev. Wm. Hamilton, who, together with his brother, the Rev. Samuel Hamilton, was among the early pioneer Methodist preachers in Ohio. The mother of the subject of this sketch was, before her marriage, Mrs. Nancy McMorris, who was born and raised in Fauquier or Loudoun County, Va., and related to the

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

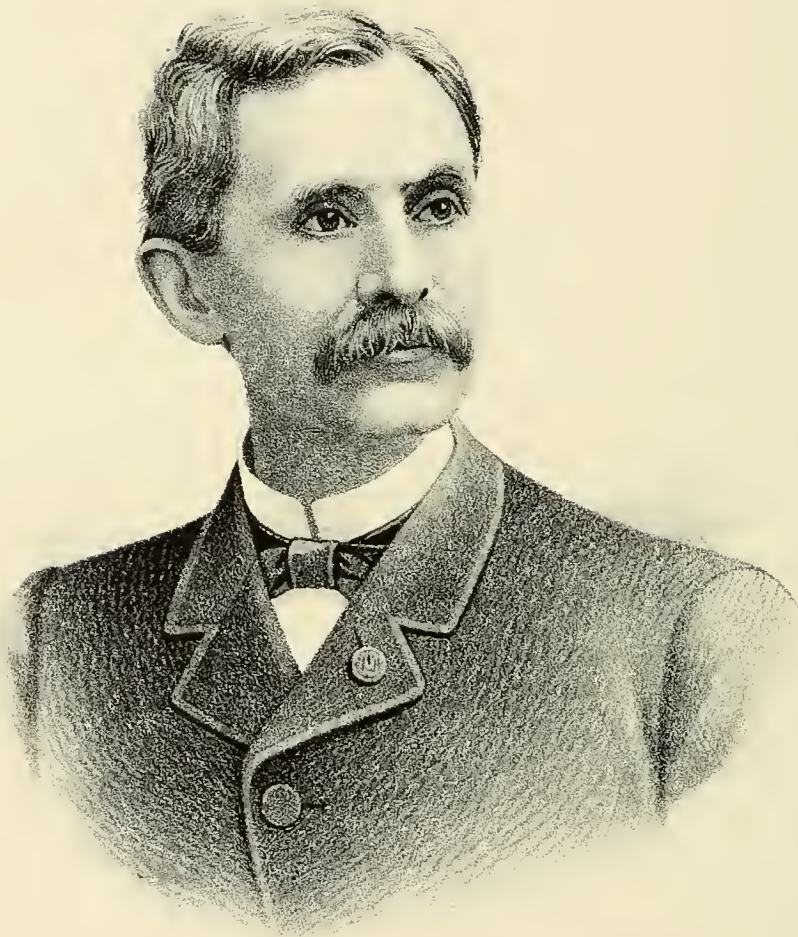
In 1876 Mr. Hamilton was nominated by the Republicans for the State Senate, over other and older competitors. He took an active part "on the stump" in the campaign, for the success of his party, and was elected by a majority of 1,640 over his Democratic-Greenback opponent. In the Senate he served on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

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

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

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

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



J. V. 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.

Joseph attended school for a while 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 Mr. Fifer soon bought a farm near Bloomington and began life as an agriculturist. Here Joe worked and attended the neighboring school. He alternated farm-work, and brick-laying, 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, Thirty-third Illinois Infantry, he being then twenty years old. In a few days, 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 Thirty-third Regi-

ment 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 4th of July, and stuck the bayonet of his gun into the embankment and went into the city with the vanguard of Union soldiers.

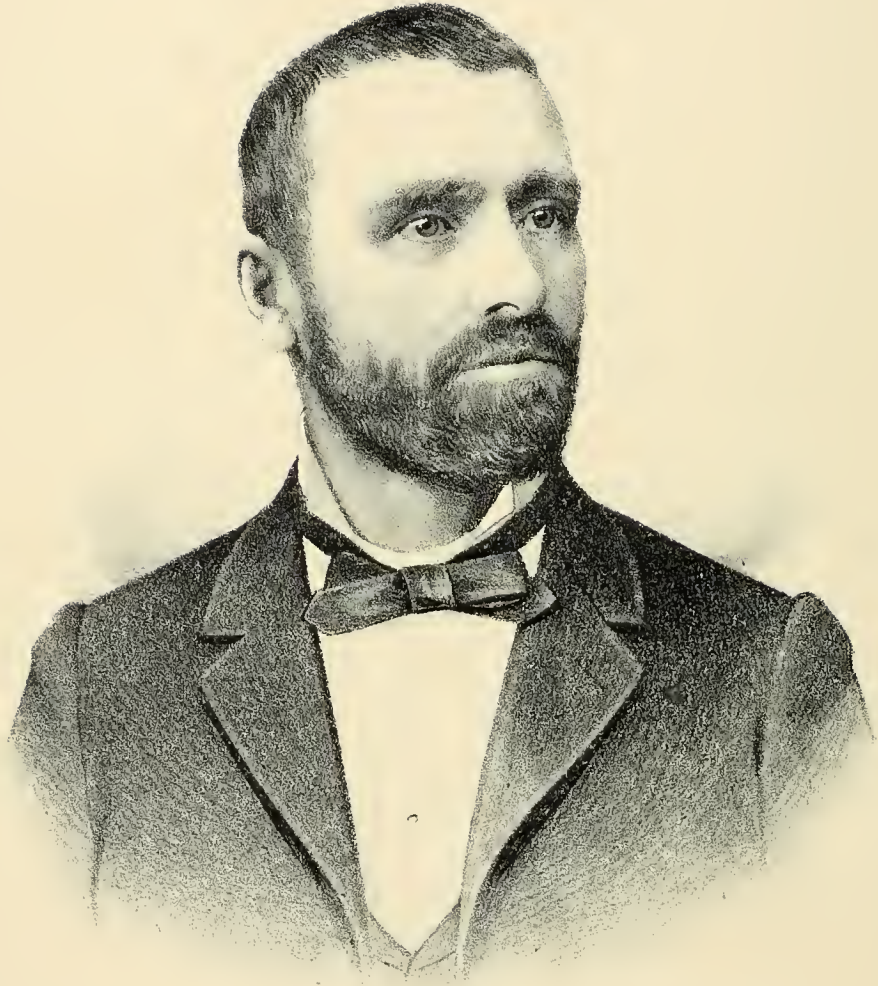
The next day, July 5, the Thirty-third joined the force after Johnston, who had been threatening Grant's rear; and finally an assault was made on him at Jackson, Miss. In this charge "Private Joe" fell, terribly wounded. He was loading his gun, when a minie-ball struck him and passed entirely through 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 that unless he had ice his brother 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 road, was very hard on him. After a few months' careful nursing, Mr. Fifer was able to come home. The Thirty-third 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, 1864, 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 en-

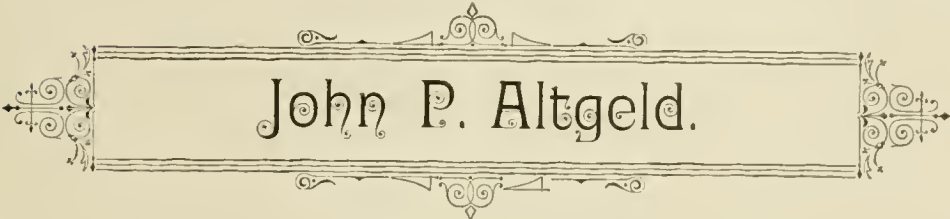
tered Wesleyan University January 1, 1865. He was not a brilliant student, being neither at the head nor at the foot of his class. He was in great earnest, however, studied hard and came forth with a well-stored and disciplined mind.

Immediately after being graduated, he entered an office at Bloomington as a law student. He had previously read law a little, 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 eight years, when he took his seat in the State Senate. 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 one hundred and fifty 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 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, make 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.



John D. Alford



John P. Altgeld.

JOHAN P. ALTGELD, the present Governor of Illinois, is a native of Prussia, born in 1848. Shortly after his birth his parents emigrated to America, locating on a farm near Mansfield, Ohio. When but a mere lad, young Altgeld had to walk from the farm to Mansfield with butter, eggs and garden produce, which he peddled from house to house. About 1856, his parents moved to the city of Mansfield, and for a time our subject was engaged morning and evening in driving cattle to and from the pasture, a distance of eight miles. When fourteen years of age he hired out as a farm hand, and continued in that avocation the greater part of his time until he was sixteen years of age, when he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Ohio Infantry, and served until the close of the war. On being mustered in, the regiment was sent to Washington and was actively engaged in the various campaigns in and around that city until the surrender of Lee. In the fall of 1861, young Altgeld was taken sick, while with his regiment in the front, and the surgeon desired to send him to a hospital in Washington; but he asked to

be allowed to remain with the regiment, and soon recovering from his sickness was actively engaged until the close of the war. He was mustered out at Columbus, Ohio, in the spring of 1865. The succeeding summer he worked with his father on a farm, during which time he became connected with the Sunday-school and was given charge of the Bible class. Before entering the army he had but very limited educational advantages, having attended school but a part of two summers and one winter. He had at home, however, studied the German language and had become familiar with some German authors. Determining to fit himself for a useful life, he resolved to attend a select school at Lexington, Ohio, and in a little eight-by-ten room, meagrely furnished, he kept "bachelor's hall," and in time was so far advanced that he secured a certificate as teacher, and for two years was engaged in that profession. At the end of that time he left home and traveled extensively over the country, working at odd jobs, until he finally reached Savannah, Mo., where he entered a law office, and in 1870 was admitted to the Bar. In the fall of 1872, he ran as Prosecuting Attorney for Andrews County, Mo., and was defeated by four votes. He ran again in 1874 and was elected. But life in the small town of Savannah was a little too monotonous for him, and he determined to locate in Chicago. In October,

1875, he resigned the office of Prosecuting Attorney, moved to Chicago, and at once commenced the practice of law. For some years after he had but little to do with politics, confining himself to his practice and dealing in real estate. One year after his arrival in Chicago he found himself without a dollar, and in debt some \$400. By a streak of good luck, as it might be termed, he won a case in court, from which he received a fee of \$900, and after paying his debt he had \$500 left, which he invested in real estate. This venture proved a successful one, and from that time on the profits of one transaction were invested in others, and to-day he is numbered among the millionaire residents of the great metropolis of the West.

In 1884, Mr. Altgeld was nominated for Congress, but was defeated by three thousand votes. In 1886, he was nominated and elected Judge of the Superior Court of Cook County. His services as Judge were such as to commend him to the people. Early in the year 1892, by the solicitation of

many friends, he announced himself as a candidate for Governor. At the convention held April 27, he received the nomination and at once entered upon an active canvass. Alone, he traveled all over the entire State, and visited and consulted with the leading politicians of every section. He made few public speeches, however, until near the close of the campaign, but it was very evident that he was master of the situation at all times. When the votes were counted at the close of election day, it was found that he had a majority of the votes, and so became the first Democratic Governor of Illinois since 1856.

Born in poverty, alone, single-handed and unaided, he faced the world, and with a determination to succeed, he pressed forward, until to-day he has a National reputation, and is the envied of many. The lesson of his life is worthy of careful study by the young, and shows what can be done by one who has the desire in his heart to attain a front rank among the noted men of the country.





Hankakee County,

Illinois.









Truly Yours
Haswell C. Clarke



BIOGRAPHICAL.

COL. HASWELL C. CLARKE, Cashier of the First National Bank of Kankakee, is a native of Massachusetts, and was born in Boston September 28, 1812. His parents were John Jones and Rebecca Cordis (Haswell) Clarke. The father, who was also a native of the old Bay State, was a lawyer by profession and a distinguished member of the Massachusetts Bar. In early life he attained considerable prominence in public positions, and was the first Mayor of Roxbury, which now forms a part of Boston. He served as a member of the State Senate, and was a gentleman of considerable wealth and of high social standing. He continued to make his home in Roxbury until his death, which occurred on the 5th of November, 1887, at the age of nearly eighty-five years. The paternal grandfather of our subject, the Rev. Pitt Clarke, was born in Medfield, of that State, on the 15th of January, 1763, and was a son of Jacob Clarke, who was third in descent from the first ancestor to come to America. This latter emigrated from England about the year 1700, and settled in North Raynham, Mass.

Col. Clarke's mother was a granddaughter of Capt. William Haswell, who was engaged in the revenue service on the American station in 1796, and married Miss Rachel, a daughter of Ebenezer and Elizabeth Woodard, of George's Island in Boston Harbor, by whom he had three sons, Robert, William and John Montresor. Robert Haswell, who was named after his uncle, and his brother, John Montresor, were naval officers and greatly distinguished themselves on board the "Boston," in the sharp engagement with the

French corvette "Le Béréeau," in November, 1800. Robert left the naval service on the establishment of peace in 1801, and in August of that year sailed in the "Louise" for the Northwest Coast, but was lost on his return home. He had sailed around the world in the ship "Columbia Rediviva." Irving says in his "Astoria," page 397: "The 'Columbia' is believed to have been the first ship that made a regular discovery and anchored within the waters of the Columbia River, Ore., which has since borne the name of that vessel." On the 17th of October, 1797, he married Miss Mary, a daughter of Joseph Cordis, a merchant of Charleston, Mass., by whom he had two daughters, Mary and Rebecca, the latter being the mother of our subject. John Montresor became a midshipman in the American navy, and received the thanks of Congress for his signal valor in the war with Tripoli, and was promoted to a Lieutenantcy. The Haswell family, which was of Scotch origin, espoused the cause of Charles Edward Stuart. Mrs. Clarke, the mother of our subject, was a woman of high intellectual attainments and deep piety, and was charitable and public-spirited. She was moreover possessed of much personal grace and beauty and many excellencies of character. Her death occurred December 26, 1883, in her home in Massachusetts.

Haswell C. Clarke took a preparatory course in the Roxbury Latin School, and entered Harvard College in 1859, being a member of the Class of '63. Before graduating, however, he received a commission as Second Lieutenant, and accordingly entered the army as Aide-de-Camp to Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, joining that General's staff in Bos-

ton in 1861. He followed his chief to Ship Island, below New Orleans, and remained there until the 1st of May, 1862, when with the victorious Union army he entered New Orleans and spent one year there, while Gen. Butler was in command of the Department of the Gulf. Thence he went to Fortress Monroe, where Gen. Butler took command of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina. Afterward Gen. Butler was in command of the Army of the James, which operated against Petersburg, and opened the way for Grant and the Army of the Potomac to enter Richmond. He served with Gen. Butler through all his campaigns, and was in his service until the close of the war, throughout that period being the warm and trusted friend of his distinguished commander. He was mustered out in October, 1865, as Lieutenant-Colonel, to which rank he had been promoted March 13, 1865, "for meritorious services in the Department of the Gulf, for gallant conduct in the execution of orders on the Mississippi River, in the bombardment of Fts. Jackson and St. Philip, and for gallantry and courage in the attack of the rebels on Battery Harrison," one of the lines of entrenchment above Petersburg. Such is a brief summary of the official military record of one of the patriotic, earnest and efficient young officers of the late war.

In 1872 Col. Clarke received his diploma with the honorable degree of A. B. from his Alma Mater. In 1865 his father became interested in a large flaxmill in Kankakee, Ill., the management of which was not giving satisfaction to the stockholders, and in the following year our subject was dispatched thither to inquire into its workings and superintend its operations. After a year's experience and observation he decided that the business could not be made a success and it was accordingly closed up. He also became financially interested in a large stone quarry, which paid better dividends. In April, 1871, when the First National Bank of Kankakee was incorporated, Col. Clarke became a stockholder and a member of its Board of Directors, being chosen Cashier, which position he has held continuously since the bank doors were opened for business to the present time, covering a period of twenty-two years. (See

history of the bank, which is one of the important financial institutions of eastern Illinois.)

In politics Col. Clarke is emphatically Republican, but has never been an aspirant for an elective office of prominence. He has accepted some of the minor offices through a sense of duty as a good citizen, having served as Alderman of Kankakee, and as a member of the City Board of Education, of which he was President one year. When the Illinois Eastern Hospital was located at Kankakee, Col. Clarke was appointed Secretary and Treasurer of the institution, and has held that position continuously since, a period of thirteen years, during which time he has rendered the State faithful and efficient service, and has aided materially in the success that has crowned that institution from the start. (See history of the hospital elsewhere in this work.)

On the 5th of May, 1869, Col. Clarke married Miss Harriet Amelia Cobb, a daughter of William and Achsah Cobb, and a sister of Emory Cobb, President of the First National Bank of Kankakee. In his religious affiliations Col. Clarke is a communicant of St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Kankakee, of which he has been Vestryman for more than twenty years. His wife is also a member of that church.

The Masonic record of our subject is a conspicuous feature of his history, as he has been very prominently identified with the order officially for a quarter of a century. He was made a Master Mason in Owiseo Lodge No. 571, December 11, 1867. The old lodge was subsequently consolidated with Kankakee Lodge No. 389. He was advanced to the Royal Arch degree in Kankakee Chapter No. 78 on the 28th of February, 1868; became a member of Springfield Council No. 2 on October 7 of the following year, and on the 23d of that month became a member of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, of Kankakee. He was admitted to Van Rensselaer L. of P. October 5, 1875, to the Chicago Council October 6, 1875, on the same date to Gourgas Chapter, and to the Oriental Consistory on the 7th of October, 1875, receiving the Thirty-third Degree in Philadelphia September 16, 1879. His Masonic official record begins with his service as Worshipful Master of

Owisco Lodge in 1868. He next was Worshipful Master of Kankakee Lodge in 1871-75, was M. E. H. P. of Kankakee Chapter for 1869-70-79-80 and 1881; was elected E. C. of Ivanhoe Commandery for the term of 1872; was D. D. G. M. of the Sixteenth Masonic District of Illinois for seven years, from 1872 to 1879, inclusive, and in October, 1875, was elected M. E. G. H. P. of the Grand Chapter of Illinois, serving for one term. In October, 1884, he was elected R. E. G. C. of the Grand Commandery, K. T., of Illinois, and served for one term. At this writing (1892) he is Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of Illinois. During the many years of his prominent and active affiliation with the order, Col. Clarke has made many pleasant acquaintances throughout the State and nation, where the pleasure has been reciprocal.

Our subject is President of the Kankakee Club, a social society composed of many of the best people of the city, and is officially connected with many other social and financial organizations. In business life Col. Clarke is enterprising and public-spirited, and has been more or less identified with everything of public interest that has transpired in his time in his city or county. He was elected and served as President of the Business Men's Association of Kankakee during its recent rapid growth in general prosperity and the industries, and did much to aid and encourage the same. He is noted for exactness and correctness in his business methods, which characteristic has won for him public confidence in his acts, and in the important financial relations he holds to his fellow-citizens and the general public.

In the early summer of 1891, Col. Clarke, feeling the need of a little rest and recreation after many years of close application to business, planned a tour of the Old World, and with his wife sailed from New York in May of that year, making their first landing in Ireland. After visiting the larger cities and principal points of interest in the British Isles, they proceeded to Norway, stopping at its principal seaports, and going the whole length of its coast to North Cape, "the land of the midnight sun," where they saw no night. Rounding North Cape they proceeded into

Lapland, invading the fabled domain of Santa Claus, where they inspected his reindeer and the curious customs of the Laplanders. This part of the trip was suggested to the Colonel by his previous experience in Alaska, which had given him a taste for Arctic scenes. On their return they went to Scotland and England, going thence to Austria, Germany, and thence to France, where they rested a season in Paris. Next they crossed the Alps into Switzerland, enjoying for a time the romantic scenery of that favorite haunt of the tourist and the artist. They returned to England and then home, where they arrived after a most enjoyable tour of six months, during which time their observations would afford material for a very readable book. The collection of beautiful paintings and curios which they brought back with them will not only ornament their home, but will serve as pleasant reminders of their journeyings in foreign lands.

It is no flattery to say of Col. Clarke what everybody who knows him will vouch for, that he is one of the most popular men in Kankakee County. It may be that he is not entitled to any credit for it, as it is probable that he doesn't mean to be so, but simply can't help it. It is his nature to be genial and courteous, and being of a happy disposition and fortunate in natural endowments, both physical and mental, and favored by fortune with abundant means, there is no reason why he should not hold, as he does, a foremost place in the hearts of all who know him.



FRANK B. WHITTUM is the well-known, genial station agent and telegraph operator of the Illinois Central Railroad at Herscher, Ill. His birth occurred at Phelps, Ontario County, N. Y., on the 28th of May, 1856. Of that State, his father, H. C. Whittum, was also a native, and there grew to manhood. He married Miss Prudence Bayless, likewise of New York. In 1867, he removed with his family to Michigan, locating in Eaton County, where he engaged in the manufac-

ture of lumber and also did merchandising and farming for a number of years. Now, retired from active business, he is enjoying the fruits of his years of toil. In his earlier life he was quite active in political circles and held a number of positions in the locality in which he dwelt. He has always supported the principles of the Republican party since its organization.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in Eaton County, Mich., where he had removed with his parents. His early education was acquired in the district schools, which studies were supplemented by a course in the Eaton Rapids High School and later at Olivet College. Upon completing his school life, Mr. Whittum engaged as a teacher for two years, in which line he proved very successful. Afterward he took a commercial course at Janesville, Wis., also learning telegraphy. From there he went to Chicago, where he accepted a position in a commercial house, where he remained for a year. At the expiration of that time he entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company and up to the present day has been with them, stationed at various offices along the line. In 1880, he was appointed station agent and operator at Herscher. He is also agent for several first-class fire insurance companies and does a good business, both in Herscher and the adjoining country. The *Etna* Life Insurance Company have also made him their agent at this point.

Mr. Whittum has taken quite an active part in local politics, though he has never desired official recognition. On the organization of the village of Herscher he was elected Clerk, in which capacity he has acted since. He uses his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party and cast his first vote in the Presidential election of 1880 for James A. Garfield. He is a man of upright character and exemplary habits and is one of the Illinois Central's most valued and trusted employes.

In Momenca, on the 27th of November, 1882, Mr. Whittum and Miss Sarah Richards were united in marriage. The lady, who is a native of Indiana, received her education in Kankakee County and Oxford, Ohio, in the Ladies' Seminary, and previous to her marriage was a successful teacher. Her parents were Samuel and Maria Richards, the for-

mer of whom died when she was a child. Mrs. Whittum's two brothers, Clark and Wheeler Richards, were formerly prominent men of this county, and were civil engineers, the latter being at one time Surveyor of the county. They are both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Whittum have two sons, Freddie and Harry, and are highly esteemed members of the Herscher Presbyterian Church.



GEORGE W. BYRNES, a farmer residing on section 3, Limestone Township, is one of the honored pioneers of this county, and were his sketch omitted from its pages the history would be incomplete. His name is inseparably connected with its upbuilding. The county certainly owes a debt of gratitude to the early settlers who bore the hardships and trials of frontier life while making homes in this then far Western country, thereby laying the foundation for a county which now occupies a foremost place among its sister counties in this great commonwealth.

Mr. Byrnes was born in Fairport, Geauga County, now Lake County, Ohio, July 30, 1818, and was the fifth in a family of six children, including three sons and three daughters, whose parents were James and Margaret (Mayher) Byrnes. The father was a native of Grafton County, N. H. The paternal grandfather, however, was born in Ireland, but in his youth emigrated to this country and married a lady of Vermont. Mrs. Byrnes, the mother of our subject, was a native of the Empire State.

When George was only three years of age his parents left Ohio and removed to Mt. Clemens, Mich., where his mother died the following year. He remained in Michigan until 1830, his time being passed in the usual manner of farmer lads, and then at the age of thirteen years ran away from home in order to become a sailor on the Lakes. Going to Detroit, he carried out his cherished resolution. When about fourteen years old he made his home in Chicago, but continued to sail the Lakes

until sixteen years of age. He can relate many interesting stories concerning his experience as a sailor lad. When his father came to this county in 1831, George Byrnes accompanied him. His father had located land here two years previous. Our subject made the journey from Chicago on foot and carried with him eight pounds of nails to be used in building the roof of their house. At that time there were only about six settlements in the entire county. The greater part of the land was still in its primitive condition and was owned by the Government. Indians still resided in this locality, all kinds of wild game were plentiful, and the primitive condition of everything gave little indication that Kankakee County was to attain to the enviable position which it to-day occupies.

In 1843, Mr. Byrnes was united in marriage with Miss Sabra Anna Hawkins, whose parents were among the earliest pioneers of this county. The following children were born of their union: Joel B., born April 6, 1845, is now living in Kansas; James, born December 16, 1846, is engaged in farming in the Sunflower State; Hester Maria, born January 5, 1850, died at the age of two years; George W., born January 11, 1852, is one of the substantial farmers of this county. The mother of this family died in 1865, and on the 16th of December, 1866, Mr. Byrnes was again married, his second union being with Miss Harriet Benson, a resident of Washington, D. C. She was born in Queen Anne and Prince George County, Md., April 16, 1840, and her parents were also natives of the same State. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Byrnes were born the following children. Sabra Anna, born September 6, 1867, died at the age of thirteen years. Hattie L., born November 29, 1868, is now the wife of John Cahen, a resident farmer of Kankakee County. Cephas B., born on the 12th of July, 1871, died in infancy. The younger children are John B., born July 25, 1872; and Cynthia Eunice, born November 10, 1878. They are still under the parental roof.

The hardships and privations of pioneer life are well known to Mr. Byrnes, not as a matter of report but of experience. He performed the arduous task of developing wild land, many an acre having first been plowed by him. He has ever worked for the best interests of the county, for

its upbuilding and advancement. He aided in the organization of the county and was its first Sheriff, to which office he was elected in 1852, filling the position for a term of two years. True to every public and private trust, he has won the confidence and high regard of all with whom business or pleasure has brought him in contact. Through his business ability and enterprise he has gained a handsome property and now owns three hundred and twenty acres of rich farming land. In politics, he has always been a stalwart Democrat and for forty-seven years he has been connected with the Masonic fraternity.



GEORGE H. REED, living on section 17, Norton Township, has been a resident of this county for twenty-two years. His birth occurred in Oneida County, N. Y., on the 11th of January, 1855. He is a son of Louis L. and Eliza (Cook) Reed, both of whom were natives of New York, and there grew to maturity. The father is a weaver by trade, and for a number of years was engaged in the manufacturing business. About 1856 he moved Westward to Illinois, locating in Will County, near Wilmington. There for the first time in his life he engaged in farming and was quite successful. In 1870, coming to Kankakee County, he purchased a tract of raw prairie land, which he has since much improved and developed. On this farm he resided until 1887, engaged in its cultivation, but at that time removing to Kankakee, he retired from the active cares and business of life.

Our subject, George H., passed his boyhood and youth in Will and Kankakee Counties, coming to the latter place when fifteen years of age. His school privileges were such as were afforded by the district schools, and with his father he remained until attaining his majority. At Wabash, Ind., Mr. Reed married Miss Louise Miller, on the 3d of March, 1882. Mrs. Reed is a native of Indiana and a daughter of William Miller, of that State. The family circle of six children remains unbroken,

the eldest being Leonard L.; the others are Clara J., Nellie E., Leroy R., and Hattie May and Ward A. (twins). The three older children are attending school in the neighborhood.

After his marriage, Mr. Reed settled upon a farm which he had previously purchased and which land adjoined his father's property. For several years he carried on his farm and after his father's removal to Kankakee he rented his farm, since which time he has operated both. He has one hundred and sixty acres of improved land and is accounted one of the successful farmers of Norton Township. Our subject is a public-spirited man and has given his hearty support to all measures for the benefit of the community. In local politics he is much interested and has held various official positions of responsibility, among which we mention that of Collector of the township and Road Commissioner. He is a staunch adherent of the Republican party and deposited his first vote for Hon. James A. Garfield. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and for nine consecutive years he has been a Director and a member of the School Board. Socially, he holds membership with Green Grove Camp No. 1512, M. W. A., of Buckingham, Ill. In his personal character he is honorable and upright and has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.



GEORGE E. WEIS is an enterprising agriculturist of Norton Township, residing on section 6. He is numbered among the honored pioneers of Kankakee County, and is one of the early settlers of Norton Township, dating his residence here since 1865.

On the 6th of March, 1826, his birth occurred in Wurtemberg, Germany. In his native land he passed his early days, receiving good advantages in the schools. Since coming to this country, by observation and study he has acquired a good knowledge of English. Previous to his leaving Germany, he was engaged at farm labor. In 1854,

going to Havre, Mr. Weis took passage in a sailing-vessel bound for New York. The vessel was forty-three days in crossing the broad Atlantic and encountered severe storms and gales. Nearly all the passengers were sick during the entire voyage. They arrived in New York Harbor, casting anchor on the 1st of July, 1854. From there Mr. Weis went West to Chicago and afterward went West to DuPage County, where he joined several German friends. He soon obtained employment on a farm, where he remained for six years.

On the 16th of February, 1860, Mr. Weis married Miss Dora, daughter of Philip Spahn, who was also a native of Germany and spent his entire life in that country. When eighteen years of age, Mrs. Weis bade adieu to her friends and native land and came to the United States, arriving in Illinois about 1857. By their marriage were born five children: George L., a farmer of this township, and who learned the carpenter's trade; Louis Henry, also a carpenter and farmer of this county; Emma, wife of John H. Knipe, engaged in farming in Kankakee County; Charles W., a young man helping to carry on the home farm. A daughter, Rosa, now deceased, was the wife of James Kriebel, a farmer of this county. She departed this life on the 15th of July, 1892.

In 1860, Mr. Weis rented a farm in DuPage County, which he carried on for five years. In 1865, removing to Kankakee County, he purchased a tract of eighty-four acres of raw prairie. The land was very productive and when the season was at all favorable brought forth abundant harvests of grain and other fruits. Thus Mr. Weis was soon on the road to prosperity. He purchased eighty acres adjoining his original land, but located over the line in Grundy County. In all, his farm comprises one hundred and sixty-four acres of arable and improved land. He has a large, substantial residence, commodious barns, sheds and other farm buildings. His place is located one mile distant from Reddick and is a valuable and fertile farm.

Mr. Weis cast his first ballot for Hon. Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and has always been a staunch supporter of the Republican party until 1892, at which time he voted the Prohibition ticket. He

is a firm believer in the temperance cause and thinks legislation should be used for its furtherance. Mr. and Mrs. Weis are members of the Evangelical Church, to which they give their hearty support. He is a man well esteemed for his integrity and moral worth, and has helped to make the county what it is to-day, one of the best in the State.



WILLIAM V. STATES is Justice of the Peace, Notary Public and Town Clerk of Norton Township. His birth occurred in Huntingdon County, Pa., on the 14th of December, 1837. He is a son of Thomas L. States, who was a native of the same county, and of English descent. The latter, on arriving at man's estate, married in Connecticut Miss Mary Vaughan, who was born, reared and educated in Redding, Conn., and whose father, Daniel Vaughan, was born in Rhode Island. The newly-married couple located in Huntingdon County, Pa. Mr. States was a hatter by trade, and also a contractor on public works. For several seasons he also built canal boats, and was quite actively engaged in business. In the fall of 1857, leaving his family in Pennsylvania, he came to Illinois, where he purchased land in Kankakee County, upon which he built a good home. The following year he returned to Pennsylvania, and moved his family and household effects to his farm in this county. With his sons he went to work to improve his land. His death occurred in 1871, and he was buried in Smith Cemetery, where a marble monument marks his last resting-place. He took quite an active part in local politics, and occupied several official positions, both in Illinois and the Keystone State. Before coming to the West he served for some years as Deputy Sheriff. He was an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was a man of unblemished character and reputation. His wife, who is still living, makes her home with her children, of whom three yet survive. The eldest, H. B., is a farmer of Norton Township; William is

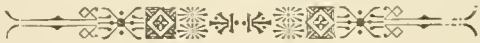
next in order of birth; and Julia Anna, is the wife of George Carpenter, also of Norton Township. Alfred, who was a soldier, died in the service of his country at the battle of Corinth in 1863. Thomas died in this county in 1862, at the age of nineteen years.

Mr. States, of this sketch grew to maturity in Pennsylvania, where he received good school advantages in both the common and higher schools. Upon the completion of his studies he was employed as a clerk for three years with G. & J. H. Shoenberger, the noted iron manufacturers. March 2, 1858, he faced for the West, and when he reached the Alleghany Mountains he met with very severe weather, freezing his hands and feet. He went on to Monroeville, Ohio, on horseback, where he arrived about the 16th or 17th of March. He traveled via Toledo, Ohio, to Chicago, where he arrived about the 20th of March, and immediately started for Kankakee County. Much of the way he plowed through sloughs and swamps, and had, on the whole, a laborious and discouraging trip. However, he decided to locate here, and with his brothers helped to open up a farm, remaining with his father until the latter's death. For several years previous, however, he had taken almost entire charge of the place.

Our subject returned to the Keystone State, and on the 17th of February, 1862, married Sarah C. Chamberlain, who was born and grew to womanhood in Huntingdon County, Pa. She is a daughter of James and Susan (Ginter) Chamberlain, residents of Warrior's Mark, where the former has been engaged in the hotel business for a period of fifty-two years. Mrs. States is the fourth child in a family of nine children, all yet living. There are two sons and seven daughters: Harry, a sketch of whom is given elsewhere in this volume; Mary, Mrs. Keefer, of Pennsylvania; Rebecca, also a Mrs. Keefer of Pennsylvania; Sarah C., Mrs. States; Susan, Mrs. Fetterhoof; Fannie, Mrs. Funk; Margaret, Mrs. Fetterhoof; Adeline, Mrs. Stahn; and Daniel, who married Miss Goodman, a resident of Pennsylvania. Mrs. States was educated in the common schools of her native State and is a member of the Ladies' Aid Society and of the Epworth League, of Buckingham, Ill. To Mr. and Mrs.

States was born a son, Henry W., who died at the age of six years and seven months, in December, 1886, with diphtheria.

For twenty years Mr. States has been an invalid, both hands being crippled with rheumatism. In spite of this obstacle he is a successful agriculturist, and for many years has carried on his farm by means of hired help. For the past twelve years our subject has been identified with the Republican party, and voted for James A. Garfield. Previously he was a member of the Democracy. He has taken quite an active part in local politics for some years, and has held a number of official positions of trust and honor. He was first elected Constable, and served in that capacity most acceptably for four years. For nineteen consecutive years, Mr. States has been the able and efficient Clerk of the Township, to which office he has been elected term after term. He is now serving his tenth year as Justice of the Peace. For five years he acted under appointment as Township Treasurer. He has proved faithful, capable and trustworthy in these various positions, and has won the approval of all. For thirty-five years Mr. States has taken an active part in the growth and development of this region, and his many friends will be pleased to read this brief tribute to his worth. With his wife, he holds membership with the Buckingham Methodist Episcopal Church, and they were enrolled among the original members. Our subject and wife are now residents of the town of Buckingham, where they have a comfortable and pleasant home, which is always a welcome haven for their many friends.



GEORGE LAKE BROWN is one of the leading land-owners and extensive agriculturists of Aroma Township, residing on section 11, where he has made his home for four years. His birth occurred on the 14th of October, 1835, in Montgomery County, N. Y. He is a son of John and Sarah (Stall) Brown, the former a native of the Empire State. To them were born six children:

Alfred, who died on the 23d of August, 1892, in Waldron; Adeline, who is the wife of Henry P. Lowe, and resides in Waldron; Phila, the wife of Peter Lowe, a retired farmer, who now makes his home in Kankakee; Johnson T., a farmer of Hancock County, Iowa; and Jane, who resides in Waldron.

Our subject is the third in order of birth of his father's family, and emigrated Westward with his parents by way of the Lakes to Chicago when he was seven or eight years of age, landing in Chicago about the year 1842, where they remained for about four months. They then removed to Kane County, settling in Sugar Grove, near Aurora. There the father engaged in agricultural pursuits for about six years, and then, removing to Kankakee County, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land near Momence. This was unimproved and wild prairie land, and for it Mr. Brown paid but \$60. The year 1849 witnessed his arrival in this county, and in the same year he departed this life, being then in the prime of manhood, having reached the age of forty-nine years. He was a staunch Democrat, a loyal citizen and a man of intelligence and integrity. The mother of our subject is still living, and has reached the advanced age of eighty-two years. She now makes her home with her children in Waldron.

The boyhood days of George Brown were passed upon a farm in the usual pursuits and occupations of farmer lads. He came to this county in 1849, and from that time has lived upon the farm which his father then purchased. Upon arriving here they built a small frame house, and here Mr. Brown continued to reside until 1889. He is now the possessor of two hundred and thirty-six acres on section 11, Aroma Township, and owns altogether some six hundred and forty-two acres of well-improved and valuable farming land. He received a common-school education, and has been largely self-educated. From the first he manifested good business ability, and has exercised wise judgment in his investments. At the death of his father, his mother and her family were left but very little, their possessions comprising a tract of prairie land, a couple of yoke of oxen and a few head of cattle. When the property was divided, such a small por-

tion fell to our subject that he practically began life empty-handed, and therefore to him is due the entire credit of his present success and prosperity.

September 19, 1887, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Caroline Powell. She was born in Bruce, Macomb County, Mich., May 5, 1851, and was the seventh child in a family of seven children, three sons and four daughters, all of whom are living except Abram, who died while defending the old flag. Mrs. Brown is a daughter of Abram Ten Broeck and Sarah A. (Field) Powell. She received her education in her native county, and is a member of the Methodist Protestant Church. By this union two children have been born: Georgia Lake and John Ten Broeck.

In August, 1861, Mr. Brown donned the blue, becoming a member of Company D, Forty-second Illinois Infantry. He was mustered into service at Chicago, the period of his enlistment being for three years. With his company he participated in many engagements and battles, and among these we enumerate that of Island No. 10, Farmington (Miss.), Murfreesboro (Tenn.), Resaca (Ga.), New Hope Church, Mission Ridge and many smaller skirmishes and engagements. Though often under fire and in many dangerous positions, he was singularly fortunate and with one exception was never injured. At one time a piece of shell struck him on the leg, but no serious effect ensued. During the entire period of his service, which comprised over three years, he was only in the hospital for about two weeks. He received an honorable discharge at Atlanta, Ga., in 1864. He was ever faithful in the discharge of his duties as a soldier, and was one on whom his superior officers might safely rely. Socially Mr. Brown holds membership with the Grand Army post.

For half a century Mr. Brown has been identified with the growth and progress of this county, and has taken an active part in its upbuilding and success. At the time of his arrival the country was sparsely inhabited, and but few cabins were to be seen in any direction. Much of the country was a swamp, and rank prairie grass was the only thing to be seen upon the surface of the land for miles. Fifty years have passed, and behold how wonderful the transformation! The county is now

one of the most fertile and beautiful in the State. Thrifty farms are to be seen on every hand, and waving fields of golden grain have replaced the useless grass of the prairie. Cities and villages dot the landscape, and railroads traverse this section in every direction.



ALBERT G. SMITH, a practical and progressive farmer residing on sections 24 and 25, Salina Township, owns and operates an excellent farm of one hundred and ninety acres. Almost the entire amount is under a high state of cultivation, and it is improved with good buildings and all the accessories of a model farm of the nineteenth century. Its owner has the honor of being a native of this State. He was born near Oswego, Kendall County, July 14, 1812, and is a son of George J. and Delana (Allen) Smith, both of whom were natives of Massachusetts and were of English descent. Their family numbered ten children, as follows: Edwin W. G., deceased; Thomas, also deceased; Lucy, wife of R. C. Bingley; Sarah M., wife of James Henry; Albert of this sketch; Mary, deceased; Ella; Harriet, deceased; Marion, who has also passed away; and Julia O. The father of this family followed the occupation of farming throughout his entire life. He was born July 21, 1806, and at the age of sixteen years left the old Bay State, going to Erie County, N. Y., where, on the 21st of November, 1832, he married Miss Allen. For six years he followed farming in New York.

On the expiration of that period, George Smith left the East and by way of the Lakes came west to Chicago. He first located near Oswego, Kendall County, Ill., where he made a claim of Government land of one hundred and sixty acres, purchasing the same at the regular price of \$1.25 per acre. It was all in its primitive condition, but the labor he bestowed upon it soon made it a good farm. He resided thereon until 1858, when he came to Kankakee County and took up his resi-

dence in Salina Township. Here he purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 25, and to its improvement and development devoted his energies until his life was ended. He was a member of the Baptist Church, and in politics was an ardent supporter of the Republican party. He passed away July 18, 1878, and his remains were interred in the Shreffler Cemetery. His wife was called to the home beyond March 1, 1892, and was laid to rest by the side of her husband. She was also a member of the Baptist Church, and both were highly respected citizens, whose many excellencies of character won them the warm regard of their many friends. In the veins of our subject also runs Revolutionary blood. His grandfather aided the Colonies in their struggle for independence and the great-grandfather was killed in that war.

Albert Smith, whose name heads this record, was only a year old when his father removed to his claim in Kendall County. His education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood, which he attended at intervals until nineteen years of age. He remained at home with his parents until after the breaking out of the late war, when, on the 7th of August, 1862, he responded to the country's call for troops, enlisting as a private of Company B, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry. He was mustered into service at Chicago, and then going to the South participated in the hard-fought siege of Vicksburg. He also took part in the battle of Arkansas Post and many other engagements. He was honorably discharged at Memphis, Tenn., July 20, 1865, and was mustered out as regimental orderly.

When the war was over, Mr. Smith returned to the old homestead, which he operated for three years. He then purchased one hundred and thirty-six acres of land on sections 24 and 25, Salina Township, the farm on which he now resides, although its boundaries have since been extended until now one hundred and ninety acres yield to him a golden tribute in return for his care and labor.

On Christmas Day of 1866, Mr. Smith was married to Miss Mary I. Herrick, a daughter of James and Mary (Conout) Herrick. Their union

has been blessed with a family of nine children, eight sons and a daughter, of whom all are now living except Albert G., the fourth in order of birth. The other members of the family are: Ernest F., Alfred W. T., Walter E., Lucy B., Arthur G., Leslie C., George J. and Frank H.

The family are members of the Christadelphian faith, and Mr. Smith holds membership with the Grand Army of the Republic. In politics he is a supporter of the Republican principles. He tries faithfully to discharge his duties of citizenship, but does not take a prominent part in public and political affairs, preferring to devote his attention to the interests of his business, his family and his home, and he keeps out of all law suits as far as he can.



DAVID McELVAIN, of Kankakee, is a representative of a pioneer family of this county. His father, Greer McElvain, with his family settled in Rockville Township in June, 1848. He had visited the country the previous year with the view of establishing a permanent home in this section. He was born in Erie County, Pa., on the 8th of February, 1804, and was a son of John and Mary (Jordan) McElvain, the former a native of Baltimore, Md.

At the age of eight years Greer McElvain removed with his parents from Pennsylvania to Sandusky, Ohio, and in 1828 to Kalamazoo County, Mich. A year later he married Miss Mahala Hanson, who was born in Norfolk, Va., and had removed to Michigan with her parents from Ohio, where the families had previously been acquainted. After his marriage Mr. McElvain settled upon a farm near Schoolcraft, Kalamazoo County, and later removed to the town of Brady, in the same county. The paternal grandfather of our subject, John McElvain, lived in Kalamazoo County until his death. He was twice married, Greer having been a son by the second marriage. His mother was a native of Ireland. There were three sons by the first marriage, all of whom have passed away. Of a

family of five sons and three daughters of the second union, all are now deceased with the exception of a daughter, Mrs. Mary Frazier, of Schoolcraft, Mich.

When the family of Greer McElvain came to Kankakee County in 1848, it comprised the parents, three sons and four daughters. The father purchased one hundred and eighty acres of prairie land on section 21, which is now Rockville Township. He also purchased twenty acres of timber land. On his farm, which he bought of Samuel Howard, was a double log house, and of his farm about sixty acres had been broken and on them crops planted. Here he made a home for himself and family and resided until his death, which occurred on the 4th of February, 1871, at the age of sixty-seven years. The wife and mother did not long survive her husband, as her death occurred January 19, 1873. The circumstances attending the death of Mrs. McElvain were peculiarly sad. A man who had come from Wilmington, Ill., had been engaged to work upon the farm. He was soon taken ill, his disease proving to be smallpox. All of the family who were at the time at home contracted the disease, which proved fatal to the mother and her youngest son, Greer. The hired man also died of the disease, to which he had so fatally exposed the family. The father was a well-known and esteemed citizen. He was a plain, domestic man, who had had but little opportunity for education in his younger days, and was, in fact, a typical pioneer of forty or fifty years ago. He was a man of generous and kind disposition, who aimed to do well his part in life. Formerly he was a Democrat, voting for Gen. Jackson, but later became a Whig of strong anti-slavery sentiments, and after the formation of the Republican part was a strong adherent. He and his wife somewhat late in life joined the United Brethren Church, of which they remained faithful members until death.

Ten children, four sons and six daughters, graced the union of Greer and Mahala (Hanson) McElvain. Of this family all grew to mature years. David is the eldest; John and William are residents of Rockville Township; Mary Jane is the wife of Calvin W. Walton and makes her home

in Englewood, Ill.; Anna Eliza became the wife of John Gilford, and resides near Lake Village, Ind.; Elizabeth married John Rowe, who was killed during the War of the Rebellion at the battle of Franklin, Tenn., and later she married Mathias Harris, of Kankakee County; Margaret is the wife of Frederick Hertzberg, of Kankakee; Helen Mars married Charles Putnam, who served in the late war, and has since died; Alice Janette became the wife of Mr. Forbes, and is now deceased. The latter's husband and children live near Goodland.

David McElvain was born in Kalamazoo County, Mich., July 22, 1830, being the first white male child born in that county. He came to Kankakee County with his father's family, and well remembers the wild appearance of the country in those early days. Game, including deer, was abundant. Once, while near his home in the township of Rockville, he counted forty in a herd, and for a number of years later this beautiful animal was abundant in this region. Our subject continued to live on the home farm until he was twenty-eight years of age, at which time he engaged in farming for himself in the same township, where for many years he and his family resided, the farm on which he then located being still in possession of the family.

April 7, 1858, Mr. McElvain married Miss Sarah Jane Hoyt, who was born in Kalamazoo County, Mich., October 4, 1840. Her parents, John and Elizabeth Hoyt, emigrated to Illinois at about the time that the McElvain family did. They settled in Will County, where they resided until their death. Their family consisted of two sons and three daughters. Mary, wife of Charles Hartman, resides in Rockville Township; Mrs. McElvain is the next in order of birth; Ann married Wesley Cooper, after whose death she became the wife of James McElroy, of Bourbonnais Township; Jerome L. resides in Kansas City, Mo. The third child, Palmer, accidentally killed himself when a lad of eleven years, while engaged in play with his sister.

To Mr. and Mrs. McElvain have been born two children, a son and a daughter. The elder, Ada E., who was educated in the city schools, is now one of

the successful teachers of Kankakee County. The son, Greer, named after his grandfather, was born April 25, 1872. He possesses a natural talent for music, and excels in the playing of several instruments.

For several years our worthy subject and his wife have made their home in this city, where they removed in order to give better educational advantages to their children. They have a pleasant home and are numbered among the well-known and esteemed citizens of this county. Politically, Mr. McElvain is a Republican, having served as Justice of the Peace, and for many years was School Director, doing efficient service for the educational interests of his community. Socially, he is a Master Mason.



WILLIAM PERKINS, farmer and stockman, and one of the early settlers of Momence, is the son of William G. and Philinda (Post) Perkins, and was born in Orleans County, N. Y., on the 3d of March, 1830. The maternal grandfather of our subject spent his life in the Empire State, where he was a prosperous farmer. He attained the great age of ninety-three years, and the day before his death walked a distance of three miles.

The parents of our subject were both natives of New Hampshire, and the father followed agricultural pursuits as his life occupation. He removed with his family to New York some time in the '20s, and located on a farm in Orleans County, where he made his home until 1838, at which time, going to Michigan, he settled upon a farm seven miles northwest of Adrian, in Lenawee County, where for many years he devoted himself to its care and cultivation. At the time of his death, which occurred in 1853, his farm, which consisted of ninety acres, was under a fine state of cultivation and was a valuable piece of property. Mr. Perkins was also an extensive stock-raiser. The death of his wife occurred in 1851. Five sons and four daughters were born to them, of whom but

two, William and Willard, twin brothers, are now living.

The early years of our subject were passed in the usual occupations and pursuits of farmer boys, and his school privileges were those of the district schools of the neighborhood. He remained with his parents on the old homestead until arriving at man's estate, and on the 22d of October, 1850, was united in marriage with Miss Melissa M., a daughter of Joseph and Marcia (Parker) Younglove, the former a native of Vermont, and the latter of Ohio. Five children graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Perkins. George H. married Miss Eva Stoner, and departed this life on the 26th of September, 1877; his widow is now the wife of Chester Metcalf. Mary H. became the wife of Thomas V. Peters, a farmer residing near Camp Clarke, Neb., and in their family are four children: Elmer, Eva, Laura and Elipha. Frank is a farmer who lives three miles west of Momence; he married Miss Kittie Stabler and has three children: Donna, Viola and Ruth. Aaron E. is operator and agent at the junction of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois and the Chicago & Illinois Central Railroads at Momence. Cornelia is a school teacher, now teaching in the Lake District, three miles west of Momence.

At the time when Mr. Perkins came to Momence it was a town of but little more than one hundred inhabitants, and wild game, deer, prairie chickens, etc., were in great abundance in this vicinity. He rented a farm a mile and a-half west of town soon after his arrival, and in the spring of 1858 bought a farm of ninety acres on section 22, three miles west of Momence, in Ganier Township, which he still owns and to which he has since added one hundred and sixty acres. This property is well tiled, and has neat hedge fences and good buildings upon it. He also possesses a good comfortable home in Momence, which he has made his home for thirteen years. Mr. Perkins is possessed of industry, perseverance and energy, and his property has been accumulated by his well-directed efforts, as he has made his own way in the world and fallen heir to no inheritance.

Mr. and Mrs. Perkins hold membership with the



Mrs. C. R. Starr



C. R. Starr

Episcopal Church of this city. In politics our subject is a Democrat of the Old Hickory stamp, and has always supported the nominees and principles of the Democracy. He is a Mason, belonging to Momence Lodge No. 481, A. F. & A. M., of which he is now Master.



HON. CHARLES RICHARD STARR, one of the Judges of the Circuit Court for the Eleventh District of Illinois, is the first Circuit Judge elected from Kankakee County. He was elected to that office in 1857, and after ten years of active service resigned, resuming the practice of his profession. In 1891 he was again elected for a term of six years and is now serving his second year of that period.

Judge Starr was born in the town of Cornwallis, Kings County, Nova Scotia, May 15, 1824, and is the son of Charles and Paulina (Cox) Starr. His father, who was a farmer in good circumstances, was born in the same house where his son first saw the light of day and was descended from an old New England family of English origin, which was founded in America in 1633 by Dr. Comfort Starr, who emigrated from Ashford, in the county of Kent, near London, England, and settled in Cambridge, Mass. Ultimately, a branch of the family removed to Connecticut, where the name appears among the records of the pioneer settlers. Samuel Starr, grandson of Dr. Comfort Starr, married, December 23, 1664, Hannah Brewster, a granddaughter of Elder William Brewster, who came over in the "Mayflower." Their great-grandson, Maj. Samuel Starr, married Abigail, daughter of Capt. John and Sarah Leflingwell, and in 1759 moved to Nova Scotia with his wife and only son, Joseph, who was then about two years of age.

The Major built the old home on the place known to this day as the Starr Farm in 1760-61 and this was standing until quite recently in a very good state of preservation. It is described in the history of the Starr family, written in Con-

necticut a few years since, as a "large, square building of nine rooms, and having an immense stack of chimneys in the center." A large pine tree stood in the front yard which measured one hundred and sixteen feet in height and was four feet five inches in diameter when cut down in 1850. This tree was a part of the "forest primeval" described by Longfellow in his "Evangeline," and under its shade four generations of the Starr family sported in childhood. "This was the Acadian land, on the shores of the Basin of Minas;" here were "the murmuring pines and the hemlocks," and "away to the northward Blomedon rose." Judge Starr was here born and here lived until he was seventeen years of age. "Near the old homestead stood the old church, its golden spindle and balls against the sky, and within its walls the fathers worshiped," and here our subject was christened in infancy and afterward instructed in the catechism and ritual of the Church of England.

Joseph Starr, mentioned above, the grandfather of our subject, was educated in Connecticut, and while there attending school the War of the Revolution broke out. After the close of the war and the acknowledged independence of the Colonies, he married a Connecticut cousin, Joanna Starr, and returned to the old homestead in Nova Scotia, where he reared a family, of which Charles Starr, the father of Judge Starr, was a member. Charles Starr was also educated in Connecticut and married in Nova Scotia Miss Paulina Cox, daughter of Capt. Harry Cox. Mrs. Starr was a native of Cornwallis, and by her marriage became the mother of three sons and four daughters: Susan, the eldest, is the widow of Wilham Gilliatt and now lives in Portland, Me. Henry married Miss Sarah A. Shipley and is a lawyer by profession, now presiding as one of the city Judges in Sacramento, Cal. He was educated at Kent's Hill Academy, in Maine, and lived in Norwich, Conn. When his father removed to Illinois in the year 1842, he accompanied the family. The second son, Christopher, remained in Nova Scotia and married Miss Mary J. Eaton, but afterward removed to Illinois and settled in Morris, Grundy County. He enlisted for the late war and was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Fifty-third Regiment, Illinois

Infantry. He fought under Gen. Sherman and made the celebrated march to the sea. His death occurred on the 26th of September, 1870, in California, as the result of disease contracted in the army. The Judge is next in order of birth. Sarah, Mrs. H. H. Spoor, died at Elwood, Will County, July 11, 1888. Joanna E. is a widow, and resides in San Francisco, Cal. Maria is now Mrs. James H. Mendson, of Chicago.

In 1842, our subject's father, with his wife and younger children, emigrated to Illinois, settling in Will County at a place since known as Starr's Grove, where he was recognized as a prosperous farmer and an upright and respected citizen. His death occurred at that place February 25, 1871, at the age of eighty-six years. His wife had died on the 11th of February, 1856.

The subject of this sketch was reared on his father's farm and attended the local schools. The winter before he left home he taught school in his native town. In 1841, when seventeen years old, he went to Portland, Me., and pursued his studies in the higher branches at Westbrook Seminary, near that city, until the following summer, when he joined his father's family on their way to Illinois. His early educational advantages had qualified him for teaching, and accordingly he followed that vocation. In the fall of 1844 Mr. Starr accepted a position as teacher of the Bourbonnais school, his pupils being chiefly the children of French-Canadian parents, of which nationality the settlement is largely composed, being one of the very earliest educators of the territory now embraced in Kankakee County.

Judge Starr began the study of law in the spring of 1845, in the office of H. E. Maynard, at Wilmington, Will County, subsequently pursuing his studies under the direction of Hon. Hugh Henderson, of Joliet. In 1847 he went to Morris, Grundy County, where he engaged in teaching and also pursued his law studies under the preceptorship of his brother, Henry Starr, and E. P. Seely, of that county, devoting about half his time to teaching and the remainder to reading law. He was admitted to the Bar at the June term of the Illinois Supreme Court at Ottawa, in 1849. The following spring he returned to Will County, where he took

out his final certificate of naturalization as a citizen of the United States, and engaged in the practice of his chosen profession until about the last of March, 1852, when he removed to Chicago and opened a law office on the corner of Clark and South Water Streets, afterward having one on the southeast corner of Randolph and Clark Streets. He remained, however, in the Garden City only until the 5th of July, 1853, when he came to what is now Kankakee. The county had just been organized and this site selected as the county seat, and but one building had been erected on the plat. The Illinois Central Railroad Company was at that time building its freight depot but the cars were not yet running within a mile of its location. Judge Starr advertised himself in the papers of Will and Iroquois Counties, there being no papers published in Kankakee County, as a practicing lawyer of Kankakee, but did not at once devote himself to business, as he had an important engagement that called him to Maine.

At Westbrook, near Portland, Me., on the 22d of September, 1853, Judge Starr was united in marriage with Miss Almena M. Stevens, whose acquaintance he had made while a student at Westbrook Seminary. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Rufus P. Cutler, pastor of the Park Street Unitarian Church of Portland, of which Mrs. Starr was a member. She was born in Westbrook, Me., April 20, 1823, and was a daughter of Capt. Samuel B. and Sarah B. (Francis) Stevens, and a sister of ex-Mayor Stevens, of Portland. On the maternal side she was the great-granddaughter of Mary Revere, the only sister of Paul Revere, of Revolutionary fame. Mary Revere became the wife of Edward Rose. Their daughter married Caleb Francis, and the daughter of that union was Mrs. Starr's mother.

Immediately after their marriage, Judge Starr and his wife set out for Kankakee, Ill., which place they reached October 14, 1853. The Judge at once entered upon the practice of his profession, thus becoming one of the first lawyers of this city and county. His claim to being a pioneer lawyer of the county is justly supported by the fact that while a law student he tried several cases in the

justice courts in Bourbonnais and other towns in the county, as now formed, as early as 1815 and 1816.

Three children were born to Judge and Mrs. Starr, a son and two daughters: Charles G. graduated at West Point Military Academy in the Class of '78, and is now a First Lieutenant in the regular army of the United States, being stationed at Columbus, Ohio, in the recruiting service. He was married in San Antonio, Tex., in 1881, to Miss Ellen A. Norton, of that place. Jane became the wife of Maj. Richard J. Hanna, a prominent merchant of Kankakee. Harriet is the wife of Prof. George V. Buchanan, of the Southern Illinois Normal University, at Carbondale, Ill.

While a resident of Chicago, the Judge was admitted to practice in the United States District and Circuit Courts. In 1855, he was appointed Public Administrator for the county by Gov. Joel A. Matteson, and in November of the same year was elected School Commissioner of the county, serving for two years in that office and organizing the first Teachers' Institute in the county. Judge Starr was appointed by the act of incorporation the first President of the town of Kankakee upon its organization.

In early life the Judge was a Democrat, but on the formation of the Republican party in 1856, he assisted in its organization in this county and was elected President of its first Republican Club. In March, 1857, he was, as previously stated, elected Judge of the Twentieth Judicial Circuit of Illinois for a term of four years, or until the next judicial election in June, 1861, at which time he was the unanimous choice of the Bar throughout the circuit and was re-elected without opposition. He continued to hold that office until March, 1867, when he resigned, having served on the Bench just ten years.

In 1868, on account of the ill-health of his wife, the Judge sent his family to Portland, Me., and the following year engaged in the law and insurance business in Boston, but in the spring of 1870 returned to Kankakee and resumed the practice of his profession at the Bar of this county. In the Judicial Convention held in Chicago that year for the purpose of nominating a Judge of the Su-

preme Court, Judge Starr was supported by the delegates from Will and Kankakee Counties, and in the Congressional Convention held at Morris October 4, 1871, the delegation supported him as their choice until the nomination was made. Again, in 1872, at the convention held at Fairbury, he was supported by his own county on one hundred and four ballots, since which time he has never been a candidate for any political office. On the 25th of July, 1885, Judge Starr received a call to become a candidate for the Supreme Bench of the State, a call signed by the Bar and a large number of the leading citizens of Kankakee County, without distinction of party, and he again received the unanimous support of his county delegation. In 1891, he yielded to the unanimous call of the Bar of his county to become a candidate for the office of Circuit Judge of the Eleventh District of Illinois and, being nominated at the Chatsworth convention, was elected without opposition, receiving the support of all parties. He is now serving his second year in the six-year term. In 1873 he was elected County Judge by the unanimous vote of the people and served four years.

While not strongly partisan, Judge Starr has been a devoted Republican since the organization of the party. His election to both the Circuit and County Benches has been by the unanimous voice of the people, regardless of party affiliations. He is a Master Mason, being a member of Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M. The Judge, although now (1893) in his sixty-ninth year, is robust and hearty, with mental faculties as active as in middle life, and is capable of much endurance, both mental and physical. His course as a lawyer was distinguished by superior ability, thorough study, and a conscientious devotion to the interests of his clients, which was rewarded by the confidence of Court, Bar and jury, and by the most flattering success in his practice. On the Bench his record is most creditable. His rulings and decisions, showing a well-grounded knowledge of law, have been distinguished by the utmost fairness and impartiality, while his superior executive ability secures the speedy dispatch of business and an economical administration of the court over which he presides.

On coming to Kankakee to live, Judge Starr and his wife became members of the Congregational Church. In the spring of 1887 the Judge was called to mourn the loss of his wife, whose death occurred on the 29th of May of that year, thus severing the happy conjugal relations that had existed for thirty-four years. Mrs. Starr was a highly educated and accomplished woman, an affectionate wife and a loving mother.



REV. FREDERICK SCHROEDER, pastor of the First German Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Paul's, of Kankakee, was born in Hanover, Germany, on the 5th of February, 1857. He emigrated to America with his parents, Frederick and E. Maria (Ahring) Schroeder, in 1858. The family settled in Cleveland, Ohio, where our subject attended the parochial schools of his church, and also the public schools. In 1871, he entered Concordia College, at Ft. Wayne, Ind., where he pursued a general scientific and literary course. During the years 1877 to 1880 he attended the Lutheran Theological Seminary at St. Louis, Mo., and was ordained minister of the German Evangelical Lutheran Church at Sadorus, Champaign County, Ill. Three congregations were assigned to his care, two in Champaign County, and one in Douglas County, and he continued his labors in that field for three years. In 1883 he accepted the pastorate of the Kankakee church, where he has since served with marked success.

In St. Louis, Mo., on the 6th of February, 1881, occurred the marriage of the Rev. Mr. Schroeder and Miss Sophia Steinmeyer, who was born in St. Louis, and is a daughter of Henry and Maria Steinmeyer. Six children, three sons and three daughters, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder: Frederick T. A., Clara M. S., Walter H. F., Meta A. G., Lydia H. B. and Werner A.

Mr. Schroeder has resided in Illinois since 1880, and in Kankakee since 1883, and has been very successful in his ministry, having a large and pros-

perous congregation. The First German Evangelical Lutheran Church Society, St. Paul's, was organized in 1859, the first pastor being the Rev. J. Bernthal, who served until 1863, and was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Schmidt, from Union Hill, who served until 1864. For the succeeding six years the Rev. Mr. Meyer was in charge, and his successor was the Rev. Mr. G. A. Mueller, who was pastor until 1883, at which date the subject of this sketch assumed charge of the work, and has now served for nine years. Up to 1864 the society held services in the schoolhouse. They then built a small stone church at the corner of Chestnut Street and East Avenue. In 1872, they built a larger one, which was burned in a general fire on the 1st of May, 1887. The congregation at once purchased the property which they now own at the southeast corner of Merchant Street and Dearborn Avenue. They have a fine church structure and neat parsonage. The congregation comprises one hundred and eighty families, and is rapidly increasing. They have in connection with the church a parochial school, with an average attendance of one hundred and twenty scholars, which is under control of one male and one female teacher.



LUTHER GUBTAIL, who now resides in Kankakee, is one of the honored pioneers of the county. Here he has made his home for forty-five years, and has therefore witnessed the greater part of its growth and development. He has also aided in its progress and advancement, and in many ways his name is inseparably connected with the history of the community. The pioneers are those who laid the foundation of the county, upon which the present structure of its prosperity was reared, and for their work a debt of gratitude is due which can never be repaid except by cherishing their lives and deeds in memory and perpetuating their labors by written records.

Mr. Gubtail, whose name heads this sketch, was born in Waterbury, Washington County, Vt., De-

ember 28, 1818, and is one in a family of fourteen children. History says that three brothers of the name of Gubtail emigrated to America from England, their native land, more than three centuries ago. One of these brothers died soon after reaching this country, and a second located, it is thought, in New Jersey. The third settled not far from Portland, Me., and from him comes the line of the Gubtails to which the subject of this sketch belongs. The parents of Luther were Humphrey and Susan (Kimball) Gubtail. The father was born in Waterboro, Me., in 1769, being about seven years of age when the Revolutionary War began, and the Declaration of Independence was written. He grew to manhood in his native State, and at the age of twenty-four years he emigrated to the Green Mountain State, where he made a location. Soon afterward, however, he returned to Maine and married Miss Kimball. For several years previous to his marriage he had been engaged in the cod fishery business, and had made a voyage to the West Indies and to France. After his marriage he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, following the occupation of farming in Vermont for a number of years.

In 1836, Humphrey Gubtail removed with his family to Springfield, Ohio, and in the fall of the same year, accompanied by his son Luther, he visited Illinois in search of a desirable location. At that time, fifty-six years ago, there was not a building on the site of the present city of Kankakee. The father bought land near Watseka, Iroquois County, but accompanied by his son he returned to Ohio the next spring. Later, Ira Gubtail, the youngest son of Humphrey, bought the land which the father had purchased in Iroquois County, and later it came into the possession of our subject, but at this time the property is not owned by any member of the family, although Luther Gubtail has the original patent, which is signed by Martin Van Buren, who was then President of the United States.

The parents of our subject continued to reside in Ohio until called to the home beyond, and the father survived the mother for many years. Of their large family of fourteen children, twelve grew to mature years, including seven sons and

five daughters, but all are now deceased with the exception of three brothers: Dan, who resides in Elgin, Ill., at the age of eighty-five years; Ira, aged seventy-two, who is living in Iroquois County; and Luther.

Mr. Gubtail, of this sketch, spent the days of his boyhood and youth on his father's farm, in the usual manner of farmer lads, and accompanied his parents on their removal to the Buckeye State. He was then a young man of eighteen years. On the 7th of February, 1842, he was married to Mrs. Polly Pinneo, who was born near Rochester, N. Y., in 1803. Her maiden name was Polly Winters, and she was about fifteen years her husband's senior.

In July, 1845, Mr. Gubtail removed to Illinois, and for about two years resided with his family in Kane and Cook Counties. In 1847 he settled in what is now Otto Township, Kankakee County, but was then called Dallas Precinct, and was a part of Iroquois County. He located on forty acres of State land and engaged in its development and cultivation until 1854, when he sold out and bought a farm of Government land in the same township, about a mile from his first home. Upon that place not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made, but with characteristic energy he began the work of transformation, and the raw tract soon became rich and fertile. Mr. Gubtail there continued to engage in farming with excellent success until 1887, when, desiring to live a retired life, he removed to Kankakee. However, he still owns a part of his farm.

On the 27th of January, 1888, Mr. Gubtail was bereft of his wife by death. They had traveled the journey of life together for the long period of nearly forty-six years, sharing with each other its joys and sorrow, its adversity and prosperity. Their union had been blessed with two children, a son and a daughter. The former, who was also the younger, died at about the age of eleven months. The daughter, Anna G., was born in Springfield, Ohio, and became the wife of Frank Enos, who died in March, 1874. She has two sons, Dr. Emmet Enos, who is a graduate of Rush Medical College of Chicago; and Leon A., a painter by trade, who is engaged in business in Chicago.

In his business undertakings Mr. Gubtail met with prosperity, and by his well-directed efforts acquired a handsome property which now enables him to live in retirement, enjoying the fruits of his former toil. As has been shown, he is one of the honored pioneers of Kankakee County. He is also a well-known citizen, and his long residence in Illinois, covering a period of forty-eight years, has won for him, through his upright life, the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens. He and his daughter, Mrs. Enos, now reside together at their pleasant home in Kankakee, where he expects to spend his remaining days.

Politically, he has always been a Democrat, having cast his first Presidential vote for Martin Van Buren in 1840, and his last for Grover Cleveland in 1892. He has never been an office-seeker, but while in Otto Township held the position of Highway Commissioner and Supervisor, discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity.



JOHAN H. SCRAMLIN is an early settler and a substantial and highly respected citizen of Momence. He was born near London, in Upper Canada, March 6, 1832, and is a son of Henry and Catherine (Smith) Scramlin, both of whom were born in Mohawk, N. Y. The paternal grandfather of our subject followed the occupation of farming in the Empire State, where his death occurred at an advanced age many years ago. Our subject's grandfather Smith also was an agriculturist in the same State and lived to be quite old.

Henry Scramlin, like his father, was a farmer and left his native State, removing to Canada. In 1835, returning to the United States, he located in Kalamazoo County, Mich., where he engaged in the cultivation of the farm for the succeeding fifteen years. In 1850, he came with his family to Illinois, and settled on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres two and a-half miles northwest of Momence, where he lived for over twenty-one years. In 1871, he again went to Michigan, but after being there for

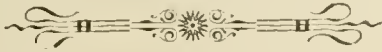
a short time only came back to Momence and lived in the town until his death, which occurred in 1883. He had retired from the active duties of farm life some years before. He was a soldier in the Black Hawk War, and throughout life was an industrious and respected citizen. His family consisted of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters, and all are living at the present time with the exception of Julia and Sarah. They are: Silas, Moses, Orin and Warren (twins), John H., Wealthy, Harmon and Farmon (twins), Mary and Permelia, who are all married and reside in several different States of the Union.

John H. Scramlin was reared as a farmer lad and lived with his parents, assisting his father in the care of the farm until he had reached manhood. He received a common-school education in the district schools of the neighborhood and came to Momence in its early history. On his arrival here he entered the employ of William H. Patterson as a clerk in his general store and remained with him for twelve years. Mr. Scramlin then opened a general store and embarked in business for himself. He carried a large stock but was unfortunate, as the same year, 1870, his store, and its equipments were destroyed by fire. The following year he opened a meat-market, which he has carried on successfully to the present time.

On Christmas Day 'of 1856, Mr. Scramlin was married to Miss Margaret Pollard, whose parents were both natives of Vermont. Six children graced the union of our subject and his wife: Ida F. became the wife of Charles R. Batcheler, of Momence, and now lives in Chicago, where Mr. Batcheler is engaged in the life insurance business; John H. died in infancy, as did also the youngest of the family, Mark W.; Grace E. and Mary E. reside at home; and Frank E. died when fourteen years of age, in 1881. Mrs. Scramlin was called to the better world on the 17th of October, 1884. She was a faithful member of the Methodist Church, to which she had belonged for many years.

Mr. Scramlin politically is a staunch Republican, and in the years 1863 and 64 was made Collector of Momence Township, in which capacity he proved an able and faithful official. He holds membership

with the Methodist Church and is a member of Lodge No. 481, A. F. & A. M. He also belongs to the Odd Fellows' fraternity. Mr. Seramlin's course in life has ever been marked with strict integrity and honorable dealings with his fellow-men and thus he has won the friendship and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact.



HON. GEORGE R. LETOURNEAU is State Senator, representing the Sixteenth Illinois Senatorial District. He is a pioneer settler of this State and of Kankakee County, to which he came in 1847. He was born at St. Thomas, in the Province of Quebec, Canada, on the 28th of February, 1833, and is a son of Joseph and Margaret (Lemieux) Letourneau. His parents were of Canadian birth and of Norman ancestry. The family was founded in America by David Letourneau, a native of Normandy, France. The mother of our subject died at St. George, Henryville, Canada, in November, 1852. Three years later the father came to Illinois and lived for many years in this State. His death occurred at Bourbonnais, Kankakee County, in April, 1862.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in his native country, and in 1817 crossed the border line and reached Chicago on the 10th of May of that year. For the two succeeding years he occupied a position as clerk to a merchant in that city, and in 1849, coming to this county, he settled on section 19, Bourbonnais Township. He then engaged as clerk to Mr. Osborn, by whom he was employed until March, 1850. At that time, catching the gold fever, Mr. Letourneau joined a party of gold seekers and crossed the plains to California by way of Council Bluffs and Salt Lake City. This was a journey taking several months, and owing to the unsettled condition of the country and the active hostility of the Indians, was attended with many adventures and considerable danger. He remained two years in the gold regions, engaged in mining and

teaming. The return trip was made by way of the Isthmus of Panama, thence to New Orleans and up the Mississippi to his home. His trip was fairly successful and had its full measure of novelty and unusual methods of traveling.

On the 13th of July, 1852, occurred the wedding of Mr. Letourneau and Miss Eleodie, a daughter of Edward and Marguerite (Cyr) Langlois. Mrs. Letourneau was born at St. George, Henryville, in the Province of Quebec, Canada, and removed to Bourbonnais in May, 1818. Six sons and six daughters have been born to our subject and his wife, and all of them are living and are good and respected citizens of the community in which they dwell. George A., who makes his home in the city of Joliet, married Miss Lucia Le Vasseur, who died; he then married Miss Arilla Gibson, who also died, leaving an infant child; he afterward married again. Elizabeth is the wife of Dr. V. A. Bergeron, of Muskegon, Mich. Agnes is the wife of Joseph St. Louis, a grocer of Kankakee. Eugenie became the wife of Dr. Fred A. Marcotte, and lives in Concordia, Kan. Philip H. chose for his wife Mary Lasage, and is a practicing physician of Chippewa Falls, Wis. Robert A. is engaged in the drug business at Chicago. Arthur E. is married and is a druggist of Danville, Ill. The younger members of the family, Louise, Oswald, Corinne, Marie and Albert, are all under the parental roof with the exception of Oswald, who is studying medicine with his brother at Chippewa Falls.

Soon after his return from California, Mr. Letourneau purchased a farm in Bourbonnais Township, which he continually added to, both in the way of improvement and by purchases of additional property, until he had something more than two hundred acres. He placed this property under a high state of cultivation and erected tasty and substantial farm buildings. In addition to his agricultural pursuits he carried on the grain business at Kankakee for fifteen years. He has ever shown good business ability and his labors have been crowned with success.

Mr. Letourneau is a Republican in politics and assisted in the organization of that party in Kankakee County. He has been repeatedly chosen to

fill official positions, and has served as Supervisor of Bourbonnais Township for several years. In 1872 he was chosen Clerk of the Circuit Court for this county. In 1882 he was elected Sheriff and held that position for about four years. At the end of that time he was chosen County Treasurer, which position he also held for four years. In 1891 he was made Mayor of Kankakee, and in the fall of 1892 was elected State Senator to represent the Sixteenth District of Illinois. On being elected to the Sheriff's office our subject removed to Kankakee, where he has since resided. He has made his home in this county since its formation and was a resident of the territory embraced within its limits for four years previous to that time. In his long and varied service in public office he has made an extended acquaintance throughout this and adjacent counties. His record in private life and as a public officer is above reproach. As a citizen he has ever aided in every worthy public enterprise calculated to advance the welfare of the town and county where he has so long made his home. As a representative man of his nationality he has won a foremost place, and it is no flattery to say of him that he enjoys the highest esteem of his fellow-citizens, regardless of birth-place or descent. The fact that he has been so often chosen to public positions of responsibility and trust is no uncertain evidence of their confidence in his ability and fidelity.

In January, 1887, Mr. Letourneau was called upon to mourn the loss of his estimable wife, whose death occurred on the 19th of that month. She was born of Catholic parents and was reared in that faith.



ROBERT D. GREGG is agent and operator for the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railroad at Goodrich. He is one of the most prominent and influential business men of that place, and as he has a wide acquaintance throughout Kankakee County, it gives us great pleasure to add to this history the sketch of the

gentleman whose name appears above. Mr. Gregg is a native of the Keystone State. He was born in Towanda, Bradford County, Pa., on the 21st of June, 1859, and is of Scotch descent, for the Gregg family was founded in America by Scottish emigrants, who settled in Pennsylvania at a very early day. Francis Gregg, the father of our subject, was born in Bradford County, and after he had reached man's estate there married Miss Emily Davenport, who was born in Plymouth, Pa. They began their domestic life upon a farm in Bradford County and there reared their family. Mr. Gregg has made farming his life work and is still residing upon the old homestead where so many years of his life have been passed.

Robert Gregg is the third in order of birth in the family of five children. No event of special importance occurred during his childhood, which was passed in the usual manner of farmer lads under the parental roof. His educational advantages, however, were good. After attending the common schools he became a student in the Susquehanna Collegiate Institute, and after completing his studies he started Westward. This was in 1879. He accepted a position as civil engineer with the Missouri, Iowa & Nebraska Railroad, and was afterwards employed in the same capacity with the Wabash, Chicago, Burlington & Pacific, the Des Moines & Northwestern, and later with the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa. While serving with the latter road his headquarters were at Kankakee. There he was first made division engineer, and in 1884 he was appointed chief engineer of the road, serving in that capacity for a period of four years. He then resigned and accepted a position as agent and operator at Goodrich, locating here with his family on the 1st of May, 1889. He also holds the position of express agent, and for two years he has carried on a grocery business in connection with his other interests.

On the 22d of December, 1886, in Kankakee, Mr. Gregg was united in marriage with Miss Ida M. Kurrasch, whose entire life prior to her marriage was spent in Kankakee. She is a daughter of Charles Kurrasch, one of the pioneers of that city. Three children have been born of this union: Stella E., who died at the age of six months; Emily



Ed. Chipman

Pauline and Charles Francis. The parents are highly respected citizens, who have many friends throughout the community.

Since locating in Goodrich, Mr. Gregg has devoted his leisure time to reading law and was admitted to the Bar in Ottawa in December, 1892. He has since attended to some law cases before the justice court and in the autumn of that year he was nominated by the Democratic party for the position of State's Attorney. The county, however, is largely Republican and in consequence he was not elected, although he received a very flattering vote. By his first Presidential ballot Mr. Gregg supported Grover Cleveland in 1884, and is a warm advocate of the principles of Democracy. He is a man of superior business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, enterprising and progressive. In Kankakee, where he is widely known, and in Goodrich he is considered a man of sterling worth and upright character. He has long been in the employ of the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railroad, and his continued service with that company indicates his faithfulness and fidelity to duty.



EDWARD CHIPMAN, a prominent and extensive farmer of Ganier Township, is now living a retired life, but still supervises his farm property in that township. His birth occurred in Brockville, Canada, on the 11th of July, 1824. His parents, Truman and Sallie (Cowdry) Chipman, were natives of Vermont, and have been parents of ten children. Harriet died in 1819; Walter died in infancy; William is a resident of Burlington, Wis.; Edward, our subject, is next in order of birth; Ransom died when quite young; Maria became the wife of Charles Wisley, but has since died; Walter is a farmer of Ganier Township; Cyrus is now deceased; Clarinda died in infancy; and Amelia is the wife of P. Hoag, who runs a meat-market in Momence. Cyrus, the youngest son of this family, was killed at the battle of Stone River, Tenn., in 1862. He was a lieutenant in Company D, Forty-second Illinois Infantry, and

was a valiant soldier. His remains lie buried on a Southern battlefield. The father of these children followed the occupation of a farmer until his death, which occurred in 1872. The mother departed this life some five years later.

Edward Chipman, whose name heads this sketch, removed with his parents to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., when he was quite young. He was born and reared on a farm and received such education as he could obtain in the district schools. When fourteen years of age he entered the employ of a man with whom he remained for seven years, receiving his board in return for his services upon the farm, and when twenty-one years of age was presented by his employer with two suits of clothes and \$100 in money. He then began working for farmers by the month, receiving for the first two years \$10 per month. In the year 1847, Mr. Chipman turned his face Westward and came to Illinois, making the trip by the way of the Lakes. He landed at Racine, Wis., where he worked for a short time at \$10 per month. The same year he came to Kankakee County, Ill., and entered eighty acres of Government land on section 6, Momence Township, then in Will County. In the spring of 1848, he returned to Wisconsin, where he worked for eight months at a place near Burlington. He again returned to Kankakee County, where he purchased ox-teams and commenced breaking the prairie. At this time he built a small log house, where he lived until enabled to build a more pretentious one. After raising a crop he hauled his grain to Chicago, purchased lumber and hauled it back by ox-team. With this lumber in the year 1849, he erected a frame dwelling. In one year Mr. Chipman made thirty-six trips to Chicago by teams. He lived on the property which was his first purchase until 1887, when he bought the farm where he now lives in Ganier Township, which consists of one hundred and sixty acres situated on section 4. He is now the owner of about fifteen hundred acres of well-improved and valuable land, all in Kankakee County. This property represents the industry and hard labor of years, and he is well entitled to the rest from toil which he is now enjoying.

On the 14th of October, 1850, Mr. Chipman was

joined in marriage with Miss Mary, the only child of James and Alice Delany. Mrs. Chipman's father died in 1830, and the death of the mother occurred some twelve years later. Four children have blessed the union of our subject and his wife: Ellis, who resides at home; Merrill, who died in infancy; Alvira, who is under the parental roof; and Ann, the wife of J. E. Paradis, now residing in Momence.

Mr. Chipman has always taken quite an active interest in politics and is a firm Democrat. He has served his township as Highway Commissioner, School Director and in other minor offices. Mrs. Chipman is a valued member and worker in the Methodist Church. Our subject assists and takes an active part in all public enterprises and has been an important factor in the development and progress of this county. He has always abstained from the use of tobacco and strong drink, which has added both to his physical and financial welfare. Though nearly seventy years of age he is remarkably well preserved.



WALTER L. HENDRIX is a respected citizen and retired farmer who makes his home on section 21, Norton Township. He is numbered among the honored pioneers of Kankakee County, in which he has lived for nearly forty years.

Mr. Hendrix was born on the 14th of December, 1819, in Otsego County, N. Y., in Butternuts Township. His parents were Axel and Narcissa (Hall) Hendrix. The former was born in 1789, near Bridgeport, Conn., and the latter was a native of the same State and county. The father removed to Otsego County, N. Y., after his marriage and carried on a farm there until his death. He was called from this life in 1855, being then sixty-six years of age. After surviving her husband a number of years, Mrs. Hendrix died at the advanced age of eighty-two years.

When only thirteen years old, Walter L. started

out in life. He was engaged on a farm for some years and was early inured to the hardships and the various duties of farm life. His school advantages were of the most limited description and he is almost wholly self-educated. On arriving at mature years he learned the blacksmith's trade in Fairfield, Herkimer County, N. Y. In the year 1855, which witnessed the death of his father, our subject came to Illinois. He located in Momence Township, Kankakee County, where he rented and carried on a farm for four years. He then rented another place, which he kept until the breaking out of the war. Leaving his crops in the ground he enlisted on the 18th of July, 1862, in the Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, becoming a member of Company H, and was the first man to enlist in that company. With his regiment he participated in a number of skirmishes in Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia. In the fall of 1862 he was taken sick and poisoned by medicine. He was in the hospital at Memphis for a short time and then taken home by his wife, who had come to nurse and take care of him. At the time he joined the regiment he was in robust health and weighed two hundred and four pounds. When he arrived at home his weight was reduced to eighty-five pounds and for two years he was in very poor health, unable to do much work.

In the spring of 1867, Mr. Hendrix came to Norton Township and became the owner of an eighty acre tract of unimproved land. In spite of poor health for a number of years he devoted himself assiduously to the cultivation of his farm and has been quite successful. He afterward purchased an adjoining forty acres and now owns a well-kept and improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres located one and a-half miles from Buckingham. In the many years of his residence in this county, Mr. Hendrix has seen vast changes and has given material assistance in making this section what it is to-day, a prosperous and rapidly developing locality.

In Otsego County, N. Y., Mr. Hendrix was united in marriage to Miss Ann Sutton, the ceremony being performed on the 19th of February, 1840. Mrs. Hendrix was a native of Worcester County, N. Y., and a daughter of James and Rebecca Sutton. To Mr. and Mrs. Hendrix was born

one daughter, Catherine, who is the wife of J. D. Davidson, of Portland, Kossuth County, Iowa. On the 4th of August, 1874, Mrs. Hendrix was called from this life, and August 9, 1875, Mr. Hendrix married Miss Ella Woods, who was born in Indiana, October 11, 1845, and is a daughter of Francis and Elizabeth (Francis) Woods. The lady came with her parents to Kankakee County when eleven years old and was here reared to womanhood. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children: Willie O.; and Flora A., who lives at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Hendrix are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Buckingham, in whose work they take an active part. Our subject uses his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party, casting his first vote for James K. Polk, and has been one of its firmest supporters since its formation. The cause of education always finds in him a staunch advocate and for twenty years he has served as a member of the School Board, giving his time and influence to secure good teachers and schools. For thirty-seven years he has resided in Kankakee County, and his wife has made this her home for the past thirty-six years. They are both much respected people and are well worthy of representation in the volume which records the life history of many of the sturdy pioneers and early settlers of this county, who endured untold hardships and privations in the early days of its history.



HIRAM M. STORRS is one of the early settlers of Kankakee County, having located in 1855 in Ganier Township, on section 17, which has been his home continuously since. The father of our subject, Nathaniel S. Storrs, was of English extraction and a native of the Empire State. When a young man he met and married Mrs. Phoebe Hunter, whose maiden name was Carpenter, and by their union were born two children: Phalinda, Mrs. Samuel B. Lowe, who died in 1885; and our subject. The father was a

prominent man and was Judge of Essex County, N. Y., for a number of years. Politically he was a Democrat till the rise of the Republican party, with which he was ever afterward identified. He was Postmaster of his town, Moriah, for forty years, with the exception of one term. He also carried on general merchandising, was a member of the Masonic order, and with his wife held membership in the Baptist Church. His death occurred in 1871, and his wife had died many years previously, in 1818. She is buried in New York State, where she was born, and the father's last resting-place is in Mومence Cemetery.

Hiram Storrs was born in Moriah, Essex County, N. Y., on the 11th of January, 1823. His early education was acquired in the public schools, and was supplemented by a course of instruction at the Norwich University of Vermont. When twenty-one years of age he went into partnership with his father in the mercantile business in Moriah, making that town his field of operations for eleven years. In 1843 Mr. Storrs wedded Jane M. Ferris, who died leaving one child, Jennie M., wife of Fred C. Van Veghten, a merchant of Holstein, Neb. In 1855, Mr. Storrs started Westward, stopping in Dayton, Ohio, where he remained only four months, when, coming to Kankakee County, he located in Ganier Township. He purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 17, which at that time was raw prairie and entirely unimproved. As the result of his many years of cultivation of this property it is now beautifully improved and is in every way a fine farm. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, and his fields yield to him each year a good harvest.

November 8, 1849, occurred the marriage of Mr. Storrs and Miss Harriet P. Lamb, who was born in Waterford, Saratoga County, N. Y., on the 21st of January, 1828, and is a daughter of John and Urania (Minton) Lamb. Three children have graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Storrs. William N., is a farmer of Ganier Township, Harriet E. a stenographer of Chicago, and Hiram A. a resident of Mومence.

In his political affiliations our subject is a Republican and has always taken an interest in politics and public affairs. He has held various

local positions of trust and honor, having served his township as School Trustee for about thirty years, and for fifteen years of that time was Township Supervisor, being elected without opposition to the latter position for fourteen years. Mr. and Mrs. Storrs are of the Baptist faith. For over thirty-seven years our subject has been a resident of, and identified with, the welfare of this vicinity and has been a witness of its marvelous growth and progress.



REV. A. CHRISTIAN OLSEN, who resides on section 6, Pilot Township, is so well known throughout Kankakee County, and indeed throughout the State, that he needs no special introduction to the readers of this volume. We feel assured, however, that his sketch will prove of interest to many, and therefore gladly give it a place in the history of his adopted county.

Rev. Mr. Olsen is a native of Norway, and was born on the 27th of May, 1836. He passed the days of his boyhood and youth in the land of his birth, where he received excellent educational privileges, spending seven years in a seminary, college and university, pursuing a theological course. He then emigrated to the United States, in 1866. After reaching this country he entered the Concordia Seminary of the German Lutheran Church in St. Louis, where he pursued a supplementary course and graduated from that institution in the Class of '68.

Soon after this Rev. Mr. Olsen received a call to the pastorate of the Lutheran Church in Livingston County, Ill. This he accepted and there entered upon his ministerial labors, working for that congregation and its upbuilding for a period of five years. At length the duties of the place became so great that the charge was divided, and in 1873 he came to Kankakee County and established a Lutheran Church. Since that time he has been actively engaged in ministerial work in Illinois, and at this writing he has charge of ten congregations—two

in Missouri, one in St. Louis, and one in Webster, Mo., together with one in Indiana and seven in Illinois. His time is thus almost wholly taken up with pastoral work. In addition to his other work our subject organized the congregation and erected the house of worship in the neighborhood of his residence, and has also established and built churches in numerous other places throughout Illinois. In his labor in the Master's vineyard he is untiring, and the good that he has accomplished can never be estimated.

In Lee County, Ill., October 2, 1870, Mr. Olsen was united in marriage with Miss Anna Risetter, a most worthy and estimable lady. She was born May 7, 1849, and spent the days of her maidenhood in Lee County. Her parents, Lars L. and Gertrude (Helgesen) Risetter, were natives of Norway, but became early settlers of Lee County. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Olsen have been born nine children, seven of whom are living; Ole T. is a young man of good education and a successful teacher of Kankakee County; Holden is attending the Lutheran College in Decorah, Iowa; and Martin, Gertrude, Anna, Niles A. and Thomas complete the family. Of their two other children one died in infancy, and Lars was called to the home beyond January 24, 1892, at the age of nineteen years. The latter spent four years in college at Decorah, Iowa, and was taken sick while a student there. He was a young man of excellent character and noble qualities, and was a dutiful and kind son to his parents. We quote a resolution which was offered by his class in the Lutheran College, at Decorah:

“WHEREAS, In the allwise providence of God, He has seen fit to deprive us of our esteemed classmate, Lars Jorgen Olsen, while recognizing the wisdom of Him whose hand has bereft us, and bearing in all meekness the affliction laid upon us; nevertheless, we, the Class of '94, wish to express our heartfelt sorrow at our friend's untimely death, and we tender to his afflicted relatives our most sincere sympathy. In Mr. Olsen we had a member of high standing, ability and much promise. He was a true friend and a faithful student. The influence of his upright character was felt and valued by all who knew him. Though filled with

grief at our bereavement, we are comforted by the assurance that 'he is not dead, but sleepeth.' "

KR. KRAMME, }
 OSCAR OMLIE, } Com.
 O. S. OPHEIM, }

Lars was one of the Kankakee County teachers at the time of his death.

Rev. Mr. Olsen owns a good home about two miles from Herseher. His farm is a valuable and well-improved tract, comprising two hundred and sixty-eight acres of rich land, and is operated by his sons. Our subject exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, with which he has affiliated since becoming a voter. His first Presidential ballot in the United States was cast for Gen. U. S. Grant in 1872. He takes no active part in political affairs, especially in the line of office-seeking, yet is a firm believer in the principles of his party. In manner Rev. Mr. Olsen is unassuming, but his upright life speaks for him in most convincing terms. Those who know him hold him in the highest esteem, his friends are many, and all who know him are glad to pay a tribute of respect to so worthy a man.



ST. VIATEUR'S COLLEGE. Near the banks of the Kankakee River is situated the quaint little village of Bourbonnais Grove. The place itself, though not a scenic resort, is far from being unattractive. The little town has an air of life about it, and the unassuming people who here make their homes are as happy and contented as the citizens of the metropolis. The village is an old landmark, having been settled over sixty years ago by Noel Le Vasseur, whose biography will be found elsewhere in this work. It is surrounded by one of the most fertile tracts of land on the Illinois prairies, and the inhabitants are mostly retired farmers, enjoying the sweets of a well-earned repose. The Kankakee at this point has cut for itself a deep and winding valley, through which it leisurely wends its way to the Illinois

River, about thirty-five miles northeast. Dense groves line the river on either side, and altogether the surrounding landscape presents a beautiful scene.

It would appear that a more favorable spot than this could not be chosen for a school or college, and it was this that induced the founders of St. Viateur's College to choose this favored place. This site is no less remarkable for its healthful surroundings. Standing as it does high above the valley of the river, the drainage is complete and no stagnant pools are ever present to develop and spread malarial poison. Local advantages are no small matter in the selection of a college site. Healthful and attractive surroundings do much to make the student content with his college home.

The history of St. Viateur's College, though short, is interesting. It has not been without its difficulties, but it has overcome these and now stands on a level with the foremost educational institutions of the West. The history of this institution began in 1865. The people of Bourbonnais Grove, feeling the need of good education for their children, made application through their pastor, Rev. Mr. Cote, to the Very Rev. C. E. Champaneur, C. S. V., of Joliette, Canada, who was then Provincial of the community of St. Viateur. The Superior saw plainly the need there was of good teachers and sent three of the order to open the school. These were the Very Rev. P. Beaudoin, C. S. V., R. D.; Rev. A. Martel, C. S. V., and Rev. J. B. Bernard, C. S. V. The three young men came not merely to teach the young secular knowledge, but to instill into their growing minds sound principles of religious doctrine to shield them from the error of apostasy. No better means could have been adopted for reaching this end. Upon their arrival they took charge of the district school, which became a parochial school and later a commercial academy. The building which they then occupied is what is now the refectory and infirmary. It was a two-story building, 40x60 feet in dimensions.

While Father Beaudoin administered the affairs of the parish, he kept a watchful eye over the interests of the infant school. Brother August Martel acted in the capacity of director, teaching the French course, and Brother Bernard was the teacher

of English and mathematics. At the end of the first year the success of the school was assured, and in order to do justice to the increasing numbers Brother Lamarche was sent as a reinforcement. The latter became director, Brother Martel taking charge of the procure.

In 1867, a commercial course was inaugurated. The students were becoming interested and as they required more time to study in the evening, room was made for a limited number to sleep in the building. There were, however, no boarders. In 1868 the brothers purchased the school from the town board for \$3,000, payable in teaching. They were allowed fifteen years to complete the payment. The school steadily prospered and gained a reputation that attracted students from far and near. Father Beaudoin saw that it was bound to outgrow its present proportions and thought it would be best for the interests of the school to call for another priest, who would take charge of it and enlarge it so as to supply the demand. In answer to his appeal Joliette sent Rev. Thomas Roy, C. S. V., and Brother Guay. With their arrival dawned a new era.

It might be proper to say at this point that of the three teachers who first came two survive: Father Beaudoin, who is pastor of Maternity Church and President of the Board of Trustees, and Brother A. Martel, who is now Director of the prosperous Viatorian Academy at St. Timothee, Canada. Brother Bernard died on the 24th of August, 1890, after a long and devoted career as Treasurer of St. Viateur's College.

Rev. Thomas Roy, C. S. V., arrived in Bourbonnais in August, 1868. At the beginning of the September session he inaugurated the classical course, he himself teaching the Latin rudiments to a large class, among whom were the now Rev. Fathers J. Lesage, A. Bergeron and G. Legris; Drs. F. R. Marcotte and V. Bergeron; Messrs. F. St. Pierre and George Letourneau, Jr. Under the enlightened direction of Father Roy, who possessed the manly qualities of the builders of great institutions, everything went well with the school. He was the true type of a pioneer—hardy, genial, indefatigable, constant and shrewd. He consequently won not only the good-will of the

people but also their substantial aid in the realizing of the purpose for which they had come, namely, the building of the college that would make Bourbonnais the resort of science seekers and the Alma Mater of able men in all walks of life. In the winter of 1869, in answer to an appeal made to the congregation at Bourbonnais, all the stone necessary for a new building was hauled in one day by the ready and willing farmers, who were naturally anxious to see in their own parish a school in which their boys could learn to cope with the liberally educated graduates of other universities. The long roll of Bourbonnais boys now professional men, priests, lawyers, physicians, teachers and business men, is ample evidence that the hopes of those willing and intelligent helpers have been realized.

In the spring of the following year no time was lost in raising the walls of the new college. Operations began on the 3d of April. The building was 50x30 feet in dimensions and three stories in height. Shortly afterward their space was doubled in capacity in order to supply the demand for more room. In 1874 a French roof was put on the building, in which were located the two line senior and junior dormitories which are now in use. In the same year Rev. Father Beaudoin, with the assistance of Rev. Father Fanning and Hon. M. C. Quinn, of Peoria, obtained from the Illinois Legislature a university charter for the college. Many improvements, such as water works, steam-heating apparatus, etc., were also introduced, which gave to the college more comfort and attractiveness.

During these years Father Roy and the able associates he had called to his assistance toiled on incessantly and succeeded in establishing for St. Viateur's the excellent reputation it has ever since enjoyed as one of the leading educational institutions in the West. Among his worthy assistants were the Rev. M. J. Marsile, C. S. V., present President of the University; Rev. Anthony Mainville, C. S. V., for many years Prefect of studies, and Brother J. B. Bernard, C. S. V., Treasurer of the college until his death, in August, 1890. It was at the cost of most ceaseless toil, of personal sacrifices and constant vigilance on the part of

these devoted men that the institution flourished and made itself deservedly popular far and near. The result of these long years of labor and hardship began to tell upon the robust constitution of the tireless Father Roy, and he finally found himself incapable of serving any longer the institution he had fashioned with his own hands, and in which his whole heart and soul were wrapt. Being recalled to Joliette, Canada, he with tears stole away from the students to whom he had endeared himself and the college he had loved so well. The students accompanied him to the station and there bade that most devoted Father a last farewell. It had been hoped that a much needed rest and the air of his own native country would restore his waning health, but Father Roy never recovered and died at Joliette, Canada, July 16, 1879. The memory of one who had devoted his life's best energies to the education of youth was not forgotten by those who had enjoyed the benefits of his direction. The old students took steps in 1888 for the erection of a monument to the memory of Father Roy. It was thought by the majority of those who met in Chicago for that purpose that a chapel built in his honor would be the most suitable offering that could be made, and steps were taken by a committee to arrange a meeting of the old students and unfold the plan to them. Pursuant to their request, a large number of the former students assembled in the college hall June 25, 1888, and a regular alumni association was formed. Subscriptions were paid up by members and a sufficient amount was secured to enable the faculty to begin work on the new building. In March, 1889, the ground was first broken, and some months later work was begun on the chapel, which will stand as a monument to Father Roy's zeal in the work of education and as a worthy tribute of love from his former pupils.

Rev. M. J. Marsile, C. S. V., succeeded Father Roy as President of the college in 1879, and it is but justice to say that he has proved in every way a worthy successor to the lamented first President of the college. The rapid growth of the institution and the prominent place it holds among the best colleges of the State amply prove the good leadership and management of Father Marsile.

He is a native of Longueuil, near Montreal, where his birth occurred in 1846. He was educated in the community of St. Viateur's, where he pursued both a literary and theological course, finishing these latter studies at St. Viateur's College, in Bourbonnais, under the first President. He was ordained in 1875, and occupied for many years the chair of French literature and was also instructor in moral philosophy. He is a man of superior culture and acknowledged literary ability, having been for a long period a contributor to the best magazines of Canada. In 1890 Rev. Father Marsile published a volume of poems, entitled "Epines et Fleurs," which has been very favorably received for its literary merit and poetic beauty.

As has been noted before, that of the three young men who in 1865 laid the foundation upon which has been erected St. Viateur's College of to-day, but two are still living, and only one remains upon the spot where the college was planted twenty-seven years ago. This is the Very Rev. Peter Beaudoin, R. D., President of the College Board of Trustees and pastor of the church of Notre Dame at Bourbonnais, in the Chicago Diocese. Rev. Father Beaudoin was born near Montreal, Canada, in the parish of St. Paul and diocese of Montreal, on the 28th of August, 1833. He was educated at Joliette College, in that diocese, where he was graduated in 1856. He finished his theological studies in 1861, and on the 25th of August of that year was ordained. Previous to coming to Bourbonnais he was pastor of St. Andrew's Parish, in the Montreal Diocese. His appointment at Bourbonnais dates from September 6, 1865. To the faithful labors of the Rev. Father Beaudoin, to his earnest and unflagging zeal in its behalf, will St. Viateur's College at Bourbonnais ever be indebted.

The faculty of the college is as follows: Rev. M. J. Marsile, C.S.V., President; Rev. E. L. Rivard, C.S.V., Vice-president, Prefect of Studies and Professor of Philosophy; Rev. J. Laberge, D.D., Professor of Theology; Rev. J. Daley, Professor of Latin and Mathematics; Rev. G. Legris, A.M., Professor of Philosophy of History; Rev. J. J. Cregan, C. S. V., Assistant Prefect of Studies and Professor of Book-

keeping and Arithmetic; Rev. Z. Iluot, Professor of Belles-lettres; Rev. L. A. Senecal, C. S. V., Treasurer; Rev. A. D. Mainville, C. S. V., Assistant Treasurer; Rev. J. F. Ryan, C. S. V., Prefect of Discipline and Professor of Greek; Rev. T. J. McCormick, C. S. V., Professor of Rhetoric, Latin and Civil Government; Rev. G. Williams, C. S. V., Prefect of Discipline and Professor of Stenography and Typewriting; Rev. J. Leclair, C. S. V., Assistant Prefect of Discipline; E. W. Griffith, Professor of Eloquence; C. F. Morrell, M. D., Professor of Sciences and Mathematics and Attending Physician; P. Williams, Professor of Piano and Vocal Music; G. Martineau, Professor of Violin; R. F. Flynn, Professor of Bookkeeping and Penmanship, and Curator of Museum; W. H. Thorne, editor of "Globe Quarterly Review" and Professor of Higher Criticism; T. McDevitt, Assistant Prefect of Discipline and Professor of History; A. Leising, Professor of German; J. Kelley, Assistant Prefect of Discipline; F. Moody, Military Instructor; and A. Lesage, Leader of Band. The Board of Trustees of St. Viator's College are the Very Rev. P. Beaudoin, C. S. V., President; Very Rev. C. Fournier, C. S. V., Vice-president; Rev. L. A. Senecal, C. S. V., Treasurer; and Rev. J. J. Cregan, C. S. V., Secretary.



FREDERICK LEUTLOFF carries on general farming and stock-raising on section 36, Aroma Township, where he has resided for the long period of twenty-eight years. He first purchased only fifty acres of land, and this was but partially improved, but with characteristic energy he began its development, and soon acre after acre was placed under the plow, and in course of time yielded to him abundant harvests. He has since added to his farm by additional purchases, until now one hundred and forty acres of valuable farm land yields a golden tribute in return for the care and labor he bestows upon it.

The life record of Mr. Leutloff is as follows:

He was born in Saxe-Weimar, Germany, on the 28th of January, 1830, and is one of a family of five children. The parents, William and Annie Leutloff, were also natives of the same country. In accordance with the laws of his native land, Frederick attended the public schools of Germany until fourteen years of age. He remained in that country until 1851, when, having attained his majority, he determined to seek his fortune in the New World, and took passage in a sailing-vessel, which, crossing the broad Atlantic, dropped anchor in the harbor of New York.

Mr. Leutloff did not tarry long in the Eastern metropolis, but went at once to Cumberland, Md., and worked on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad during the succeeding summer. He then went to Blue Island, Ill., and secured a position on the Rock Island Railroad, working thus during the winter season. During the following summer he worked on the Illinois Central Railroad, and in 1854 he came to Kankakee County, Ill. In order to provide for his support, he secured employment as a farm hand in Yellowhead Township, working by the month, and thus passed the two succeeding years of his life. The first year he got \$10 per month, and the second year his wages were increased by \$1 additional each month. Mr. Leutloff then came to Kankakee, where he worked in the employ of others until 1862, when he commenced farming for himself. He rented land for four years, and then made the purchase which we have before mentioned.

In 1857, Mr. Leutloff was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Biland, and their union has been blessed with a family of five children, two sons and three daughters, namely: Amos, Louisa, Emma, John and Rose.

In politics, our subject is a Republican, having voted with that party since he came to this country. Religiously, he is a member of the German Lutheran Church. It was a fortunate day for our subject when he decided to leave his native land and emigrate to the New World. In the earlier years he had difficulties to meet and obstacles to overcome, but, considered as a whole, his career has been a successful one, and he has here found a pleasant home, faithful friends and prosperity.



Very Truly yours
George Walter



yours truly
Mary Matter

GEORGE FALTER, a well-known and prominent farmer of Limestone Township, residing on section 22, owns one of the excellent farms of the community, comprising three hundred and twenty acres of valuable land under a high state of cultivation. The well-tilled fields and neat appearance of the place indicate the supervision of a careful manager. He has good buildings and all the accessories of a model farm, and his home is a beautiful residence, pleasantly situated about six miles from the city of Kankakee and located on the bank of the Kankakee River.

Mr. Falter was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, on the 23d of February, 1815. His father, Louis Falter, was also a native of that locality. He married Gertrude Luckhaupt and they became the parents of eight children, four sons and four daughters, of whom our subject is fifth in order of birth. In 1818, Louis Falter bade good-bye to his old home and, accompanied by his family, crossed the broad Atlantic to America. He first located on a farm near Columbus, Ohio, where he remained until 1865, when he removed to Will County, Ill.

We now take up the personal history of the gentleman whose name heads this record. He was a child of but two years when his parents emigrated to the United States, and upon his father's farm near the capital city of Ohio the greater part of his youthful days were passed. The common schools of the neighborhood afforded him his educational privileges. He attended school through the winter season and in the summer months worked at home upon the farm. He came with his parents to Illinois when twenty years of age, and on attaining his majority he left the parental roof and started out in life for himself without a dollar in his pockets. He immediately secured employment upon a farm, where he remained for about a year, when he rented land and embarked in farming for himself. That tract he operated for a period of thirteen years, after which he purchased the farm on which he now resides, in Limestone Township, then comprising two hundred acres of land, only partially improved. He immediately began its further development and now has one of the finest farms in this locality.

On the 6th of January, 1867, Mr. Falter wed-

ded Miss Mary Heil, who was born February 23, 1817, and is of German extraction. By their union they have become the parents of seven children, five sons and two daughters, and the family circle yet remains unbroken, although Charles, the eldest, has now left the parental roof. The latter, who is a prosperous farmer of Limestone Township, was born September 14, 1867, and married Miss Nettie Lashuay December 31, 1891, and they have one little daughter, Lora Geneva; Michael, born September 23, 1868, was married January 18, 1893, to Miss Cora E. Bratton, a native of Illinois. They were married by the Rev. B. F. Eckley, pastor of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church. Fully one hundred and twenty-five guests assembled at the hospitable home of the bride's parents, and beautiful and costly presents and souvenirs were presented to the happy couple. The younger children, all of whom are yet at home, are as follows: George, born March 31, 1870; Anna, February 8, 1873; Albert, February 13, 1875; Frank, October 29, 1877; and Flora, August 2, 1881. The children were all provided with good educational advantages, such as would fit them for the practical duties of life.

Mr. Falter and family are members of the German Lutheran Church of Kankakee. In his political views he is a staunch Democrat and takes an active interest in politics, doing all in his power for the growth and success of Democracy. He has held the office of School Director in the district for nine years. For his success in life, he certainly deserves great credit, as it is entirely the result of his own efforts, and the prosperity which has crowned his labors is justly deserved.



JACOB B. BALLY, proprietor of the leading hotel in Bonfield, is a native of the Keystone State. He was born September 28, 1830, in Lancaster County, and is the son of Yost and Elizabeth (Barr) Bally. His parents were both natives of Germany. The mother was born in that country December 16, 1806. The fa-

ther was born in Bavaria March 25, 1795, and spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native land, where he received a good education, and learned the trade of a tailor. In 1828 he came to America. He crossed the Atlantic in a sailing-vessel, which, after a voyage of forty-two days, dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. Mr. Bally first located in Lancaster County, Pa. He was a poor German in a strange land, without capital, but he determined to here win a home for himself. In 1831, he removed to Ashland County, Ohio, where he purchased a small farm, and throughout the remainder of his life he followed agricultural pursuits. The year 1844 witnessed his arrival in Woodford County, Ill., where he spent the remainder of his days. His death occurred February 4, 1878. The mother of our subject survived him about five years, and passed away in Livingston County, Ill., in August, 1882.

Jacob B. Bally, whose name heads this record, acquired a good education in the public schools and remained at home until twenty-five years of age, when he left the parental roof and started out in life for himself. He had no capital, and for several years rented a farm. As a companion and helpmeet on life's journey he chose Miss Catherine Verkler, their union being celebrated on the 10th of March, 1861. The lady was born October 6, 1838, and is a daughter of Joseph and Jacobena (Engle) Verkler, of Woodford County, Ill. The parents were both natives of France, the father born in 1808, and the mother in 1814. They were married in 1834, in Peoria County, Ill., where the father worked for a short time. He then went to Woodford County, and, purchasing a farm, carried on agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his life. He was a successful and prosperous farmer. His wife died in Livingston County, Ill., in August, 1886, and two weeks from the day of her death, Mr. Verkler was called to the home beyond.

Five children were born of the union of our subject and his wife, one son and four daughters: Emma H., the eldest, was born September 11, 1864, and married George Henry, who is now engaged in carpentering in Kankakee; Ida May, born January 13, 1865, is the wife of Edward Henry, also

a carpenter of Kankakee; Minnie L., born March 26, 1868, now the wife of Fred F. Hertz, resides in Chicago; Frederick R., born March 29, 1871, and Louisa Caroline, born October 17, 1874, are still at home. Louisa is a teacher of recognized ability in the public schools of this county.

Mr. Bally has been a resident of Kankakee County since 1879. On locating here he purchased a farm, which he operated for three years. On the expiration of that period he came to Bonfield and embarked in his present business. However, he still retains the ownership of a farm in Salina Township. He owns a good hotel, keeps everything in first-class order and is a popular landlord, his house having found favor with the traveling public. His career has been a successful one, owing to his industrious and well-directed efforts.

In his political views, Mr. Bally is a Republican. He has never been an office-seeker, however, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests. Himself and family are members of the Methodist Church, and are highly respected people, who hold an enviable position in social circles. Mr. Bally is recognized as one of the valued citizens of the community in which he makes his home, for he takes an active interest in all that pertains to its welfare and improvement.



JAMES LILLIE, contractor and builder, manufacturer of and dealer in lumber, and a resident of Kankakee since 1878, also the builder of the Eastern Illinois Hospital for the Insane and many of the most important business blocks in Kankakee, was born in Berwickshire, on the Tweed, Scotland, May 16, 1835, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Hume) Lillie. His parents and their ancestors were natives of the same region of Scotland as our subject.

James Lillie attended school in his native town, and when seventeen years of age he determined to come to America. His father gave him \$50, with which he set out for the New World to seek his fortune. Arriving in this country in 1850, he lo-

ated at Ft. Wayne, Ind., where he served an apprenticeship of three years to the carpenter's trade, at the munificent salary of \$50 per year. After completing his time he worked one year as a journeyman carpenter, and then went to Kansas in 1854. He there became associated with John Brown, the great anti-slavery agitator, and was with him at Lawrence and other places in his contests with the Missouri border ruffians, so called, who were trying to establish slavery in Kansas. Mr. Lillie was associated with John Brown through 1854, 1855 and 1856; at the same time he was contracting and building in Lawrence and Leavenworth. Beginning in a small way in 1854, he continued for about five years, increasing his business as circumstances permitted. In 1859, about the time John Brown made his fatal raid on the Harper Ferry arsenal, Mr. Lillie returned to Ft. Wayne, Ind., where he began the manufacture of brick, and also dealt in general building materials. He was also extensively engaged in contracting and building, and carried on a successful business there for twenty-six years.

In the spring of 1878 our subject came to Kankakee and took a contract from the State for building the Eastern Illinois Hospital for the Insane. Beginning in April of that year, Mr. Lillie has had the contracts as appropriations have been made for the purpose by the State Legislature, aggregating up to this time (December, 1892) \$1,500,000. At present he is working under contracts amounting to \$110,000. This hospital for the insane is the largest, except one, in the United States, and has accommodations for twenty-one hundred patients. (See history of the institution.) In addition to the building of the hospital Mr. Lillie has erected many of the finest business buildings and residences in the city of Kankakee, including the Arcade.

On the 21st of November, 1859, Mr. Lillie was united in marriage at Ft. Wayne, Ind., with Miss Julia Fink, a daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Fink, and a native of that city. Mr. and Mrs. Lillie have four living children: Minnie, the eldest, is the wife of A. H. Butts, of Escanaba, Mich. Edith is the wife of Frank Mattur, of this city. Arthur H. is a student at Ft. Wayne. The young-

est, James Garfield, now at school in Indiana, was born on the day of President Garfield's death.

Mr. Lillie is a member of Ft. Wayne Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F. In addition to his regular contracting business he is largely interested in lumbering in northern Michigan, having a sawmill and lumber yards at Talbot and Escanaba. At the latter place he constructed an electric street railway system in 1890.

Politically, he was a staunch Republican till 1884, since which time he has been a supporter of the Democracy, though he has never been a strong partisan, seldom ever voting a straight ticket. Mrs. Lillie and all the children are members of the Presbyterian Church.



MILES S. TAYLOR is one of the representative and well-to-do farmers of Kankakee County, and also one of its early settlers.

He resides on section 1, Pilot Township. A native of New Jersey, he was born in Atlantic County March 20, 1829. His father, Henry Taylor, was born in the Empire State and was reared at Saratoga Springs. He there married Hannah Gidley, daughter of Gasper M. Gidley. After their marriage they removed to New York City, thence to Atlantic County, N. J., where Mr. Taylor worked at his trade of ship-carpentering. He there resided until after the death of his wife, when he came to Illinois and spent the last years of his life with his son, the subject of this sketch. He was called to the eternal home at the advanced age of eighty-six years. Highly respected wherever known, his death proved a loss to the community in which he lived.

Miles Taylor spent his boyhood days in the county of his nativity. His time was passed in farm work or as a sailor upon the seas. He was for three years upon the water ere he came to the West. When a young man he removed to Miami County, Ohio, where he worked at the cooper's trade for three years, after which he came to Illinois. He traveled through the southern and central

parts of the State in search of a location and then took up his residence in Kankakee County. This was about 1855. The county was then an almost unbroken wilderness, the settlements being few, while many of the now thriving villages had not then sprung into existence. Mr. Taylor spent five years in the city of Kankakee, which, however, was then but a village, containing only a few houses, and devoted his energy to the carpenter's trade.

On the 31st of January, 1860, in this county, Mr. Taylor was united in marriage with Miss Selinah J. Bratton, who was born on the 18th of September, 1836, in Daviess County, Ind., near Washington, and is a daughter of John L. Bratton, who died when his daughter was only five years of age. The young couple began their domestic life upon a rented farm in Bourbonnais Township, which our subject operated for four years. He then rented other land but subsequently purchased an improved farm in the township of Salina, comprising one hundred and twenty acres. There he made his home for the long period of twenty-three years. It was in 1881 that he removed to his present place of residence, since which he has sold the old homestead. He now has a fine farm of one hundred and twenty-six acres of valuable land, which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He has remodeled the home, built a barn and outbuildings, and otherwise added to the improvements of the place, until it is now one of the best in the township. There is also a fine large orchard. In fact, none of the accessories of a model farm are wanting, the place being complete in all its appointments.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor had a family of eleven children, one deceased, Julius S., who died at the age of thirteen and is interred in the Salina cemetery; Eli H., the eldest, is a farmer in McLean County; Selinah E., a widow, is a resident of this county; John L. is engaged in farming with his father; Carrie A., William H., Eva J., Miles S., Luther B., Elmer N., and Bayard E., the youngest, are still under the parental roof. The children have all received good educational advantages, and Miles is now a student in the Onarga Institute.

The family is widely and favorably known in the community and its members rank high in social circles. Mr. Taylor exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, with which he has been identified since its organization in 1856, casting his first vote for Gen. Fremont. We see in our subject a self-made man, who began life empty-handed, but by his industry, enterprise and good management he has accumulated a valuable property and is now recognized as one of the substantial citizens of the community. His success is well deserved, for in all his business dealings he has pursued a uniformly upright and honorable course.



MEDY FREDERICK BACHANT, dealer in all kinds of agricultural implements and buggies at Nos. 74-76 East Avenue, Kankakee, is a native of Canada, and of French descent. He was born in the parish of St. Hyacinthe, Province of Quebec, on the 7th of March, 1843, and is a son of Isaac and Josephine (Chartier) Bachant, who were also natives of Canada, and of French extraction. They emigrated from their native land to Illinois in 1854, and reached Bourbonnais Grove, Kankakee County, in September of that year, coming from Chicago on the first train on the Illinois Central Railroad that reached Kankakee. They settled in Bourbonnais Township on a farm, where the father and husband died in October, 1855. The following spring the mother moved to Kankakee, the better to educate her children. Her death occurred in July, 1881.

Medy F. Bachant attended school and worked at farming until 1863, when he engaged in his present business in company with Edwin Kittell. That connection was continued until the fall of 1882, when it was dissolved by mutual consent and the business has since been conducted by Mr. Bachant with marked success, notwithstanding that he sustained a loss of about \$5,000 on the 1st of May, 1887, by being burned out. Immediately

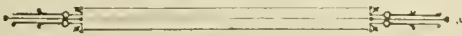


J. S. Allison

after the fire he opened up in temporary quarters, where he carried on business until new buildings were erected on his old stand, when he resumed trade there. Mr. Bachant carries a full line of goods, and having had a long experience is enabled to meet the wants of his customers with the best and most improved farm tools and machinery, and has built up an extensive trade.

On the 11th of June, 1861, Mr. Bachant was married in Springfield, Ill., to Miss Mary A. Caron, daughter of Bernard Caron. She was born on the Isle of Quebec, Canada, and came to the United States in 1856. Four children were born of this union, three sons and a daughter. Emma, the only daughter, is now the wife of Louis Lecour, a merchant of this city; George died at the age of eight years; the other two died in infancy.

Mr. Bachant and family are members of the Catholic Church, he having been Treasurer ever since the society was organized. He uses his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party, but has never sought public office. He is a member of Court Canadian No. 56, C. O. F., of Kankakee.



JW. ALLISON, M. D., a leading physician of Essex, has been engaged in practice at this place for a period of eleven consecutive years. He was born on the 21st of November, 1853, in Shelby County, Ind., and was the ninth in order of birth in a family of thirteen children, numbering five sons and eight daughters. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Zeigler) Allison. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of Virginia, and owned a large plantation there. John Allison was born in that State and spent his early days at his father's home in the Old Dominion. When he was a young man the family emigrated to Indiana, locating in Rush County. This was in 1822. At that time Indiana was a new country, and they became early settlers of that commonwealth. John Allison was a highly educated man. He studied medicine when

young and engaged in the practice of that profession for a number of years, but later in life he devoted his energies to farming. He married Elizabeth Zeigler, a native of Philadelphia, Pa., who survived until 1880, her husband passing to his final rest in 1881.

When the subject of this sketch was about two years of age he accompanied his parents to Illinois, where they lived during the years 1855-56, at the expiration of which time they returned to Indiana, and there remained until 1861. In that year they removed to Decatur County, Iowa, residing there until 1865, when they again returned to Indiana. Our subject remained with his parents until reaching his majority, and acquired a good education. After completing his literary studies he determined to engage in the practice of medicine as a life work, and to this end entered the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery in 1875. After pursuing a three-years course he was graduated from that institution with the degree of M. D. and received his diploma.

Dr. Allison entered upon the practice of his profession in Forest Hill, Ind., where he remained for a number of years. The year 1882 witnessed his arrival in Essex, when he immediately opened an office and has since been engaged in active practice. He possesses excellent ability, which, combined with his natural ambition and talents, has made him one of the foremost physicians of this community. He is a thorough student of his profession, and keeps abreast with all of the discoveries and theories relating to the science of medicine.

In politics, the Doctor is a staunch Democrat, warmly advocating the principles of that party. In 1890, he was elected to represent the Sixteenth Senatorial District in the Illinois Legislature, and on the expiration of his term was re-nominated, but as he was not able to leave his practice and canvass the district, his opponent won the election. He is one of the prominent politicians of this county, and ably represented his district in the House. Socially, he is a member of the Odd Fellows and of the Knights of Pythias of Essex. His rule has been to do unto others as he would have them do unto him, and his honorable, upright ca-

reer has won him high regard and universal confidence, his word being considered as good as his bond. He is now enjoying a lucrative practice and has a large circle of friends, who esteem him highly.



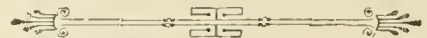
CHARLES GOEPPER, who carries on general farming on section 26, Limestone Township, was born on the 6th of May, 1841, in Kork, Germany, and is the eldest child in the family of eleven children, numbering five sons and six daughters, whose parents were Charles and Salma (Soth) Goepper. The father was born in Kork, Germany, in 1812, and acquired a good practical education in the schools of his native land. He then learned the baker's trade, which he followed in Germany until thirty-eight years of age, when, in 1850, accompanied by his family, he sailed for the United States. Immediately after his arrival he located in Cincinnati, Ohio, and there resided until his death, which occurred in 1881, he having reached the allotted age of the Psalmist, three-score years and ten. His widow, who is also a native of Kork, Germany, still makes her home in Cincinnati.

The subject of our sketch spent the first nine years of his life in the land of his nativity and then crossed the briny deep with his parents. In the public schools of Cincinnati he acquired a good education. He remained at home until nineteen years of age, when he bade good-bye to parents and friends and started out to make his own way in the world. His capital consisted of good health, a fair education and a determination to succeed. His first work was in a hotel in Louisville, Ky., where he was employed as clerk for a period of seven years. On the expiration of that time he purchased a half-interest in the hotel and thus engaged in business for himself for fourteen years, successfully carrying on operations in that line until 1881, when he sold his hotel in the South and came to Kankakee County, Ill.

Some years previous to this Mr. Goepper was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Barbara

Butz, who was a resident of this county and whose family record will be seen elsewhere in this work. Their union was celebrated on the 29th of September, 1868, and unto them has been born one child, a son, Albert G., who was born June 30, 1869. He is still at home with his parents. He received a good education, his primary course being supplemented by study in the commercial school of Kankakee.

On coming to this county, Mr. Goepper purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres of partially improved land and has since carried on agricultural pursuits. He has added eighty acres of good land in the same township, which gives him a total of two hundred acres. His fields are well tilled and yield to him a golden tribute in return for his care and cultivation. He is classed among the substantial farmers of the community, and the success that has crowned his undertakings is but the just reward of his labors. Politically, Mr. Goepper is a Republican, having voted with and supported that party since he cast his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln. Socially, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge of Louisville, Ky., and he and his family belong to the Lutheran Church. Mr. Goepper's residence here is of comparatively short duration, but in the years which have elapsed since his arrival he has become widely and favorably known among the best citizens of the community.



HON. THOMAS PHILIP BONFIELD was born in Canton, Ohio, on the 24th of April, 1827, and is a son of Dr. Thomas S. Bonfield, a native of Baltimore, Md., and Sarah (Troup) Bonfield, who was born in Pennsylvania. His father was a well-known practitioner of Canton, where our subject completed a thorough course of academical studies. He began to read law in 1847, in the office of Hons. George W. Belden and B. F. Leiter, of Canton, Ohio, and was admitted to the Bar of that State in Springfield in 1849. He commenced the practice of his profes-

sion in the town of his birth, and there remained until his removal to Illinois.

The 11th of August, 1853, witnessed his arrival in Kankakee County, which had recently been formed and its county seat established at the present city of Kankakee. His first place of residence was in the village of Bourbonnais, as at that time there were no buildings in Kankakee with the exception of a log cabin situated east of the site of the Court House, and known as the Bourbonnais House, and a section house built by the Illinois Central Railroad south of Soldier Creek. The railroad was then only completed as far as Court Street. Since he came to this county Mr. Bonfield has devoted himself assiduously to the practice of his profession, and his success has been steady and marked by a thorough knowledge of law and a judicious handling of his cases. At the first term of court held in the old freight depot in November, 1853, he was appointed Master in Chancery by the Hon. Hugh Henderson, Judge of this circuit. In the session of 1854-55 the Legislature granted Kankakee a charter as a town, and Mr. Bonfield was elected President in April, 1855, being the first elected to that office in Kankakee; he was subsequently elected Mayor of the city. He has also served as County Superintendent of Schools, and in 1876 was elected to the State Senate on the Republican ticket, and served for two sessions.

Mr. Bonfield has always taken an active interest in public improvements; he drafted and assisted in the passage of the charter of the Kankakee & Illinois River Railroad, which is now a portion of the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railroad; also drafted the charter of the Kankakee & Indiana Railroad, was one of the Directors that built the road, and since its consolidation with the Cincinnati, La Fayette & Chicago Railroad Company has been a member of the Board of Directors. He was active in the organization of the Kankakee & Seneca Railroad, and was President of it during its construction, and has been ever since. During his service in the State Senate the Legislature created another State Asylum for the Insane. Mr. Bonfield was an active and earnest supporter of that measure, rendering important services in the

passage of the law and securing the location of the institution at Kankakee. It is known as the Illinois Eastern Hospital for the Insane, and for a sketch of it we refer the reader to another page of this work. He assisted in the reorganization of the Cairo, Vincennes & Chicago Railroad Company, now one of the branches of the "Big Four," in 1889, and was elected its President, which position he still holds.

Mr. Bonfield was one of the incorporators of the First National Bank of Kankakee, and has since been its Vice-president and a member of its Board of Directors. In 1889 he caused to be erected and put in operation a tile and brick factory at St. Anne, Kankakee County, which is doing a prosperous and increasing business under the supervision of his son, Thomas E. Bonfield, resident manager. Our subject is the owner of a stock ranch in Pembroke Township, this county, comprising eighteen hundred acres, which he leases.

On the 13th of March, 1856, Mr. Bonfield was united in marriage at Aurora, Ill., with Miss Maria Eastman, a native of that city, and a daughter of Dr. Eastman, now deceased. Mrs. Bonfield's parents were of English birth, and removed from Bristol, England, to Canada in early life. They came to Illinois and settled at Aurora, where they passed the remainder of their lives. Nine children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bonfield, of whom four are living. Thomas E., the eldest, resides at St. Anne, of this county, where, as before mentioned, he has charge of the Bonfield Tile and Brick Works; Annie resides with her parents; Allie is the wife of Frank Hemstreet, of Cincinnati, Ohio; and Frederick, the youngest of the family, is employed at the tile works at St. Anne.

In his religious views Mr. Bonfield is a Universalist, but is a liberal contributor to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, of which his wife is a member. In the history of the Bar of eastern Illinois he is an acknowledged leader. His record dates back to the pioneer days of this region, when Kankakee County was being organized, and before the now flourishing and important city of Kankakee had a recognized existence. Of a studious habit, he is well grounded in the law, his opinions and views having more than ordinary weight with

court, bar and jury, while his well-known fairness and upright command universal respect. He possesses keen perceptive faculties and the power of rapid analysis and quick application, so essential to a successful trial lawyer, while his patience and perfect self-command, supported by a habit of thorough preparation, go far to make him master of the situation in a general way. As an advocate he talks in a decisive, plain and direct way, which conveys his full meaning in a comprehensive and convincing manner without superfluity of words or loss of time. He has been a potent factor in the improvement and development of Kankakee County and its county seat, and by his enterprise and public spirit has done much not only directly, but indirectly, by advising and encouraging others in the good cause. He is of a quiet, retiring disposition, devoid of all ostentation, yet possessing a warm, genial nature, which, with his high sense of honor and unimpeachable integrity, has won for him the highest respect and warm friendship of the best of his fellow-citizens.



SAMUEL N. CALKIN, farmer, Superintendent of the Illinois Eastern Hospital farm since May, 1881, or covering a period of twelve years, was born in Will County, Ill., on the 16th of August, 1842. He is the son of James M. and Persis F. (Harris) Calkin, the former a native of Sullivan County, N. Y., and the latter claiming Lowell, Mass., as her birth-place. His father emigrated to Illinois in 1836, and his mother came two years previous. They were married here and became pioneers of Will County.

Samuel Calkin was reared on a farm and received the primitive educational advantages of those early days in the West. When eighteen years of age he enlisted in the defense of his country, the date of his enlistment being August 2, 1861, when he became a member of the independent cavalry company known as the McClell-

an Dragoons. On entering the service this company was attached at first to the Second United States Cavalry, with which they served one year. After this they were enrolled in the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry and were in active service until mustered out August 4, 1864. His company was a part of the Army of the Potomac and was in all the battles and engagements participated in by that army, including the great battles of Gettysburg, Antietam and many lesser engagements. Having been blessed with good health, it fell to the duty of our subject to do picket duty more than he might have done otherwise, and he never failed to respond cheerfully to the demands upon him. So frequent were the calls upon him for such service that he probably enjoys the distinction of having done picket duty as many times as any man in the army whose term of service was of like duration.

On the 9th of March, 1865, occurred the marriage of Mr. Calkin and Miss Adelaide George, the ceremony being performed in Chicago. Mrs. Calkin is a daughter of Daniel and Nancy (Dalrymple) George, and was born January 10, 1843, in Lycoming County, Pa. Ten children blessed their union, of whom three sons and five daughters are now living: Minnie, the eldest, died in infancy; Samuel A. married Carrie Conniac, and is a farmer of Iroquois Township, Iroquois County. The other members of the family are Gertie Marie; Henry R., who died in infancy; Harry A., Jacob E., Mamie E., Rosa, Persis F. and Nancy.

Immediately after his marriage Mr. Calkin located in Iroquois Township, Iroquois County, upon a farm which he had purchased, and there he carried on agricultural pursuits and stock-raising successfully until appointed to the position he now holds in May, 1881. He still owns his fine farm consisting of two hundred acres in Iroquois Township, which he leases.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Calkin was allied to the Republican party until the year 1872, when he joined the so-called liberal movement, and later became identified with the Greenback party. He is now independent in politics, preferring to use his right of suffrage in favor of the man who in his estimation is best qualified to fill a given posi-



Truly Yours
Geo. V. Keuling

tion. While engaged in farming in Iroquois County he represented his township for eight years as Supervisor on the County Board. Socially, Mr. Calkin is a member of Howard Lodge No. 218, I. O. O. F., and of Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R. of Kankakee. He and his family hold membership with Grace Methodist Episcopal Church of Kankakee. The hospital farm, of which our subject is a most efficient Superintendent, contains about eight hundred and forty acres of cultivated land, meadow and pasture, of which see full mention in sketch of the Illinois Eastern Hospital, given elsewhere in this work.



GEORGE V. HULING, capitalist, has been a resident of Illinois since September, 1850, and of Kankakee since the year of its birth, 1853. He was born in Shaftsbury, Bennington County, Vt., on the 22d of September, 1827, and is a son of Daniel and Henrietta (Vaughn) Huling. The father was born in Shaftsbury also, on the 18th of August, 1782. He was descended from one of the oldest Colonial families of Rhode Island, and was a son of Capt. Alexander Huling, who sailed for many years between Providence, R. I., and New York City. The latter was also a son of a sea-captain and the male members of the family were sea-faring people. The Huling family was founded in Providence in 1614, and was of English origin. The grandfather of our subject removed to Bennington, Vt., on the day of the battle at that point, and his four sons, John, Daniel, Paul and George, joined the Colonial forces at that time and served throughout the war. The mother of our subject was of Welsh descent, her family also being among the early colonists, having settled in Providence prior to 1610. Daniel Huling was a man of large means, and as early as 1838 he came to Illinois and invested extensively in land, becoming the owner of about six thousand acres. He never became a resident of this State, but returned to Vermont, where his

death occurred in November, 1861. His wife survived her husband and died at the old homestead in that State in April, 1875.

Our subject was one of a family of seven sons and one daughter. The two eldest sons, Daniel and Alexander, are now deceased. Truman married Miss Maggie Tulloh, and is a resident of Kankakee; Columbus lives in Bennington, Vt. Annie M. is the wife of Franklin Blackstone, of the same place; George V. is the subject of this sketch; Alonzo died in November, 1876, in Kansas City, Mo.; Miles C. is a resident of Bennington.

George Huling was reared to manhood on his father's farm in the Green Mountain State and received a good common-school education. In his early manhood he engaged in teaching school. He came to Illinois in 1850, and three years after his arrival settled in Bourbonnais, Kankakee County, which was about the time of the county's organization and the beginning of the settlement of Kankakee. For one year he carried on a large mercantile business there, and also bought and sold farm land, but subsequently devoted his attention to the real-estate and loan business entirely. He has bought and sold upwards of two hundred thousand acres of land. Since the year 1860, he has principally carried on a brokerage business, but still owns farms in the county aggregating twelve hundred acres.

On the 12th of August, 1867, occurred the marriage of Mr. Huling with Miss Ellen L. Knight. The lady was born in Loda, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and is a daughter of Samuel Lee and Lu-eina Lambert (Parker) Knight, and a sister of Solon Knight, of this city. (See the sketch of her parents and brother in another portion of this volume.) Mrs. Huling is a member of the Episcopal Church, which her husband also attends.

In politics, our subject is a confirmed Democrat and his Republican friends have no hopes of converting him to their faith. As he has never desired public office, he has been able to enjoy his political opinions in peace, notwithstanding his residence in a Republican county. He has, however, served as Supervisor at various times on the County Board. Several years ago Mr. Huling made a tour of Europe, accompanied by his wife,

and was present at Windsor Castle during the celebration of the anniversary of Queen Victoria's birthday, an occasion on which they were enabled to witness much of the court splendor of modern Europe and to see many representatives, crowned heads and others, of the various European governments. Mr. Huling is a gentleman of genial disposition, who evidently takes the world easy and never, figuratively speaking, makes the mistake of rubbing the fur the wrong way in his contact with his fellow-men, consequently he enjoys life and has many friends. Possessed of a powerful and robust physique, large means and broad views, he never allows himself to get annoyed at trifles, getting solid enjoyment as he goes along and commanding universal respect by his integrity and business-like habits.



JOSEPH GELINO is one of the leading merchants and enterprising business men of Kankakee. He is also numbered among the early settlers of the city, dating his residence from 1855. He has been continuously engaged in business for himself since 1860, covering a period of nearly a third of a century, and from a small beginning his trade and business have constantly increased until he is now enjoying a liberal patronage which yields him a good income.

Mr. Gelino is a native of Canada; he was born in Belœil, about eighteen miles below Montreal, April 13, 1835, and is a son of Joseph Gelino, Sr. The father emigrated from Richelieu, Canada, to the United States in 1855, locating in Kankakee County, Ill., but he made no permanent settlement, for two years after his arrival he returned to his native land. There were five children who accompanied the parents to this State. Of these, Charles died in Chicago in 1878, where for a number of years he had been engaged in business as a salesman in a mercantile house; William left this State and is now a resident of Wilmington, Kan., where he is engaged in the hardware business. He

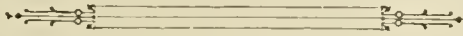
was formerly in business in Kankakee. Louise died at the age of about twenty years; and Alice departed this life when a maiden of sixteen summers. Of the Gelino family, which was once a large one, numbering thirteen children, only the subject of this sketch and his brother William are now living.

Joseph Gelino, whose name heads this record, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in Canada. He acquired his education in the public schools, and at the early age of fourteen years he entered upon his business career in the line of mercantile life, becoming a clerk in St. John's, Canada. This was in 1849. He was employed in that city from that time until the spring of 1854, when he went to Montreal, Canada, where he spent a year. In the fall of 1855 he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois. Since that time he has been a resident of Kankakee. During the first five years after his arrival he held a position as salesman in the store of Dr. Knott, of this city, and on the expiration of that period, with the capital he had acquired through industry and economy, he bought out his employer. For thirty-two years he has been continuously engaged in business, and during this long interval his store has been always located in the block where he now carries on operations. He purchased his present building in 1864. Mr. Gelino is a man of excellent business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, enterprising and industrious, qualities which always insure success.

Our subject was married September 30, 1863, the lady of his choice being Miss Phillomine Lecour, daughter of Joseph Lecour, Sr. By their union were born nine children, but they lost four in childhood. Those still living, including three sons and two daughters, are as follows: Arthur, Charles, Alexander, Bertha and Blanche. They are still under the parental roof. In the spring of 1892, our subject was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who was called to her final home on the 3d of April. She was a most estimable lady and had a large circle of warm friends throughout the community. Her death was deeply regretted by many outside of her immediate family.

Mr. Gelino is a leading and representative citi-

zen of Kankakee, who has been prominently identified with the moral and educational growth of the community in which he resides for many years. Politically, he is a Democrat. For a period of twelve years he has been a member of the School Board of Kankakee, and for five years has been its President, occupying that position at this writing. He has certainly done a great service for the cause of education, which ever finds in him a friend, and the present excellence of the Kankakee schools is largely due to his earnest efforts in their behalf. Mr. Gelino has been President of St. Joseph's Mutual Society for thirteen years, or ever since its organization. Himself and family are all communicants of the Catholic Church. From a financial standpoint, also, his life has been a successful one. His business career has ever been marked by strict integrity and fair dealing, which have secured for him the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens in a high degree.



NOEL LE VASSEUR, a French-Canadian pioneer of Illinois, is said to have been the first white settler of what is now Kankakee County. He came to Illinois in 1820, and was for many years a well-known resident of Bourbonnais. He was born in a log cabin at St. Michel D'Yamaska, Province of Quebec, Canada, on Christmas night of the year 1799. His parents, who were French-Canadians, were poor and unlettered and lived in a rude way in the wilds of a sparsely settled region. The subject of our sketch spent the days of his childhood and youth on his father's farm, with no advantages of education. In May, 1817, he astonished his parents by announcing that he had entered the service of one Roche Blave in company with eighty other young men, who were hired to go into the West to trade with the Indians.

Contrary to the wishes of his parents, without a penny and possessed of only the clothes he wore, Mr. Le Vasseur in his seventeenth year set out to seek his fortune in the world. In May, 1817, the

party left Montreal with a two-years supply of food and clothing. They started on the St. Lawrence River, traveling much of the way by water. They reached Mackinac some time in the following summer. There they found a trading-post of the American Fur Company (John Jacob Astor's), and to the agent there Roche Blave sold all his rights to the service of his men and his outfit of supplies. These Canadian voyageurs soon found that all was not gold that glittered. The labor was severe and oftentimes perilous and the fare coarse and frequently scanty.

Actuated by a spirit of adventure which seems almost foolhardy, young Le Vasseur and a companion accepted the invitation of an Indian, and abandoning the fur company set out for the Great West in a frail canoe. With their Indian guide and friend they followed the west shore of Lake Michigan until they reached Green Bay. From there they went up the Fox River and the Lakes, following the river's course to the portage on the Wisconsin River, which is the present site of Portage City, Wis. Making the crossing, they floated down the Wisconsin to the place where is now located the city of Prairie du Chien. He and his companion became the guests of Chippewa Indians, who had a large village in the valley of the Mississippi near the junction of the two rivers. Mr. Le Vasseur found the Indians very friendly and he soon ingratiated himself into their favor by teaching them some Canadian devices and tricks in fishing and hunting. He accompanied them in their annual fall hunts and became a favorite of the chief of the tribe.

The following spring our subject decided to return to Mackinac, but was refused permission by the chief, who claimed to have adopted him as a member of the tribe. By this time Mr. Le Vasseur and his companion had learned much of the language of the Indians, though the latter had been unable to master the difficult French, which was their language. While appearing to be willing to remain, they freely discussed some plan of escape. Supplying themselves with dried venison, they took advantage of a favorable opportunity and stole away, following the course of the Wisconsin and Fox Rivers on foot. They succeeded in reaching

Green Bay, but by this time were in rags and nearly starved. They found fish abundant and had to depend largely on their hooks and lines for their means of subsistence.

At Green Bay they were fed and clothed at a temporary camp of the American Fur Company and were sent to Mackinac, where they were again employed by that company. During this and the succeeding year, Mr. Le Vasseur was sent to distant points to trade with the Indians, his experience at Prairie du Chien and knowledge of the Indian tongue proving of much service to him. In the fall of 1818, he first made the acquaintance of Gurdon S. Hubbard at Mackinac, which led to a life of long friendship and intimate business and social relations.

In the spring of 1820, young Le Vasseur, under the direction of the agent of the American Fur Company, started up Lake Michigan for the purpose of establishing a fur trading-post in the interest of the company among the Pottawatomie Indians of Illinois, a tribe who were very successful in securing furs. Sailing in batteaux manned by French-Canadians and laden with provisions and a stock of goods for their post, they wended their way along the west shore of Lake Michigan, and after considerable hardship and danger, reached Ft. Dearborn, now Chicago. They proceeded up the Chicago River as far as they could go, and then made portage to the Desplaines River, from there down that river to its junction with the Kankakee; up the Kankakee they went to the Iroquois, and up that stream to a point in what is now Iroquois County. This station was known as Bunkum, but is now called Iroquois. There Mr. Le Vasseur established a trading-post and the site proved a very favorable one. This was fully a year in advance of the advent of Gurdon Hubbard, by that gentleman's admission. Subsequently he was joined by John and Robert Kinzie, of Chicago, and Mr. Hubbard, all agents of the American Fur Company, and together they carried on an extensive trade with the Indians.

While unable to read or write, our subject proved one of the most expert and successful bookkeepers in the company's service, for he adopted the Indian pictorial plan of record. For instance: the Indians

all bore the name of some familiar animal or object and Mr. Le Vasseur would, if dealing with Mr. Beaver, open his account by a picture of that animal, and having let that Indian have a blanket on time would draw a square representing that article, in which he would copy the woven brand that a blanket of that grade bore to show its value, while the time for which credit was given would be represented by the picture of the moon repeated so many times, equaling the number of months. The same plan he would use in picturing a shirt or other garment, a hatchet or knife. When Mr. Indian brought his furs to settle he could be shown his account, which he fully understood and never disputed. The ordinary entries in handwriting being unintelligible to the Indians, often proved unsatisfactory.

After a term of years Mr. Le Vasseur, in company with Mr. Hubbard and the Kinzie brothers, left the American Fur Company and formed a partnership, doing business for themselves very successfully. According to the recollection of Hon. George R. Letourneau, an old and intimate friend of Le Vasseur, the partnership was formed at the time of starting a post at Bunkum, so that they must have been together in the service of the American Fur Company previous, at some other point in Illinois. Le Vasseur purchased three reservations of the Indians, all located in what is now Kankakee County; one was known as the Mesh-Ke-Ta-No, a second as the Le Vie, and the third as the Gacque Janveau Reservation. They all lay along the Kankakee River and were contiguous, so he owned at one time several miles of fine timber land. Later in life he sold it by small tracts and at his death left comparatively little.

It is a well-known historical fact, that Mr. Hubbard married a comely Indian maiden named Watseka, a daughter of a prominent man of the tribe. She was his faithful wife for several years. Subsequently, on his removal from that section of the country, he was divorced from her according to the Indian custom. Three children were born to them, two sons and a daughter. They received a fair education and the sons engaged in business, but both died while still in their youth. The daughter continued to make her home with her

father after a separation had taken place between her parents, and her father had married a woman of his own race. Watska was a true woman, faithful to her white husband and his interests, and always commanded respect. Her name is perpetuated in history as the name of a thriving city, which is the county seat of Iroquois County, the home of her early life. She removed to the Western Reservation of her tribe and subsequently became the wife of one of her own people. When she was quite advanced in years, Watska traveled on horseback from Kansas to Bourbonnais to see her daughter at the home of Mr. Le Vasseur. She was most kindly received by her former husband, and returning to her tribe in the West, died there at an advanced age.

In 1837, Mr. Le Vasseur married Miss Ruth Bull, of Danville, Ill., by whom he had eight children, four sons and four daughters. Edward, the eldest, was a member of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry in the late war and died in the service of his country; George died in Memphis of yellow fever in 1871; William died in childhood, and Alfred in 1876. The daughters all lived to mature years but only one is now surviving, Mrs. Dr. Monast, who now makes her home in Chicago. The mother of these children died some time in the '50s and in 1861 Mr. Le Vasseur was married in Chicago to Miss Elenore Franchere, who survives her husband and lives in Chicago.

Mr. Le Vasseur made several trips from Illinois to Mackinac, superintending the shipment of furs and the selection of goods suitable for the Indian traffic. Having a good knowledge of the Indian language, he was employed with Mr. Hubbard by the United States Commissioners as interpreters in the negotiations of the treaty of Camp Tippecanoe, conducted on the 20th of October, 1832, and ratified on the 20th of January in the following year. By this treaty came into the possession of the United States a magnificent territory which has since become one of the richest agricultural regions in the world.

Messrs. Hubbard and Le Vasseur enjoyed the firm friendship of the two leading Pottawatomie chiefs, Shabbonee and Shawanasee, and no doubt exercised a strong influence in preventing their

tribe from uniting with the Sacs and Foxes in the Black Hawk War. Our subject was appointed the agent of the United States to take charge of the removal of the Indians to their reservation at Council Bluffs, Iowa. The Indians were loath to leave their old hunting-grounds, rich in game, fish and furs, and the task of effecting a peaceable removal was a difficult one and required much tact and skill. The task was not accomplished until 1836, but it was done without any acts of violence and to the satisfaction of the Government.

Mr. Le Vasseur during his residence in this vicinity purchased land at Bourbonnais Grove, where St. Viateur's College now stands, in what is now Kankakee County. In March, 1832, it is said by Gurdon S. Hubbard that Mr. Le Vasseur made his home at Bourbonnais, and that he was the first actual white settler of the territory now embraced in this county.

Through the influence of our subject, many of his countrymen were induced to settle in this county. He gave his aid to them in the selection of land, often buying tracts for them and giving long time for payment, as many came here short of means. His influence was strong and was always exerted for the best interests of those who deserved his friendship. He also assisted in building the first church in the county, the Catholic Church of Bourbonnais, and to many others he was a liberal contributor. He was a man of large-hearted hospitality and his stories of his early days among the Indians were always of deep interest to his hearers.

The death of Mr. Le Vasseur occurred at his home in Bourbonnais on Friday night, December 15, 1879. Had he lived but ten days longer he would have been eighty years of age. He was a man of strong individuality, a warm, true friend, and won the respect and confidence of those with whom he was associated by his integrity and fidelity. The secret of his success with and popularity among the Indians lay in his honesty and simple dealings with them. He never used double dealings with the simple sons of the forest and they recognized this quality in him with their customary shrewdness of judgment. His love of adventure was a passion born in him. He knew no fear and his confidence in himself was unbounded. Serious

obstacles and conditions fraught with danger only nerved him to greater effort, but never disheartened him. His life experience would have afforded material for a romance of thrilling interest in the hands of a Cooper.



HENRY OSBORN VAN METER is an enterprising farmer of section 24, Otto Township. He is a native of Illinois, and was born on the 12th of June, 1841, in Kankakee County. His father, James W. Van Meter, was a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred on the 26th of November, 1808, in Pickaway County. The family is of Dutch descent, and settled on the south branch of the Potomac River in Virginia, where the grandfather of our subject, Joseph Van Meter, was born. He removed to Ohio in the early history of that section and settled in Pickaway County when it was a wilderness and but little inhabited. James Van Meter was a man of fair education and was a teacher in the Buckeye State. He married in Pickaway County Lucinda Brown, who, like her father, James Brown, was a native of Virginia, the latter being one of the early settlers of the county in which his daughter was married.

After his marriage the father of our subject continued to live in Ohio for a few years, but in the fall of 1839 came to Illinois and settled in Kankakee County, near the city of that name, which at that time contained but a log house. Mr. Van Meter was one of the first settlers of this county, which was then a part of Will County. He entered land, proceeded to develop his farm, and also engaged in the stock business. He was the first to bring thorough-bred stock to this county, and for many years did an extensive business in stock-breeding. He drove his cattle to Chicago yearly, where he sold them in the stock markets of that city. His death occurred in July, 1875, and that of his wife occurred three months previous. Their last resting-place is in Van Meter Cemetery, in North Kankakee, and there has

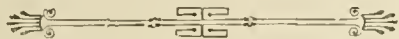
been erected to their memory a suitable monument. Their family consisted of three sons and two daughters, who grew to mature years. Our subject is the eldest of the family; Sarah is the wife of Edward Wilkinson, of La Porte, Ind.; Jesse B. carries on a farm in Iroquois County; Albert T. is a farmer of Indiana; Ella is the wife of John Burrill, of Chebanse, Ill.

Mr. Van Meter remained with his father, helping him in the care of his farm, until after attaining his majority. He had good school advantages in Kankakee. After arriving at man's estate he bought a farm in Iroquois County, consisting of three hundred and twenty acres of raw prairie land situated in Chebanse Township. After farming there for several years he sold the property and bought a farm in Martinton Township, of the same county, where he remained for about eight years engaged in improving and cultivating the property. In 1883, selling this farm, he bought the one where he now resides, which is located about three miles south of Kankakee. Here he has some two hundred and sixty acres, all of which is fertile and arable land. Upon this are good substantial buildings, comprising his pleasant residence, commodious barns, and other necessary farm buildings. His place bears evidence of a thrifty and enterprising owner, and as an agriculturist he has been most successful.

Mr. Van Meter was united in marriage in Kankakee to Lucinda M. Corliss, the ceremony being performed on the 13th of August, 1872. Mrs. Van Meter is a native of Ohio, and was born, reared and educated in Geauga County, where for many years she was a successful teacher. She is a daughter of E. G. and Mary (Tyler) Corliss, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of New York. One daughter, Bertha E., graces the union of Mr. and Mrs. Van Meter. She is now attending the Kankakee High School, and will graduate in the Class of '93.

The first ballot of Mr. Van Meter was cast for Hon. Abraham Lincoln in 1864, and since that date he has been a warm advocate of the Republican party. Though taking an active interest in local and general politics, our subject has never desired to give much of his time to the filling of

public positions, but on the contrary has devoted his entire attention to his farming interests. He and his estimable wife are members of the Congregational Church of Chebanse. His entire life has been spent in this State, and in this and adjoining counties he is known as a man of strict integrity and is highly esteemed and respected by all.



PRESTON SANASACK is the senior member of the firm of P. Sanasack & Son, of Kankakee. These gentlemen are proprietors of the leading livery and undertaking establishments in this city and are well-known and prominent business men. Our subject is a representative of one of the early Canadian families of Bourbonnais Township, and for long years has been a witness of the growth and development of this county. He was born on the 14th of August, 1833, in St. George, Province of Quebec, Canada. His father was Daniel Sanasack and his mother's maiden name was Amelia Lague. His parents were both natives of Canada. In 1848, when the subject of this sketch was about fifteen years of age, they emigrated from Canada to Illinois and settled in Kankakee County among the early settlers of the above-mentioned township.

Preston Sanasack spent the early years of his life in the land of his birth and there began his education. When still quite young he left home and began working at whatever honorable employment he could find to do in order to provide for his own maintenance. In 1855, when the excitement attending the discovery of gold at Pike's Peak was at its height, Mr. Sanasack, who was then twenty-two years of age, resolved to join the vast throng that was journeying to that land of wealth. He accordingly started westward, and after traversing a large part of the mining region, he decided to locate on Platte River, where he remained for two years. During that time he engaged in trading with the Indians. He then continued the journey across the plains until he reached Idaho. There, in company with others of his own nation-

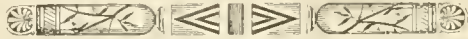
ality, he discovered and named French Gulch. At that place he located a claim and in a few days secured as his share \$2,500 in gold by placer mining. In the spring of 1858, he built the first house on the site of the future town of Boise City, which was to become one of the leading cities and the capital of the State. On leaving Idaho, Mr. Sanasack made his way to Oregon and thence journeyed to Utah. He finally returned home, where he arrived in October, 1865.

On again reaching Kankakee County, Mr. Sanasack purchased a farm located on section 10, Bourbonnais Township. He there settled and engaged in its cultivation for some time. He also bought another farm, comprising one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 8 in the same township. For many years before coming to Kankakee, he engaged in general merchandising at Bourbonnais and did a successful business. It was in 1883 that he removed to this city, where he has since made his home. In August, 1887, he purchased a livery stable, succeeding Napoleon Bergeron, and has since carried on operations in that line. In 1891, he also embarked in the undertaking business and in the same year admitted to partnership in both lines of trade his son, Alfred H.

On the 14th of July, 1866, Mr. Sanasack was joined in marriage with Mrs. Almira Goltra. She was born in Plattsburg, N. Y., January 1, 1838, and bore the maiden name of Almira Paro. They have two sons: Capt. William F. Goltra and Alfred H. Sanasack. The latter was born in Bourbonnais Grove June 20, 1869, began his education at the college of that place and completed his school life in the Indianapolis Business University. He received thorough training in bookkeeping and stenography, and was graduated from the commercial department of that institution in June, 1890. He married June 26, 1892, Miss Nelda Bernier, a native of Papineau, Iroquois County, and they have a pleasant home in this city.

The members of the firm of P. Sanasack & Son are courteous, genial gentlemen, and the business experience and mature judgment of the elder, combined with the wide-awake enterprise and progressive spirit of the younger, make the firm a successful one. In both departments of their business

they have every facility and accessory found in first-class establishments of their kind, and the gentlemen receive, as they deserve, a fair share of the public patronage.



ROBERT WILDMAN, who for many years has been connected with the farming interests of this county, is now practically living a retired life on his farm on section 14, Limestone Township. He is a native of the Emerald Isle, his birth having occurred in County Louth on the 22d of July, 1821. His parents, John and Susan (Bingham) Wildman, were also natives of the same country and there spent their entire lives. Both are now deceased. They had a family of eleven children, seven sons and four daughters.

The subject of this sketch, who was the fifth in order of birth, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the land of his nativity and in its common schools acquired a good education. He was married at the age of twenty-five years, the lady of his choice being Miss Fannie Lee, of Drogheda, Ireland, who was born December 8, 1822. They began their domestic life in their native land and there resided for about seven years. Wishing to try his fortune in the New World, Mr. Wildman, accompanied by his family, crossed the broad Atlantic to the United States and immediately after landing made his way Westward to Kankakee County, Ill., where he has since engaged in farming.

Three sons and three daughters have been born of the union of our subject and his estimable wife and the three eldest are natives of Ireland. Robert, born on the 25th of February, 1848, is now married and resides in Kansas, where he follows farming; Allen, born February 19, 1850, is also engaged in agricultural pursuits in Kansas; Margaret, born September 23, 1851, died at the age of twenty-nine years; Fannie, born August 1, 1855, is now the wife of Maurice Vetter, a well-known and enterprising farmer of Wisconsin; Susan, born in 1857, was married to Robert Scott, a resident of

this county; Lee, born January 8, 1863, completes the family. The latter is now married and resides at home, operating the old home farm.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Wildman is a Republican, but has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking. However, he has faithfully served his district as School Director for a period of twelve years. In 1859, he purchased from the railroad company one hundred and sixty acres of land, which was then in a raw state. He at once, however, began its development and his labors have transformed the barren tract into one of great fertility. Every improvement upon the place is as a monument to his thrift and enterprise. Mr. Wildman is a practical and progressive farmer, and the prosperity which has crowned his efforts is well deserved. In the long years of his residence here he has formed a wide acquaintance and has gained the good-will and respect of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact. He well deserves representation among the early settlers and leading farmers of his adopted county.



FREDERICK E. LEGRIS, a prominent broker of Kankakee, was born in Bourbonnais, on the 7th of September, 1860, and is a son of Joseph and Cleophe (Sylvester) Legris. (See sketch of father on another page of this work.)

Our subject was reared to manhood in his native town, and received his education at St. Viator's College. On the 2d of February, 1886, he married Miss Mary Joubert, who was born in Kankakee, and whose father, Joseph Joubert, was among the pioneer settlers of this place. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Legris, a daughter and three sons: Marietta was born November 28, 1886; Joseph was born on the 7th of September, 1888; Ralph on the 9th of February, 1891; and Frederick Grover, November 9, 1892.

Mr. Legris left college when eighteen years of age, and engaged in farming for the succeeding seven years. At that time he married and moved



Respectfully
R. O. Danforth



Respectfully
Mrs. R. O. Danforth.

to Kankakee, where he has one of the finest residences in the city. Since locating here Mr. Legris has been engaged in the real-estate business, and has had charge of his father's estate, which has been converted into cash and is being loaned out under his direction. Politically, he affiliates with the Democratic party, and he and his family hold membership with the Catholic Church of this city.



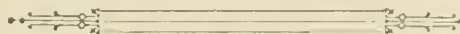
ROBERT O. DANFORTH is a prominent farmer living on section 10, Aroma Township, where he has made his home since four years of age. His birth occurred in Dearborn County, Ind., on the 27th of January, 1813. He is a son of Peasley P. and Maria (Osgood) Danforth, the former a native of New Hampshire, of Scotch-Irish descent, who removed from his native State to Dearborn County, Ind., at an early day, and there was married. He was a painter by trade, and was quite a successful man in a financial way. In 1842 he removed to Kankakee County and purchased between four hundred and five hundred acres in Aroma Township, forty acres of this tract being near the present site of the Illinois Central depot. At that time the country was very wild, and occasional bands of Indians passed through this section. But few houses were to be seen in any direction, and he was obliged to haul his grain to Chicago in order to dispose of it. His first residence was a frame house. Though never an office-seeker, Mr. Danforth took an interest in politics and was a staunch Republican. He was highly respected throughout the community, and was one of the worthy and honored pioneers who did so much for the development and prosperity of this county. His death occurred on the 13th of November, 1881.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed upon the same farm which he now operates. He received a good common-school education, attending the district schools at intervals until nineteen years of age. As he was the only son in his

father's family, he remained under the parental roof until twenty-five years of age, helping to carry on the homestead, and to this property he succeeded on his father's death. He can remember when there was only one house in the present thriving city of Kankakee, and in his early years he often picked blackberries where Court Street is now located. Thus he has been an eye-witness of great changes during his residence of about half a century in this portion of the State.

In 1868 Mr. Danforth married Miss Cora Buchner, a daughter of Richard and Lydia (Sherman) Buchner. The father was a native of Canada, and the mother of the Empire State. To our subject and his wife have been born three children: Charles R., now assisting in the care of the homestead; Eugene, who is attending school at Onarga, Ill.; and Helen E., at home.

Mr. Danforth has been very successful in a business way and has shown much ability and enterprise. His property now consists of three hundred and seventy-three acres, all of which is in Aroma Township and is under a high state of cultivation. He carries on general farming and stock-raising. Like his father, Mr. Danforth is a Republican in politics and has always aided in all public enterprises, though he has never accepted official positions. He is numbered among the progressive and practical farmers of the county, and uses the latest appliances and ideas in carrying on his agricultural pursuits. He is held in the highest regard by the many friends and acquaintances whom he has made during his long residence in this county.



LENNINGTON SMALL is the proprietor of the Kankakee County Nursery, and is a leading dairyman of Kankakee Township, residing on section 31. We wish to add to the record of the pioneer settlers of this county the name of one of her native sons, and one of the enterprising and public-spirited business men of this community. Our subject was born on the old

homestead, near the corporate limits of Kankakee, on the 16th of June, 1862. His father, Dr. A. Small, is one of the honored pioneers of this county, and a sketch of his life appears elsewhere in this volume.

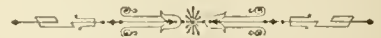
The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed upon his father's farm, where his attention was early turned to the branch of business which he now follows. He received good educational advantages in Kankakee, which he supplemented by a course at the Valparaiso, (Ind.) Normal School. After completing his studies, Mr. Small engaged in teaching, and for about two years was one of the successful teachers of Kankakee County. He then determined to adopt the nursery business, and established himself on the place where he now resides. His father, Dr. Small, who was the original nurseryman of this county and established the business here in 1852, turned over to his son his retail trade in that line. Mr. Small planted twenty-five acres in young trees and shrubbery and has been extensively and successfully engaged in business since undertaking this line. He has built a pleasant and substantial residence, barns and other buildings, and has greatly improved his farm, which is located on the west side of the river, just outside of the city limits, and which is a valuable and improved piece of property. In 1890 Mr. Small also engaged in the milk and dairy business, and now supplies several hundred families in Kankakee.

Our subject has always taken a lively interest in the growing of fruit, and was elected Secretary of the Kankakee Valley Horticultural Society when a young man, and has acted in that capacity for several years. In 1883 he was elected Secretary of the Illinois State Horticultural Society, and served for one term. Politically Mr. Small since becoming a voter has affiliated with the Republican party, and cast his first Presidential ballot for James G. Blaine. He has never thirsted for political honors or office, but has preferred to devote his time to his many business interests. Our subject was elected President of the old Fair Association in 1890, and since that time has reorganized the society, which is now known as the Kankakee Fair Association, and is established on a sound

financial basis. The last fair speaks well for the present efficient board of managers, and the society and people at large give to Mr. Small great credit for his labors in bringing the old association into its present good condition. Socially, he is a member of Kankakee Lodge of Modern Woodmen, which is in a flourishing condition and numbers about one hundred and fifty members.

In Limestone Township, on the 21st of November, 1883, occurred the wedding of Mr. Small and Miss Ida Moore, who is a native of this county and was here reared and educated. Previous to her marriage, Mrs. Small was a successful teacher. She is a daughter of Charles and Leona (Powell) Moore, the former an enterprising farmer of Limestone Township. Three children have come to bless the home of our subject and his wife: Budd L., Leslie C. and Ida May.

Mr. Small has been a resident of this county during his whole life, and is well and favorably known in this and adjoining counties. He is a young man of superior business capacity, and has been most successful in his efforts. Personally, he is worthy the confidence and friendship of all, by his many qualities of honor, industry and uprightness.



RALPH H. SAWYER, the efficient Superintendent of the County Farm of Kankakee, succeeded Mr. Dana in March, 1891. The County Farm, which contains forty-three acres, is very pleasantly located within the corporation limits of the city of Kankakee.

Mr. Sawyer was born in the township of Kent, in Litchfield County, Conn., on the 19th of November, 1835. His father, Elam C. Sawyer, was also a native of the Nutmeg State and was descended from one of its early families. The mother of our subject was before her marriage Elizabeth H. Holly and was also born in Connecticut. In 1844 the family removed from their native State to Jefferson County, N. Y., and nine years later emigrated to Kendall County, Ill., where they were among its pioneer settlers. For



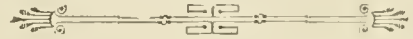
Sincerely yours
Lewis V. Miller

two years after his arrival in the West, the father rented land and then purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which was located in La Salle County. After a three-years' residence on this place the family returned to Lisbon, in Kendall County, and still later removed to Grundy County. After living there some time they went to Newton County, Ind., where the father resided until his death, which occurred in March, 1890, at the age of seventy-six years. The mother of our subject had been called from this life the second year after her removal to Illinois. In her family were four children, of whom our subject was the only son. The father was again married, and Edwin M., a son of this union, died near Goodland, Newton County, Ind., in March, 1892.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed upon his father's farm, and when thirteen years of age he came West with his parents to Illinois, where he grew to manhood. On the 22d of January, 1855, Mr. Sawyer was married in Cuba, Allegany County, N. Y., to Miss Margaret Helmer, who was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., and is a daughter of G. W. and Margaret (Walrodt) Helmer. Mrs. Sawyer belonged to a family of seven children, comprising two sons and five daughters. A brother and a sister are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer lived in the East a year after their marriage and then came to Morris, Grundy County, Ill., where he farmed a number of years, subsequently removing to Pulaski County, Ind. In 1879 they came to Chebanse, Ill., making their home in the village just across the county line dividing Kankakee and Iroquois Counties. While their home was in the latter county their farm of one hundred and twenty acres was in the former county. In their family were three children: Walter H. is in the grocery business in Kankakee; Nettie died when four years of age; Lettie is the wife of Samuel Armstrong, of Roselawn, Ind.

Mr. Sawyer is still the owner of a fine farm situated two miles north of Chebanse, in Iroquois County. Both he and his worthy wife have shown by their judicious management of the unfortunates placed under their charge their adaptability to the positions they hold. Both the county

at large and the inmates of the institution are indeed fortunate in securing its present supervisor. Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer during their long residence in Kankakee County have ever had the respect and esteem of their fellow-citizens and most thoroughly do they deserve it. Politically, Mr. Sawyer is a staunch Republican, and while in Chebanse served several terms on the Village Board.



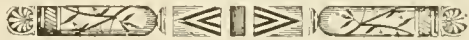
LEWIS H. MILLER, who superintends the motive power and rolling stock of the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railway, which has its headquarters at Kankakee, has supervision of the entire line and its branches. The main line extends from Streator, Ill., to Knox, Ind., a distance of one hundred and twenty miles, and its branches extend from Wheatfield, Ind., to New Buffalo, Mich., fifty miles, and from Kankakee to Seneca, Ill., forty miles, making a total of two hundred and ten miles.

Mr. Miller was born in the town of Dauphin, Dauphin County, Pa., on the 1st of November, 1844. His parents, John P. and Lydia Miller, were also natives of Pennsylvania, the father's birth occurring in Dauphin and the mother's in Lancaster County. Both are now deceased. The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in his native State and in his early youth began learning the machinist's trade in the shops of the Northern Central Railroad Company, at Baltimore, Md. In August, 1865, coming West, he entered the service of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company at Bloomington, Ill., and for a short time was engaged as fireman on a locomotive. Later, he worked for about four years in the different shops of the company at Bloomington and was then employed as an engineer, running on the main line of the Chicago & Alton. Afterward he was placed in charge of the roundhouse at Joliet, remaining there three years. He was then promoted to be Master Mechanic of the Kansas City and St. Louis Division, with headquarters at Slater, Mo. On the 4th of July, 1887, he accepted his

present position with the so-called "Three I's" Railroad and has held it up to this date, the winter of 1892-93.

Mr. Miller was married in Bloomington, Ill., May 11, 1868, to Miss Sarah J. Ewing, a daughter of William and Margery Ewing. The lady was born in Newton Hamilton, Mifflin County, Pa. They have four children, three sons and a daughter: Charles E., John B., Lulu M. and William R. Charles E., a graduate of the Bloomington ward schools, has been an engineer on the "Three I's" Railroad for four years, having taken charge of an engine at the age of eighteen. John B., who graduated from the Kankakee High School in the Class of '92, is chief clerk at Kankakee in the general storekeeping department of the "Three I's" Railroad.

In politics, Mr. Miller is a positive Republican and firm believer in the efficacy of a high protective tariff. He is a Knight Templar Mason, holding membership with Perseverance Lodge No. 21, A. F. & A. M., of Harrisburg, Pa.; a member of Bloomington Chapter No. 21, R. A. M., of Bloomington, Ill.; and of DeMolai Commandery No. 26, K. T., of Bloomington. Mr. Miller has had a wide experience in all departments of mechanical railroading, is recognized as a skilled and expert mechanic, and has proved a most trustworthy and able officer.



GEORGE COOPER, one of the extensive land-owners of Aroma Township and a leading agriculturist, resides on section 36, where he has long made his home. Among the honored pioneers of Kankakee County he is numbered, for the year 1845 witnessed his arrival here. The township in which he is now located was not then organized, the county was then all wild and unimproved, and in the work of development and up-building our subject has borne an important part. A debt of gratitude which can never be repaid is certainly due the early settlers who laid the foundation for the county and built thereon its present

prosperity; however, we can perpetuate their lives by written record and we gladly give to Mr. Cooper a place in this volume.

On the 10th of February, 1821, our subject was born near Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. His father, Dennis Cooper, was a native of Connecticut and was of English extraction. He served in the War of 1812, being called out to repel the British at New London in 1814. Shortly afterwards he came to Ohio with a surveying party, making the trip westward with ox-teams. He purchased a tract of unimproved land and in the midst of the forest hewed out a farm. He was among the early settlers of the Buckeye State. For many years he engaged in agricultural pursuits and also preached as a local minister of the Methodist Church. He married Beulah Pelton, who was born in Connecticut and was of French and English descent. They became parents of nine children: Jonathan, who died in infancy; Samuel W., a farmer residing in Will County, Ill.; Dennis who died in 1832; Harriet L., who died in 1882; Seth P., a farmer of Iowa, who died in 1890; Mercy V., who died in 1840; William E., a farmer residing in Republic County, Kan.; and Sarah, whose death occurred in 1850. The father of this family was called to his final rest in 1841. In politics he was an old-line Whig and held the office of Justice of the Peace and other local positions. His widow came to Illinois in 1853 and died in 1856.

In the usual manner of farmer lads, Mr. Cooper of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He acquired a good education and remained under the parental roof until seventeen years of age. He then left home and came to the West to try his fortune on the broad prairies of Illinois. In company with a friend he walked all the way from Ohio to Will County, where he secured a claim for his brother and worked as a farm hand by the month for two years. In 1840 he returned to the State of his nativity, where he spent the four succeeding years of his life, engaged in teaching school through the winter season, while in the summer months he continued his work at farm labor.

As before stated, it was in 1845 that Mr. Cooper came to Kankakee County. He at once located in

what is now Aroma Township, purchasing forty acres of Government land on section 36 at \$1.25 per acre. His first land patent was signed by President Zachary Taylor. With characteristic energy he began the development of his tract of wild prairie, upon which he turned the first furrows, and in course of time the entire amount was placed under cultivation. In those first years Mr. Cooper bore all the experiences and hardships of frontier life, but with the passing of time he surmounted the difficulties in his path. As his financial resources were increased he extended the boundaries of his farm from time to time until it now comprises three hundred and eighty acres of valuable land in a state of great fertility. He has placed many improvements upon it, all of which indicate his thrift and enterprise. He successfully carries on general farming, and his success has been well deserved.

Mr. Cooper has been twice married. In 1849, he wedded Miss Sarah, daughter of Grove and Keturah Case. One child was born unto them: Alice, now the wife of Marion H. Kenaga, a farmer of Kansas, who is now serving as Recorder of his county. Mrs. Cooper died August 22, 1863, and her remains were interred in a private burying-ground on the farm. Mr. Cooper was again married, in September, 1866, his second union being with Mrs. Emma I. Bandle, widow of Asahel Bandle, and a daughter of Francis F. and Hannah (Miles) Foote. By her first marriage she had one son, Henry L., who is now a carpenter in Chicago. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cooper have been born two sons: George F., who aids his father in the cultivation of the home farm; and Bert, who is attending school in Valparaiso, Ind., and is also studying law.

During the late war, Mr. Cooper manifested his loyalty to the Government and patriotism by entering the service of his country as one of the boys in blue. He joined Company F, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, as a private, but by his company was elected Captain. The first active engagement in which he participated was the siege of Vicksburg. He also led his men in the battle of Jackson and in Sherman's campaign and was under fire at the engagements at Meriden, Benton, Vaughn Station, Jackson Cross Roads, the siege and capture of Mo-

bile, Ala., and in many others of lesser importance. He was a brave commander, beloved by his men, and of his army record he may well be proud. He faithfully served his country until the 22d of July, 1865, when he was mustered out. On the 4th of August following he was honorably discharged and immediately returned to his home. On one occasion he was struck in the foot by a piece of exploded shell, but the wound was not serious and otherwise he escaped uninjured.

Mr. Cooper exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party. He takes great interest in political affairs and always keeps himself well informed on the issues of the day. He has been called upon to fill several public offices, having served as Justice of the Peace for two terms, as Road Supervisor for several terms, and was the first Coroner of Kankakee County. Socially he is a member of Whipple Post No. 114, G. A. R., of Kankakee. His life has been a busy and useful one, yet he has found time to devote to public interests. He has aided in the building of churches and schools, and his support is never withheld from any worthy enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit. Loyal in time of war, he is also a valued citizen in the days of peace.



MYRON H. VAN RIPER, physician and surgeon, has been a resident of Kankakee County, engaged in the practice of his profession, since 1865. He was born in the village of Mt. Morris, Livingston County, N. Y., on the 17th of July, 1833. His father, John Van Riper, was a native of Long Island, where he was born in 1758. He was in the direct line of descent from Abraham Van Riper, who was born in Holland and was one of the early Dutch settlers of Manhattan, now New York. It will be observed that our subject, though not an old man, is the son of one who was born but little beyond the middle of the eighteenth century and whose birth antedates the beginning of the Revolutionary War by about seventeen years, in fact John

Van Ripper was a soldier in that struggle. He studied law in New York afterward and became a well-known lawyer, practicing in those early days in various portions of the Empire State. He married for his second wife Mrs. Delia Henderson, *nee* Mead, who became the mother of our subject, when the father had attained the age of about seventy-five years. He passed the last years of his life at Mt. Morris, N. Y. In 1848, while on a trip Westward to see the country he had visited in earlier days, he died at the advanced age of ninety years, his wife having died in 1842.

Upon the death of his mother, Dr. Van Ripper, then but a lad, went to New York City, where he lived in the family of his father's sister. He received his literary education at Rose Hill Seminary and began the study of medicine with Prof. Thomas Cook, who was the professor of the theory and practice of medicine in the University of New York. Dr. Van Ripper took his first course of lectures at Bellevue Medical College of New York. Later he attended Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia and again returned to Bellevue, where he began the practice of his profession with his preceptor. For a short time he was located in Detroit, Mich.

At the breaking out of the Civil War, Dr. Van Ripper entered the army, August 9, 1861, as a private in Company C, Sixteenth Michigan Regiment, known as Col. Stockton's Independent Regiment of Michigan Volunteers. He was promised the appointment to the position of Assistant Surgeon, but although he served in that capacity until he was wounded, he never received his commission. Dr. Van Ripper was terribly wounded at the battle of Malvern Hill. The command to which he was attached was charging Magruder, who had made an assault on the large battery. The Doctor was in the advance, but orders being given to about face and return from the charge, was thereby thrown to the rear. Seeing the man who bore the medicine case had left it, he ran back for it. Just about as he again caught up with his regiment, a shell from one of the enemy's guns passed so near him that the concussion threw him about six rods. Striking first on his head, then on his feet, somewhat in the manner of an acrobat, he broke both

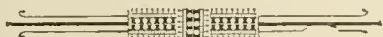
legs, his left arm and his right shoulder blade, and received a large hernia of the right side. He was so severely injured that several weeks elapsed before he recovered consciousness sufficiently to realize his condition. He was first conveyed to the Marine Hospital at Annapolis, Md., and thence to Washington, where he was placed in a hospital improvised in a portion of the Patent Office, and from there was finally taken to Bellevue Hospital, New York. On December 4, 1862, he received an honorable discharge in that city. When he had sufficiently recovered, Dr. Van Ripper returned to Detroit, where he was induced by Prof. Gunn, late of Chicago, to return to the service. He was commissioned Surgeon and placed in charge of Church Hospital at City Point. The result of the wounds received at Malvern Hill was a large lumbar abscess, which discharged for over six months and which has practically made him a cripple for life. He found the duties of his new position too laborious, resulting in failing health, and in consequence of this he was made inspector of the wounded who arrived at City Point. He continued in that position until near the close of the war. He was brave and patriotic and did all in his power to alleviate the sufferings of his brothers and to carry the old flag on to victory.

Having previously graduated from the medical department of the Michigan State University, Dr. Van Ripper was for a time demonstrator in the chemical laboratory of that institution. In 1865, he came to Kankakee County and located at Mokence, where he engaged in the practice of his profession for two years, at the expiration of which time he removed to Kankakee, which he has made his home up to the present time.

Our subject was first married in 1855, to Miss Jane Shout, who died in 1862, while her husband was in the army. In 1865, Dr. Van Ripper married Ann Rogers, a niece of the eminent sculptor of that name. In 1872 he was again married, this time to his present wife, who in her maidenhood was Margaret Wilking. The Doctor has become the father of four children, a daughter, Dellie, the child of his first wife, and three sons by his second marriage, Myron, Garrett and Marcus. He has a large practice but still suffers severely from the

effects of his army life. The many friends he has made during the quarter century of his residence in this city hold him in the highest esteem.

Our subject is serving his third term as Surgeon of Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R., of Kankakee. For some five years he was County Physician and Surgeon. He was the first and only medical man who served as Health Officer, and be it said to his credit that for once the city received a thorough cleansing. He is a member of the Kankakee County Medical Society, of which he was President for a number of years.



HENRY CLAY KONKLIN, of Kankakee, Justice of the Peace and Police Justice, is one of the pioneers of this county, the date of his arrival here being March, 1856. He was born in Pennsylvania March 13, 1821. His father, Henry Konklin, died when his son, our subject, was about seventeen years of age. The latter is the youngest of a family of five children, all of whom are living. George, who has now reached quite an advanced age, is a resident of Philadelphia; Mrs. Mary Ann Stackhouse owns a portion of the old homestead in the township of Haverford, Delaware County, Pa., but is a resident of New York City; Mrs. Eliza Sharpless is the wife of William Sharpless, of West Chester, Chester County, Pa.; William makes his home in Philadelphia. The mother of this family, whose maiden name was Margaret Moore, died on the old homestead in Pennsylvania, at the extreme old age of ninety-three years.

II. C. Konklin was about seventeen years of age at the time of his father's death, and was thus thrown upon his own resources early in life. Soon afterward he left the old home and, going to Cincinnati, Ohio, engaged as clerk for Oliver Townsend, with whom he continued for one year. From there he went to Louisville, Ky., which was his home for fourteen years. For a number of years Mr. Konklin was engaged in the clothing business, and was connected with the *Courier* newspaper

office in the capacity of bookkeeper and bill clerk for a period of five years. That eminent editor and writer, George D. Prentice, was at that time also connected with the *Courier*, and with him Mr. Konklin became well acquainted.

Soon after the breaking out of the war with Mexico, our subject decided to enter the army, and on the 11th of May, 1846, he enlisted for one year and fought under Gen. Zachary Taylor in the famous battle of Buena Vista. He has ever possessed a great admiration for "Old Rough and Ready," and though a life-long Democrat, esteemed it a great pleasure to have the privilege of voting for his old commander in the Presidential election of 1848. At the close of his term of service our subject returned to Louisville.

Mr. Konklin was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Stytle, daughter of Thomas Stytle, formerly of Richmond, Va. The wedding ceremony was performed in Louisville, Ky. This union has been blessed by five children, two sons and three daughters, as follows: Emma is the wife of Gustav Olson; Henry Clay is a railroad engineer and a resident of Chicago; Walter is also an engineer, but makes his home in Kankakee; Hattie is the wife of John Page, of Chicago; and Elizabeth, the youngest of the family, is at home.

Mr. Konklin came to Kankakee County through the advice of a friend, Edwin Bristow, who had visited this portion of the State and was favorably impressed with the country. He accordingly, after viewing the county, purchased the whole of section 19, in Essex Township, the northern half for himself and the southern part for his friend, Mr. Bristow. This property he purchased of William Short. Mr. Bristow never became a resident of the county, his purchase being only for speculation, but he however stocked his farm with cattle and made some improvements upon it. His death occurred in April of the following year, 1857. Mr. Konklin owned his land for thirty years, and continued to reside upon it until December, 1881, when he removed to the city of Kankakee. The land, which had cost him but \$5 per acre in 1856, he sold to James Mix for \$60 per acre. Our subject accidentally discovered that his farm was underlaid with a valuable coal bed. Sinking a shaft,

he struck coal at a depth of seventy-two feet below the surface, the vein being two feet in thickness and ten feet in width. Coal is now being mined successfully on the place and rich veins are being worked. It is a remarkable fact that this mine is covered with a layer of soapstone, varying from thirty-five to forty-five feet in thickness.

Mr. Konklin has seen Kankakee County develop from a wilderness to its present advanced condition of prosperity. When he settled with his family in Essex Township, there was no house to the north of his farm for a distance of six miles, and only two houses were to be seen in his vicinity, those of Dr. Philander Underwood and George Spencer, the latter in Greenfield Township, Grundy County. Mr. Konklin was prominently identified with the growth of Essex Township, where he was Justice of the Peace for twenty-three years, in which capacity he served for five years in Kankakee. In his political faith, he is an unswerving Democrat, having voted with that party for fifty years, the only exception being in 1848, when he voted for Gen. Taylor. He is well known throughout Kankakee County, where he has lived so long. As an official, his career has been attended with the confidence and respect of the community, and as a citizen he has ever had the regard and esteem of all. Mr. Konklin is a Deacon in the First Presbyterian Church of Kankakee City.



J FRANK LEONARD, of Kankakee, is Clerk of the Circuit Court and ex-officio Recorder of this county. He has served efficiently in the double capacity just mentioned for the long period of twelve years and is a well-known and popular citizen of Kankakee. He was born in Bennington County, Vt., on the 16th of September, 1847. His father, John T. Leonard, was also a native of the Green Mountain State and came from an old family of that State. In 1858, with his family, he emigrated to Illinois and settled on a farm in Aroma Township, this county.

There he continued to reside until 1869, when he removed to Kankakee to spend his remaining days. His death occurred in August, 1872. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Catherine Woodard, is a sister of Edwin Woodard, one of the pioneers of this county. Mrs. Leonard still survives and makes her home in Kankakee.

The subject of this sketch is the only child of his parents. He was reared on the farm, his educational privileges being such as were afforded by the district schools. He attended school both in Vermont and in Kankakee County. In those days there were but two terms during the year, one of three months during the winter and one of the same length during the summer. In 1867, when he had attained his twentieth year, he started in business for himself. His first venture was in the livery business in Kankakee, in which line he continued for about two years. For nearly the same length of time he was employed by the month in the same vocation. His first official position was that of Constable, in which capacity he served for eight years. He was elected City Marshal and from the year 1869 until 1872 was Deputy Sheriff. He also served as Supervisor of the town, and was the last City Collector of Kankakee. In the winter of 1878-79, Mr. Leonard was one of the Senate Clerks. In the next fall he was made Supervisor of the Illinois Hospital for the Insane, which is located at Kankakee. In the spring of 1880, he was nominated Clerk of the Circuit Court and was elected at the annual election in November of that year, and has served in that capacity, as already stated, for twelve consecutive years.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Leonard is an ardent supporter of the Republican party and is active and influential in its councils. He is at present Chairman of the Republican County Central Committee and also of the Congressional Committee. At present he is representing the First Ward of the city on the Board of Aldermen. He is an active and prominent Mason and has occupied the chair of Master of the Blue Lodge. He was High Priest of the Chapter and has been Commander in the Commandery. He endeavors in his daily life to be guided by the teachings of



Yours Truly
Hamilton R. Wheeler

Masonry, which, if complied with, make men truer friends and better citizens. In disposition, Mr. Leonard is cordial, genial and courteous to all with whom he has business or social relations. Hence he is a popular and esteemed citizen and has won the confidence and respect of all who know him. He is independent and pronounced in his opinions as to right or wrong, and has the courage of his convictions. He is intelligent and well read, and keeps fully posted on all the leading political and other issues of the day.



HON. HAMILTON K. WHEELER, attorney-at-law and Congressman-elect, representing the Ninth Congressional District of Illinois, was born in Ballston, Saratoga County, N. Y., August 5, 1848, and is a son of Andrew P. and Sarah (Jewett) Wheeler, the former of whom was born in Shaftsbury and the latter in Bennington, Vt. The father died at his home in Grant Park, Kankakee County, Ill., which had been his home for thirty years. His good wife survives him and resides at the old homestead.

In presenting the facts pertaining to the life history of our subject, we quote the following extract from the *Kankakee Gazette* of May 12, 1892: "H. K. Wheeler was born in New York, August 5, 1848. His parents moved to Yellowhead Township, Kankakee County, Ill., in 1852, and settled on a farm in that township. Like most pioneers they were poor, and our subject had only such advantages for schooling as the frontier furnished, a matter of three months' education each year. Being the eldest of four boys, the duties of assisting his parents in their new home fell on him, such work as herding cattle, driving oxen with breaking-plow, etc., falling to his share. Added to his school advantages, his mother had a few well-selected books, such as Franklin's "Poor Richard," Addison's "Spectator" and a few works of history. These, with such books as she could borrow in the neighborhood from the earliest settlers, constituted the library. At nineteen years of age

he was without education except such as he had acquired in the common schools, his parents, while very desirous that he should have educational advantages, being still unable to send him to school.

"Leaving home he came to Kankakee and succeeded in securing a place with A. B. True, then living on a farm on the outskirts of Kankakee, and here he worked mornings and evenings and attended school during the day. The following year he entered St. Paul's Academy, a flourishing school at Kankakee, and for four succeeding years his time was divided between attending and teaching school and studying law. His legal education was obtained principally at the Law University at Ann Arbor, Mich., from which institution he was graduated in the year 1872. At that time the law required that a student should study two years before he could be admitted to the Bar, and as our subject had studied only eighteen months he could not be admitted. He commenced, however, to practice at once and was admitted the following September. Since that time he has practiced law in Kankakee and has had an extensive practice, including all cases of litigation except criminal cases, which he has rarely undertaken.

"For a number of years Mr. Wheeler has been engaged in bitter litigation against the Illinois Central, Chicago & Eastern Illinois, and the Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad Companies, which cases are still pending in the Appellate, Supreme and Federal Courts.

"In 1881 our subject was elected to the State Senate from Iroquois and Kankakee Counties. On the organization of the Senate, he was given the chairmanship of the Committee on Judiciary, that being the second committee in rank in the Senate. He also served on the Committees on Agriculture, Appropriations, Insurance, Municipalities, Finance, Education, Military Affairs and Elections. Mr. Wheeler was one of the one hundred and three who made the gallant fight resulting in the election of Gen. Logan to the United States Senate, and took an active part in the contest. In the Thirty-fifth General Assembly he was again assigned to the same committees, and at that session was one of the special committee appointed by the Senate to investigate the 'State Printing Combine,' which

committee made a report finding that the State printing had been unlawfully let at too high a price and recommending the annulment of that contract, which decision was afterward sustained by the Supreme Court of the State and a new contract made at a much lower price, thus saving thousands of dollars to the State.

"In 1888 Mr. Wheeler closed out his farming interests in this county, which he had prior to that time carried on under his own supervision, and since then has devoted his attention exclusively to his profession. His practice is an extensive one, including some of the most important cases handled at the Bar. Our subject is not an orator but has the faculty of concise and lucid expression, stating his points clearly and briefly. He is quick to see a point, forms his conclusions rapidly and acts promptly. His practical knowledge of men and business makes him a valuable advocate in litigation, and in presenting the issues of the forthcoming campaign he will be found a ready and effective speaker. He is a hard worker, and as a member of Congress his energy will be felt in the committee-room. Personally, Mr. Wheeler is the most genial of men, with a heartiness of manner which makes a friend of whomsoever he meets. His fund of anecdotes is one of the pleasant features of his conversation, and he has a story to embellish every subject under discussion. He is not by any means rich, but his fine practice, unremitting attention to business, and judicious investments have placed him in comfortable circumstances."

In 1890 the Ninth Congressional District of Illinois was carried by the Democrats, who elected Mr. Snow over Mr. Payson, a popular Republican, then the Congressman from that district. In November, 1892, Mr. Wheeler, in spite of the great political landslide that swept the country in favor of the Democrats that year, was elected over Mr. Snow by five hundred and twenty plurality, thus demonstrating his great personal popularity.

In 1884 Mr. Wheeler was appointed general solicitor of the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railroad Company and has held that position ever since, covering a period of eight years. He was instrumental in securing the right of way through east-

ern Illinois almost without litigation, and in a fair and just manner to the land-owners and to the satisfaction of the company. He has conducted some very important cases against other lines of railways with marked success. For ten years past Mr. Wheeler has been the acknowledged leader of the Kankakee County Bar and has made important cases of civil litigation the principal feature of his practice, in which he has been eminently successful.

On the 15th of October, 1883, Mr. Wheeler was married in Kankakee to Miss Mary A. Braley, who was born in Hamilton, N. Y., and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They have three sons: Lester W., Everett S. and Hamilton H. Our subject is a stockholder and director in the City National Bank of Kankakee, and is a stockholder and member of the Board of Directors of the Kankakee Electric Street Railroad Company. He is the principal owner of the Kankakee Ice Company, in which his eldest son, Lester, is his partner and local manager. In the summer of 1892, Mr. Wheeler entered into law partnership with William R. Hunter, the present States Attorney for Kankakee County, under the firm name of Wheeler & Hunter.



CHARLES HOLT, editor and proprietor of the *Kankakee Gazette*, has made his home in this city for a period of twenty-four years, dating his residence from 1868. No man has done more to mold public opinion in this locality or to advance the best interests of the people than the gentleman whose name heads this record, and it is but meet that he should be duly represented in this volume.

Mr. Holt is a native of New York. He was born in Herkimer, on the 5th of March, 1817, and his family were a family of printers. His father learned the trade of printing in the New London (Conn.) *Bee* office with his brother Charles between the year 1790 and 1800. He was afterward connected with one of the earliest New York City

dailies, and in 1801 published a paper in Herkimer. At later periods he also did editorial work in that place. Thus it was not strange that our subject should enter the journalistic field. In January, 1830, when thirteen years of age, he entered an anti-Mason printing office and between the years of 1836 and 1846 he was employed at newspaper work in the cities of Albany and New York, during which time he was employed upon the *Tribune* under Horace Greeley and the *Journal* under Thurlow Reed. He also worked in book offices.

It was in 1846 that Mr. Holt emigrated westward, locating in Madison, Wis. The State had not then been admitted to the Union. In 1848 he purchased a half interest in the Janesville *Gazette*, and in company with Levi Alden established the second daily paper in Wisconsin outside of Milwaukee. Mr. Holt reported for the Milwaukee *Sentinel* the proceedings of the first Constitutional Convention, which was held in 1846, and in 1848, after the adoption of the State Constitution, he performed a similar service for the same paper in reporting the proceedings of the first State Legislature. For a considerable number of years Mr. Holt acted as reporter for the Milwaukee *Sentinel* at all the political State conventions held in Wisconsin and in this way formed a wide acquaintance with men of prominence, both in political and journalistic lines. He also made many warm friends among these gentlemen. On leaving Wisconsin he was fourth in seniority among the men then actively connected with the press of the State, Mr. Cramer, still of Milwaukee Wis., Col. Robinson, of the Green Bay *Advocate*, and Gen. Atwood, of the Madison *Journal*, both now deceased, being his seniors.

Mr. Holt left the Badger State and became a resident of Quincy, Ill., where he formed a partnership with J. J. Langdon, an old-time Chicago printer and fireman, formerly a member of the firm of Langdon & Rounds. For four years Mr. Holt and Mr. Langdon were associated in the publication of the Quincy *Whig*. He then sold his interest in that paper and in 1868 came to Kankakee, where he has since continued to reside. During the long years that have passed he has continuously published the Kankakee *Gazette*, one of

the leading and well-known papers of northern Illinois. For over sixty years Mr. Holt has been in a printing office and his experience as a newspaper editor and publisher covers a period of forty-four years. This experience and marked ability have won him signal success, and it is no flattery to say that he occupies a high position among newspaper men. He was one of the earliest members of the Wisconsin Press Association, which claims to be the earliest State Press Association in the United States. He became a member of the Illinois Press Association in 1869, and was elected its President in 1881. He was a member of the committee that prepared the platform of the Republican party on the organization in Wisconsin, and has since been a warm advocate of the principles of that body.



ARTHUR SWANNELL is junior member of the firm of C. E. & A. Swannell, dry-goods merchants of Kankakee. (For mention of business, see sketch of C. E. Swannell.) He was born in the city of Kankakee on the 11th of November, 1858, and is a son of Frederick and Eliza (Paddon) Swannell, whose sketch is given on another page of this volume.

Arthur Swannell first attended the public schools of his native city and then became a student in the State University, which is located at Champaign, Ill., from which he graduated in the Class of '79, after completing a four-years course. Thereupon he began his mercantile career as a salesman in his father's store, and in August of the following year he entered into the existing partnership with his brother, Charles E., they having purchased their father's interest in the old established and well-known dry-goods house of Frederick Swannell & Co.

In Brush Creek, Payette County, Iowa, on the 15th of January, 1885, occurred the marriage of Mr. Swannell and Miss Florence Misener, who is a daughter of D. W. Misener, and was born in Can-

ada. Four children have been born to our subject and his wife, three sons and a daughter, all of whom claim Kankakee as the place of their birth. They are as follows: Frederick W., Jeannette, Horace C. and William Laurence.

Mr. and Mrs. Swannell hold membership with the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church of Kankakee. On the question of politics our subject is a Republican. In social and all other circles Mr. Swannell is well and favorably known, and has the well-merited regard of all his fellow-citizens.



DR. CHARLES TRUE, No. 240 Dearborn Avenue, Kankakee, is a native of Indiana, and was born at South Bend, on the 28th of August, 1843. His parents, Glydon and Eliza (Lowry) True, were natives of New England, the father's birth occurring in southern Maine, and the mother's in Burlington, Vt. They were married in South Bend, Ind., and in the winter of 1843-44 removed with their children to Palestine, Crawford County, Ill. Soon afterward they went to Carroll County, in the same State, where the father died in 1848.

Deprived of a father's care at a tender age, our subject early learned the lesson of self-reliance. His education was received in the public schools. On the breaking out of the war, Mr. True, then but eighteen years of age, entered the military service of the United States in August, 1861, as a member of Company K, First Illinois Cavalry, and served until the last of October, 1862, when, on account of physical disability, he received an honorable discharge.

On returning from the army, Dr. True made his home in Prairie du Chien, Wis., where he entered upon the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. B. D. Eastman, a prominent physician of that city. During the winter of 1864-65, Dr. True took a course of lectures at Rush Medical College, of Chicago, after which he was employed as surgeon in the Government Hospital at Prairie du Chien for six months. The following winter

he resumed his studies at Rush Medical College, and was graduated therefrom in the Class of '65-66. He then established himself in practice in Lansing, Iowa, subsequently removing to Winnebago County, Ill. From there he went to Chicago in the fall of 1869, and after getting fairly established in that city was burned out in the great fire of 1871, after which he removed to Chatsworth, Ill., where he pursued the practice of his profession until May 1, 1887, when he came to Kankakee, and has since been in successful practice in this city.

In September, 1865, in Prairie du Chien, Wis., Dr. True and Miss Enelie Brisbois were married. Mrs. True was born in that city, where her parents, Col. Bernard B. and Theresa (Lachapelle) Brisbois, were also born, their families having been among the old historic French residents of Wisconsin territory. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. True was one of the Territorial Governors of Wisconsin. The Doctor and his wife are the parents of three children, two daughters and a son: Jessie Theresa, Bernard B. and Agnes J.

Politically, Dr. True is a Republican. He is a member of Whipple Post No. 411, G. A. R., and of the Kankakee County Medical Society. He has had an extensive practice for many years and takes rank as an experienced physician and surgeon. He is frequently called in counsel in critical cases, where his thorough knowledge and skill in his profession command the confidence and respect of his fellow-practitioners.



FIRST NATIONAL BANK of Kankakee was incorporated April 23, 1871, with an authorized capital of \$200,000, and a paid-up capital of \$50,000. The first officers were the same as the present and have held their respective positions uninterruptedly for twenty-one years. Emory Cobb is President; T. P. Bonfield, Vice-President; H. C. Clarke, Cashier; and Thomas W. Adams, Assistant Cashier. The following-named gentleman compose the present Board of Directors: Emory

Cobb, T. P. Bonfield, L. W. Cobb, George R. Letourneau and H. C. Clarke. The former charter expired April 23, 1891, and was renewed for twenty years from that date.

This bank has done a large and increasing business from the start and has been ably and safely managed. Its present surplus capital amounts to \$22,000. Its officers and directors are well-known citizens of the highest reputation in business circles. They are enterprising, yet conservative, and by their judicious and correct business methods have won for the bank a foremost place among the financial institutions of the State.



MAJ. RICHARD J. HANNA, of Kankakee, is one of the well-known pioneers of this county. His parents were Thomas and Elizabeth (Bird) Hanna. The birth of Maj. Hanna occurred at Staten Island, N. Y., on the 24th of October, 1835. He received a good education in the city schools and learned the carpenter's trade in New York City.

Mr. Hanna was married on the 7th of August, 1854, to Miss Ann Frith, a native of England, and to them have been born five children. Two sons, William E. and George E., died in infancy. The only surviving son is Isaac Bird Hanna, a prominent business man of Kankakee. The daughters are Carrie E. and Lizzie M.

On the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion Maj. Hanna enlisted in the defense of his country, and was made Orderly-Sergeant of Company II, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry. He participated in many of the fierce and leading battles of the war, among which we mention Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, siege of Vicksburg, Milliken's Bend, Spanish Fort and Mobile. In June, 1863, our subject was promoted, for bravery and fidelity, to a captaincy in the Fifty-first United States Colored Infantry, and in April, 1865, was commissioned Major. He was honorably discharged in June, 1866. In the time of his

country's peril he was ever at the post of duty and was one of the Union's brave defenders.

In the year 1855, Maj. Hanna became a citizen of Kankakee County, at which time he settled in Otto Township, and the year following engaged in merchandising in the village of Chebanse. On returning from the war he came to Kankakee, whither his family had removed in his absence. He embarked in the grocery trade and soon built up a thriving and successful business.

The Major has served his fellow-citizens in various official capacities and in 1882 was appointed Postmaster of Kankakee, and served in that office for a number of years. In 1880, he was elected as a delegate to the Chicago National Convention and was one of the famous three hundred and six who stood to the last for the nomination of Gen. Grant. Maj. Hanna has ever been an ardent Republican and has always possessed much influence in the councils of the Republican party. He is highly respected as a citizen and business man for his integrity and progressive public spirit. For nearly forty years he has been actively identified with the welfare, growth and prosperity of this vicinity and has ever used all means in his power to advance the welfare of his fellow-citizens. A devoted patriot in the time of his country's need, he has carried the same spirit through the days of peace and prosperity which have succeeded and discharges his duties as a citizen with faithfulness and zeal.



PROF. FRANK N. TRACY is the efficient Superintendent of the schools of Kankakee. To the public schools of our country we are indebted, as a nation, for the general intelligence that pervades the masses of the people. If the safety of our institutions and the permanence of the Republic depend upon the education of the masses, as is often asserted, and of which there can be no doubt, how important it is that the best efforts of our best educators be devoted to the development of the public

school system and to a more thorough investigation of the most approved methods for advancing the cause of general education. Daniel Webster said that the prosperity and success of New England was due to her free public schools.

The public schools of Kankakee have attained a high order of excellence and can compare favorably with the best in the State of Illinois. For their excellence the public is indebted in a large degree to the efficient Superintendent, Prof. Frank N. Tracy, whose management dates from the beginning of the school year in 1881.

Mr. Tracy is a native of the State of New York, his birth having occurred in Schuylcr County in 1849. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent in the county of his nativity in the usual manner of farmer lads. During the summer months he worked in the fields and performed other parts of farm labor, while in the winter season he attended the district schools of the neighborhood. Thus was his time passed until he reached his seventeenth year, when, having obtained sufficient education to enable him to teach a country school, he secured such a position. From that time for a number of years Mr. Tracy alternately taught and attended school. Not content with the educational privileges he had hitherto received, as soon as possible he entered upon a course of study in the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary and College, located in Lima, N. Y. These schools were among the most noted institutions of learning in the western part of the Empire State. The college is now known as the Syracuse University, having been removed from Lima to Syracuse, N. Y., and re-christened a number of years ago.

Prof. Tracy was married in the State of his nativity August 11, 1875, the lady of his choice being Miss Adella Boothe. Mrs. Tracy was Principal of the High School of Kankakee for four years. Our subject has thus far made teaching his life work. He made a permanent location in the West in 1876, and in the years which have since elapsed has resided continuously in Illinois. He secured a position as Principal of the schools of Georgetown, where he remained for four years, and for one year he held a similar position in Danville. From the latter place he came to Kankakee about

eleven years ago. Both he and his wife are active members of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, of Kankakee.

This city has made a substantial growth in population, industries, wealth and importance since 1880, but in no direction has the improvement been more marked than in its public schools. In that year the High School department had but about forty enrolled members. It now has nearly one hundred and twenty-four, while the entire enrollment in the public schools is about fourteen hundred. Prof. Tracy is, as all know, a well-educated man, and he has the excellent faculty of easily imparting his knowledge to others. Wherever known he is recognized as an able instructor, and the citizens of Kankakee may indeed feel grateful to him for the work he has done in promoting the excellence of her public schools. Socially, he is connected with the Royal Arcanum, Modern Woodmen, Kankakee Club and Round Table Club.



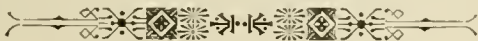
CHARLES E. VOSS, an enterprising citizen and a well-known photographer of Kankakee, established his present business in this place in the year 1879, but became a resident of this city two years previous to that time. He is now located at No. 207 Court Street, where he has a pleasant gallery.

Mr. Voss claims Indiana as the State of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Bloomington, on the 26th of February, 1853. He is a son of Emery Voss. His father was one of the early settlers of Bloomington, but is now deceased. His mother was, prior to her marriage, Miss Rachel Pitts. She also has departed this life.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth quietly in his parents' home, and the public schools afforded him his educational privileges. When a young man he began learning the trade of a marble cutter in the shop of T. H. Sudbury, of Bloomington, Ind. Having mastered the business, he determined to come to Kankakee, Ill., and in 1877 he carried out this resolution. Soon after

his arrival here he secured work with the firm of Riddle Bro., and was an employe in their shop for about two years. He then took up his present art, and, as before stated, established himself in business in 1879. He has since carried on operations in the line of photography with good success, for he possesses a thorough knowledge of his business and has ever aimed to keep abreast with the times and the great advancement that is being constantly made in the photographic art. His operating room is furnished with the most approved appliances pertaining to photography.

On the 23d of December, 1880, in this city, Mr. Voss was married to Miss Josie Babel, who is a representative of one of the early families of this community. Her father, Christian Babel, came to Kankakee in 1854, but died three years later, in 1857. Two children grace the union of our subject and his wife: Harry and Emory. Mr. and Mrs. Voss are well-known citizens of Kankakee who hold an enviable position in social circles. The success which has crowned his business efforts is justly deserved, being the reward of earnest and untiring labor. He now receives a liberal share of the public patronage and he is esteemed as one of the progressive and enterprising citizens of Kankakee.



ARGAILOUS B. NICHOLS, one of the earliest pioneers of Kankakee County, has resided within the territory embraced in this county for half a century, and settled there some eleven years prior to its formation, or the beginning of the settlement of Kankakee. He was born in Pultneyville, Wayne County, N. Y., March 27, 1824, and is the eldest of a family of seven sons and two daughters, the children of Roswell C. and Mary (Durfee) Nichols, all of whom are now living, with the exception of one daughter. (See sketch of Roswell Nichols elsewhere in this work.)

The subject of this sketch removed with his parents when a child of four years to a farm a

mile and a-half distant from Palmyra, Ontario County, N. Y. He attended school in Palmyra, and was reared to agricultural pursuits. In June, 1842, he emigrated with his parents to Illinois and made his home with them on the west bank of the Kankakee River, in what is now Limestone Township, Kankakee County, then a part of Iroquois County. There he and his brothers helped their father make a home and improve a farm. Their first winter's work consisted in making several thousand fence rails, with which to enclose fields for cultivation. The father's original farm comprised six hundred and forty acres, but this he increased by subsequent purchase until he had some fifteen hundred acres.

The fall before becoming of age, A. B. Nichols, as our subject is usually called, was married to Miss Cynthia Elmira Hawkins, a daughter of Alenson Hawkins. Mrs. Nichols was born in Ashtabula, Ohio, December 17, 1824, and died in Kankakee June 11, 1860, leaving three children, two daughters and a son. Burton E., the eldest, born April 1, 1846, in Limestone Township, married Miss Anna Dennis, and resides in Sioux City, Iowa, where he is serving as commercial agent for the Illinois Central Railroad Company, in charge of the freight and passenger business; socially he is a Knight Templar. Mary, widow of Joseph Whitmore, resides in Dubuque, Iowa. Cynthia Ellen is the wife of John Dugan, of Waldron, Kankakee County. On the 1st of November, 1860, Mr. Nichols married Miss Sarah Graham, eldest daughter of James and Mary (Nichols) Graham, of Momence, Ill. Mrs. Nichols was born February 9, 1837, in Terre Haute, Ind., and came to this county with her parents in 1838.

Soon after taking a wife, Mr. Nichols settled in a log cabin on a place his father had given him and began to develop a farm. About three years later he started a small store on his farm, this being the first established between Wilmington and Old Middleport. He also ran an eight-horse power circular saw that would cut about twenty-five hundred feet of lumber per day. These industries made others necessary. He accordingly secured a blacksmith, cooper and two shoemakers, all of whom he furnished shops to work in. The collection of build-

ings took on the appearance of a village, and as most of the houses were constructed of slabs, the place was called Slabtown.

Business in those days was done almost wholly on credit, and this not being satisfactory to Mr. Nichols, he loaded his goods into a wagon and sold them out to settlers on the Iroquois River, Spring Creek, Vermillion, Ambraw and Okaw Rivers. He made the round trip every four weeks, and in addition to selling goods bought furs and hides. Having continued this business for four years, he sold out, moved to Kankakee and conducted a very large meat market, shipping live stock extensively as well. His next venture was to establish an auction store, selling dry goods and notions. For nine years he was in the furniture business in partnership with his brother, J. D. Nichols. As an auctioneer our subject has had an extended experience and enjoys a remarkable popularity. In 1846 he began to cry sales, and without interruption has followed auctioneering since. For sixteen years he auctioned off goods at fairs. Chromos that now sell at from seventy-five cents to \$1, he sold at from \$6 to \$8. He is one of the best-known and most successful auctioneers in eastern Illinois, his business extending over this and adjoining States.

Since 1853 Mr. Nichols has been a resident of Kankakee, though at the time of his moving here it was beginning its existence as a station on the Illinois Central Railroad. He took an active part in the organization of the county, and has since been identified with its growth. Our subject sold his farm several years ago and invested in Kankakee city property, at the present time being the owner of nine dwelling houses besides his fine residence and twenty-four city lots. He is a thorough business man, possessed of good executive ability and a quick and correct judgment as to values. He has been eminently successful in all his undertakings.

In politics, Mr. Nichols is a Republican, and while living in Limestone Township was Town Clerk and held other town offices. He is liberal in his views regarding religion and does not affiliate with any especial denomination. His experience in the world has been extensive and varied

and his course in business such as to command the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens. Mr. Nichols took an active part in the formation of Kankakee County.



WILLIAM A. MCGILLIS has been a resident of Kankakee since 1882. He is a contractor by occupation and has had a large experience in the construction of railroads and in State and Government contracts.

Mr. McGillis was born in Lancaster, Canada, in 1838, and is of Scotch ancestry. His father, Angus McGillis, was a native of Canada, but the father of the latter, Donald, emigrated to the New World from Inverness in the Highlands of Scotland, a land made immortal by the gallant deeds of a noble race. The mother of our subject, who was in her maidenhood Janet McRae, was born in Scotland. Of the immediate family of Mr. McGillis but one brother and a sister yet survive, Findley, who resides in Canada, as does also the only sister.

Mr. McGillis grew to manhood upon a farm but began railroading at an early age. When a youth he commenced in an humble capacity in the service of the Grand Trunk Railroad in Canada. In 1859 he went to Michigan and engaged as a contractor on the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad. Going thence to Indiana in the same capacity he became a resident of Kankakee, as already stated, in 1882. For the ten years previous Mr. McGillis was connected with the Indianapolis, Bloomington & Western Railroad, now known as the "Big Four." Since coming to Kankakee he has been largely interested and engaged in the business of drainage. He has the honor of having placed in successful operation the first steam dredge for the purpose of drainage in this State. This machine, manufactured by the Bucyrus Steam Dredge Company, has revolutionized and made comparatively simple the drainage and reclamation of large areas of hitherto worthless swamp land. One of our sub-



Yours Truly
Ira H. Serene



Sincerely Yours
Mrs. Elma Serene

ject's largest contracts was for the drainage of an area of sixty-five hundred acres of State land in the southwestern part of Illinois. This gigantic undertaking involved the construction of a ditch eighteen miles in length, ten feet in depth and sixty feet in width. At present Mr. McGillis is engaged upon a Government contract on the Calumet River, south of Chicago.

In Indiana occurred the marriage of Mr. McGillis to Miss Mary Dolan, who is a native of Canada. They have one of the most beautiful homes in the city of Kankakee, it being located on Bourbonnais Street and Chicago Avenue. In business life Mr. McGillis has been very successful, having risen by his own unassisted efforts from a most humble position to his present condition of prosperity and influence.

Socially, Mr. McGillis is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. He is one of the nine men who platted North Kankakee, and brought the factories there, and who have done more to develop the city of Kankakee than any others.



IRA A. SERENE, who resides on section 30, is one of the thrifty and substantial farmers of Pilot Township. He now owns and operates two hundred and forty acres of good land, constituting one of the best farms in this locality. His fields are well tilled and yield to him a golden tribute in return for the care and labor he bestows upon them. He has good improvements upon the place, and the neat and orderly appearance of his farm indicates the owner to be a man of practical and progressive ideas. His home is pleasantly situated about two miles from Herscher.

The life record of Mr. Serene is as follows: He was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., January 24, 1845, and is a son of Absalom and Helen (Brinkerhoff) Serene. The paternal grandfather of our subject, James Serene, was also a native of the Empire State. The family is of French origin and was established in America during the early days of New York. Absalom Serene was born in Wor-

cester County, that State, and there grew to manhood and was educated. When a young man, he went to Dutchess County, and was there united in marriage with Miss Brinkerhoff, a native of that county, and a daughter of Derrick Brinkerhoff. Her father was a native of that State, and came of a family which located on Long Island in 1638. After his marriage, Mr. Serene was engaged in the hotel business in Dutchess County for about twenty-one years. He then determined to seek a home in the West, and in 1855 made his way to Illinois, locating in La Salle County, where he purchased an improved farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was thus employed for fourteen years, after which he sold out and came to Kankakee County. Here he purchased the farm on which our subject now resides, and continued to make it his home until his death, which occurred August 2, 1884, at the very advanced age of ninety-three years. His remains were interred in Pilot Cemetery, where a suitable monument has been erected to his memory. In his early life Mr. Serene was a Jackson Democrat, but on the organization of the Republican party joined its ranks and continued to be one of its staunch supporters throughout the remainder of his life. In religious belief, he was a Presbyterian. Mrs. Serene still survives her husband, and now makes her home with the subject of this sketch.

Ira Serene is the only surviving member of a family of three children who grew to mature years. The first ten years of his life were spent in the State of his nativity, after which he accompanied his parents to Illinois. He was reared to manhood in La Salle County in the usual manner of farmer lads. He received good school privileges, and after attending the common schools, he became a student in Jennings' Seminary. Some years prior to his father's death, he took charge of the home farm and has since devoted his time and attention to agricultural pursuits.

September 22, 1869, in Morris, Grundy County, Ill., Mr. Serene was united in marriage with Elma Jones, who was a native of La Salle County, and a daughter of William L. F. and Lucy (Davenport) Jones, the former one of the honored pioneers of La Salle County. With his family he re-

moved to that place in 1836. He was a native of Rutland County, Vt., and when a young man left the Green Mountain State for the West. By trade he was a blacksmith, and was one of the first to follow that business in La Salle County. Later in life he engaged in farming. This worthy gentleman was called to the home beyond in 1882. To Mr. and Mrs. Serene have been born two children, a son and daughter, Benton and Stella. The former is now attending school in Herscher.

Mr. and Mrs. Serene hold membership with no religious organization, but attend and give their support to the Presbyterian Church. Socially, he is connected with the Masonic order, belonging to Cabery Lodge. In politics, he is a Republican, having voted with that party since he cast his first Presidential ballot for Gen. U. S. Grant in 1868. The honors and emoluments of public office have had no attraction for him however, he preferring to keep out of the political arena and devote his attention to his business interests. Mr. Serene has passed almost his entire life in this State, and for twenty-four years has resided in Kankakee County. He is now widely and favorably known, and he and his estimable wife well deserve representation in this volume.



JOSHUA GRAY, who devotes his time and attention to farming, owning a good tract of land on section 2, Pilot Township, is one of the honored pioneers of Kankakee County. He here located in 1854, since which time he has witnessed the growth and upbuilding of the county, and has also borne his share in its development and advancement. He has seen and known the hardships of pioneer life, and has also watched the strides of progress which have transformed this county from a pioneer settlement to one of the foremost counties in the commonwealth of Illinois. As one of the early settlers, our subject certainly deserves representation in this volume.

Mr. Gray is a native of New York. He was born

in Albany County, December 14, 1844, and is the youngest son in a family of nine children. His parents, Christian and Barbara (Ostrander) Gray, were both natives of the same county. The maternal grandfather, Samuel Ostrander, was born in the Mohawk Valley, where his ancestors located at an early day. The Gray family is of English origin, their first settlement being in the Mohawk Valley. After his marriage, Christian Gray engaged in farming in Albany County, N. Y., for a number of years. It was in 1854 that he turned his face toward the setting sun, having resolved to seek a fortune on the prairies of the West. He chose Kankakee County as the scene of his future labors, and located in Salina Township, near the present town of Bonfield. The county was then in its early infancy. Wild game of all kinds was found in abundance, including deer, and wolves were also frequently killed. Mr. Gray purchased a small tract of eighty acres, on which was a little house, but to this farm he added from time to time. The land he placed under a high state of cultivation, and the improvements he made transformed the place into a desirable home. He there spent the remaining years of his life, his death occurring in 1861. His wife still survives him and has now reached the advanced age of eighty-four years. She is now living with her daughter on the old homestead.

Of the six sons and three daughters of the Gray family, Elisha, the eldest, is now living in Albany County, N. Y.; Samuel, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work, is engaged in business in Kankakee; Stephen, who is also represented in this volume, carries on business in Kankakee; Peter is living in the town of Limestone; Christian is a resident of Salina Township; Joshua is the next younger; Mary, Mrs. Webster, resides with her husband on the old Gray homestead, and is the youngest of the family.

Joshua Gray, whose name heads this record, came to Illinois when a lad of ten, and grew to mature years in the neighborhood which is yet his home. He remained with his mother until after he had attained to man's estate, and for several years operated the old home farm. He then purchased a farm of eighty acres in Norton Township,

an improved place, but did not locate thereon. Soon after he sold it and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Salina Township. After successfully engaging in agriculture for eight years, he again sold out, and in January, 1889, purchased the farm on which he is now located. It comprises ninety acres, in the midst of which stands a substantial residence, good barns and other outbuildings. These are surrounded by well-tilled fields, and the neat appearance of the place indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner.

An important event in the life of Mr. Gray occurred September 5, 1876, when was celebrated his marriage with Miss Luella, daughter of Joseph A. Baker, of Kankakee, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this record. Three children bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Gray, as follows: Sadie L., Hugh J. and Grover Arnold.

In his social relations, Mr. Gray is a Royal Arch Mason, and holds membership with the Blue Lodge and Chapter of Kankakee. He cast his first Presidential vote for Horatio Seymour, and since that time has affiliated with the Democratic party. The honors of official life have no attraction for him, and his time and attention are devoted wholly to his business interests. He is a man of sterling worth and upright character, and the confidence and regard of the entire community are his.



ROMAIN ST. GERMAIN, a farmer and stock-grower, who resides on section 32, Limestone Township, owns and operates three hundred acres of land and is regarded as one of the leading agriculturists of the community. He claims Canada as the land of his birth, which occurred in the city of Montreal May 15, 1846. He is the third in order of birth of nine children, seven sons and two daughters. The parents were Antoine and Harriet (Wimet) St. Germain. Both were natives of Montreal, but the grandparents of our subject on both sides were born in France. Antoine St. Germain ac-

companied by his family came to Kankakee County, Ill., in 1857, and established a tannery in the city of Kankakee, which he operated for a period of eight years. He then removed to a farm in Limestone Township, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1886, at the ripe old age of eighty-seven years. His wife still survives him and is now living in Kankakee, at the age of seventy-six years.

Mr. St. Germain, whose name heads this record, remained in Canada until ten years of age, when he came to this county with his parents. He attended school in his native land but completed his education in the schools of Kankakee. At the age of twenty-six years he started out in life for himself without capital, and therefore all the success which he has achieved has been entirely due to his own efforts. He first purchased eighty acres of raw prairie land on time and began the development of his farm. He has worked long and earnestly and well deserves the handsome competence which has rewarded his labors.

On the 18th of November, 1874, Mr. St. Germain was married to Miss Louisa Carrow, the eldest child of Joseph and Susan (Tatro) Carrow. The parents were both born in Canada and were of French extraction. In an early day in the history of this county they emigrated hither, and have been numbered among its residents ever since. They had a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters. The union of Mr. and Mrs. St. Germain has been blessed by the birth of four sons and two daughters, as follows: Delphis, who was born June 11, 1877, and died of diphtheria when two years of age; Bertie, who was born July 17, 1879, and died at the age of one year; Randolph, born May 30, 1881; Elmira, May 3, 1883; Dwain, September 22, 1887; and Joel, the youngest, on the 21st of October, 1891.

Mr. St. Germain since the purchase of his land has continued his farming operations. Acre by acre he has placed the entire amount under the plow, and, as his financial resources have increased, he has extended the boundaries of his farm until it now comprises three hundred acres of valuable land, which yields to him a golden tribute in re-

turn for his labor. His farm is well improved with good buildings and he raises an excellent grade of stock—in fact, this industry is an important branch of his business and yields him a good income.



ILLINOIS EASTERN HOSPITAL for the Insane. By an act of the Legislature passed by the General Assembly in the session of 1876-77, approved May 25th, 1877, and in force on the 1st of July of that year, the Eastern Hospital for the Insane was created and established, \$200,000 being appropriated to buy land and erect the buildings. The location was made by seven commissioners appointed by Gov. Cullom. These commissioners were John H. Adams, of Stephenson; John Thomas, of St. Clair; William A. McConnell, of McHenry; Dr. Joseph Robbins, of Quincy; A. P. Bartlett, of Peoria; Myron C. Dudley, of Du Page; and Dr. William Gerard, of Lawrence. After examining various places, among which were Paris, Gilman, Danville, Paxton, Tuscola and Pontiac, the commissioners chose Kankakee, and the land was procured. The committee who acted on behalf of Kankakee in the presentation of its memorial to the commissioners, and who were appointed by a meeting of the citizens of this city, were Thomas P. Bonfield; D. C. Taylor, Andrew Kerr, G. V. Huling, James N. Orr and Emory Cobb, and too much credit cannot be given them in this matter. Dr. Secrest, of Watseka, was also a friend to Kankakee. The bill originating the institution was a Kankakee County enterprise and was pushed through the House by D. C. Taylor, J. A. Koplín and C. Secrest, Representatives of this Senatorial District, and through the Senate by Thomas P. Bonfield, the State Senator. The fall of 1877 witnessed the letting of the contract for the construction of the building to James Lillie, and by the winter of 1879 it was occupied and running, with Richard Dewey as Superintendent. Since that time additional appropriations to the sum of \$1,300,000 have been made and about thirty-five new build-

ings erected for patients of both sexes and for administrative purposes. The construction is mostly on the "cottage" plan, there being twenty-four buildings of that description. This was the first institution to adopt that plan, which has been extensively copied since in Ohio, Missouri, New York, North Dakota and British America.

The hospital staff is as follows: Richard Dewey, medical superintendent; and the assistant physicians are A. L. Warner, M. D.; Anne C. Burnet, M. D.; James Dodds, M. D.; Dr. Foster and H. Bradley, M. D. The male supervisors of the institution are: William A. Reid and Charles W. Anderson, the female supervisors being Mrs. Nettie Earl and Miss Ella Myers. Miss Nellie Fisher is the instructress in the training school. In the business department John C. Burt is business manager, George F. Lovell chief clerk, James Bradbury chief engineer, and Samuel N. Calkin superintends the farm.

To Dr. Wines, D. D., Secretary of the Illinois State Board of Public Charities, is due the credit of inaugurating the system of the cottage plan, on which this institution is conducted, and to Dr. Richard Dewey, Superintendent of the hospital since its establishment, is due the credit of carrying out Dr. Wines' plans and improving on them in perfection of detail. This cottage plan includes in addition to the extensive main building and other buildings for general use a large number of commodious two-story cottages for the use of the patients as homes, where they may be classed separately as seems best according to their various conditions of mental ailment. As the hospital is naturally an object of more than passing interest to the citizens of this county, and indeed of the country at large, we will give in a brief manner some points of interest connected with it. As the latest report accessible is that of 1890, much of interest that will be embraced in the forthcoming report of 1892 must be omitted.

The Illinois Eastern Hospital for the Insane is situated on the south bank of the Kankakee River and adjacent to the southern limits of Kankakee, with which it is connected by the Kankakee Electric Street Railway. The total area of the hospital property comprises eight hundred and forty-three

acres, about one hundred of which are occupied by buildings, lawns and timber lot. About seven hundred and forty acres are devoted to agriculture, horticulture, vegetable gardening and dairying; The farm is conducted by Samuel Calkin, who bears the title of "Farmer," and is under a fine state of cultivation. The labor of about fifteen regular hands and the help of some twenty-five patients, occupants of the farm ward, are required in the care of the farm, garden and stock, and in butchering, soap-making, etc. The hospital stock consists of three hundred head of cattle, one hundred and fifty of which are milch cows, yielding one hundred and twenty thousand gallons of milk annually, the remainder of the herd being calves and young cattle to be raised for cows. The cattle are all high-bred Durham and Holstein stock, which are all dehorned and constitute as fine a herd as can be found in the State. Thirty-four fine draft horses are employed on the farm and some two hundred hogs are grown annually and slaughtered for the use of the hospital. In addition to the stock above mentioned, about twelve hundred head of beef cattle are bought and butchered annually at the hospital slaughter-house, and the meat in all its forms, fresh, salt and smoked, is consumed by the hospital population. The slaughter-house is built on the most improved modern plans, having a large icehouse and cold storage rooms. The coarse fat and refuse go to the soap factory, where they are rendered and converted into fine soap, which by the thousand of cut bars supplies the need of the hospital, thus causing a great saving in that direction. In addition to the stock killed, quite a large number of dressed sheep are bought in the Chicago markets and kept in cold storage until used. In addition to all this a large quantity of poultry and fish not produced on the farm is also consumed.

For the year 1892 the farm yielded seven thousand bushels of corn, six thousand three hundred bushels of oats, two hundred tons of hay and three hundred and fifty tons of garden vegetables, four thousand three hundred bushels of this amount being potatoes. The farm boasts a young apple orchard of several hundred trees of the best known varieties for this latitude, and a large quantity of

small fruit is also raised. The Farmer has a large and tasty residence, situated at quite a distance from the hospital group, and having commodious and conveniently arranged barns and outbuildings, with cellars and roothouses of vast storage capacity. In fact, taken as a whole, it is a model farm and has been brought to its present high state of perfection by the judicious management and indefatigable efforts of Mr. Calkin, who is a practiced and level-headed farmer, whose management of the insane entrusted to his care and employed on the farm is much to be commended.

Returning to the large group of imposing stone buildings which constitute the city of the insane, we find the various buildings conveniently and systematically located, facing the north and east, with a rare view of the beautiful Kankakee River, with its shaded banks, groves and meadows; while the towering church spires and numerous tasty residences gleaming through natural groves to the northward show where lies the thrifty city of Kankakee, while the smoke from its many tall chimneys suggests the idea of busy toil and happy homes. The hospital grounds and buildings are connected by winding walks of concrete, and the landscape gardener has employed his best art in the arrangement of shrubs and flowers. The buildings are all of native limestone, most of which was taken from the extensive quarries of D. C. Taylor, not far distant. The power-house contains twelve large boilers, sixteen feet long by five in diameter, each boiler having a capacity of sixty horse power, in addition to which there are two boilers at the pumping-station at the river and one on the farm. There are three engines, two of one hundred and twenty-five horse power each, and one of forty.

The hospital buildings are heated by steam, hot air and hot water. The water is supplied by water works at the river, where one large Worthington pump supplies three million gallons of water in twenty-four hours. Four dynamos, with a capacity of a thousand lights each, and one are light illuminate the institution and grounds well and safely. James Bradbury, who is the oldest employe at the hospital in point of years of service, is chief engineer, and with a force of eighteen men does all

the plumbing and keeps all the machinery in repair and in running operation.

The internal arrangement of the hospital is according to the most approved modern plans, perfect in detail for the comfort, health and pleasure of its inmates. Facilities for heating, lighting and ventilation, and the water supply and all sanitary conditions, are of the most approved order. Sewerage connection with the Kankakee River is thorough and complete. A system for the employment of patients has been adopted which answers the double purpose of diverting their minds from their maladies and producing substantial results in the working of the institution. The average per cent. of the inmates employed in the years 1889 and 1890 was seventy and four-tenths. The various industries represented include the making of brooms, baskets, rugs, rag carpets, mats, harness and tinware, and the work of upholstering, chair-caning and repairing, shoe-making, tailoring, printing, clock-repairing and engraving is also carried on. The computed saving to the institution by this means has been \$238,120. The increase in employment has been from forty-five and one-tenth per cent. in 1886 to seventy and four-tenths per cent. in 1890.

Twelve per cent. of the patients, or two hundred and four, are paroled and allowed the privileges of the grounds. Two of the buildings, accommodating each about forty patients, are open wards. This parole is only given to such patients as employ themselves usefully, except in the case of a few convalescents who need it as a measure of benefit. But there is a large additional number who might be safely paroled except for the fact that with such the parole leads to habits of idleness and is therefore no advantage, and these have been as far as possible encouraged to engage in regular employment and have been rewarded for their industry by such other privileges as could be justly extended to them. Of course the greatest privilege that any patient can have is a return to a life of freedom.

The changes made have increased the capacity of the hospital to sixteen hundred and seventy-five beds (this per report of 1890), and the total expenditures made during the biennial period were

\$63,400. This sum, added to the total previous outlay, produces a total of \$1,319,100, which divided by sixteen hundred and seventy-five gives a per capita cost of \$787.40, but the cost for construction proper, excluding cost of land, furniture, repairs, etc., in the past two years was \$34,800, which sum added to the total previous outlay for construction proper produces \$996,600, or a total per capita construction cost of \$594.98. The net total expenses of the institution for this seventh biennial period covered by this report were \$474,834.98, which is a total per capita expense of \$287.17, or \$143.58 per patient per annum, including all current expenses of every kind, salaries and wages, food, fuel, clothing, medical treatment, etc. This was the lowest figure attained in Illinois by any of the State insane hospitals for the biennial period covered by this report, the next lowest being \$298.48 or \$149.24, per patient per annum.

At this writing (November, 1892), the population of the hospital, including officers and attendants, is fully two thousand, while the new cottages recently erected but not yet quite ready for occupancy will increase its capacity to the accommodation of at least two thousand patients, making it the second largest institution of its kind in America, the largest being that at Ovid, N. Y., which exceeds the Illinois Eastern in capacity by about one hundred only. The cottage system, under the judicious management of Dr. Dewey, has proved a complete success, and its renown has attracted the attention of those in care of the insane in all portions of the United States. Numerous Governors and other State officials have visited this hospital to investigate its workings, and so favorably were they impressed that the system has since been adopted by several States of the Union. Dr. Dewey, the Superintendent, is a thoroughly educated and skillful physician and surgeon, a man of advanced ideas and warm sympathies for the unfortunates under his care. It is seldom that the qualities which distinguish eminent men in the professions are found coupled with great executive ability and practical business tact. But in the Superintendent of this institution is found this happy combination, and under his care the hospital has been as ably and economically con-

ducted from a business standpoint as it has been in a professional and humanitarian sense. The position is a most arduous and trying one and Dr. Dewey has discharged the responsible duties of it with such ability and fidelity that all who are familiar with the history of the growth and management of the institution are unanimous in their approval and admiration.

The Board of Trustees is composed of the following named gentlemen: E. B. McCagg, of Chicago; John L. Donovan, of Watseka; Walter W. Todd, of Kankakee and H. C. Clarke, Secretary and Treasurer. Much credit is due the board for the faithful manner in which they have discharged their duty. Before closing this brief sketch it may not be inappropriate to state that Mr. James Lillie has been the principal contractor from the first to the present time and that the Illinois Eastern Hospital will be a lasting monument to his mechanical skill and the faithful performance of his contracts. The Hon. D. C. Taylor and the Hon. T. P. Bonfield are entitled to the credit of drafting the original bill providing for the establishment of the hospital at Kankakee and for zealous work in their respective branches of the Legislature for its passage.



JUDSON DURFEE NICHOLS is a pioneer settler of Kankakee County and a well-known furniture dealer of Kankakee. He is a native of the Empire State, his birth occurring in Pultneyville, Wayne County, on the 8th of April, 1828. He is the third son of Roswell and Mary (Durfee) Nichols, of whom see sketch elsewhere in this work. He was reared upon a farm and attended school in Palmyra, N. Y., until fourteen years of age, when with his parents, brothers and sisters he emigrated to Illinois. For several years he was employed in helping his father prepare a home and improve a new farm in Limestone Township, then of Iroquois, but now of Kankakee, County, which was his home until he attained his majority.

On his twenty-first birthday, the 8th of April,

1849, Mr. Nichols was united in marriage in Limestone Township to Miss Ludelia Arnold, who was born in 1824, in Orleans County, N. Y. She was the daughter of Oren and Amanda Arnold. To Mr. and Mrs. Nichols three children were born, two of whom are now living: Eugene W., who married Miss Mary Reeves and resides in Lachine, near Montreal, Canada; and Oren D., who married Celia Dwight and is engaged with his father in the furniture business at Kankakee; Judson D., the youngest of the family, died in infancy.

About the year 1850, Mr. Nichols engaged as a contractor in railway construction in Illinois, and in the spring of 1853 went to Missonri, where he was employed in the same line of work, making his home with his family there until the fall of 1856, when he returned to Kankakee County. He had not parted with his farm of two hundred and eighty acres in Limestone Township and there he again engaged in agricultural pursuits. He continued to reside upon his farm until the spring of 1878, when he removed with his family to Kankakee, which has since been his home. Not long since he sold two hundred acres of his farm, but still owns eighty acres, which is a portion of the original purchase made by his father in 1841. Soon after returning to Kankakee, Mr. Nichols engaged in the furniture business, which he has continued to the present time. He carries one of the largest stocks in his line in the county and is doing an extensive business.

In the fall of 1857, his first wife departed this life, and on the 29th of December, 1859, Mr. Nichols was married to his present wife, whose maiden name was Mary I. Denny. She was born in Terre Haute, Ind., September 23, 1837, and is a daughter of David and Emily Denny, of whom a sketch is given on another page. Four children have graced this marriage, three daughters and a son: Hattie Ann, Clara Belle, Helen E. and David D.

In politics Mr. Nichols has always been an active Republican since the organization of that party and has held various local offices. At the first election in Limestone Township he was elected Collector and Constable and served

throughout the term of his offices. Subsequently he served as Supervisor for two terms and has held at various times all of the town offices except that of Justice of the Peace. He is a Master Mason, being a member of Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M., of which he was one of the early members. He is inclined to be liberal in his religious views and is not connected with any church denomination. Mr. Nichols has been a resident of what is now Kankakee County for fifty years and for a greater part of that time has been prominently identified with its improvement and development. He endured his share of the sickness and fevers which prevailed so extensively throughout the West during its early settlement and which caused much suffering and loss of life. Those who have come more recently find all the advantages of modern civilization and an improved and healthful climate and they can scarcely appreciate by hearsay what the pioneers had to pass through. In company with many others of the early settlers Mr. Nichols passed through many of the trials and hardships incident to the settlement of a new country half a century ago, when railroads were unknown in the West, when the comforts and even the necessities of life could be scarcely provided. As a business man and citizen Mr. Nichols stands deservedly high and the record of his life has been an open book to his neighbors and friends.



OTIS DURFEE. Many of the older settlers of Kankakee County, whose life work was identified with its growth and development, have passed to their final rest, and it is most fitting that some record of their deeds should be perpetuated for posterity, and that a more reliable and satisfactory knowledge may be had of them than that preserved in memory and tradition. Of this number is the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Durfee was born in Palmyra, Wayne County, N. Y., on the 7th of December, 1829, and was the son of Sydney S. and Sophia (Rogers) Durfee, who

were of old New York families and held in high repute in the Empire State. The subject of this sketch received a common-school and collegiate education in his native State and in 1846, in company with his parents, emigrated to Illinois. They settled in Chicago, then but a small town. Our subject soon obtained employment as clerk to a merchant in Lockport, but continued there only a short time. He next went on the Lakes as a sailor and continued in that vocation until 1852. Afterward, he engaged with his father on contract public works in Chicago. They drove the first piles in the city for the Illinois Central Railroad Company and took extensive contracts for harbor improvement, but in the financial crash of 1857 they lost large sums of money in the carrying out of their contracts. In 1860, Mr. Durfee engaged in farming in Monee Township, Will County, Ill. Some two years later, he removed to Limestone Township, Kankakee County, and there continued his farming operations until 1865, when he removed to Kankakee.

In Limestone Township, on the 15th of April, 1856, Mr. Durfee married Miss Harriet C. Nichols, a daughter of Roswell and Mary (Durfee) Nichols, of whom see sketch elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Durfee was, like her husband, a native of Palmyra, N. Y., where her birth occurred on the 23d of January, 1832. By their union were born four sons and a daughter. Minnie S. resides with her mother and unmarried brothers in Kankakee; Sidney Roswell, the eldest son, is the present Clerk of the Circuit Court of Kankakee County; Fred married Miss Isabel White and is a member of the firm of Durfee & Whittemore, grocers of Kankakee; Edward Adelbert is Deputy County Clerk of this county and has held that position for four years; Harry is a clothing merchant of Chicago.

In the year 1866, Mr. Durfee was elected Sheriff of Kankakee County and served for two years. In 1870, he was again elected to that office and served a second term of two years. He was made Justice of the Peace in 1873, and held that office until his death, a period of eleven years. In the same year, 1873, he was also elected Assessor and was several times re-elected to that position, which he held for about twelve years. In politics Mr.



Benjamin F. Uron M.D.

Durfee was a stalwart Republican from the time of the organization of that party until his death, which occurred after a lingering illness on the 9th of October, 1888. He was a Royal Arch Mason, a member of Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M., and of Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M.

In all the relations of life, Mr. Durfee was ever upright, faithful and reliable. In the discharge of his official duties he proved himself capable, impartial and attentive to the just demands of the public on his time and attention. He won the respect and esteem of the many who knew his worth and who were favored with his friendship. His good mother, now well advanced in years, survives her son. She was reared in the Quaker faith, to which she has always adhered, and still wears the modest drab-colored dress that distinguishes the Society of Friends.



DR. BENJAMIN F. URAN, one of the leading physicians and surgeons of this county, makes his home in Kankakee. He is a native of what is now Kankakee County and was born in the township of Bourbonnais, then a portion of Will County, on the 26th of January, 1848. His father, Jonathan Uran, was born in Vermont in 1810, and was descended from an old New England family. He followed the occupation of a farmer, and when about twenty years of age emigrated to the State of Ohio, and in 1836 came to this portion of Illinois. Ten years later he was married to Miss Lucinda Legg, a daughter of George Legg, one of the pioneers of this county and the first resident on the site of Kankakee. Mr. Uran settled on a farm in Bourbonnais Township, where he lived for many years engaged in agricultural pursuits. He left his farm and lived a retired life for some years in Kankakee, where his death occurred in 1885, when he had attained the age of seventy-five years. He was an esteemed and respected citizen and a man of strict integrity, who possessed the confidence and regard of his fellow-citizens.

In his political affiliations he was an Abolitionist in the early days and later a stalwart Republican. He held membership with the Baptist Church, in which he was ever an active worker. He and his estimable wife, who survives and resides in this city, were the parents of five children who grew to mature years, three sons and two daughters: Our subject is the eldest of the family; Nathaniel H. carries on the old homestead; William L. is a resident of Limestone Township. The daughters are Mrs. Alta M. Goodwin and Addie M.

The boyhood days of the Doctor were passed upon his father's farm in Bourbonnais Township and his school privileges were such as were afforded by the district schools. Early in life he determined to adopt a profession as his life work and finally decided to pursue the study of medicine. At the age of eighteen years he started out in life for himself, working upon neighboring farms during the summer, and attending school in the winter season. He also taught for a number of winter terms. In the fall of 1868, he entered the office of Dr. Knott in Kankakee and continued under his preceptorship for four years. In the meantime he attended lectures at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and also the Bellevue Medical College of New York, and was graduated from the latter institution on the 1st of March, 1872. After his graduation he was associated with Dr. Knott for about two and a-half years, since which time he has been practicing independently. The Doctor occupies an enviable position among the medical practitioners of Illinois and has a large and lucrative patronage.

On the 10th of September, 1874, Dr. Uran was married to Miss Susie W. Troup, a daughter of Dr. J. A. Troup, of Kankakee. She was born on the 15th of October, 1851, in Circleville, Ohio. They have a family of four interesting children: Howard Hale, Joseph Alfred, Margaret Bertha and Benjamin F. Their home is the abode of hospitality and good cheer and here they delight to entertain their many friends.

Dr. Uran not only stands high in the medical profession, but takes an active interest in promoting the moral and material growth of the community. He is President of the North Kankakee

Electric Light and Railway Company, and is also Secretary of the Examining Board for Pensions, having been appointed on that board in the summer of 1889. He is a loyal and enterprising citizen, and does much to further the development and progress of this city.



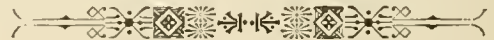
HENRY JACOBUS is engaged in carrying on his farm situated on section 1, Aroma Township. He is a native of the Empire State, where his birth occurred in Genesee County, on the 8th of June, 1812. His parents were Simon and Katie (Decker) Jacobus, who were of German descent. In their family were thirteen children, two of whom died in infancy. John, Hannah, Sarah, David, James and Katherine are also deceased, and those living are James, Betsy, Polly, Henry and Clarissa. The father of these children passed away in 1841, and his wife departed this life two years previously.

Our subject was born and reared upon a farm, receiving a good common-school and business education. He remained under the parental roof until reaching his majority, and in early life learned the trade of a chair-maker. He commenced life for himself by working for neighboring farmers by the month, and later farmed on shares. When he was but five years of age, he came with his parents to the West and lived in Decatur County, Ind., until 1846. At that time he came to Kankakee County, and located in St. Anne Township, which was then a portion of Iroquois County. He brought all his household here by team. The following year Mr. Jacobus purchased one hundred and sixty acres of Government land. The farm which first came into his possession adjoins the town of St. Anne, which at that time was not in existence. He paid for this tract from \$1 to \$2.50 per acre. Here he lived until 1853, when he sold the property and removed to the farm where he has since made his home. This consists of ninety-seven acres, which he has greatly improved since it came into his possession. When he first located in this county,

the nearest trading-post was Momence, and there he carried all his produce. As an agriculturist he has been very successful and is truly a self-made man. He commenced life totally without means, and by his characteristics of industry and economy has acquired a comfortable home and competence.

On the 27th of May, 1835, Mr. Jacobus and Miss Mary Burns were united in marriage. The lady is a daughter of Thomas and Hester (Robinson) Burns, and was born in Virginia, on the 5th of March, 1811. She is therefore now eighty-one years of age; her husband has attained eighty years, and at this advanced age they are both hale and hearty, and enjoy life with as much zest and pleasure as many who have not reached half their years. By their marriage were born eight children. Harrison died in infancy; Lizzie J. became the wife of Chauncey Redford, now deceased; Martha A. died in infancy; John R. is still living; Hester A. died when an infant; William and Elva A. are still living, as is also the youngest of the family, Rebecca M., who is the wife of Eddie Misenbimer.

Mr. Jacobus has always used his right of franchise in support of the Republican party. He has never been an aspirant for official positions, but has faithfully performed his duties of citizenship. He is well informed on the leading issues of the day, and devotes much of his time to reading and study. For forty-six years he has made his home in this county, and has taken an active interest and part in its wonderful growth and prosperity. In this and adjoining counties he has long been well and favorably known, and numbers many friends throughout this community.



JAY L. HAMLIN, Postmaster of Kankakee, is a native of New York, born in Oswego on the 11th of August, 1846. He is a son of Charles P. and C. Amelia (Lake) Hamlin, and came to Illinois with his parents on the 4th of November, 1852. The family settled in Momence, now in Kankakee County, where our sub-

ject was reared and attended the public schools. He afterward entered the State Normal University, where he pursued his studies in the higher branches. Upon leaving school he engaged in agricultural pursuits and also dealt in live-stock and farm machinery at Momence. On the 10th of October, 1873, he was appointed to a clerkship in the United States Railway Mail Service and continued in that position for fifteen years, or until September, 1888, when he resigned.

In the following November, Mr. Hamlin was appointed to his present position as Postmaster by President Harrison. He is now serving his fourth year in that capacity and has proved a very popular officer. The Kankakee office is an important one and gives employment to fourteen persons, including five carriers. The office under the management of Mr. Hamlin has been ably and satisfactorily conducted both as regards his superior officers and the general public. Our subject and his subordinates are careful, painstaking and accommodating, and the casual stranger who has occasion to go to the office is as sure of respectful attention as the wealthiest and most influential local resident.

On the 23d of September, 1869, Mr. Hamlin was married in Momence, Ill., to Miss Alice R. Rice, who was born in that city and is a daughter of George W. and Laura Rice, who were among the early settlers of that place and were originally from Maine. Mr. and Mrs. Hamlin have one child, a son, C. Philip, who was born in Bloomington, Ill., on the 19th of December, 1873, where Mr. Hamlin resided for three years, from 1873 until 1876. Since that time he has made his home in Kankakee.

Socially, our subject is a Knight Templar Mason and holds membership with Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M., of Kankakee. He is also a member of Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M., and of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T., all of this city. In connection with his other official duties, Mr. Hamlin has the inspection of the twenty-five postoffices of the county once a year. It is hardly necessary to state that he is a Republican and has been one from boyhood. He takes an active interest in campaign work and is influ-

ential in the councils of his party, both in the county and State. As a citizen and public official he stands high in the estimation of all with whom he has business or social relations.



JOHN FRANKLIN. Among the prominent self-made Illinois farmers who have succeeded in acquiring a large and valuable property through their own unaided efforts must be mentioned he whose name heads this sketch. He claims sunny Italy as his birthplace, and the date of that event was New Year's Day, 1836. When nine years old, he emigrated to America in company with two cousins, who became merchants in Philadelphia. He remained with them as store boy until he learned that one of them was about to return to Italy and take him back to his home. He preferred to stay in this country, and to avoid being taken back, he ran away and joined Dan Rice's circus troop and traveled with that renowned showman until 1858. Then coming to Illinois, he obtained employment on a farm in Chebanse Township, Iroquois County, and continued at farm labor until the breaking out of the war.

On the 10th of August, 1861, Mr. Franklin enlisted for three years' service in defense of the Union as a member of Company G, Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry. He served the term of his enlistment and received an honorable discharge August 10, 1861. He saw much active service, and discharged the duties of a soldier faithfully and well. He participated in the battles of Pea Ridge, Perryville, Ky., Crab Orchard and Stone River. In the latter engagement a minie-ball passed through his canteen as it hung on his left side. His health becoming impaired, he was assigned to the Invalid Corps, and was placed on guard duty at Chicago, Rock Island and later at Buffalo, N. Y., until the time of his discharge.

On the 9th of December, 1866, Mr. Franklin was married in Chebanse Township to Miss Mary Ann

Pruett, who was born February 3, 1847, in Vermillion County, Ind., and is a daughter of Meredith and Mary Pruett. Mrs. Franklin came to Iroquois County, Ill., with her parents when but two years of age. Her father died in August, 1866, and her mother, who still survives, is a resident of Chebanse Township.

Mr. Franklin had saved from his earnings quite a sum before going into the army, and with this he had purchased eighty acres in Chebanse Township, and on leaving the army he had accumulated about \$1,000. Immediately after his marriage he settled on his farm in Chebanse Township, which he proceeded to improve and cultivate. He added to the original tract by purchase from time to time, until he had accumulated five hundred and sixty acres of valuable land. On this he erected an elegant and commodious farm house, costing about \$6,000, and the most extensive barns and cattle sheds in use in this section of the State. In February, 1892, he purchased a lot at the northeast corner of Indiana Avenue and Bourbonnais Street, where he has erected one of the finest residences in the city, which is the home of the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin have eight children, four sons and daughters: Ida May, the eldest, is the wife of James McCuen, of Chebanse; Jennie is the wife of Eugene Vanderporten, of Watseka, and is the mother of the only grandchild, Ruby Dot, born September 4, 1891; Ray, Bruce, Lloyd, Della, Arthur and Flossie, the younger members of the family, are students at the Kankakee city schools. Mr. Franklin's principal object in removing to this city was that he might better educate his younger children.

Our subject has always done quite an extensive business in growing, feeding and selling live-stock, and his farm, which is one of the most valuable ones in the State, is now well stocked and is under his management and supervision. In politics, he affiliates with the Republican party. Mrs. Franklin and her daughters hold membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church. The subject of this sketch has been an industrious and hard-working man all his life. He made his start in the world by working as a farm hand, and was such an efficient

and faithful man, and so reliable, that he always commanded the best wages, often getting double that paid to ordinary men. When he embarked in agricultural pursuits for himself, he brought to bear the same indefatigable energy, shrewd judgment and industry. Aided by his faithful wife he rapidly accumulated property until he is now known as one of the wealthy farmers of eastern Illinois.



ANTONY LAFLEUR is an extensive farmer of Aroma Township, engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 3. He is of French descent and a native of Canada, where his birth occurred on the 12th of December, 1822. He is a son of Charles and Margaret Lafleur, who were the parents of nine children, as follows: Charlie Mitchell, Margaret, Betsy, Antony, John, Elrick, Sophia, Joseph and Jane. Three others died in infancy.

Our subject was born and reared upon a farm and is largely self-educated. He was early obliged to make his own living, which he has practically done since ten years of age. He early learned the carpenter's trade and worked at that employment most of the time for many years. He went with his parents to Vermont about the year 1830, and lived there for some fifteen years. In 1845 they emigrated to Troy, N. Y., where our subject worked as a carpenter for about ten years. In 1855 he came to Illinois and located in the town of St. Anne, Kankakee County. At that time there were only about six houses there, and he was employed to assist in laying out the town. Mr. Lafleur made his home in that place for the succeeding ten years, and during that time worked at his trade and was so successful in a financial way that he was enabled to purchase a good farm, where for some years he engaged in tilling the soil in connection with his trade. This farm consisted of two hundred acres of raw prairie land on section 4, Aroma Township. After residing there for some four years, he sold the property and re-

moved to Kankakee in 1869. For five years he was engaged in the livery business in that city. In 1871 he became the owner of his present farm, which consists of one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 3. From time to time, as his resources increased, he added adjoining land and has now three hundred and thirty acres of valuable arable and well-cultivated farming land. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and the labor of years has been rewarded by prosperity and success.

In 1847 Mr. Lafleur married Miss Lizzie Sheguinn, who was a native of Lower Canada. Mr. Lafleur holds membership with the Presbyterian Church. He is a public-spirited man and is active in forwarding all public enterprises and educational measures. He was elected to the office of Highway Commissioner, and discharged the duties of that position to the satisfaction of all concerned. He has always taken a leading and active part in politics, and has been for many years a supporter of the Republican party. He is one of America's self-made men, and has steadily pressed forward to the goal of success, overcoming all difficulties and obstacles in his path with a courage and perseverance worthy of the emulation of all.



FRANCIS M. STANSBERRY. It is only by written record that we can fitly perpetuate the history of the early settlers and men who by their heroic struggles overcame the obstacles in their pathway amid the privations and discouragements of life on the frontier. Therefore it is with pleasure that we present this brief sketch and tribute to the memory of the gentleman whose name heads this sketch.

Mr. Stansberry was a native of West Virginia, his birth occurring on the 9th of July, 1829, near Wheeling. He was one of eight children, four sons and four daughters. His parents removed to Indiana when he was about four years of age, the trip being made by way of the rivers on a flat-

boat. His father purchased Government land near Muncie, Ind., and was one of the early settlers of Delaware County. Soon after his settlement in Indiana, the father died, and when our subject was but seven years of age his mother also departed this life.

At that time Mr. Stansberry was bound out to a Quaker, to remain with him until fourteen years of age. He was early accustomed to the duties and occupations of farm life while in the employ of this man, and on attaining the age of fourteen he was released from the engagement. For the succeeding four or five years he worked by the month for the neighboring farmers, and then determined to learn a trade. He chose that of a wagon-maker, at which business he worked until 1852. The spirit of adventure had taken an active hold on his mind, and in that year he started for California, going by mule and ox-teams overland. He was about five months on the way, his destination being the Salmon River mines. He remained in California for many years, and for a portion of the time engaged in mining. Later he ran a sawmill and for a number of years was an extensive stock-raiser. He purchased quite a large cattle ranch and was very successful in his business undertakings. In those days he bore a great reputation as a bear hunter, and killed many of those ferocious animals in a hand-to-hand encounter. For several years he lived among the Indians, and had many strange and thrilling adventures.

On the 28th of July, 1851, Mr. Stansberry was united in marriage with Miss Permelia D. Fairbanks, daughter of Almon and Paulina (Jaquith) Fairbanks. Six children graced this union. Francis A. and Mathias C. are both at home; May P. is the wife of Joseph E. Smith, a druggist of Kankakee; Almon A. is engaged in the drug business in Georgetown, Ill.; and Hattie is at present attending school in Kankakee.

Mr. Stansberry returned from California about 1867 and visited the scenes and friends of Indiana for a few weeks. He then came to Kankakee County and purchased a partially improved farm on section 35, Aroma Township. This place consisted of three hundred and twenty acres, and here he carried on general farming and stock-raising.

ing for many years. As a business man he was successful, for he was industrious, enterprising and progressive in his methods, and at the time of his death had accumulated a good estate and was accounted one of the well-to-do farmers of this community. Mr. Stansberry's death occurred as the result of an accident. On the 25th of August, 1892, while in Kankakee, his team became frightened and ran away, he being thrown from his wagon, and sustaining severe and fatal injuries. He lingered for about two days and passed away on Saturday morning, the 27th. His life was always a busy and useful one, yet he ever found time to devote himself to public interests and the general welfare. Politically, he affiliated with the Republican party, and for some years in California was Justice of the Peace. He was a man who by his genial manner and interesting conversation made many friends, and his death was a great shock and sorrow to all.



FAYETTE S. HATCH, Deputy County Treasurer of Kankakee County, and ex-County Superintendent of Schools, has been for many years a resident of Kankakee, his arrival here dating from 1866. His birth occurred in Chenango County, N. Y., in 1832. His father, Jethro Hatch, was born in Connecticut. The genealogy of the family is traced back to Thomas Hatch, whose name is identified with the early history of the New England Colonies. The paternal grandfather of our subject, whose Christian name was Timothy, removed to the Empire State when his son Jethro was but a child and was one of the pioneers of Chenango County, where he resided until his death, which occurred when he had attained to the advanced age of ninety-eight years. The father of our subject wedded Minerva Pierce, a native of the Green Mountain State, and in 1846 emigrated with his family to Kane County, Ill. He settled upon an unimproved farm in the township of Sugar Grove. He located on State land and was

one of the earliest of the pioneers of that county. There he lived until the country, which was then in a wild, uncultivated condition, was thickly settled, converted into fine farms and covered with pleasant and comfortable homes. Toward the close of his life he removed to Aurora, where he died when eighty-five years of age. His wife survived him only four years, passing away at the age of eighty-three.

Jethro Hatch and wife were the parents of five children, three sons and two daughters, all of whom are living: Mercelia, the widow of Dr. Lawson Winslow, now residing at Aurora; Fayette, who is our subject; Dr. Jethro, a practicing physician of Kentland, Ind.; Mattie W., the wife of D. C. Winslow, now living at Gilroy, Cal.; and Austin P., a resident of Aurora.

When his parents removed from New York to Illinois, Fayette S. Hatch, whose name heads this sketch, was about fourteen years of age. He well remembers the pioneer days and experiences in Kane County. His earliest education was obtained in the district schools of his native and adopted States. Later he pursued a course of study at Beloit College, which was then and for many years afterward under the Presidency of Dr. Chapin. When between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two years, our subject taught a number of terms of school. May 12, 1864, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Forty-first Illinois Regiment and remained in the service until the regiment was discharged, October 20, 1864. He continued to reside in Kane County until 1866, when he came to Kankakee and engaged in the furniture business.

On the 3d of March, 1868, Mr. Hatch was united in marriage with Miss Teresa M. Peirce and by their union were born three children, two sons and a daughter. Mary S. is a teacher in the public schools of Kankakee; and the sons are Lawson W. and Austin L. Mr. Hatch was bereft of his wife by death on the 13th of August, 1892. She was a faithful wife and mother and left many friends to mourn her loss.

In the year 1886, Mr. Hatch was elected Superintendent of Schools of Kankakee County, and in that capacity proved an efficient and able officer during the succeeding four years. Since the ex-

piration of his term as Superintendent he has been connected with the office of County Treasurer. In his political affiliations our subject is a staunch Republican. His first Presidential vote was cast for John C. Fremont in 1856, since which time he has never failed to deposit his ballot in favor of the Presidential candidate of his party. Mr. Hatch is prominent in Masonic circles, being a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Consistory, and has been for seven years District Deputy of the Sixteenth Masonic District. He is a popular citizen and his business and official careers have ever been attended with the strict integrity and honor by which he has won the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens.



JOSEPH ARNOLD BAKER, a prominent farmer and early settler of the township of Aroma, was born in Lawrenceburg Township, Dearborn County, Ind., on the 16th of September, 1823. He is a son of Abiel and Maria (Osgood) Baker. The former was a farmer by occupation, was born in Rhode Island, married in early life, and settled in Dearborn County, Ind., where he died when our subject was but a child. His wife, who survived her husband, was born near Augusta, Me. Some years subsequent to her husband's death she removed to Illinois and died here in October, 1887.

Joseph A. Baker, whose name heads this sketch, was reared on a farm and received a good common-school education. In March, 1848, he married Miss Sarah True. She was born in Manchester, Ind., and was a daughter of Abram B. and Elmire (Gerrish) True. Eight children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Baker, of whom five are now living: Sparks B. married Miss Frances Briggs, and is a farmer of Lincoln Township, Audubon County, Iowa; Mary J. is the wife of Peter Gray, of Limestone Township, this county; Albion T. died at the age of two years; Harriet A. became the wife of Christian Gray, of Salina Township; Joseph A. died in infancy; Emory E. married Ida M. Beebe

and makes his home in Kankakee; Luella M. is the wife of Joshua Gray, of Pilot Township; and Lois E. died when two months old.

Mr. Baker engaged in farming in Indiana until 1849, when he removed with his family to Will County, now Kankakee County, Ill., and settled in what is now the township of Aroma. He then possessed but limited means and dreaded going in debt so much that he bought only forty acres of land, for which he paid but \$1.50 per acre. He was offered a quarter-section near by shortly afterward at \$2 per acre, on his own terms as to time of payment, but the dread of debt prevented his acceptance of the offer. Many years later, however, he became the owner of the identical tract, for which he then paid \$50 per acre, and a part of which he has since sold for \$100 per acre. He from time to time increased his possessions until he owned about six hundred acres of fine farm land in this county. He still owns four hundred acres. Mr. Baker carried on farming and stock-raising successfully in Aroma Township, and by hard work and good management arrived at his present position as one of the wealthy farmers of the county.

On the 16th of March, 1875, Mr. Baker was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, whose death occurred on the homestead farm. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was a consistent Christian woman. On the 17th of October, 1876, Mr. Baker was again married, his second wife being Miss Lovinia Heustis True, a sister of his former wife. Mrs. Baker was born in Manchester, Ind. Her father, who was an early settler of Kankakee County, was born in Durham, Me., on the 16th of September, 1796, and settled in Dearborn County, Ind., in January, 1820. In 1850, he removed with his family to Illinois, settling in what is now Kankakee County. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres, all of which lie within the eastern limits of Kankakee. At the time Mr. True settled, the site of Kankakee was marked only by the old Indian chief's log house. He departed this life at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, on the 17th of February, 1885, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Baker. Mrs. Baker's mother had previously died, the date

of her death being December 6, 1851. Both were highly esteemed and were widely known among the early settlers of the county. Mrs. Baker is a member of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church.

On the 6th of December, 1891, Mr. Baker moved to Kankakee, which has since been his home and where he has a fine residence on Chicago Avenue, between Oak and Locust Streets. He helped erect the first business house in Kankakee, which stood where the Rondy Building now stands on Court Street, between Schuyler and Dearborn Avenues. Politically, our subject is a supporter of the Republican party but has never been an aspirant for office. In all the relations of life he has endeavored to discharge with fidelity the duties devolving upon him. Upright and prudent, he has never been known to speculate or risk his means in uncertain ventures in the hope of large gains, so that while he has accumulated wealth slowly he has assuredly preserved what he has made, and his conservative course, while perhaps preventing him from becoming very wealthy, has insured for him a gradual and steady increase of riches that is sure to bring substantial returns in the course of time, as has been demonstrated in his case.



CAPT. JACOB RUGER, Treasurer of Kankakee County, is an old pioneer of this region, and was a gallant soldier in the War of the Rebellion. He is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in Wurtemberg on the 11th of December, 1835. His parents spent their entire lives in the Fatherland, and there departed this life. In 1853 our subject, accompanied by his brother, Charles L. Ruger, crossed the briny deep and cast anchor in New York Harbor. The brothers went to Pittsburgh, Pa., and thence to Chicago in 1854. However, owing to the prevalence of cholera in that city, they decided to go elsewhere and continued their journey, arriving in Joliet, where they engaged in work at their trade, that of harness-making.

In May, 1856, Capt. Ruger first located in this

county. He engaged in harness-making for several years in Momence, and then the late war breaking out, he enlisted for the defense of the Union. He was assigned to Company H, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, on the 6th of August, 1862. He was elected Second Lieutenant on the organization of the company, and served in that capacity until June 5, 1863, when Capt. Plummer, of Company H, having died, our subject was promoted to the Captaincy, and served in that position until the close of the war. He participated with his regiment and in the command of his company in many of the most important engagements and disastrous battles of the war. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg in 1863, and in the same year participated in the siege of Jackson, Miss. In July, 1864, he was in the battle of Jackson Cross Roads, Miss., and was under fire at Benton, in the same year. He was under Sherman in the Meriden campaign of 1864, and was also at Port Hudson. Toward the close of the war his command was ordered to New Orleans, thence to Pensacola, and later to Mobile, at which place they took an active part in the military operations. In the attack on Ft. Blakeley Capt. Ruger's company received a severe loss in killed and wounded. From there the regiment moved up the Alabama River to Selma, where they learned of Gen. Lee's surrender. Returning to Mobile, they went by steamer in July, 1865, to Galveston, Tex., where they received an honorable discharge. Moving Northward, they arrived in Chicago, and were in due time mustered out of the service. Although Capt. Ruger participated in so many severe and desperate battles, he escaped without wounds, but from close proximity to an exploding shell he was rendered entirely deaf in his right ear, and, as years roll by, he feels in an increasing degree the effects of his army life. He arrived at his home August 6, 1865, just three years to a day from the time of his enlistment. In battle he was courageous and undaunted, and was ever to be found in the front ranks cheering his soldiers on to victory.

On returning to Kankakee at the close of the war, Capt. Ruger resumed his trade of harness-making, which he continued until appointed to



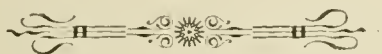
David Scott



Your 8c
Mrs. C. T. Scott

serve the unexpired term of County Treasurer, which office was made vacant by the death of J. J. Oberlain. He assumed the duties of the office on the 4th of March, 1892, and has proved an acceptable and trustworthy official. He has also served in various positions of trust and honor in Momence. He was a member of the Board of Supervisors for ten years, and served on the Board of Trustees for many years. The cause of education has ever found in him a staunch supporter, and for six years he was School Director. He has ever taken a commendable interest in the growth and development of this vicinity, and is highly esteemed for the part he has taken in the promotion of its welfare.

Capt. Ruger married Miss Narcissa Bureham, and of their union have been born seven children, five sons and two daughters. The Captain is a member of Whipple Post No. 114, G. A. R. All the family are members of the Episcopal Church.



DAVID SCOTT, a well-known farmer residing on section 14, Limestone Township, is numbered among the early settlers of the county, dating his residence here from 1856. He is a native of England, his birth having occurred near Liverpool on the 27th of December, 1827. His father was born in the same place, and his ancestors for several generations had there resided, being English yeomanry. The mother of our subject was a native of Edinburgh, Scotland. She came of one of the best families of that city, and her education was there acquired. David of this sketch was the third child in the family of fourteen children, four sons and ten daughters. His brother, Alexander, fell heir to the Scott estate in England, where he yet resides. He was formerly an officer in the English army, but is now retired.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who in 1841 crossed the broad Atlantic to America and located in Philadelphia, Pa., where he attended school for a year. He then went to

Middlebury, Vt., where he again attended school for a year and a-half. He continued his residence in that place until about thirty years of age, and while there followed the occupation of manufacturing marble monuments for about eight years. He has, however, devoted the greater part of his time and attention throughout life to farming.

On the 26th of September, 1849, Mr. Scott was united in marriage with Miss Clarissa T. Terrell, who resided in Castleton, Vt. She is the eldest in a family of three children, including one son and two daughters, born of the union of Levi and Betsy (Sandford) Terrell. Her parents were both natives of this country, and the father served in the War of 1812. Mrs. Scott received a good education, and after attending the common schools, was for one term a student in Fair Haven Seminary. She then engaged in teaching, which profession she followed successfully until her marriage. She is an intelligent and highly cultured lady, and for eighteen years has been honored with the office of School Treasurer of this township, being the present incumbent. She is under bond for \$26,000, and handles about \$15,000. All honor is due the woman who so faithfully and efficiently transacts such important business.

Three children graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Scott, of whom Robert W. was the eldest. He was born October 26, 1850, and for some time was a prosperous farmer of Indiana. He died in Lake Village, that State, on the 5th of February, 1892. Henri C., born May 17, 1852, is married and with his wife and two children now resides in North Kankakee. Alice M., who completes the family, was born on the 11th of May, 1855, and is the wife of James P. Tennes, a resident of South Kankakee.

Mr. Scott, accompanied by his family, came to Kankakee County, Ill., in March, 1856, and for about six years rented land. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land on section 14, Limestone Township, where he has since made his home. At that time there were only two houses in sight of his dwelling. Few roads had been laid out and the work of progress and development seemed scarcely begun. He has transformed his land into one of the finest farms

in the county, and its well-tilled fields and neat appearance indicate his thrift and enterprise. He also owns property in South Kankakee.

In his political views, Mr. Scott is a Republican, having supported that party since its organization. His first Presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison. As every true American citizen should do, he takes an active interest in political affairs, and for years has been an office-holder, filling all the township offices. To those who know Mr. Scott, it is needless to say his duties have ever been discharged with faithfulness and fidelity. He and his wife are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of South Kankakee, which he built in 1871, and they are the only two surviving members who united with the church at that time. They have taken a prominent part in church work and in all that tends to elevate and improve the community. The business record of Mr. Scott is without stain, and his life has ever been such as to win him universal confidence and respect.



THOMAS DAILY, one of the extensive land-owners of Aroma Township, resides on section 25. He is one of the worthy citizens that the Emerald Isle has furnished to this State. A native of County Carlow, he was born on the 10th of March, 1835, and is a son of Matthew and Ellen (Polley) Daily, who were also born in the land of the shamrock. They became parents of a family of seven children, six sons and a daughter, namely: Sarah, Robert, Thomas, Matthew, William, Edward and George. One of the children died in infancy, and with the exception of our subject, the others are all now deceased. In 1849 the parents, with their family, bade adieu to their native land, and in a sailing-vessel crossed the broad Atlantic to America. After a voyage of six weeks and three days they landed at New Orleans, and thence made their way up the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers to Columbus, Ohio, where they resided for a year. Their next place of residence was in Jackson, Miss., where the mother died in 1851. The family con-

tinued to reside in that place for about nine months afterward, when the father and his children made their way north to Illinois, locating in Kankakee County, where Matthew Daily died the same year, 1852.

The subject of this sketch, we thus see, is the only surviving member of the family. He spent the first thirteen years of his life in the land of his birth, and then accompanied his parents on their emigration to the New World. He attended school in Ireland, and to a limited extent after he came to this country, but his privileges have been meagre, except those he has made for himself. He accompanied the family on their various removals after locating in this country until 1852, when he came with them to Kankakee County. Here he began work on a farm by the month, and during the first year his wages were only \$12 per month. He continued thus to be employed for five years, when he determined his labors should benefit himself, and rented a farm, which he engaged in operating until 1862.

The Civil War was then in progress, and it was proven that it would be no slight affair, as both the North and South first supposed. Mr. Daily offered his services to his adopted country, and entered the ranks for the preservation of the Union, to serve for three years. He became a private of Company H, One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Infantry, and was mustered into service at Chicago, whence with his command he was sent to the front. The first engagement of importance in which he participated was at Forest, Miss. He also took part in the battle of Chickasaw Bayou, and on the 9th of May he entered upon the siege of Vicksburg, where he remained continuously until the surrender of the city, after a long and arduous siege, on the 4th of July, 1863. He was then transferred to the Fourth Regular Cavalry, and with his regiment met the enemy in the battles of Franklin, Nashville and Tombigbee. He served until 1865, when the South having surrendered and the Union no longer needing his services, he was mustered out, receiving an honorable discharge at Chicago. He was neither wounded nor taken prisoner in all the long years of his service, but was ever found at his post of duty, faithfully defending

the Stars and Stripes, which now float so proudly over our united nation. The country owes its boys in blue a debt of gratitude which can never be repaid for the noble sacrifices they made in order that the Union might be maintained. Our subject may well be proud of his army record.

When the war was over Mr. Daily returned to Kankakee County, where he remained until 1866, when he went to Arkansas, remaining in that State from the spring until the succeeding autumn. He then returned to Illinois, but after a short stay went to Texas, where he resided until 1867. In that year he again came to Illinois, and has resided in Kankakee County continuously since.

The year after his return Mr. Daily was united in marriage, the lady of his choice being Miss Annie Smyth, daughter of John and Alice (Caryon) Smyth. Eight children have been born of their union, as follows: Mary A., a teacher of recognized ability in this county; Sarah E., who is also successfully engaged in teaching; Lillie, who died on the 13th of September, 1874; Matthew E., Thomas A., William E., Robert H. and Walter G., who are still under the parental roof. The family are all members of the Catholic Church, and are people of prominence in the community, who hold an enviable position in social circles.

In his political views, Mr. Daily is a Democrat who warmly advocates the principles of that party, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with excellent success. On his return to Illinois from Texas, he purchased forty acres of land in St. Anne Township, and after making his home thereon for a year, he bought the farm upon which he is now living. It then comprised only eighty acres, situated on section 25, Aroma Township, but as his financial resources have increased, he has extended its boundaries, and his landed possessions now aggregate six hundred and twenty acres of well-improved and valuable land, all under a high state of cultivation. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, and the neat appearance of his place indicates the supervision of a careful manager. His possessions represent his own hard labor. Mr. Daily has been the architect of his own fortunes,

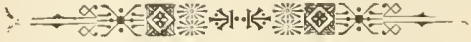
and has built wisely and well. He is now numbered among the substantial citizens of the community, as well as most prominent farmers.



THE KANKAKEE GAZETTE was established in August, 1853, by A. Chester, who owned and published it until 1856. On the 1st of April of that year it was purchased by Daniel S. Parker. The first numbers were published in Chicago, there being no place yet built in Kankakee where a press could be set up. The Chicago Journal Company did the press work. This continued but for a very few weeks, when the press and type were sent to Kankakee, and for a time the work was done in the open air, under the shade of a friendly tree, in the presence of many who gathered about to see how the thing worked, and probably not a few of the early pioneers saw a printing-press work for the first time on that occasion. Mr. Chester was a good journalist, but not a practical printer, and being engaged in outside matters, sold to Mr. Parker, as before stated. Mr. Parker took the paper with five hundred subscribers, but soon increased it to twelve hundred. In 1862, he entered the army as Adjutant of the One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Volunteers, and J. B. Atkinson conducted and edited the paper during his absence. Subsequently W. F. Keady bought an interest in the paper, selling out again to Mr. Parker. After thirteen years of editorial life, Mr. Parker, in 1868, laid down the quill and sold his office to Charles Holt.

The *Gazette* is one of the best country family papers published in northern Illinois. Mr. Holt is an old journalist, during the war editing the only daily published in Janesville, Wis., and subsequently became connected with the Quincy *Whig*. During the war the *Gazette* published extras that sold for ten cents on the street during the time of great important military movements. A few of these papers have been preserved and are considered great curiosities at this time. On the 1st of November, 1888, Arthur B. Holt and Clar-

ence E. Holt were admitted to partnership with their father, and the firm at this writing, November, 1892, carries on business under the name of Charles Holt & Sons.



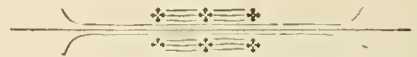
GEORGE W. PUMEL is engaged in farming on section 10, Aroma Township. He is a native of the Buckeye State, his birth occurring near Sinking Springs, Highland County, on the 20th of September, 1820. His parents, Hezekiah and Barbara (Knizley) Pumel, were both natives of Virginia and of German descent. At an early day they removed to Ohio, where the father engaged in agricultural pursuits until the time of his death, which occurred in 1836. His wife died the following year. In their family were ten children: Samuel, James, Jacob, Joshua, David, George, John N., Mary A., Lueinda and Margaret.

The subject of this sketch was born and reared on a farm. He received a common-school education, attending the district schools during the winter terms until about seventeen years of age. He was thrown on his own resources at the early age of fourteen, and since that time he has made his own way in the world. He early learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked until 1842, with the exception of one year, when he was employed in an iron works. He went to Indiana, settling in Fountain County in 1842, where he worked at his trade and engaged in the manufacture of plows for the succeeding five years. He next came to Whiteside County, Ill., where he remained until 1847. Mr. Pumel then took a trip through Iowa and the Northwest, but returned to Whiteside County, where he ran a sawmill for the owner at a place near Sterling, and was in his employ for the period of a year. Returning to Indiana he engaged in farming for about the same length of time; then going to Joliet he rented a farm near that city, which he engaged in cultivating until 1853. That year witnessed his arrival in Kankakee County. The first summer he rented

land until he had decided where to make his permanent location. In the year 1854 he became the owner of eighty acres of unimproved prairie land in Otto Township, upon which he remained for only one year. He then sold that farm and bought a forty-acre tract, which he cultivated until 1876. He later purchased seventy acres in Aroma Township, which is his present home. He is now engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and to a large extent his efforts have been crowned with success.

Mr. Pumel was united in marriage with Miss Sarah J. Cameron, July 8, 1848. She is a daughter of Hugh and Sarah (Zunwalt) Cameron. Four children have been born of this union: Louisa J. was the wife of Thomas W. Pruitt, who is now deceased; Randolph is second in order of birth; Wallace departed this life in 1860; and Ellis lives at home and assists his father in carrying on the farm.

Mr. Pumel cast his first ballot for James K. Polk, but for many years has been allied with the Republican party. For three years he has held the office of Road Commissioner, and has served as a member of the School Board for a number of years. For nearly forty years our subject has made his home in this county, and has done much to assist in its growth and prosperity. He is a worthy citizen and a man of upright character and sterling worth. He numbers a large circle of friends and acquaintances in this and adjoining counties, who esteem him most highly.



FRANKLIN DWIGHT HATCH, a leading grocer of Kankakee, and a resident of this city since 1865, was born in Sherburne, Chenango County, N. Y., August 6, 1848, and is the youngest son of Elam and Margaret (Farrell) Hatch, who were also natives of the same place. Elam Hatch was born in 1796, and was descended from one of the oldest New England families of English origin. The founder of the Hatch fam-

ily, of which our subject is a member, was Thomas, an English immigrant who reached the New World in 1630, having crossed the ocean in the good ship "Mary and John," a vessel of three-tons burden. He settled in Dorehester, Mass. His son Jonathan was born in England in 1625, and came to America with his parents five years later. In 1639 they removed from Dorehester to Barnstable, in the same State, where Thomas Hatch died. Jonathan married in 1648, and had seven sons born to him in Barnstable. He subsequently removed to Falmouth, Mass., where another son was born to him, being the first white child born in that place. Among these sons, all born prior to 1665, was one Benjamin, who was thrice married and had twelve children. Of these twelve was one Timothy, who married in 1739 near Folland, Conn., and was the first settler in Kent. Jethro, son of Timothy, was born in 1722, and died aged ninety-six years. Timothy, son of Jethro, was born in 1758, and settled in Sherburne, Chenango County, N. Y., and was the grandfather of our subject.

Elam Hatch was the fourth son of Timothy Hatch, and was born in Sherburne, Chenango County, N. Y., in 1796, and died in Kane County, Ill., in 1876. His wife, the mother of our subject, was also born in Sherburne, in the year 1794, and died in 1875. In 1850 the family emigrated Westward, settling in Sugar Grove, Kane County, where the father engaged in farming until near the close of life. In their family were seven children, of whom five were sons. The two daughters and two of the sons are now deceased. Those living are Y. T., of Highmore, S. Dak.; E. F., residing on the old homestead in Sugar Grove, Kane County; and Frank D., the subject of this sketch, who is the youngest of the family.

Our subject attended the district schools and assisted in the care of the home farm until thirteen years of age, when he engaged as clerk to a merchant in Aurora, Ill., continuing in his employ for four years. In 1865 he came to Kankakee, where he spent six years as a clerk in the grocery store of Hatch & Savoie, the senior partner of the firm being his elder brother, who is now deceased. In 1870, Mr. Hatch became a member of the firm, and four years later became sole proprietor, and has so

continued up to the present time, covering a period of nineteen years. In his retail department he carries a full line of staple and fancy groceries, flour and feed, china, queensware, etc. In connection with his retail trade he does a wholesale fruit commission business and is a jobber in carbon oil, tobacco, soap, etc. He has by strict attention to the wants of his trade, and by the exercise of correct business principles, succeeded in building up a strong and increasing business, and is recognized as one of the leaders in his line in the county.

On the 4th of March, 1874, Mr. Hatch was married in Kankakee to Miss Frances E. Dusenbury, who is a daughter of John B. Dusenbury, a well-known pioneer of this county. Mrs. Hatch was born in Plainfield, Ill.

Our subject has always been a staunch Republican, and in 1888 was chosen Mayor of Kankakee, serving the term for which he was elected, and proving a most efficient officer, being the youngest man ever elected to fill that position. On the organization of the Kankakee Fire Department in 1877, Mr. Hatch was chosen Chief, and so satisfactory has the work of the department proved under his administration, that he has been chosen his own successor at each succeeding election except for the year in which he was Mayor. He is at present the Chief of the department, and has filled that position for fifteen years. He has been President of the Merchants' Police since its organization six years ago. Mr. Hatch is a member of the Republican County Committee for the first precinct, and has been active in campaign work. His acknowledged executive ability and public spirit led to his being chosen Chairman of the Kankakee Fourth of July Committee each succeeding year for the past twenty years.

Mr. Hatch is a Knight Templar, a member of Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M.; of Chapter No. 78, R. A. M.; and of Ivanhoe Commandery, No. 33, K. T. He also belongs to the Oriental Consistory Valley of Chicago. He has been a Mason for twenty-three years, and has served three terms as Master of his lodge, three terms as High Priest of the Chapter, and one term as Eminent Commander of the Commandery. He owns a fine

residence at No. 329 Dearborn Avenue, and also is the owner of other real estate in the city. He is recognized as a typical Western business man, active, energetic and enterprising, possessing the essential elements of success—sound judgment and unquestioned integrity. Socially, he is deservedly popular, and has hosts of warm friends among the best citizens of Kankakee County.



PRESTON STEBBING, M. D., of North Kankakee, first came to Kankakee County on the 3d of June, 1853, but did not become a permanent resident until 1875. He is a native of the Empire State, having been born in Clinton County August 6, 1833.

The father of our subject, Maj. Lewis Stebbing, was a native of Vermont, and was descended from one of the pioneer families of the Green Mountain State. He received his title of Major by virtue of his service in the American army in the War of 1812. He wedded Mary Preston, a native of Clinton County, N. Y., who became the mother of the subject of this sketch, and whose death occurred in St. Lawrence County, where the family was then living, in 1849. In the following year the father came West and made a location for his family in Lake County, Ill., and in 1851 he was joined by his children, consisting of two sons and four daughters. Their new home in Illinois became the permanent abiding-place of the family, and there the father died in 1884. The children are all yet living. The Doctor's only brother, John J., who is several years his senior, is a resident of Adel, Dallas County, Iowa. Three of the sisters are still residents of Lake County, while the fourth makes her home in Portland, Ore.

Dr. Stebbing received his education at Potsdam, N. Y., and early commenced the study of medicine. He was licensed to practice when only eighteen years of age, but was not graduated in medicine until 1866, when he took his degree at Rush Medical College, in Chicago. Previous to the time of his graduation he had had quite an experience in

the practice of medicine and was for two years in the special medical service in the army. Before locating permanently in Kankakee County he had practiced in several fields and was for ten years a practicing physician at Grand Rapids, Wis.

As stated, the Doctor has resided in this county, engaged in the practice of his profession, since 1875, and was for many years located in Chebanse. Induced by the prospect that the new town of North Kankakee was destined to become a place of some importance, Dr. Stebbing decided to locate at that point, and in August, 1892, carried his resolution into effect. Besides his general medical practice he owns a drug store, which is in a flourishing condition. He has also been made Postmaster of North Kankakee, the office having been but recently established.

In the State of Kansas, Dr. Stebbing was married to Miss Nellie A. Hazen, who is a daughter of Livius Hazen, and a cousin of Gen. William Hazen. Mrs. Stebbing's parents were natives of New York, her father born near Lake Champlain, and her mother in the city of Albany. The latter, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Arnot, belonged to the well-known family of that name and also to the Fillmore family, one member of which was Millard Fillmore, President of the United States. Previous to the War of the Rebellion, Mr. and Mrs. Hazen removed from Cincinnati, Ohio, where they had lived for a number of years, to Leavenworth, Kan., and were among the early settlers of the place. There Mr. Hazen's death occurred in 1872, and that of his wife some two years later. They were the parents of six children who grew to manhood and womanhood, but several of them have passed away.

Dr. Stebbing and wife have two children, a daughter and a son. The former, May E., is the wife of Andrew M. Wand, formerly of Onarga, Ill., but now residing in Ohio, Bureau County, Ill. Mrs. Wand is finely educated, being a graduate of Onarga Seminary, in the literary course of that institution and also of the Conservatory of Music. The son, Franklin Fillmore, was born at Grand Rapids, Wis., February 29, 1872, and was graduated from the Cheshire (Conn.) Military School when but seventeen years of age, after tak-

ing a four-years course, and had the honor of being the youngest member of his class. He is registered as a druggist, and has charge of the drug business before mentioned.

Dr. Stebbing is a progressive and enterprising citizen, possessing the confidence and respect of all who know him. He is President of the Village Board of North Kankakee. For many years he has been a Mason, belonging to Vitruvian Lodge No. 81, A. F. & A. M., of Wheeling, Ill. Both he and his wife are members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Kankakee, he having occupied an official position in the church for several years. Politically the Doctor is an old Clay Whig. He belongs to the Kankakee Medical Society.



JACOB F. GOUGAR, probably one of the oldest surviving pioneers of eastern Illinois, now a resident of Kankakee, was born in Northumberland County, Pa., January 16, 1812, and is a son of William and Catherine (Jones) Gougar. The family is of German extraction and was founded in America early in the seventeenth century.

The subject of this sketch when young removed from Pennsylvania with his parents to Pickaway County, Ohio, thence to Terre Haute, Ind., and from that city to eastern Illinois in 1832, settling in Will County. He was there married in 1838 to Miss Artie Durham, who was born in Blount County, Tenn., August 19, 1818, and came with her parents, Thomas and Margaret Durham, to Illinois in the early days of its settlement. Her parents settled at Bourbonnais, Kankakee County, in 1835.

Mr. Gougar had learned the tanner's trade in the East, and as the country about him in Will County began to be settled he opened a small tannery and made leather for the families of the settlers, the custom at that time being for each farmer to buy leather and employ traveling shoemakers to make up shoes for the family about once a year. He was the first tanner in that county. Later he en-

gaged in farming for many years. In 1867 he removed to Kankakee and has since made this city his home.

Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gougar, William T. and Margaret E., who are both residents of Kankakee. Mrs. Gougar, who was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, departed this life November 10, 1870. In his political affiliations, our subject is an earnest champion of the Democratic party, as was his father before him.



RICHARD DEWEY, M. D., is the medical superintendent of the Illinois Eastern Hospital for the Insane, and has held that relation to the institution since it was opened in July, 1879. The hospital has prospered and grown under his care from a small beginning to an immense institution, giving shelter and treatment to two thousand patients.

Dr. Dewey was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., on the 6th of December, 1845, and is a son of Elijah, Jr., and Sophia (Smith) Dewey. The father was born in Tioga County, and the mother in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and both are now deceased. The subject of this sketch was graduated from the High Schools at Clinton, N. Y., in the Class of '61, when he entered upon a literary and scientific course at the Michigan State University at Ann Arbor, two years later beginning the study of medicine and surgery in the same institution, from which he was graduated in the Class of '69. On receiving his degree he took one year of hospital practice in the Brooklyn City Hospital of New York as house physician and surgeon, serving for six months in each capacity.

In August, 1870, Dr. Dewey joined the Military Volunteer Surgeons' Corps of the German army for service in the Franco-Prussian War. As he had a knowledge of the German language, he was engaged for that duty by the German Consul at New York, and was attached as Volunteer Surgeon to the Seventh Army Corps in the field hos-

pital at Pont-a-Mousson, near Metz, in Loraine, where the great battles were fought. Later, he was in the reserve hospital attached to the Eleventh Army Corps at Hesse-Cassel, Germany. After receiving an honorable discharge, Dr. Dewey pursued a course of study in medicine and surgery at the Berlin University for one *semester*, and returned to the United States in the autumn of 1871. He was immediately offered and accepted a position at the Northern State Hospital as assistant physician, where he served until appointed to the position he now fills, in August, 1879. Soon after his return from Europe he received a medal, awarded him by the German Government in recognition of his services in the Franco-Prussian War.

For twenty years Dr. Dewey has made a special study of mental and nervous diseases, and has during that period been in constant service in that line of practice. For thirteen years at Kankakee he has been in constant charge of what has grown to be the second largest asylum for the insane in the United States, the first in importance being that at Ovid, N. Y., which is very little larger. Dr. Dewey has written extensively for various medical journals on the subject of insanity, its causes, nature and treatment, and also for the "International Medical Magazine" on the same subject. His articles have received marked attention and favorable comment from those well versed on the subject. He is an honorary member of the Chicago Medical Society, of the Chicago Medico-Legal Society and of the American Medico-Psychological Association. He is also a member of the American Neurological Association, of the Ann Arbor Medical Association, of the Illinois State Medical Society, and is Chairman of Section Three Etiology State Medicine and Medical Jurisprudence. He is President of the Kankakee County Medical Society and a member of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He is a member of the Michigan University Alumni. Dr. Dewey is Chairman on the Committee on Insanity and Care of the Insane of the National Conference of Charity, and belongs to the Greek letter society, Sigma Chi.

Dr. Dewey was twice married, his first union

being with Miss Lillian Dwight, in Clinton, N. Y., on the 2d of January, 1873. She was a daughter of the Rev. Benjamin Dwight, and the great-granddaughter of President Timothy Dwight, of Yale College. On the 19th of November, 1880, Mrs. Dewey died, leaving two children. Richard Dwight, who was born in 1877, is now a student of the University Academy of Morgan Park, Ill.; and Ethel Lillian, now a student in the Kankakee public school. Dr. Dewey was married to his present wife on the 22d of June, 1886. Mrs. Dewey was before her marriage Miss Mary E. Brown, daughter of Dr. Thomas Brown, of Brighton, N. Y., and was educated at Trenton, N. J., and at New York City. Prior to her marriage she was Superintendent of the Chicago Training School for Nurses. She was born in Monroe County, N. Y. Two children have been born of their union: Ellinor, born October 6, 1887; and Donald Mack, born March 16, 1891.

The Doctor and Mrs. Dewey are members of the First Presbyterian Church of Kankakee. Politically, the Doctor is a Republican with prohibition sympathies. His record is best shown in the history of the hospital, which appears in another place in this work.



FRED DURFEE is the senior member of the firm of Durfee & Whittemore, well-known and enterprising grocers of Kankakee. He is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Monee, Will County, on the 16th of August, 1860, and he is a son of Otis Durfee, whose sketch is found elsewhere in this work.

Our subject came to Kankakee when a child with his parents in 1865, and received his education in the public schools of this city. When but thirteen years of age he commenced clerking for H. L. Crawford, grocer, but attended school at intervals for some years. He remained in the employ of Mr. Crawford for seventeen years of faithful service, at which time he was joined by H. D. Whittemore in the purchase of his employer's



F. Crawford

stock and fixtures, and the existing firm of Durfee & Whittemore was at that time formed. These gentlemen occupy the old Crawford stand, which is situated at the southwest corner of Court Street and Dearborn Avenue. They have the only double grocery store in the city and carry a full line of staple and fancy groceries, provisions and canned fruits, making a specialty of the latter. They have built up an extensive trade and are esteemed leaders in their line of business.

On the 7th of July, 1891, Mr. Durfee was united in marriage with Miss Isabella T. White. She was born in Ft. Byron, N. Y., and is a daughter of J. H. White. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Durfee, in politics, is a Republican beyond the possibility of a doubt, although he has never been an aspirant for the honors or emoluments of public office. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum and is highly esteemed among a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.



FRANKLIN CRAWFORD, a well-known citizen of Kankakee, has been a resident of this place since 1871, and his prominence in the community during the twenty-one years of his residence here well entitles him to representation in this volume. His life record is as follows: He is a native of the State of Maine, his birth having occurred in the town of Paris July 18, 1827. The Crawford family is of Scotch or Scotch-Irish ancestry, and its genealogy in America can be traced back to three brothers who were residents of the parish of Coppy, County Tyrone, Ireland. In 1713, they bade adieu to the Emerald Isle and, braving the dangers of an ocean voyage in that early day, crossed the Atlantic to America. One of these brothers, Aaron Crawford, was the great-great-great-grandfather of our subject, who has in his possession an interesting relic and memento of this ancestor—a cane which Aaron Crawford brought with him from Ireland, when he became a resident of the New World. On his death,

which occurred October 11, 1793, the cane was given into the possession of his son, Alexander, on whose death, on the 16th of October, 1821, it became the property of his son, Capt. John Crawford. From him the relic passed to Alexander, the eldest son of the Captain and the grandfather of our subject. Alexander Crawford died on the 31st of May, 1816, and the eldest son of his family, Benjamin F. by name, inherited the heirloom, which passed from him to our subject, who now has the cane in his possession. From him it is expected to continue its way down to future generations.

Aaron Crawford was one of the first settlers of Oakham, Mass., and his descendants resided there through many generations. The father of our subject, Benjamin F. Crawford, was born in Oakham August 10, 1800, and in his youth learned the trade of shoe-making, which he followed for some time. When about twenty years of age he left the old Bay State and went to Paris, Me., where on the 30th of April, 1826, he was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Harris. They continued there to reside for some time, but afterwards removed to Woodstock, where Mr. Crawford died in 1879. His wife had passed away some years previous, being called to her final rest about 1873. Unto this worthy couple was born a family of five children, the eldest of whom is Franklin, our subject. The second in order of birth is Mrs. Abbie Willis Stearns. Mary Augusta, the third of the family, died April 10, 1815, at the age of twelve years; Sophia Harris became the wife of Horace Cushman, and her death occurred January 12, 1878. The youngest is Francis B., now a resident of Colebrook, N. H.

The first sixteen years of his life Franklin Crawford spent in his native town under the parental roof, and during that time he attended the public schools. He then left home, going to Portland, Me., where he secured a position as salesman in a mercantile house, being employed in the same store in that capacity for a period of seven years. He then bought out his employer, Mr. Daniels, and two years later married his daughter, Miss Frances S. Daniels.

Later, Mr. Crawford embarked in the wholesale

grocery trade in Portland, which he carried on for some time, having added to his business by purchasing the works of the Paris Flouring Company. This extensive business he continued to conduct for two years longer, when, on account of failing health, he had to dispose of his interests in the Pine Tree State and do something to recuperate his lost energies. Hoping to benefit his health, he went to Florida, where he remained for one winter. On the expiration of that time he returned to the North, and then removed to the West, locating in Niles, Mich. This was in the autumn of 1869. After two years spent in that State, Mr. Crawford came to Kankakee, in 1871, and three years later he entered into partnership with Mr. Bonfield and his brother-in-law, Mr. Hamlin. The company was formed for the manufacture of straw-board and carried on business under the firm name of the Kankakee Paper Company. Mr. Crawford was made Secretary and Treasurer of the company and continued his connection with the same until 1887, when he disposed of his interest, since which time he has practically lived a retired life.

In 1891, Mr. Crawford was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died on the 16th of April. Their happy married life had extended over a period of forty years and their union was blessed with three children, two of whom are living at this writing, in the winter of 1892. The eldest, Harry L., is now a resident of Portland, Ore.; and the daughter, Mary L., is the wife of James H. Paddock, of Springfield, Ill. The youngest son, George F., died of typhoid fever at the age of twenty-four years. He was an estimable and popular young man and his loss was deeply mourned throughout the community. He was for three years a student at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and later engaged in business in Kankakee.

Until his retirement in 1887, Mr. Crawford led a most active business life. His successful career was ever governed by the strictest integrity, and the prosperity which he has attained is but the reward of his well-directed efforts. He has ever possessed the confidence and esteem of all with whom he has been brought in contact, and is a

valued citizen, who manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, being ever found in the front rank in the promotion of those enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit.



JOSEPH LECOUR, who is engaged in the dry-goods business in Kankakee, has been connected with the mercantile interests of this city for a number of years, and is one of its prominent and representative business men. As he has a wide acquaintance throughout the community, we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers.

Mr. Lecour is a Canadian by birth. He was born on the 12th of August, 1832, in Lachenaie, in the Province of Quebec, and is a son of Louis and Christine (Moline) Lecour. Subsequently his parents removed from the place of his birth to St. Luke, Canada, where they spent the remainder of their lives, both being now deceased. Our subject and two sisters yet survive, the two latter being now residents of Massachusetts.

During the early boyhood of Joseph Lecour, he accompanied his parents on their removal to St. Luke, Canada, and there his business career began. He was a lad of only fourteen years of age when, in 1846, he began clerking in a general store in that place, his employer being August Gauthier. The experience that he there obtained, the knowledge of men and of business customs, proved of great value to him when he came to establish himself in business. The aptitude with which he adapted himself to his occupation early gave evidence of his excellent business ability. The year 1856 witnessed the arrival of our subject in Kankakee. He was then a young man of twenty-four years, who with the desire to better his financial condition had emigrated to this State. At that time the present city of Kankakee was in its early infancy, but it gave some promise of future importance, so Mr. Lecour thought, and the years

have proved his wisdom. He was so favorably impressed with the prospects of the place, its location and general character, that he resolved to remain in the then small town. Accordingly he sought and secured a position as salesman with the mercantile firm of Williams & Sibley. He was thus employed for about three years, when he determined to embark in business for himself. It was in 1859 that he formed a partnership with Benjamin Marshall and began merchandising. Subsequently he entered into business relations with Joseph Gelino, a well-known merchant of Kankakee, which partnership continued until 1867, when Mr. Lecour withdrew from the firm and embarked in the lumber and grain trade. To that pursuit he devoted his energies for three years, and it was in 1870 that he established himself in the dry-goods trade. He has carried on business in that line up to the present time, covering a period of twenty-two consecutive years, and from the beginning his trade has constantly increased, until he is now doing a large business and enjoying a liberal patronage. He carries an extensive and complete line of goods, and by his earnest desire to please his customers, his fair dealing and courteous treatment, has won a well-deserved success and gained the good-will and confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

On the 24th of January, 1864, in this city, Mr. Lecour was united in marriage with Miss Leonie Pallisard, daughter of P. N. Pallisard, an early and highly esteemed citizen of Kankakee. The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed with a family of six children, five of whom are yet living. The two eldest sons, Louis M. P. and Edward A., are now associated with their father in business, under the firm name of Joseph Lecour & Sons. The other four children, Mary, Alexine, Rosella and Louise, are still under the parental roof. They also lost two children, sons: Joseph, who died at the age of four years, and Leon, who died at the age of seven years. All the family are members of the Catholic Church. Politically, Mr. Lecour is a Republican, but has never been an office-seeker.

Our subject has led an active and useful life, and in his business here has met with more than an

average degree of success. He began earning his own livelihood at the tender age of fourteen summers, and since that time has been dependent upon his own resources. The obstacles and difficulties in his path he has overcome by perseverance and ceaseless industry, and his enterprise and good business ability have gained for him prosperity. In manner, he is considerate, social, agreeable to all, and the friends of the Lecour family are many throughout the community in which our subject has so long been widely and favorably known as a valued citizen.



FREDERICK W. GOHLKE, a coal-merchant of Kankakee, and a leading and enterprising business man of that city, came here in 1876. He is a native of Prussia, his birth occurring in that country on the 20th of March, 1845. His father, Frederick W. Gohlke, Sr., was also born in that country, and is still living in his native land. The mother of our subject was twice married. She first became the wife of Henry Hallman, and after his death she married Frederick Gohlke. She had a family of three children by the first union, two of whom still reside in Germany, while the other, Gustave Hallman, is now living in this country.

The subject of this sketch and his brother Ludwig are the only children born of his mother's second marriage. Mrs. Gohlke died in 1868. Her sons bore the names of Frederick W. and Ludwig. Both brothers were reared in their native land, and served as soldiers in the Prussian army. Frederick W. was in the war against Austria in 1866 and 1867, and again bore arms for his country in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870 and 1871. He fought on the celebrated field of Sedan, and saw Emperor Louis Napoleon as he was being taken away from the scene, after the surrender of the French army. Ludwig, who was fifteen months his brother's junior, was too young to serve in the war of 1866 and 1867, but bore his part in the struggle with France in 1870 and 1871. Both of the brothers

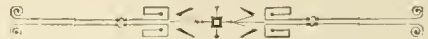
were members of the cavalry service. Ludwig was severely injured in one engagement, receiving a gunshot wound in the neck, from which he has never yet fully recovered. He is still living in the Fatherland, and now occupies a Government position, which office was given him in reward for his meritorious service as a soldier.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, and note first his marriage, which was celebrated in Germany, Miss Fredericka Newman becoming his wife. In 1872 they bade good-bye to their old home and crossed the broad Atlantic to the United States. Landing in New York, they made their way at once from the eastern metropolis to the city of Chicago, where a brother-in-law of Mr. Gohlke was living. There our subject secured employment and worked in a lumber-yard for a time, but at length he determined to seek a home in Kankakee, Ill., and in January, 1876, arrived in this city. He secured a position with the proprietors of the Kankakee Woolen Mills, and in that establishment was employed for about eleven years, faithfully discharging the tasks allotted to him, a fact which is well indicated by his long retention in the one employ. His industry and economy during that period gained him some capital and he determined to engage in business for himself. This resolve was carried out in 1888, when he established his coal office, which is located on Water Street. It is the only coal office on the South Side, and its proprietor receives a liberal share of the public patronage, of which he is well deserving.

About two years after coming to Kankakee, Mr. Gohlke was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died July 24, 1878. In 1880 he was again married, his second union being with Miss Johanna Krueger, who was also born in Germany. Mr. Gohlke had one child, a son, by his first marriage, G. Otto, who was born in Chicago, January 29, 1874, and now assists his father in business. He also lost two daughters in infancy, the mother dying at the birth of the younger.

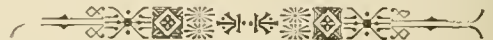
Mr. Gohlke is a faithful citizen, and one held in high regard. He is also a man of good business ability, enterprising and progressive, and is recognized as one of the prosperous men of Kankakee.

His success is due entirely to his own efforts, and has been won since his arrival in America. All the family hold membership with the German Lutheran Church of Kankakee. Politically he was a Republican until 1890, since which time he has been identified with the Democratic party.



THE KANKAKEE DEMOCRAT, daily and weekly, published by Collins & Smith, is the only Democratic paper in Kankakee County. The weekly was established in 1887, and is the successor of the *Kankakee Chief*, which was started in 1885. This paper is a six-column quarto, 30x44 inches in size. The daily paper was inaugurated on the 22d of February, 1892, under the title of the *Evening Democrat* and is a seven-column folio, 24x34 inches. The *Democrat* was purchased on the 1st of January, 1892, by the Democrat Publishing Company, T. B. Collins and J. B. Smith, publishers.

The *Kankakee Democrat* is of recent origin and is successor to the *Kankakee Chief*, the name having been changed to the one now used probably in 1887. The first Democratic paper started at Kankakee was called the *Kankakee County Democrat*. It changed hands several times and was finally suspended in 1862 for the reason that its proprietors, Messrs. J. B. and Gabriel Durham, both enlisted in the army. The present paper is in a prosperous condition and is rapidly increasing its circulation in this section, and its proprietors are well satisfied with their investment.



HON. DANIEL CARSWELL TAYLOR, President of the Kankakee Tile and Brick Company, and a resident of Kankakee County since 1855, is a native of the Empire State. He was born in Argyle, Washington County, on the 22d of July, 1832. His parents,

George and Jane S. (Carswell) Taylor, now deceased, were born in the same town. The subject of this sketch received an academic education in his native State, where his boyhood days were passed. In 1855, he came to the West, locating in Kankakee County, where he engaged in farming. In 1865, he went into the coal business, which he conducted until 1876, when he bought a stone quarry. From that date until 1885 he was engaged in the stone and lime trade. In 1880 he also embarked in the manufacture of brick and drain tile.

In 1882, Mr. Taylor was instrumental in incorporating the Kankakee Tile and Brick Company, of which he has been President and General Manager since its organization. H. E. Taylor is its Secretary and Treasurer. This company employs about thirty-two men and does an annual business amounting to \$25,000 and upwards. Their market is mostly local, or by railway transportation to points within a radius of forty miles of their plant. The business has been prosperous and successful from the start and the company now enjoys a lucrative patronage. In addition to his brick and tile business, Mr. Taylor is extensively engaged in breeding and growing blooded horses for track and carriage use. He has a stock farm in Pembroke Township of nine hundred and sixty acres, and has raised and trained a number of horses that have made good records. He bred and raised "Clara Wilkes," record 2:17, lately sold for \$5,000 in New York city; "Alturas," pacer, four-year record, 2:12½; "Wilkesward," three years, 2:18½; "Lulu Wilkes," two year, 2:26½. He has now about fifty head of high-bred trotting horses on his farm.

In November, 1859, in this county, Mr. Taylor was married to Miss Fannie Hosmer, who was born in Bedford, Mass., and is a daughter of Elias Hosmer. They have one son, Herbert E., who was born in April, 1863, married Alice Rickey and now lives in Kankakee. He is the present Secretary and Treasurer of the Kankakee Tile and Brick Company.

In politics, Mr. Taylor is a Democrat, and was the successful candidate of that party for Representative to the State Legislature in 1876 and again in 1882. The chief result of his labors in the Legislature is seen in the Eastern Illinois Hos-

pital for the Insane, one of the finest institutions of its kind in the world. Mainly through his efforts the bill was carried through the Legislature, which established it, it being subsequently located at Kankakee. On the 8th of March, 1893, Mr. Taylor was appointed Secretary and Treasurer of the institution which he had labored so faithfully to get located at this city. To the Democratic National Convention held in Chicago in the year 1892 Mr. Taylor was a delegate, casting his vote for Grover Cleveland for President. For ten years he has efficiently represented his town as Supervisor on the County Board. He is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M., and Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T., of Kankakee. Mr. Taylor is one of Kankakee's oldest and most enterprising business men, and he has by a uniformly upright and independent course in life won the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens, as is shown by his twice being elected Representative in a district decidedly Republican in its political complexion.



WATSON K. WOODRUFF, of Kankakee, Acting Chief Engineer of the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railroad, has been a resident of this city since 1885, when he located here in the interest of the above road. Our subject is a native of the Empire State. He was born in Fredonia, N. Y., on the 12th of September, 1851, and is a son of Clark C. Woodruff, who was also born in New York. About 1855, the father removed with his family to Pennsylvania, locating in Warren County, and after making his home for some time in Spring Creek, Pa., he left that place to become a resident of Ashland, Wis., where he resided until 1888, when he came to Kankakee, where his remaining days were passed. He departed this life in this city in June, 1891. His widow, the mother of our subject, is still a resident of Kankakee. Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff were the parents of nine children, six sons and three daughters, but only three

are now living in Illinois, namely: Watson K., of this sketch, Warren B. and Blanche E., who is now general delivery clerk in the postoffice in Kankakee.

Mr. Woodruff, whose name heads this record, spent the first four years of his life in the State of his birth and then went with his parents to Pennsylvania, where he resided for some time. He received a good English education in the public schools and was thus well fitted for the practical duties of life. He entered upon the work which led to his present business in 1878, when he began land surveying. This caused him to turn his attention to engineering, and he has since made a specialty of railroad construction. The first railroad with which he was connected was what is now the Cleveland & Canton, in Ohio, and in 1883 he became connected with the Indiana branch of the Chicago & Atlantic Railroad, occupying the position of Division Engineer until that road was completed. When his work there was over, Mr. Woodruff then engaged for a time in preliminary surveys of short lines, and it was in the winter of 1884-85 that he was offered and accepted the position as engineer of the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railroad, commonly known as the "Three I's" Road.

Mr. Woodruff was married in June, 1885, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary A. Jones, a resident of North Judson, Ind. Their union has been blessed with a family of three children, a son and two daughters: Elsie, Allen and Marguerite.

Since coming to Kankakee, Mr. Woodruff has continued his connection with the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railroad, serving in the capacity of Acting Chief Engineer, but in connection with this he also does much outside work. In 1891 he held the position of City Engineer of Kankakee. He possesses a thorough knowledge of engineering, being unfamiliar with no point, and is noted for the accuracy and completeness of his work. He has the confidence of his employers and the respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact. Mr. Woodruff is an honored member of the Masonic fraternity and is Worthy Master of Kankakee Lodge No. 289, A. F. & A. M. In his political affiliations, he is a Republican, taking a warm interest in the success of his party. In Novem-

ber, 1892, he was elected Surveyor for Kankakee County. Although he has been a resident of Kankakee but a few years, Mr. Woodruff has been intimately identified with the growth and development of the city while living here, and is numbered among its valued and representative citizens. He has also gained many friends during the seven years which have elapsed since he became a resident of Kankakee, and we feel assured that they will receive with interest this record of his life work.



JACOB KNECHT, of the firm of Jacob Knecht & Sons, of Kankakee, merchant tailors and dealers in ready-made clothing, gentlemen's furnishing goods, hats, caps, etc., is an old settler of Kankakee. He is a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, his birth having occurred on the 2d of July, 1837. His parents, Thomas and Walpurga (Nagle) Knecht, were also born in Wurtemberg, the father about the year 1793, and the mother in 1800. The former died at the age of seventy-two, and the latter when sixty-nine years of age. The family consisted of eight children, four sons and four daughters, of whom all but one are living.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in his native country and emigrated to America in 1855. Landing in New York City he there spent two years in learning the tailor's trade. In April, 1857, Mr. Knecht came to Kankakee, where he has since made his home. On his arrival here he commenced working as a journeyman tailor and was employed for twenty-three years in the shop of his brother, John G. Knecht. In 1891 he began business for himself in his present line.

On the 21st of April, 1863, Mr. Knecht was united in marriage at Kankakee with Miss Henrietta Schmidt, a daughter of Peter and Juliana Schmidt. Mrs. Knecht was born in Nassau, Germany, December 1, 1841, and came to America when eleven years of age. To our worthy subject

and his wife have been born five children, three sons and two daughters: John G. married Miss Tilla Scherer, and resides in Kankakee; Frank Jacob wedded Miss Mary Keorbs, and is now in partnership with his father. The younger members of the family, Herman, Minnie, and Mary, reside at home.

Mr. Knecht is a Republican in politics, as are also his sons. He and his family are members of the German Evangelical Association. He is an industrious, reliable business man and one of the most highly respected among the German-American citizens of Kankakee.



JAMES K. EAGLE is an extensive coal and lumber dealer of Kankakee. He was born near Mohicanville, Ashland County, Ohio, on the 9th of August, 1811, and is a son of Edward and Eliza (Everest) Eagle. The father's people came from Harper's Ferry, and the mother's ancestors from Oswego, N. Y. Mr. Eagle was a farmer by occupation, and followed that pursuit during his entire life. In 1886 he removed from near Loudonville, Ohio, where he had lived for a number of years, to Ottawa, Kan., where he bought a farm in the suburbs of the town, which he afterward sold, then removing to a farm of one hundred and eighty acres near Williamsburg, of the same county. On this farm he resided until his death, which occurred on the 26th of July, 1892, when he had reached the age of seventy-six years. His wife died about a year previous, aged seventy-four years.

Our subject was one of six sons and six daughters, nine of whom still survive, as follows: William H. resides at Macon City, Mo., where he carries on a farm. Thomas B. now lives at Folsom, Cal., where he is surgeon for the State Penitentiary. He graduated in medicine in 1860, having just reached his majority, and when the war broke out he enlisted in the first call for volunteers and served during the entire war, remaining to its close, at which time he had risen to the

rank of Brigade Surgeon. After being mustered out, he was commissioned Surgeon in Gen. Custer's corps in Dakota. When the medical and Commissary Department arrived at Yankton, they found that Gen. Custer had departed, but had left an escort for them. Through this fortunate incident these departments escaped being in the massacre in which Gen. Custer and all his men were killed. Stella, the daughter of Dr. Eagle, when a little girl learned the Indian language, and was often chosen as interpreter between the Government and the Indians, the latter preferring the simple statements of a child to those of the cunning and experienced interpreters who knew how to take advantage of them, and did so, as they believed. James, our subject, is the next in order of birth; Mary R. is the wife of Cyrus Lozier, of Loudonville, Ohio; Edward A. early turned his attention to agriculture, and is the owner of an extensive cattle ranch near Rosemont, Osage County, Kan.; Ettie is the wife of Edward Robinson, now Clerk of the Circuit Court of Ottawa, Kan.; Alvesta became the wife of Henry Glass, of Waverly, Kan.; Frances L. married James Hawley and resides in Williamsburg, Kan.; and Jennie is the wife of Gard Scott, of Quenemo, Kan.

The subject of this sketch was reared upon his father's farm in Ohio, and obtained a fair education in the district schools. When about sixteen years of age he left the parental roof and clerked in a dry-goods store of Wooster, Ohio, for about nine years. In the spring of 1869 Mr. Eagle came to this county and started in the boot and shoe business with M. F. Metz, a gentleman from Wooster. This store they opened under the firm name of Metz & Eagle, in Kankakee, and continued in business together until May 8, 1871. Our subject then sold his interest to his partner and returned to Wooster, where he took charge of the business of D. Robinson, Jr., in whose employ he had been for many years previously. With him he remained until the 1st of January, 1872. Again returning to Kankakee, he entered the employ of W. B. Fonville, and remained with him a few months.

On the 6th of July, 1872, Mr. Eagle embarked in the lumber and coal business with A. E. Davis,

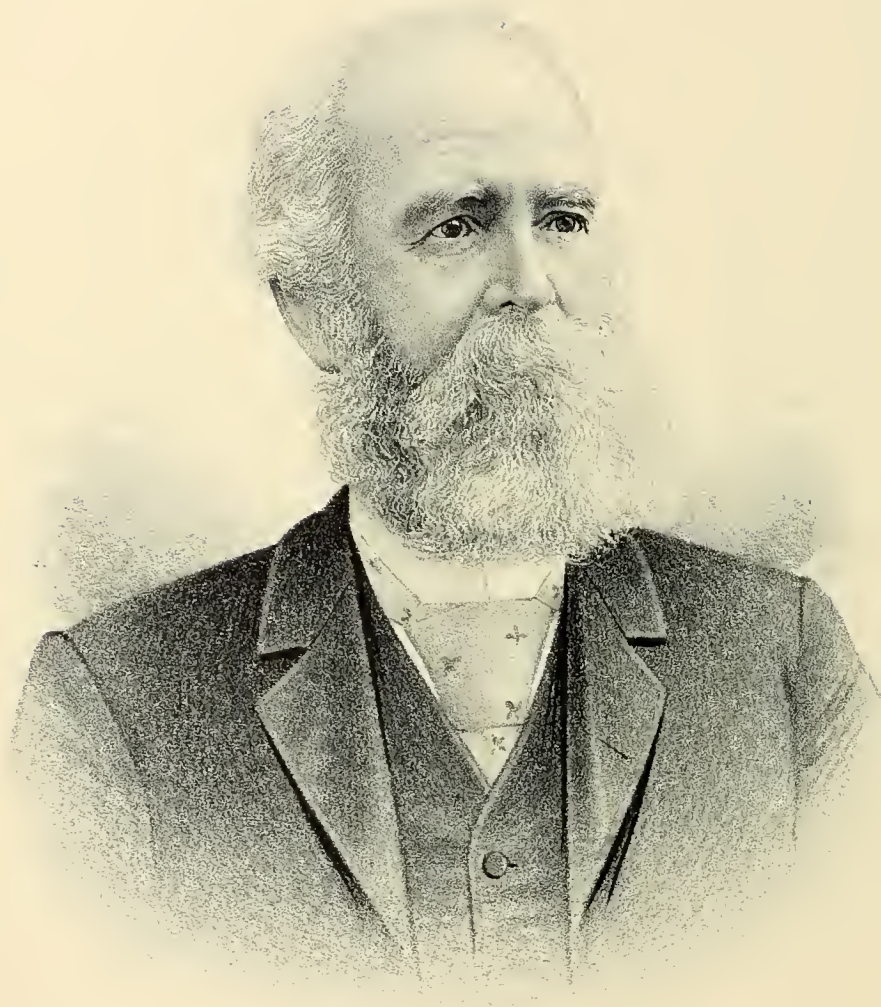
receiving a salary and percentage of the profits. This firm continued in operation until August 13, 1871, when, with F. L. Merrick, Mr. Eagle engaged in the lumber business at Momence, Ill. In March, 1875, Watson Bros. purchased the interest of Mr. Merrick, and the style of the firm became Eagle & Watson Bros., doing business under that name for the succeeding three years. Our subject then purchased the interest of his partners and continued the business alone until 1880. He then left his business interests in that city in the care of Charles Kurtz, and, coming to Kankakee, opened up business on East Avenue and Oak Street. He later established the same trade at Aroma, Goodrich and Irwin. In 1883 he closed out all these branches with the exception of the one at Kankakee, which he carried on until March 9, 1891, when he sold the lumber yard to H. H. Troup & Co., the present proprietors. Our subject, however, continues to deal in lumber by the carload and carries on the coal business.

On the 25th of September, 1873, occurred the marriage of Mr. Eagle and Miss Mary Dean, who was born January 26, 1815, and is a daughter of Algy and Betsy A. (Dixon) Dean, of Terre Haute. Mr. Dean was born November 26, 1816, in Maryland, and when three years old removed to Terre Haute, Ind., where he grew to manhood and married Miss Dixon in February, 1841. She was born November 11, 1817, in that city, her parents being settlers of 1811, when they had to live in Ft. Harrison on account of the hostility of the Indians. In 1851 Mr. Dean came to Kankakee County and, in company with two brothers-in-law, purchased the old Bourbonnais Mill, which he moved to Kankakee, and which is now known as the McGrew Mill. Having sold that, he purchased large tracts of land in the Beaver Lake country, and subsequently took as partner Lemuel Milk, the firm becoming Milk & Dean. They owned at one time fifty thousand acres, a good portion of which they ditched and improved. In 1873 this partnership was dissolved, and the following year Mr. Dean traded his land for Chicago property, but through misfortune lost it. Returning to Kankakee County, he made his home with one of his children on a farm, though he died at the home

of his daughter, Mrs. Eagle, July 17, 1881. His wife, who was a member of the Methodist Church, died many years ago, November 2, 1866.

In politics, Mr. Dean was a strong Democrat, and a man of influence in party affairs, though not an aspirant for official positions. However, he was one of the first Presidents of the village of Kankakee. He was a man of marked individuality and great force of character. Although well informed, he never attended school but three winters. When but sixteen years of age he rode on horseback from Terre Haute to the country around the Red River of the North. In early life he went down the Mississippi River and rose from a hand on the boat to captain of a steamer. Subsequently returning, he traded down the river to New Orleans. With the old-fashioned whipsaw he would saw out the gunnels for a flatboat, and when the craft was completed would load it with such provisions as the Southern planters needed, and start down the river. On the way down he would exchange his supplies for cotton, so that by the time his cargo was sold he had a load of cotton, which he would sell along with his boat in New Orleans. He is said to have built the first one hundred foot flatboat that went down the Wabash River. Possessed of good business ability, he would have been a wealthy man had not misfortunes over which he had no control come upon him. Of his four children, three are living, namely: Frank, widow of A. E. Davis, who resides in Minneapolis, Minn.; Mrs. Eagle; and Hazard W., of Terre Haute, Ind.

Though not a member of any church organization, Mr. Eagle contributes liberally to the support of the church, and his wife is a member of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church of this city. He volunteered his services to the army a number of times, but was not accepted on account of his poor health and the fact that his comparative measurements under the rules of military law did not meet the requirements of the recruiting officer. Mr. Eagle was reared a Democrat, but, while his preferences are usually for the nominees of that party, he is largely independent in politics, especially at local elections, preferring



Very Truly Yours
A. L. Small



Calista L. Small

to cast his ballot in favor of the man who in his estimation is best fitted to fill the duties of office. Our subject has always been temperate in his habits, and is upright and honorable in his dealings with his fellow-citizens.



DR. ABRAM LENNINGTON SMALL is a nurseryman and gardener residing on Eighth Avenue in the city of Kankakee.

For forty-two years he has been a resident of this county and well deserves representation in its history, as he has been an important factor in its growth and prosperity. He is a native of Indiana, born in Wayne County on the 5th of September, 1830, a son of John and May (Lennington) Small. The father was a native of Virginia and was reared to manhood in that State. When a young man he emigrated to Indiana, where he was married. He first settled in Wayne County, then a vast wilderness, and opened up a farm there. He afterward removed to Michigan City and was one of the first settlers of the place. After a residence there of four years he went to Door Prairie, near which place he located upon a farm, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death in 1857. He was a man of excellent reputation, straightforward and honorable in all his dealings, and was a worthy citizen of his adopted State. His wife survived him only a few years.

Dr. Small is the second child of his father's family, which consisted of seven sons and four daughters, who grew to maturity. Only eight of these are now living. The Doctor spent his boyhood days in Indiana, where he had the advantages of the public schools. Until reaching manhood he assisted his father in his farm work and then, determining to follow the study of medicine, he entered the office of Dr. Standiford and remained with him for some time. He next went to La Porte, Ind., and took a course in the La Porte Medical College. He came to Illinois in the win-

ter of 1850, and located at Wilmington, where he engaged in practice before completing his collegiate course. In the winter of 1861, he went to Chicago and became a student in the Rush Medical College, from which he graduated the following year. Previous to this, however, he had practiced for about two years in Rockville, Kankakee County. It was in the fall of 1855 that he purchased land and gave his attention for some time to the nursery business. The city of Kankakee then numbered not more than three hundred people and Dr. Small was one of the first settlers of the place. He bought unimproved land and settled on the south side of the river, and this has since been his home. Ever since coming to this county he has been actively engaged in the nursery business, being one of the first to follow that occupation in this section of the country. For the past few years he has almost exclusively devoted himself to the raising of rhubarb and asparagus for the Chicago markets. He now has planted some twenty-five acres in rhubarb and seven in asparagus. He is a believer in special branches of agriculture as well as of medicine, and that he has been wise in his choice has been shown by his marked success.

In Porter County, Ind., on the 17th of November, 1853, Dr. Small was united in marriage with Miss Calista J. Currier, who was born in New Hampshire but was reared to womanhood and educated in Porter County. She is a daughter of John Currier, one of Porter County's first and honored settlers. Six children have blessed the union of Doctor and Mrs. Small, five of whom are now living. Mary died at the age of seventeen; Susie received a superior education and is an artist in Chicago; John is a well-known lawyer of Kankakee; Lennington is married and is engaged in the nursery business in this county; Calista, after receiving good educational advantages, became a teacher in the Kankakee schools, where she was very successful as an instructor, but now lives in Danville, Ill., being the wife of Prof. W. L. Pince; Mabel is still at home. Since the organization of the Republican party, Dr. Small has been one of its staunch supporters and previous to that time was an old-line Whig, his first ballot having

been cast for Hon. Henry Clay. He has never been an aspirant for official positions, though taking an active part in local politics. He is a firm friend to our public school system and served as a member of the Board of Education for a number of years. Socially he is a member of the Masonic lodge and is a Knight Templar of that order, with which he has been connected for the past thirty years. He has been a resident of this county for forty-two years and is numbered among its honored pioneers. During his long residence here he has witnessed vast changes. The county, which was then almost uninhabited and a wilderness, is now one of the best developed and enterprising counties in the State. Personally, the Doctor is a man of upright character and has won the respect of all with whom he has come in contact by his many manly and worthy qualities.



MICHAEL HEIL, a retired farmer living in Kankakee, was born in Wurzweiler, Bavaria, Germany, on the 26th of April, 1823. His paternal grandfather was a young man at his death. His mother's father was a rich farmer and was one of the most prominent and wealthy men of the town where he lived, Wurzweiler, Germany. The parents of our subject, Charles and Dorothea (Engle) Heil, were both natives of the Fatherland, where the former was a weaver and small farmer. The year 1840 witnessed their arrival in America, three of their children, John, Dorothea and Michael, coming with them. They located in Columbus, Ohio, and worked at whatever came to hand. In 1842 occurred the father's death and the mother was cared for by her son, our subject, with whom she made her home for many years. By her marriage she became the mother of six children, three sons and three daughters, only two of whom are now living: John, who makes his home in Franklin County, Ohio; and our subject.

The boyhood days of Michael Heil were spent in the land of his birth, where he received a fair

education in his native language. When about seventeen years of age he crossed the broad Atlantic with his parents to seek his fortune in the New World. He learned the cooper's trade, which occupation he followed for about ten years in Columbus and other places. About 1850 he determined to devote his attention to agricultural pursuits, and accordingly purchased a farm of fifty acres in Madison Township, Franklin County, Ohio, where he lived about twelve years. He then sold that land and purchased one hundred and eleven acres, which he cultivated for only a year, then disposing of it and buying a hundred-acre farm in the same county, on which he made his home for some three years. In the fall of 1867, Mr. Heil sold that farm also, and in the spring of the following year emigrated to Illinois, settling in the village of Chebanse in Iroquois County, where he lived for about one year. He purchased and moved upon a farm of two hundred acres in Limestone Township, Kankakee County, on the 2d of March, 1869. There he lived for about twenty years and reared his family.

On the 5th of August, 1844, Mr. Heil was united in matrimony with Miss Elizabeth K. Seliger, daughter of Adam and Catherine (Hauser) Seliger, who were also natives of Germany and who came to America in 1838, locating in Columbus, Ohio. Four sons and five daughters have graced the union of our subject and his wife. Elizabeth K. married George Butz, a farmer in Limestone Township and to them have been born four children: Charles, John, Amelia and William. Anna Maria became the wife of George Falter, of Limestone Township, and by her marriage has become the mother of seven children: William, Michael, George, Anna, Albert, Frank and Katie. John married Miss Catherine Schlefer, of Limestone Township, and to them have been born seven children: John, Michael, George, Adam, Rosa, William and Lizzie. Charles W. married Miss Sophia Shields and they have three sons: Charles, Frank and Louis. Michael married Miss Anna Graves and two daughters, Katie and Cora, grace their union. Barbara died when two and a-half years of age. Lizzie wedded Gus Goodknecht, a farmer on the old two hundred acre homestead. They

have three children: Harry Grover, Albert and Katie. Adam married Miss Ida Stroehlow. They have two children: Emma and Colonel. Fredericka married Charles Byers, who is a motor man on the Electric Street Railway of Kankakee. They have one child, a daughter, Clara.

While residing in the country Mr. Heil held several local positions of honor and trust. He was School Director for many years, also Highway Commissioner for three years, and for the same length of time served as Supervisor of Limestone Township. In 1889, Mr. and Mrs. Heil retired from the active work incident to farm life and have since made their home in Kankakee. Though now well advanced in years they are still hale and hearty and bid fair to live many years to come in the enjoyment of the fruits of their hard labor. They have accumulated their property, consisting of three hundred and twenty-three acres of valuable farming land and a home in Kankakee, by industry and perseverance and by their qualities of sterling worth have won the high esteem of their neighbors and acquaintances. They are both members of the German Evangelical Lutheran Church. Politically, Mr. Heil always casts his ballot in favor of the Democratic party, as do all his sons.



WILLIAM NOBLES DUSINBURY. One by one the old settlers are passing away until but few are left who composed the little hamlet known in 1853 as Kankakee Station, which has since grown to the proportions of a large and important city. Among the few survivors who have maintained a continuous residence here and whose life has been interwoven with the improvements and growth of the city, must be mentioned he whose name heads this sketch, whose skill has done much to beautify the exterior and decorate the interior of many of the best homes and business houses in the city.

Mr. Dusenbury is a native of the Empire State and was born in East Chazy, Clinton County, on the 10th of June, 1830, and is a son of John

Benjamin and Caroline M. (Barber) Dusenbury. William Nobles Dusenbury, the grandfather of our subject and for whom he was named, was a son of a Holland immigrant who founded the family in America in Colonial days. The name originally was Von Dusenberg, as known in Holland, but an ancestor of the Dusenburys saw fit to change it after coming to America as now spelled by the subject of this sketch. A large fortune was lost to the heirs on account of the change of name and their consequent inability to satisfactorily prove their identity. The estate, which with interest now amounts to over \$20,000,000, reverted to the Dutch government.

John B. Dusenbury, the father of our subject, was born in South Hero, Grand Isle County, Vt., on the 2d of June, 1802, and died when nearly eighty-nine years of age, in April, 1891. The mother of our subject was born in the town of East Chazy, Clinton County, N. Y., in 1812, and died in July, 1888. The founder of the Dusenbury family settled in the town of Brunswick, near Troy, N. Y. He was a Quaker and many of his descendants still belong to that sect. John B. was a cloth manufacturer and in early days resided in Vermont. He also had a factory in Poes-tenkill, seven miles east of Troy, in Rensselaer County, N. Y.

William N. Dusenbury attended the common schools and was employed in his father's factories until eighteen years of age, when, in 1847, he with his parents and their family came to Illinois. They reached Chicago on the 16th of July of that year, having come from Buffalo by way of the Lakes, and after one night spent in the little town of Chicago they proceeded to Lockport, and purchased a farm five miles west of that place. In 1852 they came to Rockville Township, this county, where the family lived until 1853. Kankakee having been started as a station on the Illinois Central Railroad, they removed to that place. In 1879, Mr. Dusenbury, Sr., removed with his wife to Oakland, Cal., where he died after a residence of twelve years. The death of his wife also occurred in Oakland.

Our subject began learning the painter's trade at Lockport but soon went to Joliet, prior to the erec-

tion of the State Penitentiary at that place, and perfected himself at his trade. In March, 1853, he came with his parents to Kankakee and has ever since been a resident of this place. He engaged in painting in all its branches and in papering and decorating and has been very successful in his line of business. For twelve years he was in the Government employ as mail carrier between Kankakee and neighboring towns, entering the service in 1857; however, he kept up his painting business all this time through hired help.

In Kankakee, on the 13th of May, 1860, Mr Dusenbury was united in marriage to Miss Helen M. Barnes, who was born in Grand Isle County, Vt., and was a daughter of Lucius M. Barnes. She was a school teacher for several years. Three children were born of this union. Fred, the eldest, died at the age of eighteen months. Edward married Miss Jennie Duga and is a house and sign painter of Kankakee. He and his wife have one child, a bright little boy named Roy, who was born November 28, 1889. Miss Blanche M., the only daughter of our subject, since the death of her mother, which occurred January 6, 1892, has been her father's housekeeper. Mrs. Dusenbury, who was a woman possessed of many excellencies of character, was taken from her family after a brief illness from pneumonia, resulting from grip. Her husband, who was also sick at the same time, only gave up at his wife's death and was unconscious until after her burial, his life being despaired of by his family for a long time. In early life Mrs. Dusenbury was a member of the Congregational Church but later she with her husband became identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. The daughter holds membership with the Presbyterian Church.

In 1880, Mr. Dusenbury went to California, where he spent two years for his health. Politically he is a stanch Republican and is an active, prominent Mason, being a member of Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M.; of Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M.; and of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T. He joined the order early in life and learned the work of his father, who was an old and well-posted Mason. Our subject has held every office in his lodge except that of Mas-

ter and has held that many times pro tem. He would never accept an election to the chief office of the lodge. Mr. Dusenbury has led a useful and upright life and is highly respected among his fellow-citizens.



JOHIN G. KNECHT, senior partner and founder of the extensive clothing house of John G. Knecht & Co., is one of the pioneer merchants of Kankakee, and has for many years stood at the head of the largest concern in his line in this county. His birth occurred on the 15th of March, 1830, in Wurtemberg, Germany. He is a son of Thomas and Walpurga (Nagle) Knecht, who were also natives of the Fatherland. The father was born about the year 1793, and died when seventy-two years of age. The mother's birth occurred in 1800, and she was called to her final home in 1869. They were the parents of eight children, four sons and four daughters, of whom our subject is the fourth in order of birth. With one exception they are all living and five of the number are citizens of the United States. Of these, John G. is the eldest; John is a commission merchant of Chicago; Jacob is a merchant of Kankakee; Ursule is the wife of Rev. George Vetter, of the Evangelical Church in this city; Susanna, wife of Herman Kemper, resides in Chicago.

The subject of this sketch attended school in his native country and served a regular apprenticeship to the tailor's trade. He determined to make the United States his place of abode and in the spring of 1849 he emigrated from Germany, reaching New York City in May of that year, where he worked at his trade as a journeyman tailor for six years. In April, 1855, he came to Illinois and settled in Kankakee, then but a rude hamlet of a few hundred people. Here he worked at his trade until May, 1857, when he opened a shop and put in a small stock of ready-made clothing, in amount probably not to exceed \$3,000. His

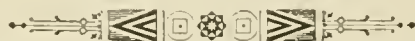
faithful work and honest dealing soon brought him a rapid increase in trade and for the past twenty-five years he has had the largest stock and has conducted the most extensive business in his line in eastern Illinois. When Mr. Knecht began business in Kankakee he had for a partner a gentleman by the name of Walker, with whom he was associated until April, 1861, when by mutual consent the partnership was terminated. Charles E. Grover succeeded Mr. Walker as a member of the firm, and that connection was continued for about two years. Mr. Grover then retiring, our subject conducted the business alone until his son-in-law, Herman Kramer, was admitted to partnership and the existing firm formed in 1888.

On the 2d of September, 1856, Mr. Knecht was married at Downer's Grove, Cook County, Ill., to Miss Eliza Frie, who was born in Prussia, Germany, on the 3d of October, 1835, and emigrated with her parents to America when eleven years of age. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Knecht, of whom four are living. Kate is now the wife of Herman Kramer, of the firm of John G. Knecht & Co.; Louis died at the age of eighteen months; Carrie is the wife of Robert Kramer, a salesman in the store of our subject; Edward Benjamin and John George are also clerks in the father's establishment; and one child died in infancy.

On the 27th of February, 1869, Mr. Knecht sustained a heavy loss by fire, his store and nearly all of his stock being consumed. However, his credit was so good that he immediately received letters of encouragement from the wholesale dealers with whom he had traded for many years. They offered him all the goods he desired on his own terms. In 1869, he erected the fine brick block at the southeast corner of Court Street and East Avenue. This has a sixty-foot frontage and is ninety feet deep, and consists of three stories and a basement. Mr. Knecht occupies the west forty feet for his store.

Our subject and his family are members of the Church of the Evangelical Association. In politics, Mr. Knecht is a Republican but has never had time or inclination to serve in official capacities. In all of the relations of life it may truthfully be

said of our subject that he has borne his part well and faithfully. Unpretending and unassuming, he has by modest merit and strict integrity won the highest regard and confidence of his fellow-citizens and of all with whom business has brought him in contact. He is enterprising and public-spirited and has always borne his share of the burdens of public improvements with a cheerful and liberal spirit. He has done much to aid in the upbuilding and development of this city and county, which have so long been his home.



JAMES BRADBURY is the chief engineer for the Illinois Eastern Hospital for the Insane and the oldest employe of that institution in years of service. He was the first superintendent of construction, and held that position for a year prior to the advent of Dr. Dewey, the present medical superintendent of the institution, under whom he was appointed to his present position. All of the immense and complicated machinery and plumbing of the hospital was put in place under Mr. Bradbury's supervision and has since been kept in repair by him. He is an expert machinist and has always been an indefatigable worker. He commenced in the service of the hospital on the 14th of October, 1878, and has been connected with the institution continuously since, covering a period of more than fourteen years.

Mr. Bradbury was born in Hyde, Cheshire, England, on the 26th of December, 1841, and is a son of Joseph and Lucy (Savell) Bradbury, who were both natives of the same shire. The father died while our subject was but a lad, and in 1857 the latter came to America with his widowed mother. The following year they returned to England, where the mother has since died. In December, 1859, Mr. Bradbury returned to the United States, which he has since made his home. He settled first at Lawrence, Mass., where he began learning the machinist's trade, afterward pursuing the same calling at North Andover Mills, and later being

employed in the Pacific Mills, of Lawrence, and also in Boston.

On the 1st of August, 1862, our subject enlisted from Lawrence, Mass., as a private soldier in Company C, Fortieth Massachusetts Infantry, and was assigned to the Eleventh Army Corps. Later, he was in the Eighteenth and Twenty-fourth Army Corps. He participated with his regiment in the battles of Chancellorsville, Morris Island, Drury's Bluff, Cold Harbor, and in many skirmishes and minor engagements, receiving an honorable discharge from service on the 4th of February, 1864.

Upon leaving the army our subject returned to Lawrence, where he worked at his trade for about two years. Then going to Chicago, he obtained employment as a steam-fitter for James Davis during the years 1868 and 1869. The next year and a-half he worked for Crane Bros., of that city, and was then employed five years by John Davis. His resources and experience warranted his opening a steam-fitting shop on his own account, which he ran for about eighteen months.

On the 12th of May, 1868, Mr. Bradbury was united in marriage in Springfield, Ill., with Miss Catherine Hillock, whose father, Henry Hillock, was a native of the Province of Ontario, Canada, as was likewise Mrs. Bradbury. Eight children were born to our subject and his wife: John, now married, lives in Chicago; Margaret Lucy, Mary Joseph, George Francis, Leon Burt, and three who died in infancy or early childhood. The mother of these children died on the 1st of July, 1885. On the 29th of June, 1889, Mr. Bradbury was married in Chicago to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Dowd. The lady is a native of Manitou Township, Kankakee County. One child, a son, Thomas G., has been born of this union.

Mr. Bradbury remained in Chicago until October, 1878, when, coming to Kankakee, he became an employe of the Illinois Eastern Hospital for the Insane. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church. Our subject holds a most responsible position, the heating and lighting of such a vast number of buildings, and the proper care of the water supply and the necessary motor power, involving a thorough knowledge of the

business, besides the exercise of good judgment and untiring energy and fidelity. That his services have been and are satisfactory to the commissioners is manifest by his long retention in this responsible position.



CYRUS WOODARD, who now resides in Waldron, has been for fifty-four years a resident of this county and has been an eye-witness of its entire growth and development, has watched its transformation, has seen its upbuilding and progress and has aided in its development and advancement. It is with pleasure that we present to our readers a sketch of so worthy and prominent a citizen.

Mr. Woodard was born on the 3d of May, 1831, in Bennington County, Vt., near where occurred the battle of Bennington, one of the well-remembered engagements of the Revolutionary War. The Woodard family is of English descent. The father of our subject, Benjamin Woodard, was a native of Massachusetts, and married Sylvia Vale. Unto them were born ten children: Ama, now deceased, wife of Samuel Smith; Edwin, a retired farmer residing in Kankakee; Catherine, wife of John T. Leonard; Harriet, wife of Revilo Beebe, but both she and her husband are now deceased; Benjamin, who is living in Iowa; Sylvia, and Sallie, the wife of William W. Parish, both deceased; Cyrus of this sketch; Willard, who was killed at the battle of Nashville, Tenn.; and Hiram, who completes the family. The father died in Vermont in 1835. While passing through the woods a limb of a tree fell upon him, killing him. About three years later the mother came to Illinois and afterward married Oliver Beebe. She died in the year 1862.

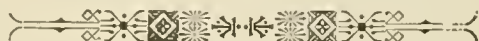
Cyrus Woodard was only about four years of age when the death of his father occurred, and was a lad of seven summers when he came with his mother and older brother to Illinois. This was in 1838. The trip was made by canal and the Lakes, and the family located in what is now Kankakee

County, but was then a part of Will County. They settled on section 12, Aroma Township, although the township was not then organized. The mother and brother settled on a tract of Government land, which they purchased at the land office when it came into market. A small log cabin was erected and in true pioneer style the family lived for a number of years. The Indians were still in the county, but they were generally peaceable, giving the white settlers very little trouble. The now thriving city of Kankakee at that time contained but one house, and it was a log structure. Mr. Woodard has picked blackberries where the court house now stands. Their nearest market was in Chicago, and many times in those early days has he hauled grain to that place.

Our subject acquired his education in a log schoolhouse, furnished with slab seats and heated by an immense fireplace. He is mostly self-educated, however, for at the early age of fifteen years he began to earn his own livelihood, working as a farm hand by the month, and in compensation for his services he received the munificent sum of \$5 per month. He continued to work as a farm hand until 1861. Mr. Woodard has engaged in breaking prairie here when as many as seven yoke of oxen have been attached to one plow. In 1861 he rented land from his brother Edwin, and operated that farm for a period of three years. In the meantime, with the capital he had acquired through his industry and economy, he purchased fifty-six acres of partially improved land on sections 13 and 14, Aroma Township, and this farm he still owns. For many years he successfully carried on agricultural pursuits, and in return for his care and cultivation, his land yielded to him a golden tribute. Thus he has acquired a comfortable competency, which now enables him to live a retired life.

Mr. Woodard cast his first Presidential vote for Winfield Scott, and was afterward a supporter of the old Whig party until its dissolution, when he joined the ranks of the new Republican party and has since been one of its stalwart advocates. He has never, however, sought public office, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests. His duties of citizenship have ever

been faithfully performed, and he takes a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding. His name is inseparably connected with the history of the county, and the part which he has borne numbers him among the honored pioneers and well entitles him to representation in this volume. His honorable, upright life has won him universal confidence, and the esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances is his.



AUSTIN B. BAKER is one of the largest farmers and stock-raisers of Kankakee County, and he is engaged in farming on section 2, Aroma Township. He was born in Lawrenceburgh, Dearborn County, Ind., on the 10th of October, 1826, and is a son of Abial and Maria (Osgood) Baker. The former was of English descent and both were natives of the New England States. At an early day the father emigrated to Indiana, where he was among the honored pioneers. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout his life and was quite successful in a financial way. He belonged to the order of Free Masons. He passed away in 1832. In his family were six children. Laura A. is still living and makes her home in California. She became the wife of William Woodard, now deceased. Mary I. resides in Kankakee and is the wife of Sylvanus Palmer, a retired farmer. Joseph is also a retired farmer and makes his home in Kankakee. Our subject is next in order of birth. Udora married Benjamin Sylvester and died in 1872. Henry is an agriculturist of Lyons County, Iowa.

About ten or twelve years after her husband's death, Mrs. Baker was again married, becoming the wife of Peasley P. Danforth. Three children were born of this union: Charles, Helen and Robert. The mother died in Kankakee in 1888, at the advanced age of eighty years. She was a consistent member of the Baptist Church for a long period, and died in that faith.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed

upon a farm and when but six years of age, on account of the death of his father, he went to live with a cousin, with whom he remained until fourteen years of age. He then made his home with his mother and stepfather and lived in their household until reaching his majority. He embarked in the active business of life with \$150 as a capital and commenced by working for farmers by the month. In 1848 he emigrated to Illinois, making the trip by team. He brought all of his worldly possessions with him in his wagon and located in Aroma Township, this county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 2. This tract was wild prairie land and the price he paid for it was \$2.50 per acre. He at once proceeded to build a small frame house, which he has made his home for almost half a century and where he still resides. With characteristic energy he devoted himself to the cultivation and development of his farm and soon plenteous harvests rewarded his efforts. Year by year he added to his original tract adjoining land as his means increased, until he now has seven hundred acres of most valuable and highly improved land, which with the exception of sixty acres is all in one body. He commenced life without means and has by his indomitable will, energy and well-directed efforts reached his present position as one of the leading agriculturists of the county. Upon his arrival in this community he found an abundance of wild game, and wandering bands of Indians were by no means an uncommon sight. This county was then a portion of Will County and it was in the year following his settlement in this section that the first survey was made for the Illinois Central Railroad. Kankakee was then a city of the future and comprised but one building, a log house supposed to have been erected by the Indians and which was known as the Balbonis House.

Mr. Baker was united in marriage in 1848 to Miss Aurelia, daughter of Almon and Pauline (Jaquith) Fairbanks. The following children have blessed this union: Elizabeth, wife of Nathaniel Uran, a farmer living in this county; Charles residing on the homestead with his parents; Fremont, who is engaged in business in Kankakee; Frank, who is also in the city; Monroe, who resides

at home; Myron, a liveryman of Kankakee; Joseph A., who is engaged in farming in Kankakee Township; and Ethel, who is at home.

Politically our subject was an old-line Whig and cast his first vote in favor of Gen. William Henry Harrison. On the organization of the Republican party he became one of its staunch supporters and in the last Presidential election his ballot was cast for the illustrious grandson of the Tippecanoe hero. He has never been an office-seeker, though always doing all in his power to forward and promote all public enterprises. He has lived in peace with all men and it is a matter which is worthy of pride to him that in all his various dealings with his fellow-men he has never had a law suit.



LOUIS SALZMAN owns and operates a good farm of two hundred and forty acres on sections 15 and 16, Limestone Township, and in return for the care he bestows upon it, the well-tilled fields yield to him a golden tribute. The life record of our subject is as follows: He was born on the 7th of December, 1833, in Saxony, Germany, and is the second child in a family of three sons born of the union of Valentine and Margaret (Salzman) Salzman. His parents were both natives of Germany, and in that land spent their entire days.

In the usual manner of farmer lads the subject of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth. He acquired a good education in the common schools, and during vacation he received liberal training at work in the fields. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, when, with the desire to try his fortune in America, he bade good-bye to home and friends and sailed for the New World. The voyage over, he landed in New York and at once came to the West, locating in Cook County, Ill., where he remained for about two months, working as a farm hand. He then came to Kankakee County, and hired out by the month as a farm laborer. The two succeeding years of his life were thus passed.



Yours Truly
Emory Cobb

On landing in this country he found himself a stranger in a strange land and without capital, so that he had at once to earn his own livelihood. After two years spent in Kankakee County he started southward on a trip to Louisiana, but he remained there only a short time and again came to Kankakee County, Ill. On his return he rented a farm and engaged in its operation for a period of five years, during which time, through his economy and industry, he acquired some capital, and with this purchased land in Limestone Township, the same on which he now resides.

On the 16th of June, 1860, Mr. Salzman was united in marriage with Miss Mary Burghart, a native of Germany, who emigrated to this country when quite young. Seven children were born of this marriage, four sons and three daughters, namely: Louisa, who was born December 7, 1861, is now the wife of Martin Albert, a contractor of this county, and resides in the city of Kankakee; William, born December 2, 1864, is now married and is a prosperous farmer of Limestone Township; Albert is the next younger; Edward died in infancy; and Charles and Hattie are the youngest members of the family. In 1880 the mother died, leaving a family of small children, and in 1883 Mr. Salzman was again married, his second union being with Miss Anna Hartman, a native of Germany. They have become the parents of three children, as follows: George, Lydia and Anna.

When Mr. Salzman purchased his farm it was a tract of wild land, but he at once began its development and soon acre after acre was placed under the plow, until now all is under a high state of cultivation. He has also made a number of improvements upon the place, and its neat appearance indicates his thrift and enterprise. Politically Mr. Salzman is a supporter of the Republican party. He has served as School Director in his district for the long period of eighteen years, and was Trustee of the School Board for three years. He manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and is a valued citizen. Himself and family are members of the German Baptist Church. Mr. Salzman is a self-made man, for his possessions have been acquired entirely through his own efforts. By industry, enterprise

and good management he has steadily worked his way upward, and by his perseverance has surmounted the difficulties in his path, until he has acquired a comfortable competence and is numbered among the township's substantial citizens.



EMORY COBB, President of the First National Bank of Kankakee since its organization and a leading business man of Kankakee County, was born in Dryden, Tompkins County, N. Y., on the 20th of August, 1831, and is a son of William and Aehsah (Bradley) Cobb. The family is of English origin, and while there is no authentic record of the fact, it is believed that the American branch was established here early in the seventeenth century by the emigration of two brothers, Morgan and Nathan Cobb. The Rev. Sylvester Cobb, historian and novelist, is a descendant of Nathan, and considers himself as one of the seventh generation, which tends to confirm approximately the time of the arrival of the two brothers in this country. On this subject William Cobb, of Warwick, Mass., one of the early descendants of one of the original emigrants, Morgan Cobb, wrote May 17, 1811, to William Newell Cobb, the eldest brother of our subject, as follows: "I have no one to consult on this subject except my mother, who resides in my family and is now ninety-four years old, but retains her mental faculties to a good degree. The most that I can learn is that two brothers by the name of Cobb emigrated from England to America, but at what time I cannot ascertain. One was named Morgan, the other Nathan. Our family is descended from Morgan Cobb. It has been said that we are tinged with Scotch blood. I was born in Norton, October 27, 1770, and am now seventy-four years old." The connection of Emory Cobb to Morgan Cobb, mentioned in this letter as the founder of the family in America, may be traced in the following manner: Emory Cobb, son of William Cobb, who was the son of Elisha, the son of William, who was a son of Morgan, a grandson of

Morgan, the original English emigrant. In Revolutionary times this family had become quite numerous in Massachusetts and New York, and were active and prominent Whigs.

William Cobb, the father of our subject, was a farmer by occupation, but operated several mills on Fall Creek, Tompkins County, N. Y., and it was there that the subject of this sketch passed his time until he was twelve years old, when, on the death of his father, he went to live with his grandfather, Lemi Bradley. He received a common-school education, and in 1847 went to Ithaca, N. Y., to learn telegraphy. The following year he secured a position as operator at Fredonia, on the Erie & Michigan Telegraph Line, which had just been constructed by Hon. Ezra Cornell and Col. J. J. Speed between Buffalo and Milwaukee. His services gave such satisfaction that in 1851 he was made bookkeeper for the company at Cleveland, Ohio, and in March of the following year became manager of their office in Chicago. It was during his location in the Chicago office that the first pool ever formed in this country went into effect. At that time there were three telegraph companies doing business from Chicago to the East: the Erie & Michigan, the Ohio, Indiana & Illinois, and the Southern Michigan. In 1853 it occurred to the managers of these companies that they could unite their offices in Chicago and divide the earnings. They did so under Mr. Cobb's supervision, and the experiment was so satisfactory that it was followed in 1856 by the merging of the companies into the Western Union Telegraph Company, Mr. Cobb being retained as manager of the Chicago office, and his authority and territory enlarged by his appointment as Superintendent of the Western Division.

This important dual position Mr. Cobb held until October, 1865, when his health having become impaired he was given a year's leave of absence and went abroad, passing the most of his time in traveling through Europe, Asia and Africa. On his return in 1866 he was earnestly solicited to resume his old position, but fear of again breaking down under the growing cares and responsibilities incident to that office led him to decline. He afterward served as a member of the Board of Direc-

tors. He introduced the system of transmitting money by telegraph, and with the consent of the Western Union Telegraph Company, the managers of which were doubtful of its practicability, conducted the business on his own account from 1857 until 1867. In these ten years he established agents in all the principal Eastern cities, and so demonstrated the success and profit of the business that the company in 1867 withdrew all objections and incorporated the system as one of the leading features of their service.

As early as 1861, Mr. Cobb had made investment in land in Kankakee, Ill., and when he retired from his position with the Western Union Telegraph Company in 1866, he sought a refuge from the care and worry of business life by retiring to his farm in this county, where he settled down as an agriculturist and stock-raiser. The outdoor life soon built up his health, which had been in danger of being permanently shattered. In this locality he became prominent as a breeder of Shorthorn cattle, and when the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association was formed in 1881, he was chosen its President, and with the exception of one year, when he was absent in Europe, he has held that position ever since. This association is one of the most important in the live-stock industry in America. It has eight hundred stockholders, and conducts the Shorthorn register for the breeders of those grades in the United States and Canada. Mr. Cobb is still actively interested in general farming and stock-raising. He was for many years a member of the State Board of Agriculture, serving as Vice-president until he declined election in 1882, as he was about to make a foreign tour with his family. He started on this voyage in that year, and remained abroad for about two years, visiting the most important Continental centers. It was in 1883, while in Europe, that Mr. Cobb, in divesting himself as much as possible of exacting duties, declined the position of President of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Industrial University at Champaign, now the University of Illinois, in which position he had served continuously from 1873 until 1883. Of the original Trustees, Mr. Cobb is the only one that still retains a place on

the Board, having been named year after year by succeeding Governors to this honorable position. He has been a member of the Executive Committee continuously since its organization.

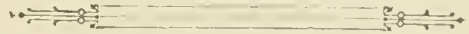
Of late years, Mr. Cobb has done much to develop and improve Kankakee, and it is largely to him that this flourishing city owes its present prominence and prosperity. In 1884 he erected the Arcade Building, which is one of the most complete and unique office-buildings in the State. He was instrumental in erecting the Hotel River View at Kankakee, and is President of the hotel company. Our subject is also largely interested in the Kankakee Electric Street Railway Company. The First National Bank of Kankakee, of which he is President, owes its existence to his foresight. Mr. Cobb has also been active in business enterprises in other commercial centers. One of his many ventures was the organization of the Bozeman National Bank, at Bozeman, Mont., in 1882, which was conducted by his son, Charles H., until he was called home to take charge of the Kankakee Electric Street Railroad Company.

On the 9th of February, 1858, Mr. Cobb married Miss Isabella, a daughter of Aaron Haven, one of the pioneer merchants of Chicago. By this union have been born three sons: Charles Haven, whose birth occurred February 7, 1860, is now general manager of the Kankakee Electric Street Railway; William Walter, born November 14, 1862, is Vice-president of the Teed Shoe Company; and Duwane Phillips, born November 14, 1867, is a graduate of Yale College, of the Class of '91.

Mr. Cobb is a very public-spirited man, and while careful in his investments, has always had in view the benefit of the general public as well as his individual profit. He has been uniformly successful in his numerous business enterprises, and has amassed a comfortable fortune. He is in every respect a thoroughly self-made man. His judgment of men and opportunities is excellent, and in his friendship he is lasting and true. Quick to act in important matters, he yet rarely makes a mistake, and his opinion and advice are much valued.

Socially, Mr. Cobb is a very genial and affable

man, considerate of the feelings of others, while at the same time holding strongly to his own views. He was reared in the Methodist faith, but has been for twenty-five years a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and is very active and prominent in all the works of that Christian body, whether in the parish, the diocese, or the country at large. He has been a member of the vestry of St. Paul's Church of Kankakee since the parish was organized in 1863, and has been a Warden of the church since 1865. He is, however, as broad-minded in religion as in other things, and has little sympathy with sectarianism either in the pulpit or in religious and charitable work.



ROSWELL NICHOLS. Among the early and worthy pioneers of the territory now embraced within the limits of Kankakee County, none is more deserving of favorable mention than he whose name heads this sketch. A native of New England, he was descended from New England ancestors, whose settlement in that cradle of American liberty dates back to early Colonial days long prior to the Revolution. He was born in Stepney, Conn., on the 13th of July, 1795, and was a son of Joseph Nichols, who was also a native of Connecticut, and of English descent.

The subject of this sketch received a fair education and served a regular apprenticeship to the trade of tanner and currier. About 1814, Mr. Nichols removed to Pultneyville, Wayne County, N. Y., where he was united in marriage with Miss Maria Gibson, who died with her young child about a year after her marriage. At Pultneyville, on the 21st of August, 1822, he was again married, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Durfee, whose parents belonged to the Society of Friends. Mrs. Nichols was born on the 10th of February, 1799, and was the daughter of Lemuel and Prudence Durfee, natives of Rhode Island and descendants of worthy representatives of the Society of Friends in that Colony. They were of English

origin and had settled at Palmyra, N. Y., in an early day. For several years after his second marriage, he continued to reside at Pultneyville, where his three eldest children were born.

About the year 1828, Mr. Nichols removed to Ontario County, N. Y., and settled on what was known as the Jo Smith farm, which he bought of the Mormon Apostle, and which was situated not far distant from the town of Palmyra. It was on this farm that Mr. Smith claimed to have found the original tablets from which the Mormon Bible was written. The Prophet occupied a log house on one corner of the farm for some months after Mr. Nichols took possession, and the sons of the latter, now residents of Kankakee, were often witnesses of the so-called Prophet's dictation of the Bible to his amanuenses. Some years later Mr. Nichols removed to Palmyra, the better to educate his children, still retaining and operating his farm. In the autumn of 1841, being impressed by the accounts he heard of the great fertility of the soil of Illinois and its advantages as an agricultural country, Mr. Nichols effected a trade for a tract of six hundred and forty acres situated on the west bank of the Kankakee River, in what is now the township of Limestone, Kankakee County, then Iroquois County, for which he exchanged his farm in New York. The location of the land was favorable for farming purposes and the soil was rich. Though the larger part of the tract was prairie, there was enough timber and meadow land for all of his necessities. He afterwards added to his original purchases until he owned in all ten hundred and forty acres. In the spring of 1842, Mr. Nichols started with his family by the Lakes to Chicago, and from there moved by teams to their log cabin home on the banks of the Kankakee. They found their house only partly roofed, and they experienced many discomforts in the first years of their settlement in the wilderness. Not the least of their troubles consisted in getting acclimated, which, as was common in the early days of Illinois, was attended by a siege of fever and ague. So impartial was the shaking up, that all except the mother were afflicted at the same time. When they left New York they brought with them most of their household goods, many farming implements and a

good supply of clothing for the family. They traveled by canal to Buffalo, and thence by the old steamer "Chesapeake" around the Lakes to Chicago. From that hamlet the family with their goods required seven teams to remove them to their future home.

The family arrived in Illinois too late in the season to secure a crop other than a little corn. Mr. Nichols was obliged to buy all the necessaries of life, and as his supply of ready money was limited it soon became exhausted. Serious trouble stared him in the face; strangers in the West without means and friends, what were they to do? Everything looked dark and want seemed to threaten. Mrs. Nichols at this point caused a silver lining to brighten the cloud by producing from a hiding-place \$100 in good New York money, which no member of the family was aware that she possessed. The money was a gift from her old Quaker mother at their parting, and the daughter had been enjoined to let no one know of it until a critical time of need. The surprise of her husband and family was as great as it was agreeable, and the timely aid tided them over the season of need. With the help of his sons, Mr. Nichols developed and improved his farm, erected buildings, opened roads and soon had one of the most valuable farms in that section of the State.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Nichols consisted of seven sons and two daughters. With the exception of one daughter the children are all living and are useful and respected members of society. The eldest of the family, Argailous B., was born March 27, 1824, and was twice married, his first wife being Almira C. Hawkins and his present wife Sarah Graham. He is a resident of Kankakee and enjoys an extended acquaintance throughout the State. Bailey H. was born March 15, 1826, married Viola Potter, and is a Justice of the Peace in Kankakee. Judson D. was born on the 8th of April, 1828, and is now engaged in the furniture business at Kankakee. (See his sketch on another page of this volume.) Anna Maria, born May 13, 1830, was the wife of Dr. Alexander Buchanan, and died on the 13th of March, 1863. Harriet C., born January 23, 1832, is the widow of Otis C. Durfee and makes her home in Kankakee. (See the sketch

of Mr. Durfee elsewhere in this volume.) Roswell C., whose birth occurred on the 21th of March, 1834, married Susan Leslie and is a retired live-stock dealer of Chicago. Charles H. was born March 31, 1837, married Miss Mary F. Woodruff, and resides in Joliet, Ill. Franklin A. married Frances Denny and resides on the old homestead farm. Albert E. married Patience Denny, is a farmer by occupation and lives in Kankakee. The three older children were born in Pultneyville, Wayne County, N. Y., and the others in Palmyra, Ontario County, of the same State. Franklin A. and Albert E. were soldiers in the late war for the preservation of the Union, and were members of the drum corps of the One Hundred and Thirteenth Regiment Illinois Infantry and served until the close of the war, a period of three years.

Mr. Nichols in early life was a member of the Whig party and helped to organize the Republican party in Kankakee County, with which he maintained his connection throughout life. His sons also gave allegiance to the same party. When society demanded a Justice Court in Limestone Township, Mr. Nichols was chosen to fill the position of Justice, which he was for many years. He was also the first Postmaster in that township and served as Postmaster for upward of a quarter of a century. The office, which was called Rinoso, was located at his own residence for some years. He was succeeded by his son Franklin. This post-office has since been discontinued. Mr. Nichols remained upon his farm, engaged in the active duties of an agriculturist, until 1868, when he removed to Kankakee, where with his wife their remaining years were spent. His death occurred on the 2d of August, 1880, he having reached the age of eighty-five years. His good wife survived him only three years and passed away on the 9th of May, 1883, aged eighty-four years. In his religious views Mr. Nichols adhered to the Presbyterian faith but was never severe or strict in the observance of his religion. He was strictly temperate and moral in his habits, upright and honorable in business, and commanded the confidence and respect of all with whom he came in contact. Mrs. Nichols never abandoned the faith of her parents, but as there was no community of the Society of

Friends near her home, she simply lived her life in the simplicity and purity of her early religious training, teaching her children by example as well as precept the principles of true Christianity, by the observance of which they might safely and happily live and die.



RUTLEDGE H. ENOS is a leading farmer of Kankakee Township, residing on section 6. We wish to add to the records of the early pioneers and old settlers of Kankakee County the honored name which heads this sketch. Mr. Enos has been identified with the interests and prosperity of this county for nearly forty years and has seen it change from a wilderness to one of the leading counties of the State.

The Enos family is of English descent and its members were among the pioneers of Connecticut. The father of our subject, Jonathan Enos, was born in Connecticut and removed to the Empire State when a young man, settling in Cayuga County. He married there Cynthia Howard, who was born, reared and educated in Cayuga County. Her father, Peter Howard, was a native of New Hampshire and emigrated to New York State in 1796, becoming one of the honored pioneers of Cayuga County, where he engaged in farming for a number of years. In 1836 Jonathan Enos moved Westward and settled in Calhoun County, Mich., where he lived until his death, which occurred on the 9th of January, 1848. His wife survived him several years and also died in Michigan.

Rutledge H. Enos grew to manhood in Cayuga County and received a common-school education. He was born in that county on the 26th of April, 1815. When a young man he determined to seek his fortune in the West, and went to Calhoun County, Mich., where he lived for about twelve years, engaged in agricultural pursuits. In the year 1818 he located in Iroquois County, Ill., at which time this section was a swamp and but little inhabited. For about six years he resided in Milk's Grove, his nearest neighbor living on the Iroquois

River, fully twelve miles distant. The first winter after his arrival in that county he wintered sixteen hundred head of sheep, which belonged to him and his partner. The original flock Mr. Enos had driven from Cayuga County, N. Y., to Calhoun County, Mich. Later the increased flock was driven to Iroquois County. To feed them the first winter, Mr. Enos planted one hundred acres of corn on prairie sod and had three hundred tons of prairie hay cut with a scythe. Those were times that tried men's endurance. For two weeks during that first winter the only bread he tasted was made from wheat ground in a coffee-mill.

Mr. Enos was among the first and honored settlers of that county, and after a residence there of about five years he removed to Kankakee County in the year 1853. He purchased unimproved prairie land and located on the place where he still resides, a part of which is now within the corporate limits of Kankakee. On his farm are walnut trees fifty feet high, grown from the nuts he planted, and bearing chestnut trees that have sprung from the seed that he brought from New York. At that time the city had not over fifty residents and but a few shanties. The railroad had not yet been finished to the place but was completed in the following September. Mr. Enos proceeded to improve and develop his farm and now has a fine tract of three hundred and nineteen acres, on which are substantial buildings, a good residence, commodious barns and other farm structures. He well deserves the prosperity he has achieved, for he has ever been industrious, enterprising and persevering. He has been a resident of this section for forty-five years and has been an eye-witness of and a sharer in the prosperity which has crowned this region.

In Genesee County, N. Y., occurred the marriage of Mr. Enos and Miss Mary M. Gilbert, who grew to womanhood near Batavia in that county. The wedding ceremony was performed on the 22d of June, 1854. Three children grace their union: Fannie Florence is the wife of John E. Lydecker, a lawyer of Kingman, Kan.; Eugene resides at home and is employed in the Hickox Bank in Kankakee; and Albertina is still at home.

Since the organization of the Republican party,

Mr. Enos has been its hearty supporter and well-wisher. His first ballot was cast for Martin Van Buren, and for many years he voted with the Free-soil party. Mr. Enos has always been a loyal and patriotic citizen and has discharged his duties as one of America's sons in a faithful and earnest manner, but has never given much time or attention to political offices, instead devoting himself to his farm and business. He is a supporter of the cause of education. Mr. Enos is now seventy-seven years of age and is hale and hearty for a man of his years. He has always been strictly temperate in his habits and has never used tobacco in any form or touched a drop of whisky except for medicinal purposes. He is well and favorably known throughout this section and his many friends and acquaintances will be pleased to read this sketch of the life of one of its worthy pioneers.



JOHN PETERS, who owns and operates a fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres on section 7, Otto Township, is one of the early settlers of the county, where he has resided for the long period of thirty-five years. A native of Germany, he was born in Prussia on the 25th of October, 1835. His father, Fred Peters, was also a native of that country. The mother of our subject died in Germany, after which the father accompanied his son John to the New World and spent the remainder of his life in Kankakee County. His death occurred in Pilot Township about 1877.

John Peters is the youngest of a family of seven children, four sons and three daughters, all of whom came to the United States. His brother Christ resides in Chebanse, and Charles is living in Nebraska. Two sisters make their home in Chicago, and the other one is now deceased. Our subject remained in his native land until seventeen years of age and acquired a good education, both in the German and Latin languages. In English he is wholly self-educated, but experience and

observation have made him a well-informed man. In 1859, Mr. Peters crossed the briny deep to the New World, sailing from Hamburg to New York, where he arrived after a voyage of six weeks and three days. The vessel in which he sailed dropped anchor in the harbor of New York on the 27th of November. He immediately came to the West, joining an elder brother and sister in Chicago. In the spring of 1860, he came to Kankakee County, and began work as a farm hand by the month, which he continued until 1861.

Mr. Peters felt great sympathy for his adopted country in her hour of peril, and resolved to aid in the preservation of the Union, so in September, he enrolled his name among the boys in blue of Company K, Fourth Illinois Cavalry, and joined the regiment at Ottawa. Thence he went South to Cairo, and participated in the engagements of the regiment. His first duty was at the capture of Fts. Henry and Donelson. He afterward took part in the battles of Shiloh and Jackson, the siege of Vicksburg and the battle of Natchez, where the regiment remained on guard duty until its discharge. Mr. Peters carries three honorable scars, the result of wounds received in the service. He was first wounded by a gunshot through the shoulder at Ft. Donelson; at Shiloh he was wounded in the right forearm, and at an engagement at Natchez his horse was shot and fell on his right leg, breaking that member.

His term of service having expired, Mr. Peters was mustered out at Springfield in the fall of 1864, and went to the home of his brother, where he remained for one year, being unable to do any work on account of the injuries he had sustained. He then purchased eighty acres of land where he now resides, and locating thereon began its development. Two years later he added to it a forty-acre tract, and from time to time he has made additional purchases, until now within the boundaries of the home farm are comprised two hundred and eighty acres of valuable land. The farm is one of the best in the county. The home is a large and substantial residence, there are large barns, a granary, tool house, windpump, well house and all other necessary outbuildings, together with a good orchard, etc. In fact, the Pet-

ers homestead is one of the best improved places in Otto Township. Mr. Peters also owns a farm two and a-half miles south, located in Milk's Grove Township, Iroquois County. It is two hundred and forty acres in extent, and is under a high state of cultivation. In addition to this he has an improved tract of one hundred and sixty acres situated a mile from the home farm. Altogether he operates six hundred and eighty acres of land, which yields to him a golden tribute for the care and labor he bestows upon it.

Mr. Peters was united in marriage, March 15, 1869, with Miss Minnie Peters, a native of Prussia, Germany, who came to this country when a child of two years. She was reared and educated in Chicago, and was a daughter of Christ Peters, of that city. Seven children have been born of the union of our subject and his wife, and the family circle yet remains unbroken. In order of birth they are as follows: Frank, Ed, Will, John, Emma, Joseph and Arthur. The mother of this family was called to her final rest in November, 1883, and her remains were interred in Greenwood Cemetery of Chebanse, where a monument has been erected to her memory.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Peters is a Republican. He warmly advocates the principles of that party, and has supported each of its Presidential nominees since the time when he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. He takes an active interest in politics, as every true American citizen should do, but has never been an office-seeker. For fifteen consecutive years, however, he served as a member of the School Board, and did effective service in the interest of education. Socially, he is a member of Jaquith Post No. 5, G. A. R., of Chebanse, and also holds membership with the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Peters is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, and manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding. During his thirty-five years' residence in the county he has done much toward its advancement and toward making it what it to-day is, one of the foremost counties in the State.

Mr. Peters started out in life a young man empty-

handed, but he was determined to win success. He has worked on untiringly. His life has been a busy and useful one. He has overcome the obstacles in his path, and seemingly the difficulties in his way have served as an impetus to his growth, causing him to work all the harder. A well-deserved prosperity has now crowned his efforts, and he is justly ranked among the substantial and highly respected citizens of the community.



WILLIAM BEEBE is a prominent farmer of Aroma Township, making his home on section 12, where he has lived since seven years of age. He is a native of Vermont, his birth occurring in Bennington County on the 25th of March, 1831. He is a son of Dudley and Dolly (Stearns) Beebe, the former of Welsh descent and a native of New Hampshire, and the latter a native of Vermont. The father lived in Vermont until 1838, when he removed to Illinois, settling in Will County, now a portion of Kankakee County. The trip Westward was a great undertaking in those early days, but few railroads having then been built, and much of the country being almost impassable. They came in wagons, one other family also undertaking the same journey with them. Mr. Beebe purchased a claim in Aroma Township of Mr. Meggs. This farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, which was slightly improved and upon which was a small log cabin, built on the bank of the river. He afterwards bought the land from the Government. When Mr. Beebe located in this community, Chicago was the nearest trading-post, and to that point he was obliged to haul his grain and produce for several years. He developed his farm and otherwise greatly improved it, so that at his death his property was considered quite valuable. He departed this life in 1853 and lies buried in Beebetown Cemetery, a portion of his old homestead. The mother died many years previous, in 1840, and is interred by the side of her husband.

Eleven children were born to Dudley Beebe and

his wife. Luther, who was born on the 23d of March, 1805, died February 26, 1843; Laura was born on the 5th of June, 1807, and departed this life January 17, 1865; twin children were born on the 27th of February, 1813, and died in infancy; Lomira, whose birth occurred on the 13th of May, 1818, is still living; Orrille, born March 27, 1825, died on the 29th of December, 1890; Lydia, born February 23, 1826, died April 29, 1843; Asa, a retired farmer, now living in Kankakee, was born May 29, 1827; William, the subject of this sketch, is next in order of birth; and Joanna, born May 25, 1831, died on the 26th of January, 1881.

The first school attended by William Beebe was held in an old shed built at the end of his father's log cabin. This was the first school held in this section of the country and was taught by his sister Lomira. He has been self-educated since arriving at mature years. He remained with his parents on the old homestead until he was twenty-two years of age, at which time occurred his father's death. As one of the heirs he inherited a portion of his father's estate and afterwards bought out the interests of some of the other heirs. He now owns one hundred and twenty-six acres of the old homestead and is the possessor of one hundred and eighty acres of land, all in one body. He is engaged in farming and stock-raising and has been very successful as an agriculturist. He has witnessed great changes in this portion of the State and well remembers when the Indians were scattered throughout this country. They were of a peaceable disposition and gave the people little trouble. In the early days he has hauled many a load of wheat to Chicago with ox-teams, often taking about five days to make the round trip. Wild game was also very plentiful in those early days.

On March 8, 1855, occurred the marriage of Mr. Beebe and Miss Mary F. Legg, daughter of George and Mary Legg. Four children have blessed their union. Edgar F. is a well-known farmer of Aroma Township; Ida M. became the wife of Emery Baker and resides in Kankakee; Eva D. is the wife of Prairie Kibbins, a resident farmer of Aroma Township; Tomie A. resides at home with his father.

Our subject was a supporter of the old Whig

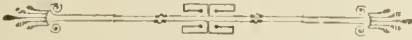


Yours Truly
W. H. Atkins



Truly yours
Sarah Atkins

party prior to the organization of the Republican party, with which he has been associated for many years. Mr. Beebe has always taken an active part in all worthy public enterprises but has never been an office-seeker. For many long years he has been a member of the Masonic order.



WILLIAM H. ATKINS, a retired farmer who makes his home on section 5, is numbered among the early settlers of Pilot Township, and is a self-made man, who from an humble position in life has worked his way upward to one of affluence. His upright career is certainly worthy of emulation and deserves a place in this volume.

Mr. Atkins was born in Tioga County, N. Y., on the 21st of August, 1816, and is the youngest of a family of seven children, two sons and five daughters. His father, Asa Atkins, was a native of Connecticut. There his boyhood days were spent, and after attaining to man's estate he married Sarah Neal, of the same State. In 1811 he emigrated with his family to New York, locating in Tioga County in the midst of a wilderness. He was a shoemaker by trade, but after his removal he made a small clearing in the midst of the forest and began the development of a farm. Finding this operation distasteful, however, he soon abandoned it and removing to Spencer resumed his trade, which he followed in that place for a number of years. Subsequently he came to Illinois and joined his children, spending the last years of his life in Newark, where his death occurred in 1863, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and was a highly-respected citizen. Of the family our subject is the only survivor, his sister, Mrs. Sabrina Robinson, who resided in Iowa, having died in February, 1893, at about the age of eighty years.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who, in the usual manner of farmer lads, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native county. He received good common-

school privileges and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself. He then followed farming, manufacturing or any business whereby he might earn a livelihood.

On the 13th of October, 1841, Mr. Atkins was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Goodrich, who was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., February 10, 1820, and was a daughter of Surial and Phoebe (Marvin) Goodrich, also natives of the Empire State. To Mr. and Mrs. Atkins have been born three children. Charles H., a farmer, now operating a part of the old homestead, married Miss Libbie Inkster; Sarah E. is the wife of Albert Ayres, who is engaged in farming in Pilot Township; and Jennie is the wife of Horace Hubbard, who carries on agricultural pursuits in Polk County, Neb.

Upon his marriage, Mr. Atkins located upon a farm in Tioga County, N. Y., where he continued to reside for about fifteen years. The year 1856 witnessed his emigration to Illinois. He arrived in Kendall County on the 1st of December of that year, soon afterward rented land and carried on agricultural pursuits at his first home for about fifteen years. In 1867 he purchased a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres on section 5, Pilot Township, but did not remove to this point until February, 1871. Although the place had not a furrow turned, and not a house or a stable, he now has one of the fine farms of the community. It is divided into fields of convenient size, whose great fertility yields him a good income. Many good improvements are upon the place, including a large barn, commodious outbuildings and a neat and substantial residence. His home is pleasantly located about two miles south of Herscher.

Mr. Atkins has ever proved himself a valuable citizen. In politics he is a staunch Republican and has been identified with that party since its organization. He was a delegate to the first Republican County Convention of Tioga County, N. Y., which body nominated Hon. W. E. Tracy, ex-Secretary of the Navy, then a young man, Prosecuting Attorney of Tioga County, to which position he was elected. Mr. Atkins cast his first Presidential

vote for William Henry Harrison, of "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" fame, and has voted for each nominee of the Republican party. Since locating in Pilot Township he was elected and served for six consecutive years as Justice of the Peace, and has been School Trustee and Director. He gives his support to all worthy enterprises or interests calculated to prove of public benefit. Himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church of Herscher and take an active interest in its welfare and growth. The business career of Mr. Atkins has been one of honor and also one of success. By his industrious efforts and untiring energy he has steadily worked his way upward, overcoming the obstacles in his path, until he has reached a position among the substantial citizens of the community. His residence in this county covers a period of almost a quarter of a century, during which time he has been prominently identified with its growth and development.



DR. ORSON BAILEY SPENCER, homeopathist, is one of the oldest physicians and surgeons in years of practice now residing in Kankakee, and is one of the few who can boast a large and lucrative practice. He was born in the town of Winfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., June 2, 1815, and is a son of Dr. Nathan and Sophrona (Bailey) Spencer. His father was born in Sangerfield, Oneida County, N. Y., in March, 1809, and was an eminent physician. His death occurred December 17, 1874. The Doctor's mother was born in Brookfield, Madison County, N. Y., in March, 1812. She survives her husband, and still resides on the old homestead in Winfield, N. Y.

The subject of this sketch was educated at West Winfield Academy and at Falley Seminary, at Fulton, N. Y. He studied medicine under his father's preceptorship, and when of age became a student of Cleveland Homeopathic College, whence he was graduated in the Class of '67-68. On receiving his degree, Dr. Spencer entered upon the practice of his profession in Winfield, N. Y., where,

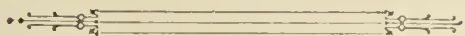
in spite of the adage that "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country," he succeeded in building up a good and satisfactory practice for the time.

In the autumn of 1869 Dr. Spencer was married in Clinton, Oneida County, N. Y., to Miss Mary Butler, who died in April, 1870. On the 16th of October, 1878, in the city of Kankakee, occurred his marriage with Miss Ida Peebles Wilcox, who was born in Rockford, Ill., and is a daughter of Judge C. C. Wilcox, an early settler of Kankakee. The Doctor and his wife have one child, a son, Harry Stillman Wilcox, born in Kankakee October 29, 1879, and now a student in the city High School. Mrs. Spencer is a member of the Episcopal Church.

In October, 1872, the Doctor came to Kankakee and established himself in practice. Being successful from the start, his business increased steadily and in a few years he had secured the most extensive practice of any physician in the county, since which time he has maintained a foremost place in the profession. In politics Dr. Spencer has been a Republican since he first exercised his right of franchise, but has never had time or desire to serve in public office. He is a Master Mason, a member of Winfield Lodge, of Winfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., and is a member of the Hahnemann Medical Society.

A peculiar feature of the Doctor's family history is the fact that his father, maternal grandfather, three uncles on the mother's side and two brothers were, or are, all physicians, and all of those now in active service, save one, are members of the same school as our subject, although several of them were originally of the old school of practice. The Doctor's grandfather, Eli S. Bailey, was of the old school and strongly prejudiced against what he considered an innovation on the profession. On one occasion he was attending an old lady who, he told his son, Dr. Silas Bailey, would certainly die. The young doctor asked the father to describe her symptoms, and after listening attentively replied that he did not think she need to die. Slightly nettled, the old doctor said: "Well, if you know so much about it, maybe you had better treat her," and he did homeopath-

ically. To the surprise of the father she was soon restored to health. This so far abated his hostility to the new school of medicine that he even adopted their system of medicine.



SYLVESTER B. DICKEY, of Kankakee, is one of the well-known substantial citizens of this city, and has been a resident of the county since March 14, 1860. He at that time settled upon a farm in Otto Township, which place was only partially improved. It was necessary to erect suitable buildings and make various other improvements, the result being that his means, which then comprised only about \$1,000, were soon exhausted, and he necessarily became involved in debt. Produce of all kinds was low, and the outlook became so discouraging that he resolved to give up the farm. After three years of hard work and struggling against the inevitable, Mr. Dickey abandoned the place, but soon rented a farm in Pilot Township. But his misfortunes were not yet at an end. A severe frost in August practically destroyed the corn crop during his first year upon this farm, and the death of several horses added to his losses. He continued to rent for about five years, and in 1867 purchased eighty acres of railroad land. He now had accumulated considerable stock, whose numbers he increased as fast as he was able. The eighty acres of land by degrees were added to until his farm property comprised seven hundred and twenty acres, now known as Dickey's Siding, he becoming one of the leading farmers and stock-growers of Kankakee County.

Mr. Dickey is a native of the State of New York, and was born in Niagara County, January 19, 1836. His father, Marsh Dickey, was born in New Hampshire, and was a descendant of an early New England family whose original ancestors were of Scotch-Irish stock. The recorded genealogy of the family states that in 1729 John Dickey and his wife, Margaret, with their two sons, Adam and Matthew, emigrated from Londonderry in the

North of Ireland, and settled at Londonderry in New Hampshire. The subject of this sketch is of the sixth generation from the John Dickey just mentioned. The father of our subject married Susan Smith, a native of Connecticut. Their marriage was performed at Somerset, Niagara County, N. Y., where he had removed with his father's family, who were among the early settlers of the famous Genesee Valley. While still a single man, Marsh Dickey went from the State of New York to the West, and was in the Territory of Michigan in 1834. Returning, he was married, and made his home in Buffalo and its vicinity until 1810, at which time he removed with his family to Calhoun County, Mich. There he improved a farm and resided upon the same for about twenty-two years, after which he removed to Sheridan, in the same county. A number of years ago he retired from the active duties of life, and now lives in the village of Albion, Mich., at the advanced age of eighty-five years, his birth having occurred in 1808. The wife and mother died in 1886. In their family were five sons, of whom our subject is the eldest. George, the second in order of birth, died at the age of three years; Albert is a resident of Calhoun County, Mich.; Francis died when sixteen years of age; and the youngest of the family, Anderson, resides with his father in Albion, Mich.

Sylvester B. Dickey passed the greater portion of his boyhood and early manhood in Michigan, as he was only four years of age when his parents removed there. In 1859 he came farther West, but returned to Michigan, where, on the 7th of November, 1860, he was united in marriage, Miss Mary Goodrich being the lady of his choice. She is a daughter of Harris C. and Jane (Bosworth) Goodrich, both natives of Essex County, N. Y., but who soon after their marriage removed to Marshall, Mich., which was the birthplace of Mrs. Dickey, who has the honor of having been the second white child born in Marshall. Her father was a prominent citizen of Calhoun County, and was its first Sheriff. He was also the founder of the town of Tekonsha, where he filled the office of Postmaster, and was actively identified with the early history of the county. His death occurred in 1846, and that of his wife some three years later.

They were the parents of the following children, all of whom, with one exception, attained to mature years. Maria is the widow of Allen Tibbitts; Ellen became the wife of Morey Frink, and for a number of years they made their home in Pilot Township, Kankakee County, but are now residents of Chicago; the wife of our subject is the next in order of birth; Frances, now Mrs. George Avery, resides in the township of Pilot; Jane, who died at the age of three years, was next in order of birth; and the youngest of the family, the only brother, Charles Bosworth, is a resident of Valley Falls, Kan.

Three children, two sons and a daughter, graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Dickey. Charles F. resides in Englewood, Ill.; and Miss Jennie Goodrich lives with her parents. Ralph, the second in order of birth, died when three years of age. In 1881, Mr. Dickey removed to Kankakee, where he erected a fine residence and where he and his family reside. He still owns a fine stock farm, a part of which he rents, and a portion of which he still operates, dealing quite extensively in live-stock. Although his earlier life in this county was attended with much discouragement, yet by continued perseverance and energy he has triumphed over adversity, and is now blessed with the material comforts of life. Mrs. Dickey and Miss Jennie hold membership with the Episcopal Church of Kankakee. In former times our subject was a Republican in his views, but is now independent in politics.



ASBURY FLEWELLING, the popular proprietor of the Flewelling Hotel, of Waldron, and one of its well-known citizens, who is also an honored veteran of the late war, claims Indiana as the State of his nativity. Franklin County was the place of his birth, and the date was August 21, 1843. He is the fourth in order of birth in a family of nine children, numbering seven sons and two daughters. The father, Gilbert Flewelling, was a native of the Empire State. The family, which was probably founded in this country at an early day, was of Scotch ori-

gin. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Sarah A. Wiggins. In 1862 the parents left their home in Indiana and removed to Kankakee County, Ill., locating in Aroma Township, where Mr. Flewelling followed agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1887. His wife died the same year. They were estimable people, highly respected throughout the community in which they made their home. Their children were Amanda J., who died in infancy; William W.; Green, who died in infancy; Asbury of this sketch; Angeline; James M.; Henry; Thomas; and John.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who was reared to manhood upon his father's farm in the usual manner of farmer lads. His educational privileges were very meagre, being limited to a few terms' attendance at the common district school of the neighborhood, but by reading and business experience in subsequent years, he made himself a well-informed man. When only eighteen years of age he left home to enter the service of his country, enlisting in August, 1861, as a private of Company 1, Twenty-ninth Indiana Infantry. He was mustered into service at Indianapolis, and the first active engagement in which he participated was at Bowling Green. He was also under fire at the battles of Nashville and Shiloh and at the latter place was wounded by a shell in the right hand and arm, and was then taken to the New Albany Hospital, where he remained for about two months. On the expiration of that period he received an honorable discharge and returned to his home in Indiana.

It was not long afterward, that Mr. Flewelling paid a visit to his brother in Kankakee County. He was much pleased with the country and returning to his native State he made arrangements for his removal thither, and the same year, in company with his parents, made a permanent location here. The family first rented land in Aroma Township. Our subject remained at home, aiding in the development of the farm, until January 17, 1864, when he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Shroyer, daughter of William and Lucinda (Kist) Shroyer. In a short time he bade good-bye to his bride and again went to the defense of his

country. It was on the 1st of January, 1864, that he re-enlisted. He again entered the service as a private, but afterward was a non-commissioned officer all through the war. His first engagement after his second enlistment was at Decatur, Ala. In May, 1864, he started with his company on the Atlanta campaign, under the command of Gen. Sherman, and participated in the battles of Smoke Gap, Resaca, Dallas, Big Shanty and Kenesaw Mountain. He also bore his part in the engagements at New Hope Church and Peach Tree Creek, and at the battle of Atlanta was again wounded, a minie-ball passing entirely through his left breast. At the same time he was also taken prisoner and incarcerated at Andersonville, where he remained a captive for over nine months, suffering all the hardships of Southern prison life. His daily rations consisted of half a pint of cornmeal and a half-pint of beans, together with a small piece of beef about two inches square, or, if the latter delicacy was not furnished, a substitute of two tablespoonfuls of molasses was given them. After the assassination of President Lincoln, Mr. Flewelling, with a great many other prisoners, was placed on a freight train and given his liberty, when he immediately returned to his home. It can be imagined with what feelings of relief and joy he left the prison home where he had been so long confined. For three years he faithfully served his country, being ever found at his post of duty.

When the war was over, Mr. Flewelling returned to his young wife and they began their domestic life upon a rented farm in Aroma Township, where they resided for a period of about three years. He then abandoned agricultural pursuits and, removing to Waldron, accepted a position as engineer in the paper-mills of this place. Thus he was employed for about six years, when he embarked in business for himself, establishing a livery stable, which he has since carried on. He has a first-class stable, well appointed, and has received from the public a liberal patronage. In connection with this business, he is also engaged in hotel-keeping with good success.

Four children have been born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Flewelling, two sons and two daughters, as follows: Elmer, who is now living in Har-

vey, Ill., where he carries on a general supply store; Jennie, wife of Lincoln Kibbon, a resident farmer of St. Anne Township; Walter and Belle, who are still under the parental roof. The family is widely and favorably known in this community.

On attaining his majority, Mr. Flewelling identified himself with the Republican party, and has since voted in support of its principles and its candidates. He is now serving as Village Trustee and is also Constable, a position he has held for the long period of sixteen years. If long service is a criterion of faithfulness, he has certainly been true to his duties, and all his fellow-townsmen will testify to this fact. Socially, he is connected with the Grand Army Post. He is a man of good business ability and a valued citizen.



ISAAC H. HALL is a well-known farmer residing on section 21, Otto Township, Kankakee County. He is a native of Maine, and was born in Piscataquis County on the 11th of July, 1835. He is a son of Isaac H. C. Hall, who was of English descent and was among the early settlers of Maine. The father received a fair education and cast his lot upon a farm. Upon arriving at man's estate he married Miss Betsy Warren, daughter of Ezekiel Warren, both likewise natives of the Pine Tree State. Mr. Hall met death by accident when in the prime of early manhood, being but twenty-eight years of age at the time.

Isaac H. Hall, the subject of this sketch, passed his boyhood days and youth in the State of his birth. He received good common-school advantages, and in 1859 determined to seek his fortune in the West. He accordingly emigrated to Indiana and obtained employment in a sawmill situated near Terra Haute. After a residence in Indiana of about three years, Mr. Hall came to Illinois and obtained employment on a farm in Kankakee County. In 1861 he rented land and engaged in farming for himself for about a year.

Mr. Hall was united in marriage in Bourbonnais

Township, on the 13th of February, 1861, to Miss Annie McKee, a native of Canada, who came to Illinois when a child of about seven years with her father, Alexander McKee, who was one of the early settlers of Kankakee County. Our subject and his wife have two children. Agnes May is the wife of J. D. Durham, of this county; Marsell Harry is now a young man and helps to carry on his father's farm.

Responding to the call of his country, Mr. Hall enlisted as one of the defenders of the Union in July, 1862, becoming a member of Company I, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, and served until his discharge at the close of the war. He enlisted as a private soldier, and by meritorious conduct and faithfulness was afterward elected Corporal, and later promoted to First-duty Sergeant. He took part in all of the engagements in which his regiment participated, among these being the siege and surrender of Vicksburg and Jackson. He was under Sherman in the battle of Jackson Cross Roads, in Mississippi. He also took part in the siege and capture of Ft. Blakely, and during his service made many weary tramps through Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Missouri, Florida and Alabama. He received a gunshot wound in his left side and carries an honorable scar received in the defense of his country. He was discharged from the service at Galveston, Tex., on the 26th of July, 1865. As a soldier, Mr. Hall has a record of which he may well be proud, for he was ever faithful and true in the discharge of his duties, and was one whom his superior officers could rely on with all confidence.

Upon leaving the army Mr. Hall returned to his home in Terre Haute, Ind., joining his family at that point. The next three years he resided in Terre Haute, and in August, 1868, finally removed to Kankakee County. He located near the city of the same name and engaged in the milk and dairy business for a short time. In October, 1869, he settled upon a farm in Bourbonnais Township, where he remained for about four years. He next went to Rockville, near which he purchased a small farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits for eight years there. For the three years following he rented a farm near the city, and in 1884 bought

the place where he now resides. This tract consisted of about eighty acres, which had some improvements upon it. Mr. Hall has made extensive additions, has erected good buildings and has added to his original purchase one hundred acres of good farming land adjoining, which makes his farm one hundred and eighty acres in extent. He commenced his life in the West a poor man and without means, and has by his characteristics of industry, perseverance and good business methods, become a leading and well-to-do farmer of this section.

In politics, Mr. Hall has been identified with the Republican party since its organization, casting his first ballot in the Presidential election in 1860 for Hon. Abraham Lincoln. He has never aspired to official positions and is, and ever has been, most friendly to the cause of education. He has served for many years as a member of the School Board, and has done all in his power to promote educational measures. He is a charter member of the Kankakee Grand Army Post, and the boys in blue have a warm place in his affections. Mr. and Mrs. Hall are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject is a man of strict integrity and well deserves the confidence and friendship of his fellow-citizens. He has been identified with much of the growth and development of this county and has seen marvelous changes in its progress from a wilderness to its present prosperity.



NELSON BROUILLETTE, a coal and lumber dealer of St. Anne, was born near Quebec, Canada, on the 16th of June, 1853, and is a son of Landrie and Emile (Fortin) Brouillette, who were both natives of Canada and of French descent. The former's father, Bernard Brouillette, was about seventy years of age at the time of his death, and was a farmer in Canada. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a Captain in the Patriot War and was born in France. His family consisted of eleven daughters, but he had

no sons. He was a well-to-do and extensive farmer near Quebec, and died in Canada at an advanced age.

The father of our subject was for many years a farmer, both in his native land and in this country. He came to Illinois in the fall of 1853, settling at Bourbonnais, and about two years later removed to St. Anne, where he opened a meat-market and also dealt in flour. This was his home until his death, which occurred in September, 1878. Though past the age for admission in the army, he enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Infantry, and served one year. From the effects of a long and forced march he was obliged to be sent to the hospital, from which he was finally discharged on account of disability. His wife lived until March, 1890, when she was called to her final rest. Of their family of four sons and eight daughters, eight are yet living, as follows: Philoman, Marie, Delima, Tellesfor, Delphis, Jean Baptiste, Narcis and Zephyrine.

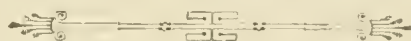
Almost the whole life of our subject has been passed in this county, for he was a babe of only a few months when his parents removed to Illinois. He received his education in the schools of St. Anne and the Savior's College, conducted by Rev. Charles Chiniquy, the celebrated ex-Catholic priest. Until eighteen years of age he gave all his earnings to his parents and was a dutiful and filial son. For a number of years after completing his studies he worked at farm labor, first renting a farm for two years and afterwards purchasing one of eighty acres near Hoopeston, Vermilion County. This property he afterwards sold and at once he removed to Ford County, where he bought an unimproved farm of eighty acres, nine miles southwest of Paxton, and this was his home for the succeeding thirteen years, during which time he placed it under good cultivation and also was enabled to purchase a tract of eighty acres in the same county, three miles from his other farm.

On the 1st of May, 1878, Mr. Brouillette was united in marriage with Miss Margie, daughter of Michael and Margaret (Pollock) Goff. Five children have blessed this union: Lorena Belle, Ida May, Ralph Herbert, Georgia and Jessie.

In the spring of 1890, Mr. Brouillette sold one

of his farms in Ford County, still retaining the other. In January, 1891, removing to St. Anne, he purchased the coal and lumber business of Perry & Ireland. In addition he also handles lime, cement and stone and is agent for the Sandwich hay press. Assisted by his estimable wife, he has acquired a good competence, the result of his careful business transactions, industry and ability.

Mr. and Mrs. Brouillette are members of the Presbyterian Church and occupy an enviable position in social circles. He is a member of Maple Camp No. 1321, M. W. A., and casts his ballot in favor of the Republican party. He is at present one of the Village Trustees, and takes an active interest in the welfare of his fellow-citizens.



JOHIN H. WEBSTER, a stock-dealer of Waldron, is a representative of one of the honored pioneers of this county, the family having been connected with its history since 1815, or for a period of forty-seven consecutive years. His father, Alvah Webster, was born in the State of New York, not far from Niagara Falls, and was of English descent. After attaining to mature years he married Susan Harmon, who was a native of Kentucky and was of German lineage. Five children graced their union, the eldest of whom is the subject of our sketch. He has one sister living, Mary, who is now the wife of Sidney Lowe, a resident of Kansas. The other three died young, Caroline in 1858, Permelia in 1842, and the death of Daniel occurred in 1844. The mother of this family was called to her final rest in September, 1844, after which Alvah Webster was again married, and by his second union he had five children: Myron, who is living in Bonfield, Ill.; Emma, who died in 1855; William, now a resident of Tennessee; Alvah, who makes his home in Monroe County, Iowa; and Ruby, wife of James Clifford, a grocer living in Kankakee.

It was in 1823 that Alvah Webster left the

Empire State and emigrated to Indiana. He became one of the early settlers of Fountain County and there he made his home for a number of years, following farming until 1844, when he came to Kankakee County, Ill. Here he purchased from the Government eighty acres of wild prairie land in what is now Aroma Township, but was then a part of Will County, and built a log cabin thereon. After he had thus made some preparations for establishing a home, he returned to Indiana, where he remained until the following January. He then again came to Illinois, and that winter made rails on the Iroquois River with which to fence forty acres of land. In the spring of 1845, he removed his family to the new home, the journey being made with three yoke of oxen and a horse team. Mr. Webster's land bordered on the Indian reserve, and when he came to the county there were still a few of the red men residing in this locality. Our subject at once began the development of his land, and carried on farming in this county until his death. He passed away in April, 1885, and his remains were interred in the Waldron Cemetery. A faithful member of the Methodist Church, he lived an upright life and had the respect and confidence of all who knew him. For a number of years in the early days of this county he served as Justice of the Peace.

John H. Webster, whose name heads this record, was born on the 10th of January, 1835, in the little village of Newtown, in Fountain County, Ind., but up to within the past two years has spent his entire life on a farm. When a lad of ten years he accompanied his father on his removal to this county, and amid the wild scenes of frontier life he was reared to manhood. With the family he experienced all the hardships and privations which fall to the lot of a pioneer, and his education was acquired in log schoolhouses. Chicago was their trading-post in the pioneer days and it was a place of not very great pretensions. All grain was hauled there, the trip being made about once in six months. Mr. Webster was early inured to the hard labor of developing wild land, for he began work in the fields as soon as he was old enough to handle the plow. To his father he gave the benefit of his services until nineteen years of age, when

he started out in life for himself. Entering the employ of Belden & De Forest, he bought cattle here in Illinois and shipped to New York City. For four years he worked for that firm and then followed various employments for some time.

A marriage ceremony performed in 1859 united the destinies of Mr. Webster and Miss Augusta De Witt, daughter of Austin and Sally Ann (Thacker) De Witt. Ten children were born of the union of this worthy couple, but four are now deceased: Austin, who died in 1863; Jessie, who died in 1871; Nellie, whose death occurred the same year; and Katie, who died in 1888. Those living are, Charles, Dick, Mattie, Viola, Stella, and Daniel.

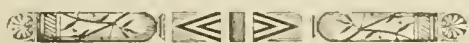
During the late war, Mr. Webster responded to the President's call for volunteers and enrolled his name as a private among the boys in blue of Company H, One Hundred and Thirteenth Infantry. He was mustered into service in Kankakee and soon afterward went to the front. The first important engagement in which he participated was at the battle of Vicksburg in the fall of 1862. He was also in the battles of Arkansas Post, Guntown and Eastport, and participated in the long and hotly contested siege of Vicksburg from its beginning until the capture of the city. Mr. Webster was very fortunate, in that he was never wounded or taken prisoner. After almost four years of service, in which he faithfully defended the old flag, he was mustered out on the 20th of June, 1866, and received an honorable discharge.

When the country no longer needed his services, Mr. Webster returned to his home and rented land (his father's old farm, upon which his boyhood days were passed) and there resided until the spring of 1870. He followed agricultural pursuits until 1890, when he removed to Waldron, and has since been engaged in buying stock. He is a man of good business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, and his well-directed efforts have gained him a comfortable competence. In his political views, Mr. Webster is a Republican, but has never sought or desired the honors or emoluments of public office. Public-spirited and progressive, he takes an active interest in all that pertains to



Henry Mertens

the welfare of the community, and gives his support to all worthy public enterprises. His long residence in the community has made him well acquainted with the history of the county, and he deserves representation among its early settlers.



HENRY MERTENS. One of the most desirable resident portions of the city of Kankakee is Henry Mertens' subdivision, which lies north of the "Three I's" depot and contains sixteen and a-half acres. This subdivision was laid out and platted by Mr. Mertens in December, 1891. It is well drained by a complete system of sewerage and has a fall to the Kankakee River of sixty feet. Its streets are all in accordance with the city grade, to produce which desirable condition Mr. Mertens has spent \$1,500. Another very important feature is the fact that solid rock is found but a few feet below the surface, so that buildings erected on any of the sixty-five lots have this for a foundation. The subdivision is certainly a very important addition to the growing and prosperous city of Kankakee.

Mr. Mertens, owner and proprietor of this property, is a native of Waltringhausen, Kurhessen, Germany. He was born November 3, 1843, being a son of William Mertens, and is one of a family of five children, two of whom died in early life. His brother William was in the Franco-Prussian War, and received a wound which resulted in his death five years later. The other brother, John, died at the age of fifteen, while serving an apprenticeship to the tailor's trade. Our subject is the only one of the family who ever left his native land. He attended school until fourteen years of age, as the youth of Germany are compelled by law to do. It was necessary that he should earn his living while still young, and upon leaving school he worked for three years in a coal mine, some three hundred feet below the surface of the earth. Then going to the city of Hanover, he was employed in a mitten factory for about a year and a-half, after which for some time he worked for a

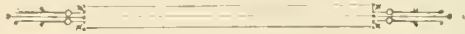
liquor manufacturer. Mr. Mertens had long wanted to come to America, but had not the means necessary to pay his passage, nor was his father able to assist him. At last a chance came. A favorite aunt, living in his native town, received money from friends in the United States to pay her passage across the Atlantic. She thought a great deal of our subject, and decided with the money she had received to help pay his passage as well as her own to America.

Accordingly, aunt and nephew bade adieu to their native land and took passage on a sailing-vessel bound for New York, where they arrived after a long and stormy passage. This was in 1865, the year that witnessed the close of the great rebellion in this country. He with his aunt proceeded at once to Will County, Ill., where friends of the family were then living, and as soon as he could obtain employment he made it his principal object to pay back the money which had been given him for his passage to this country. This was soon done, he returning every dollar that had been expended in his behalf. The aunt, who was a friend in need to Mr. Mertens, is still living, though now very aged, in Washington Township, Will County.

For the first year and a-half Mr. Mertens worked for neighboring farmers, and then for a short time engaged in coal-mining in Will County. That occupation was not at all to his taste, so he engaged in ditching in that county and in Lake County, Ind., working hard and faithfully at that business. He next came to Momence, in this county, and for three years worked by the day at a hay press; then for seven and a-half years ran a sample room in Momence, and for ten years in Kankakee. After about three years he became convinced that one could not run such a place decently and allow gambling, so he excluded it and never afterward would permit it in his house under any consideration. He continued a resident of Momence for about eleven years, at the expiration of which time he came to Kankakee, which has since been his home. He bought the property comprising the subdivision in 1890.

In Chicago occurred the marriage of Mr. Mertens and Miss Mary Kruse, who was born in Wit-

zendorf, Hanover, Germany, December 5, 1850. They became the parents of six children, two sons and four daughters: Emma, Henry, Minnie (deceased), Mary, William and Clara. Mr. Mertens is a well-known citizen of Kankakee, and has served as a member of the City Council for four years. Politically, he was a Republican until 1884, but believing a change in the administration of affairs for the best interests of the country, he has since voted the Democratic ticket. Both himself and wife were reared under the auspices of the Lutheran Church, to which he is a liberal contributor.



GEORGE FANNING, a retired farmer, was born in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, on the 10th of October, 1814. His paternal grandfather was of Scotch descent, and followed blacksmithing in Schoharie County, N. Y. His maternal grandfather was of Dutch birth. The parents of our subject, Frederick and Hannah (Davis) Fanning, were residents of Canada for many years. The father went to Canada from New York about 1806, was there married and resided until his death, which occurred on the 12th of April, 1851. The mother afterward came with our subject to Illinois and made her home with him until her death on the 22d of April, 1874, at which time she had attained the ripe old age of eighty-five years. Her father was a United Empire Loyalist, and at his death she received two hundred acres of land in Canada from the Government. In the family of Frederick and Hannah Fanning were ten children, eight of whom were sons. The living children are George, John B., Isaac, David, Sylvester and Susanna. Those who have passed away are Henry, Charles, James and Grace.

Mr. Fanning, whose name heads this sketch, removed to the United States in 1865, and settled upon a farm of four hundred and ninety-six acres in Otto Township, Kankakee County, four miles from Chebanse, where he lived for about nine years. He then removed to Chebanse and built a

large and comfortable home, where he resided for three years. At the expiration of that time he returned to his farm and turned his attention once more to the tilling of the soil. In 1880 he again removed to Chebanse, and has made his home in his former residence up to the present time.

On the 25th of February, 1835, occurred the marriage of Mr. Fanning and Miss Sarah Ostrom, daughter of Gilbert and Hannah (Lawrence) Ostrom. By this union eight children have been born. Hannah Ellen married Henry Hogle, who is a retired farmer and lives in Orillia, Canada. They have one child, Ida, who is married and has two sons, Percy and Claude, thus making our subject a great-grandfather. Harriet Matilda became the wife of Downen Lucas, a farmer of Hastings County, Canada, where they still make their home. They have had five children, but none of them are now living. Sarah Elida married Thomas H. Milburn, and their present home is in the city of Beatrice, Neb., where Mr. Milburn is engaged in the real-estate business. Three children grace their union, George, Albert and Ella. Rilla Agnes has been twice married. Her first husband was Frank Grosse, by whom she had five children, two only now living, Stella and Frank. Mr. Grosse was killed by lightning the same day on which the death of Gen. Grant occurred. Her second husband is Benjamin J. Wynneparry, a manufacturer of compass oil in Detroit, Mich., which is now their home. They have one child, George Durward. Frederick W. married Miss Caroline Myers, daughter of John Myers, of Sidney, Canada. They now live in Butler, Ind., where Mr. Fanning is engaged in the practice of medicine. They have two children, Charles and Frank. Richard Gilbert married Miss Elizabeth Marine, of Kankakee, and now is engaged in agricultural pursuits near Leoti, Kan. To them have been born four children, Aurelia, Emma, George and Benjamin J. W. George Baldwin married Miss Wood, of Aroma Township, and to them have been born four children. He is engaged in farming near Storm Lake, Iowa. John Nelson, the youngest of the family, married Miss Wiley of this county, and one child, Daisy, graces their union.

On the 8th of March, 1874, the mother of

these children departed this life, and was buried in the cemetery of Chebanse. She was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and left many friends who sincerely mourned her loss. On the 21st of September, 1874, Mr. Fanning was again married, the lady of his choice being Miss Eliza Ann Gilbert, daughter of Caleb and Sarah (Ross) Gilbert, of Thurlow, Hastings County, Canada. Four children have graced their union, James J., Mary Maud, Myrtle Kerr and May Gew, twins. Only one of these is now living, Mary Maud, who lives with her father. Her brother and one sister died of scarlet fever on the same day. Mrs. Fanning, who was born on the 8th of May, 1844, passed away on the 8th of July, 1890, and lies buried in Chebanse Cemetery. Both she and her husband were for many years members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which denomination Mr. Fanning has been identified for fifty-two years, and is now one of the Board of Trustees of the church in Chebanse.

Our subject has now been a resident of this county for twenty-seven years, and has a large acquaintance in this vicinity. While he has acquired a comfortable competence for his old age, he is plain and unostentatious in manner, and is one of the genial characters who draw people to them, thus being able to count his friends by the score. For a number of years he served as Road Commissioner and School Director, and has served for about six years on the Village Board of Trustees. He has never sought office, but has had the honor thrust upon him. Politically Mr. Fanning is a staunch and loyal Republican, and cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant.



NEWELL BEEBE, a retired farmer of Moinence Township, who now resides on section 19, is a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families of this county. He was born on the 20th of September, 1818, in Windhall, Bennington County, Vt., not far from the famous old battle-ground of Bennington,

where the Colonists achieved an important victory during the Revolutionary War. His parents, Hardin and Susan (Mellen) Beebe, were both natives of Connecticut, and were respectively of Welsh and Irish extraction, their respective families having been established in New England during Colonial days. In his early life the father was a farmer, but afterward engaged in keeping an hotel in the Green Mountain State. In 1836 he determined to try his fortune in the West, and with his family emigrated in October to Illinois, locating upon a piece of Government land at Beebe Grove, Kankakee County. Here he again resumed agricultural pursuits, but he was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, his death occurring two years later, December 16, 1840, he having been born April 30, 1783. The mother also died in this county, being called to the home beyond in 1864, her birth occurring October 13, 1790. This worthy couple had a family of four children, two sons and two daughters, the brother of our subject being Judge Beebe, who was Probate Judge of this district for eight years.

Newell Beebe, whose name heads this record, is the youngest of the family. He remained at home with his parents in the State of his birth, aiding his father in the operation and management of the hotel. He received a good education in the public schools, and was thus well fitted for the practical duties of life. He was a young man of eighteen years of age when with his parents he came to this county, where his life has since been passed. For a time after his arrival he worked as a farm-hand by the month and was also employed in a mill. As he was a poor boy he had to make his own way in the world, and during the three years that were spent in the employ of others he earned the capital which gave him a start in life. With the money that he acquired through his industry, perseverance and economy, in 1845 he purchased forty acres of land, a part of the farm on which he now resides.

On the 2d of December, 1847, Mr. Beebe married Miss Sarah A. Mellen, of this county, who was born in Windhall, Vt., February 25, 1829. Her parents, however, were natives of Massachusetts, and her father was of English extrac-

tion, while her mother was of Irish descent. It was in 1838 that they left their Eastern home and emigrated Westward, making a location in Kankakee County, Ill. The father secured a tract of wild land and began the development of a farm, devoting himself to agricultural pursuits throughout the remainder of his life. Both he and his wife spent their remaining days in this county, and died at a ripe old age.

By the union of Mr. and Mrs. Beebe have been born five children, but only two are now living, Arthur, Harden N. and Carrie M., being now deceased. One son and one daughter still survive. Roswell, who is a very highly educated gentleman, devotes himself to the teachers' profession; he was for seven years Principal of the schools in Geneva, Ill., and is now Superintendent of the public schools in Minonk, Woodford County, Ill. Elmina is now the wife of J. D. Mills, of Grand Forks, N. Dak., who is general agent in that State for the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company. Two children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Mills, Arthur D. and Edna.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Beebe was a Whig till the rise of the Republican party, and though he takes an interest in the success of his party, has never sought or desired the honors or emoluments of public office. Himself and wife have been faithful and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church for thirty-six years, and have always taken an active part in church work and everything pertaining to the upbuilding of the community. The poor and needy find in them a friend, and their lives embody their profession. During the late war, Mrs. Beebe was President of the Soldiers' Aid Society, and many of the boys in blue who went from this State to the front remember gratefully the kindness and favors they received at her hands.

Mr. Beebe is numbered among the pioneer settlers of Kankakee County, where for the long period of fifty-six consecutive years he has made his home. He has done much for the upbuilding of the county, and has taken a just pride in its growth and advancement. He has not only watched the rapid strides of progress and the transformation that followed, but in all possible

ways has aided in bettering and improving his adopted county. When he began farming, Mr. Beebe had nothing except a small tract of land, and this had been acquired through his own efforts, but he steadily worked his way upward, and by his perseverance and industry overcame the difficulties and obstacles in his path. Thus, rising step by step, he has gained a competence which enables him to live retired. Upon his valuable farm of fifty acres, adjoining the city limits of Momence, he is now resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. He has led a life worthy of emulation, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this record of his career.



LOUIS H. SCHNEIDER, a well-known farmer living on section 28, Sumner Township, is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred in Erie County, on the 30th of December, 1848. He is a son of Frederick and Phæbe (Kline) Schneider, the former a native of Germany. Their family consisted of nine children. In 1858 the father emigrated to Will County, Ill., where he resided until 1868, when he came to Kankakee County, where his death occurred in 1877. The wife and mother had died two years previously, and side by side they lie buried in the Sumner Cemetery. They were both consistent members of the German Evangelical Church, and by their lives of unobtrusive goodness won the friendship and high regard of all who knew them.

The early years of Louis Schneider were passed in his native county, and when ten years of age he came with his parents to Illinois. He assisted his father in the care of his farm and attended school during the winter months until seventeen years of age. He lived on the old homestead until twenty-seven years old, at which time he started out in the world to make a living for himself. For some four years he worked at farm labor and was careful and saving of his resources. This en-

abled him to purchase a farm of eighty acres, upon which he has lived up to the present day. To this he has added forty acres and now owns one hundred and twenty acres in a body, which is all under good cultivation and where he carries on general farming and stock-raising. When he left home he had not a dollar in the world and he has acquired his present comfortable competence by his own energy and well-directed efforts.

February 9, 1876, Mr. Schneider wedded Miss Ellen Ammann, and by their marriage were born four children, all sons: Louis J., Charlie (now deceased), Charlie C., and William.

Politically, Mr. Schneider is a firm supporter of the Democracy, and has served his fellow-citizens in various offices of trust and honor; among others he has held those of Township Collector, Commissioner of Highways, Township Assessor, School Trustee and School Director. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and in its success he is much interested. He and all the family hold membership with the German Evangelical Church, and socially he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. During his long residence of twenty-five years in this county, Mr. Schneider has made for himself many friends, for he is always honorable and upright in his business transactions and takes an active part in the promotion of enterprises calculated to benefit the community.



LORENZO D. LEGG, a retired farmer, resides on section 18, Aroma Township. Probably no man living in Kankakee County is more familiar with its pioneer history, or has borne a more important part in the upbuilding and development of the county in its progress and advancement, than the gentleman whose name heads this record, and we feel assured that this sketch of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers.

Mr. Legg was born in Shelby County, Ky., April 5, 1816, and is one of four children whose parents

were Isaac and Elizabeth (Smith) Legg. The father was a native of Tennessee and was of English descent. Of the family, Lizzie died in 1889; Lorenzo is the next younger; Jane died in 1894; and Matthew, a tailor by trade, is now living in St. Louis. In 1833 Isaac Legg left Kentucky and with his family emigrated to Chicago, Ill., which was then a mere hamlet. The trip West was made by ox-teams and part of the land upon which the city now stands was comprised within his farm. There he continued to reside until 1837, when he came to Kankakee County, locating in Bourbonnais Township, where he purchased land from the Government and engaged in farming for four years. It was in 1841 that he removed to Aroma Township, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred in 1876. Throughout his life he followed farming and was a leading agriculturist of this community. The mother of our subject was called to her final home four years previous to the death of her husband.

No event of special importance occurred during the early boyhood days of Lorenzo Legg, which were spent upon his father's farm in his native county. He attended the subscription school, held in a log building, and acquired a good English education. At the age of seventeen he came to the West with his parents and saw Chicago in the days of its earliest infancy. In fact, he was one of its first residents. At the time the family located there the city was a hamlet, containing two stores and two taverns. Mr. Legg there continued to make his home until 1837, when he came to Kankakee County with his parents. Under the parental roof he remained until 1839, and aided in the arduous task of developing from the wild prairie a good farm. At length he left home and began life for himself. During one summer he worked as a farm hand by the month and then rented land for about three years. With the capital he acquired during that period as the result of his industry and economy, he purchased eighty acres of land on section 18, Aroma Township, from the Government, at the usual price of \$1.25 per acre. This was in 1840, and for fifty-two years his home has been upon that farm. His first home was a small log cabin, in which he resided for some years. The Pottawato-

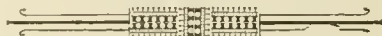
mie Indians were still numerous in the neighborhood, and the county was all wild and unimproved and gave little evidence of the rapid progress and development which were so soon to transform it and give it rank among the leading counties in this great commonwealth.

On the 5th of March, 1842, Mr. Legg was united in marriage with Miss Martha J. Lowe, daughter of Peter and Harriet Lowe. Her death occurred in 1845. Unto them were born two sons, both of whom gave their lives in defense of the Union. John R. enlisted in 1862 as a private of Company F, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, and at the battle of Vicksburg sustained a wound, the effects of which terminated his life on the 25th of February, 1864. His remains were brought back and interred in the Leggtown Cemetery, the family burying-ground. Peter L. enlisted in the same company and regiment as his brother and died at La Grange, Tenn., in 1862. His body was also brought back and laid to rest in the same cemetery.

Mr. Legg was again married, in 1847, this time to Miss Ann M. Gleason, daughter of Eber and Laura Gleason. They had a family of six children, namely: Dee, a farmer now residing in St. Anne Township; Edgar, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Aroma Township; Laura, wife of William Storrs, who resides in Ganier Township; Benjamin, a farmer of Aroma Township; Ella, wife of Wendell Brooks, who follows farming in St. Anne Township; and Edna, who completes the family. The mother of these children departed this life on the 8th of May, 1880, and was laid to rest in the family graveyard.

For a period of thirty years, Mr. Legg has been a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the lodge in Waldron. He takes a great interest in politics and gives a warm support to the principles of the Republican party. For seven years he has served his township as School Treasurer, and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. He is public-spirited and progressive and does all in his power to promote the county's best interest. With the experiences of pioneer life, Mr. Legg is certainly familiar, and he has the honor of having hauled the first load of wheat to Chicago which was sold on the market of that city. This

was in the autumn of 1838. His life has been a busy and useful one and he may truly be called a self-made man, for through his own industry, enterprise and good management has been acquired all that he now possesses. His farm comprises three hundred acres of rich land and the improvements thereon stand as monuments to his thrift and energy. He is now living retired, enjoying a well-earned rest and the fruits of his former toil.



LA FAYETTE H. PERRY, a dealer in grain, lumber, coal, wagons, farm implements, etc., at St. Anne, is a native of the Empire State. He was born in Madison County, on the 7th of August, 1852, and is a son of Hamilton and Jane M. (Nichols) Perry, both natives of New York. Grandfather Nichols was a shoemaker in Perryville, N. Y. He was born in 1795, and died in 1880. He was a soldier and captain in the war of 1812, and was thrice married and reared a large family of children. At the time of his death he was eighty-five years of age. Grandmother Nichols died in 1869, in her seventh-sixth year.

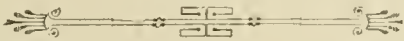
Hamilton Perry was a farmer by occupation and for many years carried on a farm in New York. Leaving there in 1857, he moved to Wisconsin, where he located upon a farm near Fond du Lac, which he tilled until 1861. That year witnessed his removal to Illinois, where he located some three miles south of Momence. His death occurred in 1879, in Aroma Township, Kankakee County. His wife still survives and has now reached her sixtieth year. Their family consisted of two sons and a daughter, our subject being the eldest. The second is Lucy J., born March 13, 1855, wife of Jerry Dugan, of Aroma Township; Edwin J. born July 3, 1863, is a resident of St. Anne.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in the usual manner of farmer lads, and when but thirteen years of age he struck out for himself, continuing at farm work until reaching his majority. His school privileges until that time were those of the district country schools. He after-

ward entered the commercial department of the Valparaiso Normal School of Indiana and was graduated from there in 1875. For six years Mr. Perry engaged in teaching school in this county, for five years of the time being in district No. 2, the remainder in Papineau Township.

On the 28th of December, 1881, Mr. Perry was married to Miss Mary E. Ireland, daughter of Hon. Silas and Matilda (Michael) Ireland, of Summerville, Mich. To them have been born five children, three sons and two daughters, as follows: Earl I.; born December 14, 1882; Hazel D., January 16, 1885; Myrtle B., March 25, 1886; La Fayette D., June 10, 1887; and Roscoe J., June 27, 1889.

In 1882, Mr. Perry embarked in the grain, lumber and coal business in St. Anne, under the firm name of Davis & Perry. Afterward Mr. Perry continued alone for some time and then went into partnership with his brother-in-law, F. A. Ireland. After four years this partnership was dissolved, and he has since conducted the business alone. For eight years, Mr. Perry was one of the Village Trustees and previous to that time was Village Clerk. Socially, he holds membership with Aroma Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and is Banker of Maple Camp No. 1321, M. W. A. Politically, he uses his right of franchise in support of the Republican party.



RPERRIN EASTON is a prosperous farmer who resides in Herscher. His farm, which consists of seventy-seven acres, is well improved and very valuable, being situated within the corporate limits of the town of Herscher. He was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, on the 23d of December, 1858, and is a son of John R. Easton, born in the same county. The paternal grandfather of our subject, John Easton, was of English descent and a native of Massachusetts, in which State his ancestors were among the early settlers. In 1816, he removed to Ohio, at which time it was a vast wilderness and had been but recently admitted as a State. He was one of

the very first settlers of Trumbull County and cleared a farm in the forest. There he reared his family and spent his remaining days. The father of our subject spent his youth in Trumbull County and on arriving at man's estate wedded Mrs. Gratia Jane Southwell, who was in her maidenhood Miss Barnard, a daughter of Benjamin Barnard, who was born in the Empire State, and removed to Ohio. She was born and reared to womanhood in New York. For some years after his marriage Mr. Easton farmed in Trumbull and Portage Counties. In November, 1869, he removed westward to Illinois, locating first at Lockport, Will County, where he engaged in merchandising for three years. Selling out his business, he bought an improved farm in Ford County, upon which he located in 1872. He carried on that farm for several years, and in the spring of 1882 purchased a farm in Pilot Township, which he operated for some seven years. He is now living retired from the arduous business cares of life in Buckingham and is enjoying the fruits of his years of labor.

Perrin Easton is the only son of the family and came to Illinois when but eleven years of age. He has lived in Will, Ford and Kankakee Counties, in all of which his educational advantages were good. Until reaching his majority he assisted his father on his farm, and on the 21st of September, 1882, was united in marriage with Miss Katie A. Munger, the ceremony being performed in Iroquois County. Mrs. Easton was born in Kendall County, March 22, 1862, but passed her girlhood in Iroquois County. Two children have been born to them: Nellie M. and Clyde M., who are both attending the Herscher school.

In 1889, Mr. Easton purchased the place where he now resides, on which was erected the finest and most complete residence in Pilot Township, and which is located within the town limits. As every American citizen should be, he is interested in politics and supports the Republican party. His first ballot was cast in 1880 for Hon. James A. Garfield. He was elected and is now serving as one of the Village Trustees and advocates all measures tending to the welfare and advancement of the community's best interest. Mrs. Easton holds membership

with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Herscher, where she is held in high regard. Though a young man, our subject has developed good business methods and is capable and active. By his many qualities of personal worth he has the well-merited respect and friendship of all.



LUSCIOUS M. CASE, one of the highly respected citizens of Aroma Township, Kankakee County, is engaged in working at his trade of carpentering. As he has a wide acquaintance and is so well known throughout the community, we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers.

Mr. Case is a native of Connecticut. He was born in New Haven County on the 23d of September, 1810, and is a son of Grove and Lena (Bondell) Case. His parents were also natives of the Nutmeg State, and were of German and English descent respectively. A family of fourteen children were born of their union, and all grew to manhood and womanhood, namely: Mahala, Hiram, William, Washington, Eliza, Elisiah, Luscious M., Clinton C., Kittie, Levi, Cynthia, Spencer, Hammond and Sadie. The father of this family was a farmer by occupation, and followed that business in pursuit of fortune throughout his entire life. His death occurred in 1852, and his wife, who survived him about eight years, passed away in 1860.

The subject of this sketch was born and reared under the Blue Laws of Connecticut. His educational privileges were quite limited and were all received prior to the age of sixteen years. He attended subscription schools, which convened in private homes and log houses. At the early age of fourteen years he started out in life for himself, and has since been dependent upon his own efforts. He began empty-handed, so that whatever success he has achieved is the result of his own industry and perseverance. Learning the trade of a carpenter, he has followed it through the greater part of his life. With his parents he removed to the Empire State, the family locating in Chau-

tauqua County, and in New York Mr. Case remained until 1833, which year witnessed his emigration Westward. Having bade good-bye to his old home, he came to Illinois, taking up his residence in Jacksonville, where he spent six months. He made the trip westward by water. After the half year spent in that State, he went to St. Louis, where he afterwards remained for six months, and then became a resident of Cincinnati, Ohio. Subsequently he made a location in Chicago, and built the blocking for the first vessel which was ever constructed in that city. He remained in Chicago until the summer of 1836, when he removed to Joliet, Ill., remaining in that place for about a year and a-half, during which time he worked at his trade of carpentering. We next find him living in Beloit, Wis., where he made his home until 1839.

That year witnessed the arrival of Mr. Case in Kankakee County, Ill., where he has since made his home. He at once located upon a farm in Aroma Township, purchasing two hundred acres of partially improved land, which under his thorough cultivation and systematic care has been transformed into one of the finest farms of the locality. Acre after acre was placed under the plow, and the well-tilled fields soon yielded golden tribute in return for the care and labor he bestowed upon them. He also made many excellent improvements upon the place.

Three years after coming to this county, Mr. Case was married, in 1842, to Miss Anna Randall, and unto them was born a son, Albert, now a resident farmer of Waldron. The mother died in 1845, and Mr. Case was again married, in 1846, the lady of his choice being Miss Olive Johnson. Three children were born of this union, but the eldest, Mary Jane, is now deceased; Ellen is now the wife of Samuel Cooper, an agriculturist of Aroma Township; and Willie, the youngest, carries on the home farm. The members of the family are widely known in this locality, and are held in the highest regard by all.

Mr. Case cast his first Presidential vote for John Quincy Adams. An Abolitionist in principle, he joined the Republican party on its organization, and has since been one of its stalwart supporters,



Henry C. Bantz



Louisa M. Bantz

warmly advocating its principles. He has never been an office-seeker, but has been a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who has manifested a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community. More than half a century has passed since he came to the county. He has been an eye-witness of almost its entire growth, has seen its raw prairies transformed into beautiful homes and farms, its hamlets grow into cities and thriving towns, while schoolhouses and churches have been built, and progress has marched steadily forward, until the Kankakee County of to-day bears little resemblance to that of fifty years ago. Mr. Case has ever done his part in its development, and well deserves mention among its honored pioneers. He has now reached the age of eighty-two years, but is still hale and hearty, so much so that he yet works at his trade.



HENRY E. RANTZ, a highly respected farmer and stock-raiser, who resides on section 17, Limestone Township, has the honor of being a native of the county which is still his home, and therefore one of its pioneer settlers. He was born on Christmas Day, 1817, in the town of Bourbonnais, and was the thirteenth child in a family of fourteen children, including six sons and eight daughters. The parents were William and Elizabeth (Snyder) Rantz. The father was born in Columbia County, Pa., on the 30th of July, 1803, was reared to manhood upon the farm, and in the Keystone State met and married Miss Snyder. He afterward emigrated to Ohio, where he lived for about eight years, when he sold his property in that State and came to Kankakee County, Ill. Mr. Rantz here made a claim of one hundred and twenty acres of land, which he entered from the Government. It is located in what is now Bourbonnais, Limestone Township, and upon the farm which he there developed he resided until his death, engaged in agricultural pursuits. He lived in the township for over fifty

years and was one of the honored pioneers of the county. His death occurred July 16, 1871. His wife was born in Orange County, Pa., February 22, 1807, and was of German extraction. The Rantz family is also of German origin. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a Revolutionary soldier and fought in the war for independence under Gen. Washington.

Mr. Rantz, the subject of this sketch, spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon the home farm, remaining under the parental roof until he had reached his majority. The common schools afforded him his educational privileges and his business training was received upon the farm. Like a great many other young men, he started out in life without a dollar, but he was energetic and has worked his way steadily upward to success. He rented a farm for a couple of years and then rented the old homestead, which he operated successfully for seven years. Having in that time acquired some capital, he then purchased a farm, upon which he resided until February, 1891, when he purchased the farm on which he now resides, comprising two hundred acres of land of great fertility, located on section 17, Limestone Township, and which has since been his home. The entire amount is under a high state of cultivation and the place is well improved with all the accessories of a model farm. Mr. Rantz is largely interested in stock-raising, making a specialty of the breeding of fine cattle and hogs.

On the 29th of September, 1868, our subject married Miss Louisa Trimble, daughter of John and Louisa (Bovine) Trimble. Her parents are both of French descent and are natives of Canada. The father was born in 1830, and the birth of the mother occurred on the 10th of February, 1833. In 1853 they emigrated with their family to this county, where they have since resided. They are now living in Bourbonnais. Mrs. Rantz was born in Canada on the 21st of July, 1850, and is the eldest in a family of eleven children. She came with her parents to this county in 1853, and has here since made her home. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Rantz have been born four children, a son and three daughters. Emma M., who was born July 5, 1869, attended the common schools, was afterward

a student in the High School of Kankakee, and is now successfully engaged in teaching in this county. She married Frederick D. Goodknecht, who resides in Bourbonnais. Carrie E., born August 13, 1870, is a well-educated young lady, who is now employed as teacher in the graded schools of Bonfield. John William, born on the 5th of October, 1873, and Agnes, who completes the family and was born March 29, 1875, are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Rantz is numbered among the substantial agriculturists of this community. He owns one of the best farms in the county, comprising two hundred acres of well-improved land, which is under a high state of cultivation. An important branch of his business is stock-raising, he making a specialty of fine cattle and hogs. Our subject is a man of excellent business ability, enterprising and progressive, and by his well-directed efforts has gained a comfortable competence. In politics he is a supporter of the Democracy, and for ten years he has filled the office of School Director. Mr. Rantz is a man of sterling worth and is held in high regard by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.



M J. B. HAWKINS resides on section 25, Limestone Township. In presenting a sketch of this worthy gentleman to our readers, we record the life work of not only one of the leading farmers, but of one of the most honored pioneers of the county. For almost sixty years he has resided in this community, and few, if any, have so long been numbered among the citizens of Kankakee County. He certainly deserves representation in this volume, for he has ever borne a prominent part in the upbuilding and development of the community.

Mr. Hawkins was born on the 2d of July, 1815, in Ontario County, N. Y., and is a son of Ebenezer and Rebecca (Jepson) Hawkins. The father was a native of Massachusetts, born April 22, 1772. The grandparents of our subject were also

born in New England, but the great-grandparents were natives of England, and were founders of the Hawkins family in America. The mother of our subject was born in Massachusetts, January 6, 1773. Her parents were also natives of New England, and were of English extraction. Ebenezer and Rebecca Hawkins were married in Goshen, Mass., February 16, 1792, and shortly afterward removed to Burlington, Vt. Their residence in that locality, however, was of short duration, for soon they emigrated to the Empire State, where Mr. Hawkins engaged in the manufacture of pottery.

In 1825 our subject's father emigrated with his family to Vermilion County, Ill., and purchased from the Government a small farm. This land was all wild and uncultivated, with no improvements, but he at once began its development and transformed the raw prairie into one of the best farms in the county. His death occurred at his home on the 22d of September, 1828, at the age of fifty-six years, and his many friends assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to the man whom they had honored in life, and whose death they deeply regretted. He will ever be held in loving remembrance by the old settlers who knew him, and by his children. He had borne with the pioneers the trials and hardships of pioneer life, and was ever ready to speak a cheering word to the discouraged, and to aid those who alone seemed unable to perform their hard labor or surmount the difficulties which had to be encountered by all early settlers. His life was an honorable, upright one, filled with good deeds. The Golden Rule he faithfully and conscientiously observed, doing to others as he would have them do unto him. He was truly one of Nature's noblemen.

Mrs. Hawkins, mother of our subject, died August 25, 1850, in Danville, Ill., and her remains were interred by the side of him to whom she had ever proved a loving companion and helpmate along the journey of life. A monument has been erected to the memory of this worthy couple. Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins were parents of nine children, four sons and five daughters.

The subject of this sketch, who was the eighth in order of birth, was born and reared on the

home farm. His education was limited to the advantages afforded by the district schools of this new country. He was only eleven years of age when the family came to the West, and when a lad of thirteen was deprived of a father's watchful care. He remained on the old homestead with his mother, and like a dutiful son aided her in the care of the farm until nineteen years of age, when he started out in life for himself. His capital consisted of only a young man's bright hope of the future and a determination to succeed. He came at once to what is now Kankakee County, but which was then a part of Iroquois County. This was in 1831. He settled on a tract of Government land, which he pre-empted five years later, and thereon built the first frame house in the county. He immediately began the improvement of his land, which was hitherto a barren tract, and as acre after acre was placed under the plow, he received a golden harvest in return for his care and labor. At that time there were only three other settlers in the county. There were no roads, no improvements, nothing but a wild region, and the hardships and trials of pioneer life were many, but our subject met them bravely, and by a determined will and untiring industry overcame them.

In 1845, when thirty years of age, Mr. Hawkins married Miss Matilda Legg, and his wife was soon duly installed as mistress of the pioneer home. Three children were born of their union, but all are now deceased. The mother died in 1849, and June 4, 1850, Mr. Hawkins was again married, his second union being with Miss Harriet M. Lowe, who was born September 2, 1823, in Oxford Township, Butler County, Ohio. She is a most estimable lady, and is held in the highest regard by all who know her. To her husband she has indeed proved a helpmate, and to her assistance he owes much of his success. By their union the following children were born: Peter L., born on the 1st of March, 1851, died on the 24th of October of the same year; Edwin, born July 29, 1852, died August 26, 1854; Micah J. B. was born March 11, 1851; Joel B., born April 8, 1856, was married February 16, 1886, to Mary A. O'Brien, a lady of Irish extraction, and they have three children, one son and two daughters. A. B.,

born on the 10th of September, 1857, wedded Liddy J. Hines, of Custer Township, Will County, Ill., and they have two sons and two daughters; Harriet M., born August 2, 1861, died June 14, 1867; Mark, born March 10, 1864, aids in the cultivation of the home farm; Julia Ann, born June 27, 1866, died June 31, 1871; David N., born February 15, 1870, completes the family. The latter is a wide-awake young man of twenty-two years, who acquired a good education, and is well informed on all matters of general interest. He still resides under the parental roof. Joel is a well-informed man, and is one of the leading politicians in this community. He has served as Town Clerk for three years, and is recognized as one of the prosperous farmers of Limestone Township.

In political sentiment in early life, Mr. Hawkins was a supporter of the Whig party, and cast his first Presidential vote for William Henry Harrison. At the organization of the Republican party, he joined its ranks, and has since fought under its banner. Of its principles he is a warm advocate. His last ballot was cast for Hon. Benjamin Harrison, the illustrious grandson of the Tippecanoe hero. Throughout his residence in this county, Mr. Hawkins has carried on agricultural pursuits, and now owns a valuable farm containing some of the most fertile land in Kankakee County, which yields to him a golden tribute as the reward for his cultivation. His beautiful home is located on the banks of the Kankakee River, and it is the abode of hospitality, being ever open for the reception of the many friends of the family.

We see in Mr. Hawkins a self-made man, who started out in life in very limited circumstance, but by industry, economy and good business ability has won a handsome competence. He is an honored pioneer, who for fifty long years has resided in this community. He has witnessed the entire growth of the county, for on his arrival the prairies were still in their primitive condition, and the echoes of the forest had not then been awakened by the woodman's ax. The cities of Joliet and Kankakee were not then in existence. He has seen the honored march of progress and the improvement and advancement that has followed in its footsteps, has watched the wonderful growth of

towns and cities, has seen the transformation of the waste lands into beautiful homes and farms, and has ever borne a prominent part in this great work. Mr. Hawkins has now reached the age of seventy-seven years. He can look back over his past life with no regrets, and forward to the future with no fears. The high respect which is tendered him is justly his.



CHARLES E. SWANNELL, senior partner of the firm of C. E. & A. Swannell, merchants of Kankakee, successors to Frederick Swannell, are proprietors of the largest and oldest established house in their line in Kankakee County and are dealers in dry goods, cloaks and carpets. This house was established by the father of the present proprietors in 1857, and by him the business was conducted, he having for a time his eldest son for a partner, until about 1876, when his second son, Charles E., was admitted to the firm. This connection was continued until August, 1882, when the existing firm was established, the two sons purchasing the father's interest, and they have since conducted the business with marked success. The building occupied by C. E. and A. Swannell is the property of their father and is 50x90 feet in area, two stories high with a basement, and is substantially built of brick. The first floor is one large salesroom, which is heavily stocked and tastefully arranged.

The subject of this sketch was born in Momence, Kankakee County, Ill., on the 16th of March, 1856, and is the second child of Frederick and Eliza (Paddon) Swannell, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this work. His education was obtained in the public schools, at Lake Forest Academy, and at Jacksonville Business College. His taste was early directed in the mercantile line in his father's store and counting-room, where he commenced in 1871. Five years later he was admitted to partnership with his father and so continued until August, 1882, at which time he was joined by his brother Arthur, and together they

purchased their father's interest in the business and the existing firm was formed. They have now been engaged in business for ten years and have ever maintained the family reputation and credit in the mercantile world in a manner that places them among the successful and prosperous merchants of Eastern Illinois.

On the 31st of July, 1879, in Kankakee, occurred the marriage of Mr. Swannell and Miss Ella Huckins, a daughter of George and Isabel Huckins. Mrs. Swannell was born in Elgin, Ill., and is of Scotch-Irish descent. By her marriage she became the mother of three children: Isabel; Harry, deceased; and Margaret. Mr. and Mrs. Swannell hold membership with the First Presbyterian Church of Kankakee.

Politically, our subject affiliates with the Republican party and is a member of the Royal Arcanum. He and his brother are descended from a family of merchants and seem to have inherited the sterling business qualifications which characterized the career of their father and grandfather, whose lives were distinguished by strict integrity and correct business methods.



JOHN SMALL, who is prominent among the younger members of the Kankakee County Bar, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He is the present Master in Chancery for the Eleventh Judicial District, and also Public Guardian for Kankakee County. He is a native of this city and was born on the 4th of March, 1858, at the old homestead where his parents now reside. His father, Dr. Abram L. Small was one of the pioneers of this county, having settled in Rockville Township in 1851. A sketch of Doctor Small is given on another page of this work.

The subject of this sketch obtained a good knowledge of the nursery business in his younger days, and at the same time attended the public schools of the city. Later, Mr. Small took a com

mercial course of instruction in the Northern Indiana Normal School, of Valparaiso. He engaged in teaching and reading law at the same time, after which he entered the law office of William Potter in Kankakee and at the end of a two-years course of reading was admitted to the Bar in 1883. Mr. Small was appointed Master in Chancery in December, 1889, to fill the unexpired term of his predecessor, and later was reappointed for a full term by the Circuit Court. The office of Public Guardian, which he holds, was established by an act of the Legislature, approved June 3, 1889, and on the 1st of November of the same year Mr. Small received his commission from Gov. Fifer and was the first to serve in that capacity. Our subject is thoroughly educated in his profession and possesses the confidence and respect of his legal brethren and of the community at large.



JAMES H. PETERSON, County Superintendent of Schools in Kankakee County, resides in the city of that name. His birth occurred in Hamilton County, Ohio, on the 16th of May, 1843. His father, Elisha A., was also a native of the same county, where his birth occurred on the 10th of June, 1810. He departed this life in February, 1889. The mother, who bore the maiden name of Eliza D. Brown, was born in the Empire State and died in 1850.

James H. Peterson was reared to manhood and was educated in his native State. He was employed as a clerk for his father and others and later was a bank clerk at Kentland, Ind. On the 25th of November, 1861, he enlisted in the late war for three years as a member of Company D, Fourth Ohio Cavalry. He served in the Army of the Cumberland and participated with his regiment in many battles and skirmishes. He was in various conflicts with the noted Confederate officer, Gen. Morgan, in Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama during the first year; was in the battle of Chickamauga and was with Sherman through the

Atlanta campaign, in the battle of Knoxville, Tenn., where his command assisted in driving Longstreet out of the State, and took part in the battle of Jonesboro, Tenn. He was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., November 25, 1861.

Mr. Peterson settled in St. Anne, Kankakee County, in 1872, and engaged in the coal, grain and insurance business until he was elected to the position he now fills. He has held various local offices and has been a member of the Village Board of Trustees. Mr. Peterson has one hundred and forty-seven schools under his supervision, including the graded schools of villages and cities, and his administration of the important office he holds has been distinguished by ability, fidelity and impartiality. Since entering upon the duties of the office he has been a resident of the county seat.

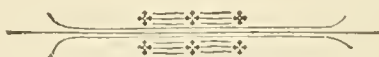
On the 11th of October, 1876, Mr. Peterson wedded Miss Harriet J. Sutton, a daughter of Moses and Mary (Lemon) Sutton. Mrs. Peterson was born in Cambridgeshire, England, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church. They have one son and two daughters: Nettie E., Hervy Hall and Irene.

Mr. Peterson is a Republican in politics, and socially is a member of Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M. He is Past Commander of Pallisard Post No. 396, G. A. R., of St. Anne, but is now connected with Whipple Post No. 414, of Kankakee. He is a charter member of Maple Grove Camp No. 1321, M. W. A., of St. Anne.



THE KANKAKEE TIMES, Livingston & Burroughs, proprietors, editors and publishers, is the successor of the Kankakee Review. The present firm was organized by the admission of Mr. Burroughs in 1892. About 1865 the Kankakee Review was started by N. H. Taylor. In this paper Thomas Kelley purchased an interest, and it continued to be published under this name until it was sold to W. F. Keady, who sold to George B. Keady & Co., who in turn disposed of their interest in 1881 to Livingston & Keady, and Mr.

Keady has now sold his interest to Ernest Shaw. At the date of the purchase of the office by W. F. Keady, the name was changed to the *Kaukakee Times*. Originally the paper was independent in politics, but subsequently it became Republican. About the year 1872 it became a supporter of Greeley, and then became the organ of the Independents or Greenbackers. In the campaign of 1880, however, the *Times* was a warm partisan of Garfield, and under its present management is strongly Republican. It is a very popular and prosperous paper, and has an extensive circulation throughout this portion of the State.



CHARLES A. SMYTH, a photographer of Momence, was born on the banks of the Ohio River in Indiana, near Madison, one of the most beautiful cities of that State, on the 5th of January, 1834. His grandfather, Benjamin Smyth, was a resident of Pennsylvania and a strict Puritan in religious belief. He lived to be about ninety-three years of age, and his wife also lived to an extreme old age, being ninety-four years at her death. He was a farmer and entered Government land near Madison, Ind., upon which he erected a house in 1817 or 1818, which is still standing in a fair state of preservation. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Amos Mount, lived to be over eighty years of age, and his wife, Martha Mount, who died previously, also lived to be very old. He followed the calling of an agriculturist and also settled near Madison, Ind., about the same time as did the Smyth family.

The parents of our subject, John P. and Martha (Mount) Smyth, were born and reared in Shelby County, Ky. Mr. Smyth was a carriage-maker by trade and followed that vocation in Kentucky until 1874, when he sold out his business to his son, Abner C., and became a resident of Madison, Ind., where he died some three years later. His birth occurred in Kentucky in the year 1802, and with his parents, who were of German descent and

formerly lived in Pennsylvania, he removed to Indiana in 1818. The mother of our subject departed this life in Milton, Ky., at the home of her son Abner C., about the year 1880, at which time she was nearly seventy-four years of age. Two daughters and six sons composed her family: Thomas, who died when about fifteen years of age; William B., James M., Charles A., Abner C., Edward, Hannah M. and Martha J., who are all living with the exception of the eldest.

When a boy Charles A. Smyth learned the carriage and wagon maker's and blacksmith trades in his father's shop. This calling he followed for twenty-one years, until failing health compelled him to accept a less arduous line of business. He decided to take up photography, and when commencing this line of work he made the old-fashioned daguerreotypes. He has continued in this business, ever keeping abreast with the various improvements, until the present time, when photography has achieved a high place among the sister arts.

On the 28th of November, 1855, Mr. Smyth was joined in marriage with Miss Cassander J., daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Veatch) Woods, both natives of Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Smyth are the parents of two children, a son and daughter. Laura J. became the wife of George Austin, a manufacturer of gas and electric light fixtures in Chicago; they have three children, Ruby D., Edith and Lawrence J. Ben married Miss Emma Doak, of Hoopeston, Ill., and they live in Mapleton, Iowa, where he is operator, station and express agent of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Smyth they went to Missouri, living at Independence for a few months and then removed to Miami County, Kan., settling in Paola, the county seat. After a residence there of eight years they removed to Madison, Ind., where they remained until after the death of our subject's father, and they then became residents of Hoopeston, Ill., where they lived for nearly ten years. In 1887 Mr. Smyth came to Momence and opened a photograph gallery, which he is still managing.

Socially, Mr. Smyth is a member of Momence Lodge No. 481, A. F. & A. M., and of Hoopeston

Chapter No. 181, R. A. M., of Hoopston. His wife holds membership with the Baptist Church, where she is one of the active workers. Our subject uses his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party, having cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln.



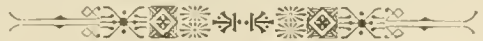
HENRY H. BALDWIN has been for twenty-five years a jeweler and watch-maker of Momence. His birth occurred in Cuyahoga, Ohio, near the city of Cleveland on the 4th of March, 1814. He is a son of Albert S. and Maria J. (Harding) Baldwin, both natives of England and of English ancestry. The father was quite young when he emigrated to America with his parents, who first located in Connecticut but were afterward for many years residents of Ohio, living upon a farm. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a physician and died of the cholera in 1854, near Cleveland. The grandfather of our subject, on his mother's side, was a chair-maker by occupation and died when a young man.

Albert Baldwin came to Illinois in 1853, locating upon a farm near Kankakee, where he lived for two seasons and then moved to Beebetown, this county, and after a residence there of a few years settled in Leggtown, seven miles from Momence, which he made his home for about twenty years. Then retiring from the active duties of farm life he moved to Momence, and after living here for about five years was called from this life in August, 1890, being about sixty-three years of age at the time of his death. He had been a resident of this county for thirty-seven years and was one of the pioneer settlers, much respected throughout this section. In his family were eight children, six sons and two daughters, five of whom are now living, are married and have families. They are, Henry H., Francis A., John H., Martha and Charles.

Henry H. Baldwin was reared to manhood on a farm in Kankakee County, and received such education as could be obtained in the district schools

of the neighborhood where he lived. On the 22d of April, 1865, he wedded Miss Mary J. Griswold, whose parents, Richard and Amelia (Ridgeway) Griswold, were among the early residents of Kankakee County, and were formerly from New York. They are both still living, the father having reached the age of eighty-eight and the mother seventy-nine years. Twelve children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin, seven sons and five daughters. Those living are Flora N., who became the wife of George Chapin, of Kankakee, and by her marriage has become the mother of two children, Myrtle and Harry; Burt H., Cora M., Arthur and Benjamin. The other children died in infancy.

While working upon the farm in early life Mr. Baldwin received an injury which necessitated his leaving the heavy work incident to farm life, and when seventeen years of age he went to Oberlin, Ohio, where he learned the watchmaker's business. Afterward he worked in Kankakee, but twenty-five years ago opened a watch-making and jewelry establishment in Momence, which business he has steadily followed to the present time. He is an industrious and good citizen and has lived in this county for thirty-nine years, taking an active interest in its prosperity. In politics, he is a Republican, having cast his first vote for Lincoln, but has never been an aspirant for official positions, preferring to devote his whole attention to his business. Mrs. Baldwin is a member of the Episcopal Church of this city and our subject is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.



DOCITE T. ALLARD, who carries on a meat-market in St. Anne, is one of the prominent citizens of the place, having been born here on the 4th of October, 1857. He is a son of Joseph and Adeline (Barthiaume) Allard, both of French origin and natives of Canada. The paternal grandfather of our subject, whose Christian name was also Joseph, was a blacksmith by trade, and emigrated to the United

States about forty years ago with his family, settling at St. Anne. Here he purchased land and owned the property where the depot has since been erected. He followed his trade more or less throughout life and previous to leaving Canada made bayonets and daggers for the soldiers in the Patriot War of 1838. He was twice married and reared a family of five children. He departed this life in 1887, at the age of seventy-eight years. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Francis Barthiaume, was born in France but was reared to manhood in Canada. On arriving at mature years he went to Vermont, which was his home for some time. He was married three times and lived to be about eighty years of age, his death occurring in 1882. He was in the British army during the War of 1812.

Joseph Allard, Jr., was reared to the life of a farmer and remained with his parents until grown. He was educated in the Canadian schools in the French language, and in 1853 he was first married. His wife died in the winter of 1887, at the age of fifty-three years. In 1889, Mr. Allard again married, his second union being with Mrs. Margaret De Fossier. Nine children were born of the first marriage, seven of whom are yet living: Joseph, George, Docite, Pauline, Josephine, Euphemie and Abbie.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in St. Anne and when nine years of age he went to live with an uncle, Simon Allard, who reared and educated him. In 1881, he was for some time a conductor on one of the street car lines of Chicago. On the 3d of July, 1882, in the city of Kankakee occurred the wedding of Mr. Allard and Miss Delia Boilard, daughter of Charles and Lucretia (Chartier) Boilard, the former a native of Canada, and the latter of the Empire State. The father, who is still living, was of French parentage, while his wife, whose death occurred in Kankakee on the 22d of February, 1888, was of French and English descent. Mrs. Allard was born and reared to womanhood in Kankakee.

After his marriage in 1882, our subject entered the employ of Moses Chartier as a clerk. After a few months' time he opened a meat market, which has since engaged his attention. He has associated with him at the present time William Saindon,

under the firm name of Allard & Saindon. In 1890, he purchased a farm of sixty acres adjoining the corporation limits at the west of St. Anne, a portion of the old homestead formerly belonging to his father. The cultivation of this farm he superintends and also owns a comfortable home in the village, convenient to his business.

Mr. and Mrs. Allard hold membership with the Presbyterian Church. He has held various municipal offices, among which were those of Village Trustee, Town Clerk and Village Treasurer, and is at present Secretary of the St. Anne Building and Loan Association. Politically, he is a Republican.



FRANK G. MARTIN, editor of the *St. Anne Record*, was born in this town on the 20th of April, 1858, and is a son of Severe and Zoe Martin, who were both born in Canada, and were of French parentage, with the exception of the paternal grandfather of our subject, who was a native of Scotland. Our subject is one of eight children, three daughters and five sons, as follows: Levi, Delia, Frank G., Nelson, Eli, Abbie, Lillian and Fred.

The boyhood days of Frank G. Martin were passed on a farm and his education received in the neighboring school. When about eighteen years of age he commenced learning the printer's trade in the office of the *Sibley Index*, which was then carried on by P. A. Coal, now of Gibson City, Ill. He remained in his employ nearly three years and then for one season operated a farm, at the same time having the management of the *Sibley Index*. In 1885 he went to Fairbury, Ill., where he worked on the *Independent Blade*. Afterwards going to Streator, he remained for nearly three years in the office of the *Daily Free Press*, and from there went to Worthington, Minn. After working for a while on a salary he took control of the *Worthington Globe*, of which paper he was editor and manager for three years. On the 10th of December, 1891, he returned to St. Anne and bought out the *Record*, since which time he has



Yours truly
Lawrence Robt

continued its publication. The paper is Republican in politics, is well edited and has a large circulation in this vicinity.

In February, 1883, Mr. Martin was united in marriage with Miss Laura L. Darby. The lady is a daughter of James W. and Violetta (Carr) Darby, of Gibson City, Ill. The father is a native of Virginia, and the mother was born in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Martin have one child, a little daughter, Ethel Edna, who is the sunshine of their home.

Mr. Martin is a member of Okafena Lodge No. 72, K. P., of Worthington, Minn., also of Maple Camp No. 1321, M. W. A. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church of St. Anne, and both are highly esteemed in the social circles of this place.



LAURENCE BABST. This biographical record of Kankakee County gives the lives of many of its younger citizens—men who have not yet passed the zenith of life but have become so closely identified with the business interests of their town or county, its growth and prosperity, that the events of their lives form a part of its history. Prominent among this class of citizens is Lawrence Babst, the gentleman whose name heads this sketch, a well-known general hardware merchant of Kankakee.

Our subject is also a representative of one of the early families of this city and has the honor of being a native of the State of Illinois. He was born in Naperville, Du Page County, on the 8th of February, 1849, his parents being Alois and Elizabeth Babst, both natives of Alsace, which then belonged to France but is now a province of Germany. The birth of the former occurred in 1822. He was reared in his native country and there learned the trade of cabinet-making. In the year 1848 he was married, and a few months later emigrated with his wife to the United States, hoping to benefit his financial condition by his removal to this country. He came at once to

Illinois, locating at Naperville, where he embarked in the cabinet-making business, which he followed in that place for about nine years, or until 1857. He then came to Kankakee and embarked in the furniture business, which he carried on for some time. His death occurred December 22, 1881. The wife and mother passed away several years previous to the death of her husband. Alois Babst was a worthy and respected citizen, whose loss in the community was deeply regretted. In religious belief he was a Catholic and a devoted member of the church in this place. He manifested a great interest in all church work, and before the erection of the German Catholic Church in Kankakee services were frequently held at his residence. He was also liberal and charitable and gave freely of his means for the support and advancement of any enterprise or interest calculated to prove of public benefit. In manner he was genial and social, and was recognized as a valued and popular citizen of the community.

Unto Alois and Elizabeth Babst were born seven children, five of whom are yet living at this writing, in the winter of 1892. Lawrence, whose name heads this sketch, is the eldest of the family; Charles is now a resident of Naperville; Henry makes his home in Moorehead, Minn.; Mary R. is the wife of C. W. Walker, a resident of Kankakee; Edward W. is in the employ of his brother Lawrence. Andrew died at the age of thirteen years, and a sister at the age of eleven.

Mr. Babst, whose name heads this record, has spent his entire life in Illinois. He received his primary education in the public and parochial schools, supplemented by a course of study in Woodruff Academy, where his school life was ended. He entered upon his business career in 1861, when he was apprenticed by his father to Thomas and Andrew Kan to learn the trade of tinner. He faithfully served a three-years apprenticeship, during which he thoroughly mastered the business, and then worked as a journeyman, being thus employed until 1869. In that year he embarked in business for himself. A partnership was formed with Mr. Moreau under the firm name of Moreau & Babst, and they established a general hardware store. Together they carried on operations until

1872, when Mr. Babst bought out his partner's interest and has since conducted the business alone.

On the 25th of October, 1871, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Josephine Bott, daughter of Joseph Bott, a resident of this city. Her father was a native of Germany, who emigrating to America, became one of the early settlers of Kankakee, where he made his home until his death, which occurred several years ago. By the union of Mr. and Mrs. Babst have been born two children, a son and a daughter. The latter, Laura, was born in 1872, and the former, William C., was born in 1876. All the family are members of the Catholic Church.

Mr. Babst now carries a full and complete line of general hardware, both shelf and heavy, and by his courteous treatment, fair dealing and excellent stock, has won a liberal patronage and secured the confidence of his many customers. In addition to his other interests he is also a Director in the City National Bank. In his political affiliations, he is a Democrat. He has been one of the faithful and efficient members of the Board of Aldermen for nine years and is at present a member of the City School Board. In official, in business and in private life his career has been one that has gained him universal confidence and esteem, and he may truthfully be classed among the most successful business men of Kankakee. Energy, close attention to the details of his business, and enterprise, combined with strict integrity in all his dealings, are the elements of his success, which is certainly well deserved.



CHARLES P. LIVINGSTON is the senior member of the firm of Livingston & Burroughs, editors and proprietors of the Kankakee *Times*. Our subject is one of the oldest newspaper men in years of active work in this section. His birth occurred on the 28th of September, 1842, in Philadelphia, Pa. He is a son of John and Rosanna (Jacobs) Livingston. The father, who was a native of South Carolina, died in

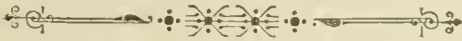
New York in 1852. The mother was born in Philadelphia, and departed this life in Chicago in 1889.

When about a year old, our subject removed with his parents to New York, and in 1855 came to Kankakee. He began learning the printer's trade in the office of the Kankakee *Gazette* in the fall of 1856, and was associated with that paper as compositor and foreman until the fall of 1861, when he entered the military service of the United States for the defense of the Union. He became a member of Company I, One Hundredth Regiment, New York Infantry, and served for three years and three months. He participated in the battles of Fair Oaks, Deep Run, Weldon Railroad, Gaines' Mills, and was in the first advance on Charleston, S. C., in the siege of Ft. Wagner, the charge on Sumter and Morris Island, and served under Col. Payne about Charleston. Three months after his term of enlistment had expired, he was wounded severely in the side by the bursting of a shell at the battle of Deep Run, and received an honorable discharge in December, 1864.

Soon after his return from the war, Mr. Livingston resumed his place in the *Gazette* office, and subsequently bought a third interest in that paper, maintaining his connection with it until the fall of 1868. At that date he purchased a half-interest in the Kankakee *Times*, of which he became sole proprietor in 1887. In 1892 he sold a half-interest in the paper to B. E. Burroughs, at which time the existing firm of Livingston & Burroughs was formed. The *Times* was established in 1867 by W. F. Keady, and has had a continuous existence of a quarter of a century. The *Weekly Times* is an eight-column quarto, and the daily, which was established in 1885, is a seven-column folio.

On the 17th of September, 1868, occurred the marriage of Mr. Livingston and Miss Ella R. Hendricks, the ceremony being performed in Kankakee. Mrs. Livingston was born in Waldron, this county, and is a daughter of James F. Hendricks, one of the early pioneers of Kankakee County. Four children have blessed this union, two sons and two daughters: Charles A., Emma, John R. and Annie. Mrs. Livingston holds membership with the Presbyterian Church.

In politics, our subject is an earnest Republican, and this fact has made the *Times* a potent factor in campaign work, for it shows with no uncertain sound that it is in thorough accord with the principles and policy of the Republican party. Socially, our subject is a member of Howard Lodge No. 208, I. O. O. F., and of Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R.



FRANK L. WILKINS is the genial and efficient Postmaster of St. Anne. He was born in the city of Cailskrona, Sweden, on the 29th of August, 1847, and is a son of Alfred and Matilda Wilkins, both natives of Sweden, where they lived and died. The father's death occurred in 1852, and that of his wife in 1875. During nearly his entire life he was engaged in general merchandising in Cailskrona. Three sons and two daughters were born to himself and wife, all of whom yet survive. Ernst is a tailor of Topeka, Kan.; Thomas is a contractor and builder of Chicago; Ingeborg is the wife of William Olmgren, a carriage painter of Topeka, Kan., where they make their home; Hannah still resides in Sweden; and Frank L. completes the family.

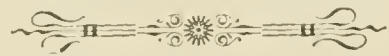
When a boy of twelve years Mr. Wilkins of this sketch left his native land and crossed the Atlantic to America in company with friends who were seeking a change of fortune in the New World. He located in Philadelphia and during eleven years was most of the time a sailor on the high seas. He had but very little regular schooling, but while on shipboard managed to do considerable studying and reading. In 1870, he left Philadelphia and went to Chicago, making that his headquarters for three years, during which time he sailed upon the Lakes. In 1875 he determined to turn his attention to some other pursuit and accordingly removed to St. Anne, where for six years he carried on a large creamery business.

When but sixteen years of age, Mr. Wilkins donned the blue in defense of his adopted country and became a member of Company G, Seventh

New York Infantry. He was thirty-four months in the service, in which time he participated in a number of the hard-fought battles of the war. He took part in the Battle of the Wilderness and that of Pittsburg Landing and was all through the siege of Vicksburg. He was under Grant at the time of Lee's surrender. As a soldier he was loyal and faithful, ever to be depended upon to do his duty in every emergency.

In St. Anne on Christmas Day of 1875, Mr. Wilkins was married to Miss Emeline Morin, a daughter of Moses and Amelia (Mayotte) Morin, both natives of Canada and of French origin. Six children have blessed the union of our subject and his most estimable lady. They are: Sidney, Emory, Edna, Pearl, Grace and Irene.

Mr. Wilkins was appointed Postmaster by President Harrison in 1888, and has discharged the duties of the position most acceptably to his fellow-citizens. For eight years he was Deputy Sheriff of Kankakee County under Sheriffs Letourneau and O'Brien. Socially he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In his political affiliations he is a Republican and takes an active interest in political and local affairs. He attends the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife is a member and to which he gives his support.



ALLEXANDER MCKAY, a retired farmer residing in St. Anne, was born in County Antrim, Ireland, near the Giant's Causeway, May 5, 1818. He is a son of Samuel and Mary (McCullough) McKay, both natives of the Emerald Isle, where they spent their entire lives. The paternal grandfather of our subject, John McKay, was a farmer of Ireland, as was also Patrick McCullough, the maternal grandfather. The father followed agricultural pursuits during life and was of a quiet, unostentatious disposition. He was one whose delight was in his family and home, rather than that of mingling in public affairs. He was seventy-six years of age at the

time of his death, in 1860. His wife had passed away about four years prior to that time, at the age of sixty-eight. They were both faithful members of the Presbyterian Church.

Until reaching his majority Alexander McKay lived at home with his parents, assisting them in carrying on the farm. His education was received in the common schools of Ireland. In 1840, bidding farewell to his home and friends, he sailed for America, and after his arrival worked for a few months at Meriden, Conn. From there he went to Boston, Mass., and engaged in gardening and dairy work for about four years.

In 1847, Mr. McKay returned on a visit to his native land, where, on the 12th of August of that year, he was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Ann McConaughy, daughter of Robert and Esther (Gibben) McConaughy, both natives of Ireland. To Mr. and Mrs. McKay have been born the following children: Robert, who was married to Miss Sarah Templeton and makes his home in Pembroke Township, six miles from St. Anne. They have three children, Alexander, Richard and Nancy Ann. Esther is the wife of William Powell and lives in Chicago, where her husband is engaged in the grain and feed business. They have three daughters, Grace Ann, Nellie and Eva. Nancy Ann, wife of Michael Coreoran, lives near Watseka in Iroquois County. Mary became the wife of Henry Whittemore, a farmer of Pembroke Township. They have four children, May, Minnie, Harry and Hiram. Catherine is the next in order of birth. Maggie died at the age of six years, and her sister Jane when five years of age. Sarah resides in Pembroke Township, and is the wife of J. H. Templeton. Their family consists of three children, Nancy Ann, John and Arthur.

In 1864, Mr. McKay returned to America and located on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Pembroke Township, this county. There he was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1884, at which time he removed to St. Anne and retired from active business life. He is the owner of five hundred acres of valuable farm land and also owns his fine residence property in St. Anne. While he has accumulated considerable land, Mr. McKay's principal business for many years was that

of stock-raising. His prosperity is entirely the result of his own industry and economy, for at the time he landed in America he was without means or resources. He was the first Assessor of Pembroke Township, which office he held during his entire residence there. He secured the post-office for the town and was Postmaster there for many years. He was many times called upon to hold positions of responsibility and trust, among these being that of Justice of the Peace and School Director. Politically he is a loyal Republican and in religious faith both he and his wife are Presbyterians.



WILLIAM J. BROWN, a resident of Mowmence, was born at the Rookery, near Watford, in Herefordshire, England, on the 25th of January, 1824. His paternal grandfather, James Brown, was a millwright by trade, and died in England when in his prime. His maternal grandfather was a lawyer in England, and in 1802 was Chief Justice of the Colonies of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. About the year 1804 he died, and his wife returned to their native land. He was a law student under the tutelage of William Tidd, a celebrated English lawyer. The maternal great-grandfather of our subject, William Woodfall, was editor of the London *Morning Advertiser* for a number of years, dating back to the Colonial times. He was imprisoned for publishing the famous Junius Letters, and because he advocated the Colonial rights in America. His death occurred in the Old Bailey Prison, the far-famed prison of London. He was of Welsh stock, and left his native home in early years, working as a journeyman.

The parents of our subject were James and Emily (Woodfall) Brown, both natives of England. Their family consisted of two sons and eight daughters, five of whom are now living. Mary Harriet, Henry Thomas, Clara A. and Emily reside in Chicago; and our subject completes the family. Ellen died in Tulare, Cal.

William Brown remained in his native country with his parents until nineteen years of age and received fair school privileges. He learned the trades of a millwright, pattern-maker and machinist. At the age of twenty-four years he was united in marriage with Miss Lucy Bush, a daughter of James Bush, of Kimberly, Norfolk, England. On the 17th of April, 1850, with his wife and their one child he emigrated to America. They lived in Chicago for some months after their arrival, and from that city removed to Momence. Here Mr. Brown built a home and located his family. For about three or four years much of his time was spent in Chicago on business, and he often walked the entire distance to save the expense of riding on the stage coach, the only means of conveyance. He then rebuilt the gristmill in Momence, and afterward erected the sawmill of W. A. Chatfield. About this time he made three trips to New Orleans, where he spent the winter seasons of 1862-63 and 1864.

Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Brown, six sons and four daughters. Emily, Lucy, Edward and Della died in early childhood. Those living are: William, who is engaged in farming near Ambia, Ind.; Challenge, a twin brother of Edward, a farmer residing near Talbot, Ind.; Walter A., a salesman of Momence; Margaret, who became the wife of Edward O. Cory, a farmer near Marne, Iowa; Sherman, a farmer near Talbot, Ind.; and Grant, twin brother of Sherman, a farmer living near Talbot, Ind. The mother of these children departed this life on the 20th of April, 1878.

For the past twelve or fifteen years, Mr. Brown has been engaged in making cider, and also does machine work in the way of repairing engines and all kinds of machinery, with which he is thoroughly familiar. About 1852 he made the first self-raking reaper in America. He was not the inventor, however, but constructed it under the instruction of Jeremiah Atkin's patent for John S. Wright, of Chicago, proprietor of the *Prairie Farmer*. Previous to that time Mr. McCormick, the famous reaper manufacturer, had ridiculed the idea of a self-raking reaper, but is now engaged in their manufacture. Mr. Brown passed the winter of 1864-65 at Centralia, in the locomotive and

machine shops of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. He has a patent on an improved anti-friction tire wheel, which turns without the axle and does away with the sliding when going around a curve. He is a thorough and practical machinist, having made that his specialty. In his political faith Mr. Brown was formerly a Republican, but is at present a Democrat, being a believer in the principles of free trade.



HENRY SWAN is a prominent farmer of Aroma Township, and makes his home on sections 25 and 26. He is a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred on the 16th of February, 1831, in Dearborn County. His father, Matthew Swan, was a native of New York and of Scotch descent. His mother, who before her marriage bore the name of Susan Judd, was born in the same place and is a daughter of an old Revolutionary soldier. She has now reached the advanced age of eighty-seven years and makes her home in Waldron, Ill.

By her marriage she became the mother of fourteen children. Franklin lives in Waldron; Eliza departed this life in 1881; Edwin died on the 10th of September, 1882; our subject is next in order of birth; Orin died on the 27th of November, 1831; James was a private of Company F, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, and died on the 10th of October, 1863, in the hospital at Natchez, Miss., and his remains he buried in the South; Nathan, born August 6, 1836, enlisted in the Forty-second Illinois Infantry in 1862, serving until the close of the war, and died October 26, 1890; William departed this life in 1850; Matthew passed away on the 29th of May, 1842; Mary is still living and is the wife of Porter Riggs, a leading farmer of Aroma Township; Daniel died August 23, 1850; Hugh died on the 25th of August, 1850; and George W. makes his home in Waldron.

The father of these children was a carpenter and wheelwright by trade and emigrated to Illinois in 1851. Before coming he had purchased three

soldiers' land warrants for three quarter-sections, for which he paid about \$375. He also purchased one hundred and fifteen acres on section 21, Aroma Township. He removed upon this farm soon afterward, as there were a couple of small log houses upon the property and a few acres were partially improved. He only lived about one year after settling in this county, his death occurring in 1852. He was quite a successful farmer and was a man of integrity and worth.

Our subject, Henry Swan, was early inured to the duties and cares of farm life and attended the district schools in Indiana, where he acquired his primary education. In 1851, he removed with his parents to Illinois and soon afterward entered the college at Cincinnati, where he attended for one term. After that he returned to his home and worked at the carpenter's trade for about two years. He next decided to enter the mercantile business and purchased a stock of goods. He embarked in merchandising in Waldron and continued in that line until 1859, at which time he sold his interest. He then started a machine and carpenter shop in the same place and was in that business for about two years. At the expiration of that time he determined to give his sole attention to agricultural pursuits, and accordingly purchased the farm where he now resides. This consists of one hundred and sixty-seven acres, which are very fertile and highly cultivated. He has quite recently retired from the active duties incident to farm life.

Mr. Swan enlisted as a private in February, 1865, at which time he became a member of Company A, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry. He responded to the President's last call for troops and was mustered into the service at Joliet. He served until the close of the war and received an honorable discharge in September, 1865. He then returned to his home and again engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Swan has been twice married. On the 25th of February, 1860, he wedded Miss Annie E. Boardman, a daughter of Nathaniel and Maria Boardman. There were two children born of this marriage. Gertrude is the wife of John Kibbons, a farmer of Aroma Township; and Charles E. is a

bookkeeper at Pullman, Ill. The mother of these children departed this life November 21, 1865. Mr. Swan on the 9th of February, 1867, was married to Miss Mary L. Boardman, a sister of his first wife. Three children graced this union: Delos is a farmer in Aroma Township; Annie L., wife of E. D. Lindley, resides in Rockford; and Hiram died on the 23d of November, 1889. Mrs. Swan was called to her final rest on the 25th of April, 1876.

Politically, our subject has been for many years affiliated with the Republican party. He has served his fellow-citizens in numerous positions requiring ability and trustworthiness. He has been Justice of the Peace, Township Clerk, School Director and School Trustee and has served in these capacities most acceptably. Mr. Swan is a public-spirited citizen and is ever ready to do his part in the furtherance of all plans and enterprises which are directed toward the advancement and good of this locality. Socially, he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He is a man of wide reading and information and keeps fully abreast with the times.



JOHN H. BUCK is engaged in merchandising at Herscher, and is the senior partner of the firm of J. H. Buck & Bro. He is the oldest merchant in this portion of Kankakee County, and has been actively engaged in business in Herscher and in Pilot Township for the past twenty years, first locating at Pilot Centre in 1872, where he carried on a general mercantile trade.

Mr. Buck is a native of New York, born at Rochester on the 31st of August, 1831, and is a son of George H. Buck, and brother of Azariah, whose sketch appears in this volume. Our subject grew to man's estate in his native city, where, in addition to the common-school advantages, he received a business education. After completing his studies he was then engaged and worked upon

the Erie Canal for a few years. In 1848, just after the opening of the canal in Illinois, he came West and was here employed for two years. In the year 1850, he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he followed for two years in La Salle County. However, on the opening of the Rock Island Railroad, he was in that company's employ for a year in their office at La Salle. In the spring of 1851, resigning his position there, he came to Kankakee County, and located in Pilot Township, where he again engaged in farming. In 1856, he returned to La Salle and continued actively engaged in merchandising for sixteen years. He then sold out his stock and came to Kankakee County and entered into partnership with his brother. They opened a store at Pilot Centre, since which time Mr. Buck has devoted himself exclusively to merchandising. He is one of the best known and successful business men of the county.

Mr. Buck wedded Miss Hattie L. Bingham, on the 24th of December, 1863. The lady is a native of Elmira, N. Y., and lived at Rochester, that State, and Milwaukee, Wis., at which places she acquired her education. Her father, John H. Bingham, was a prominent and well-known citizen of Rochester. Eight children have been born to our subject and his wife: Lucy E., living in Chicago; George Henry, a carpenter by trade, residing in Herscher, Ill.; Hattie Belle, who is at home; Annie Kate, who holds a responsible business position at Englewood, Ill.; Minnie, who is at home; John Harvey, now attending the Herscher school, as is also his next younger brother, Azariah Garfield; and Joseph A. complete the number.

Mr. Buck is a member of the Masonic fraternity and is one of the oldest members of Aeacia Lodge No. 67, at La Salle, having held membership with them for thirty-four years. For nearly half a century our subject has been a resident of Illinois, has witnessed its marvelous growth and development and has taken an active part in its progress. Politically, he has taken an interested part in local affairs and since the organization of the Republican party has been its loyal adherent. He was appointed Postmaster at Pilot Centre, where he was the means of establishing the office, and has

also been Postmaster at Herscher since 1878, with the exception of the four years of Mr. Cleveland's first administration. His influence has ever been for the advancement and the building up of the best interests of the community in which he has made his home. He is progressive and liberal in his views and charitable toward all.



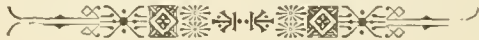
ELROY C. STREETER is owner and proprietor of one of the leading general stores of Grant Park. His birth occurred on the 7th of June, 1862, in Sumner Township, this county, his birthplace being in the town then called Union Corners, since named Grant Park. His parents were Lorenzo and Hannah (Osby) Streeter, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work.

Our subject is the youngest of three children, all sons, and lived upon his father's farm in Sumner Township until about seven years of age. With his parents he then removed to Grant Park, where his father built the first residence in the place. This property he owns and has made his home for many years. He attended the Grant Park schools until about seventeen years of age, when he supplemented his common-school education by a course at the State Normal College of northern Indiana, which is located at Valparaiso. Upon the completion of his studies, Mr. Streeter obtained employment as clerk in a general store of this place and remained with the firm for five years. He then engaged in business for himself for a year and a-half, at the expiration of which time he sold out and traveled for a Chicago house during one year. Returning to Grant Park he purchased a stock of goods in partnership with O. C. Parmley. That was in the year 1887, and after continuing in partnership for five years, Mr. Streeter purchased his partner's interest and has since conducted the business alone.

The 16th of December, 1886, witnessed the marriage of Mr. Streeter and Miss Nellie Underwood, who is a native of the Empire State, and is a

daughter of John W. and Margaret (Hamlin) Underwood, who are prominent citizens and old settlers of this county. One child, a daughter, Velma, has graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Streeter. The little one's birth occurred on the 26th of November, 1890.

For four years our subject has served his fellow-citizens as City Treasurer and has proved capable and efficient in that position. He uses his right of franchise in support of the nominees and principles of the Republican party. He and his wife hold membership with the Methodist Church, where they are active workers. Mr. Streeter owns and operates one of the leading stores in Grant Park and though young, has demonstrated his ability and progressive spirit. He has already acquired considerable property and has an extensive trade.



WILLIAM R. GARRETT is one of the practical and progressive farmers of Momence Township, his farm being located on section 31. He has the honor of being a native of this county and is a worthy representative of one of its pioneer families, his parents having located here in an early day. His father, Silas J. Garrett, was born in Sullivan County, Ind., on the 25th of August, 1829, and comes of an old family of Irish origin. Having attained to mature years, he was united in marriage with Miss Nancy J. Jenkins, also a native of Sullivan County, Ind. Her birth there occurred on the 10th of November, 1831. Their marriage was celebrated in the Hoosier State, where they resided until August, 1854, when they determined to come to Illinois. Removing to Kankakee County, Mr. Garrett came into possession of a tract of wild land, in Ganier Township, which he received from his brother in settling the affairs of their father's estate, and began the development of a farm, which he improved and cultivated successfully until his death, on the 31st of August, 1872. He was recognized as a leading citizen of the community in which he resided, and was a man highly respected for his

sterling worth. His widow still survives, and is now living in Momence, at the age of sixty-one years. She, too, is of Irish descent.

Unto Silas and Nancy Garrett was born a family of four children, two sons and two daughters, of whom William R. is the third in order of birth. He first opened his eyes to the light of day upon his father's farm in Ganier Township, on the 1st of April, 1856, and in the neighborhood of his birthplace he has always resided. The history of almost any farmer boy is similar to that of the youthful days of Mr. Garrett. As soon as old enough to handle the plow, he was put at farm work, and until he had attained his majority his time was alternated between work in the fields during the summer months and in attendance at the common schools of the neighborhood, where he acquired his education. Like a dutiful son, he gave his father the benefit of his services until he had reached the age of twenty-one years, when he started out in life for himself. He has since made his own way in the world, and whatever success he has achieved is the result of his own efforts and the reward of his untiring labors. During the first three years he engaged in the operation of rented land, for he had no money wherewith to purchase a farm. During that time he acquired a small capital, and on the expiration of that period bought eighty acres of land, constituting a part of the farm upon which he now resides.

An important event in the life of Mr. Garrett occurred on the 2d of November, 1881, when was celebrated his marriage with Miss Anna M., daughter of Andrew and Marilla (Lamport) Dayton, whose family record will be seen elsewhere in this work. Four children grace the union of this worthy couple, and the family circle has never yet been severed by death. There are three sons and one daughter: Leona Belle, Frank William, Silas Jay and Merritt Dayton.

On making his first purchase of land of eighty acres, Mr. Garrett immediately located thereon and began the development of his land, which he has transformed into a valuable farm. Acre after acre was placed under the plow and made to yield him golden harvests. His well-directed ef-



S. H. McIntosh



Mrs. S. H. McIntosh

forts won him success, and in course of time he bought another forty-acre tract of land, his farm now comprising one hundred and twenty acres, which is highly cultivated and well improved. He is a practical farmer, yet progressive, being never found behind the times in anything pertaining to his business. His home is pleasantly located about three miles south of the city of Mokenca. The Garrett household is noted for its hospitality, and our subject and his wife hold an enviable position in the social circles in which they move. Mr. Garrett votes with the Republican party, keeps well informed on the issues of the day, and, as every true American citizen should do, takes an interest in political affairs, yet has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking. Socially, he is a member of Lodge No. 897, R. A., of Mokenca. In the county where his entire life has been spent he is well and favorably known, and is ranked among the leading and influential agriculturists of his township.



SIMEON H. McINTOSH, a prominent farmer of Otto Township, residing on section 19, is numbered among the honored early settlers of this county and dates his residence here from January, 1851, when he located in Kankakee. Our subject is a native of Vermont, having been born in Barnard, Windsor County, on the 1st of March, 1819. His grandfather, Ebenezer McIntosh, was born in Scotland, and was one of the early settlers of New Hampshire, where his son, Ebenezer, Jr., the father of our subject, was born. The latter removed from the State of his birth to Vermont, and there upon arriving at man's estate married Miss Sylvia Ann Swifts, who was born in Vermont and whose family came from Massachusetts. For a number of years Mr. McIntosh engaged in farming in Vermont, but about the year 1839 removed with his family to Ohio, settling upon a farm in Franklin County, where he engaged in tilling the soil during the remainder of his life. Both he and his wife departed this life in that State.

Our subject is the fourth child in his father's family, which consisted of five sons and four daughters, who grew to manhood and womanhood. One brother, George, resided for many years in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, but our subject is now the only survivor of the family. With his parents, Mr. McIntosh removed Westward to Ohio, and remained with his father until reaching his majority, receiving as good educational advantages as could be obtained in the district schools at that early day. For a number of years he worked in a broom factory in Ohio, and upon coming to this county in 1851 raised the first broom corn in Kankakee County. He located in Kankakee and engaged in the manufacture of brooms. Being very successful in his business, he soon was enabled to purchase a lot, on which he erected a good residence. When he first located in this city there were but two or three stores and perhaps a dozen residences in the place.

In April, 1856, Mr. McIntosh located on the land where he has since resided. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie, which was but little improved, and at once engaged actively in cultivating and developing his farm. He has now a good, substantial residence, commodious barns, cribs and sheds, and a windmill and other improvements. As his financial resources increased he added adjoining property to his original farm, and now has three hundred and twenty acres of valuable and desirable land in one body. With his family he suffered the hardships and privations incident to frontier life and also much sickness, as at that time the country was largely a swamp, and fever and ague prevailed.

On the 5th of April, 1855, Mr. McIntosh was married to Miss Catherine True, who was born in Dearborn County, Ind., and is a daughter of Abraham True, one of the honored pioneers of this community. He came to Kankakee before the town was started and for many years made his home in this place. Eight children bless the union of our subject and his wife: William is married and is a prosperous farmer of Otto Township; Cora is still at home; Jennie is the wife of George Hasker, also a farmer of Otto Township; Clara became the wife of William Brock and resides in

Kankakee; Lucia is still at home; Albert assists his father in carrying on the work of the old homestead; George and Edward are still at home and complete the family.

Mr. McIntosh has been identified with the Democratic party for a number of years and takes quite an active part in politics. His first vote was cast for W. H. Harrison, but since that time he has been an advocate of the Democracy. Though he has not been an aspirant for official positions within the gift of the people, he has nevertheless been several times induced to fill the same. During his long residence of nearly forty years in this county he has beheld the country change from a swamp, which much of it was in the early days, to a fertile and well-drained district. Villages and towns have sprung up on every hand where was formerly scarcely a cabin to be seen during a ride of fifty miles in any direction. He has ever been a loyal citizen, and has done all in his power to promote the best interests and advancement of this community. Commencing in this county almost without means, he has steadily advanced step by step to his present position as one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of this region.



GEORGE W. RICE, Police Magistrate and a retired farmer and stockman, landed in Kankakee County on the 12th of May, 1851, when it was a portion of Will County. Since that time a strip has been taken from the southern side of the latter county and one from the northern part of Iroquois County, and this is called Kankakee County, from the river of that name.

Job W. Sylvester, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was an extensive farmer and blacksmith and owned several large farms in Cumberland County, Me. He was in his ninety-seventh year at the time of his death, which occurred in the fall of 1860, in Dearborn County, Ind., where he had moved about 1844. He reared a large family,

and at the time of his death was in comfortable circumstances. His father was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and attained the remarkable age of one hundred and six years.

Mr. Rice, whose name heads this sketch, was born in Cumberland County, Me., on the 16th of February, 1824, and is a son of Rufus and Mary (Sylvester) Rice, who were originally from Massachusetts. The father was a farmer by occupation and was also master of the carpenter's trade, which he followed more or less during his life. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. In the fall of 1837, he removed to Indiana, locating upon a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Dearborn County, where he lived until the fall of 1840, when he was called from the scenes of his earthly labors. His wife survived him until 1861, when her death occurred at the home of her son George in Mokenca, Ill. She was born in 1801, and was consequently sixty years of age when she died. In the family were nine children, four sons and five daughters, two of whom died in infancy. At the present time there are six living, as follows: George W.; Nancy M., who is the widow of John Dashiell; James H.; Lucy P., wife of Byron E. Coon; John W.; and Sarah S., the wife of Joseph Roberts.

When his parents removed to Indiana, our subject accompanied them and was reared to farm life. His educational privileges were those of the district schools, and in his youth he learned the carpenter's trade. He continued to work at that occupation for a number of years and for a period of four years, just prior to his coming to Illinois, he clerked in a general store, but on account of poor health was obliged to give up his position. In 1851, he came to Illinois on a visit to a brother-in-law, who operated a farm about four miles west of Mokenca. He entered the employ of Roberts & Vail, general merchants of this city, with whom he remained during the winter. He next embarked in business for himself, in which he remained until 1860, when he sold his stock of goods to Worcester, Brayton & Co.

In September, 1845, George W. Rice was united in marriage with Miss Laura J., daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Knapp) Fielding, and to them were

born three sons and four daughters: Elwyn E., Florence A., Alice B., Ida M., Stephen D., Laura A., and George A., who died when about twenty years of age. Ida M. became the wife of William A. Douglas and died leaving four children, two of whom are now deceased. The other members of the family are married and have families of their own. In June, 1868, the mother of these children died on the farm near Momence, in the faith of the Baptist Church, of which she had been a member for many years.

On the 20th of February, 1870, Mr. Rice wedded Miss Lydia Jessup, daughter of Stephen and Nancy (Lafferty) Jessup, of Momence, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of Kentucky. Three sons and six daughters graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Rice: Charles E., Luey E. and Carrie E. (twins), August G., John W., Bessie J., Lizzie Belle, James H. and Rufus L. Luey E. married Alfred Hupp, who is in the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company at the depot in Momence. Carrie E. died when about four years of age.

Mr. Rice in 1860, turned his attention to agricultural pursuits on his farm, consisting of three hundred and sixty acres two miles north of town. He bought and shipped live stock and at one time made the largest stock sale in this part of the State. He continued in that business for about ten years, and in the spring of 1870 sold his farm, for about a year longer, however, buying and selling stock. He has been a resident of Momence since 1868, and has filled various positions of trust, being Assessor for many years, also Town Clerk, Justice of the Peace and Notary Public, which last two offices he filled for sixteen years or more, and, as previously stated, is the present Police Magistrate.

When Mr. Rice came to Momence there were scarcely two hundred inhabitants, and he has witnessed and taken an active part in its development until it is now well known as one of the beautiful little cities of Illinois. He is one of the highly respected citizens of the community and has won a host of friends by his upright course in life. He is a member of the Odd Fellows' lodge of Momence, of which he was one of the charter

members. Formerly he belonged to the Chosen Friends Lodge at Aurora, Ind. He casts his ballot in favor of the nominees of the Democratic party, but is independent in local elections, preferring to vote for the man who in his estimation is best fitted for the position.



EDWIN R. KENDALL was one of the early settlers of Kankakee County. His birth occurred in Lewis County, N. Y., on old "Tug Hill," on the 2d of December, 1836, and he was reared to manhood in St. Lawrence County. His paternal grandfather died when comparatively a young man, and the maternal grandfather, Israel Douglas, a native of Connecticut, was one of the first settlers in Lewis County, N. Y. He was a farmer by occupation and at the time of his death, which occurred on the old farm in that county, where he had settled many years previous, he was eighty years of age. The Douglas family trace their ancestry back to Sir William Douglas, of Scotland, and the Kendall family is also believed to be of Scotch descent.

Our subject is a son of John and Prudence (Douglas) Kendall, both of whom were born in New York State. The father followed agricultural pursuits throughout life in his native State, and only moved three times during his life. His family consisted of four sons and five daughters, all of whom, with the exception of two, grew to years of maturity. Deliza, Elizabeth and Euphemia are now deceased, while Ralph, Ellen and William are the only survivors of the family.

Edwin R. Kendall, whose name heads this sketch, was reared on his father's farm near Somerville, N. Y., and remained at home until seventeen years of age, when he started out in life for himself. He had received ordinary school advantages and determined to adopt a trade. He worked for some time at harness-making, but never carried out his determination of learning a trade. In Watertown, N. Y., he engaged in the manufacture of mineral water, which business he also followed

in Ohio. The year 1855 witnessed his arrival in Illinois, but after staying a year in Momence, he returned to the Empire State and attended High School and Lowville Academy. In the fall of 1857, he again came to Momence and taught school in the parish district of Ganier Township during that winter.

On the 22d of February, 1858, Mr. Kendall married Miss Martha Chatfield. Her father, William A. Chatfield, was a native of Connecticut, and her mother was in her maidenhood Betsy Crane, who was a native of the Empire State. Mrs. Chatfield died when her daughter was very young and Mr. Chatfield again married, his second union being with Miss Mary B. Kirkwood, of Montezuma, Ind., who died in March, 1846. That same year Mr. Chatfield wedded Mrs. Sarah Taylor, a sister of William Hadsell, one of the early settlers of Joliet, Ill. Mr. Chatfield came to Chicago in September, 1834, afterward lived in Joliet and was one of the contractors who built the canal through that place. He was also interested in milling and was part owner of a mill in Wilmington, to which place he removed from Joliet after his second marriage. In April, 1844, he became a resident of Momence and was one of the very earliest settlers here, there being on his arrival only four log houses and a sawmill in the town. He built the first flouring-mill in Momence and also the first bridges over the Kankakee River at this point. His death occurred on the 18th of March, 1872, and his wife survived him until January of the following year. Mr. Chatfield was a prominent and respected citizen and was a member of the Illinois General Assembly in the winter of 1856-57. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kendall, five sons and three daughters, but four of whom lived to maturity. They are William Chatfield, Arthur Edwin, Nellie Grant and James Blaine.

Our subject after his marriage worked in the sawmill for Mr. Chatfield and afterward went into partnership with James Mix in the fencing of land and various agricultural interests. He left his farm in 1866, and, coming into town, worked again in the sawmill until the winter of 1870-71, at which time he was made Collector and Constable, and was afterward appointed Deputy Sheriff.

While serving in the latter capacity, Mr. Kendall conceived the idea of studying law, which he carried out, practicing that profession in Momence until his death, which occurred November 18, 1884, in El Paso, Tex., whither he had gone in the hope of recovering his health. In 1856 he caught a severe cold, which gradually developed into consumption and eventually caused his death. He lies buried in Momence Cemetery. He was a successful lawyer, having a natural command of language and a good legal mind. At one time he served his fellow-citizens as Assessor and Supervisor of his township. He was a member of the order of Odd Fellows and was once sent as representative of the Momence Lodge to the Grand Lodge at Springfield. His father was an adherent of the Democratic party, but Mr. Kendall was ever a loyal Republican, casting his first Presidential ballot for Lincoln. He was a man possessing great energy of purpose, was a public-spirited citizen, and was always benevolent and a friend to the needy and distressed.



JAMES INKSTER, who carries on general farming on section 4, Pilot Township, is numbered among its early settlers and in consequence well deserves representation in the history of this county. Our subject is of Scottish birth. He was born on the Shetland Islands in 1827, and is a son of Capt. Robert Inkster, a native of Scotland, who was captain of a fishing craft. His father followed that business throughout his entire life, and always made his home in the land of his birth. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Slater. Their family numbered three children. The elder son, Capt. Lawrence Inkster, was a seafaring man, captain of a merchant-vessel. He now resides in England, where he is living a retired life. The sister, Barbara, is now deceased.

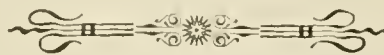
James Inkster grew to manhood on the Shetland Islands, and while a youth spent much of his time with his father on a fishing-vessel. He received

good school advantages for those early days, but his knowledge has been much enlarged through his own efforts since attaining to man's estate. About 1851 he left his old home and went to Australia, where he spent three and a-half years working in the timber regions. In 1855 he returned to Scotland, after which he gave his attention to agricultural pursuits, carrying on farming for a period of eleven years. But this did not prove very satisfactory, and he determined to seek a home in the New World. It was in 1870 that he crossed the broad Atlantic. Boarding a ship at Glasgow, Scotland, he sailed for Quebec, reaching that harbor about the 1st of July, after which he went directly to Chicago, Ill. After a week spent in that city he came to Kankakee County and purchased land, the farm on which he now resides. It was a raw tract, unbroken and unfenced, but he at once began its development and has made it a valuable place. The first few years he experienced many hardships, but as time passed his financial condition improved and the richly cultivated fields yielded to him a golden tribute. He is now regarded as one of the prosperous and successful farmers of the community, which condition of affairs has been brought about by his own efforts.

Ere leaving his native land, Mr. Inkster was married on the Shetland Islands to Miss Barbara Bottenger, a native of that place. Unto them were born the following children: James, who is a farmer of Pilot Township; Elizabeth, wife of Charles Atkins, who carries on farming in the same township; Euphemia, wife of Charles Haight, who is engaged in business in Valley Springs, S. Dak.; John, who aids his father in the cultivation of the home farm; and Phelis, who completes the family. They have also lost two children: Robert, who died in Washington, in 1887, at the age of twenty-seven years; and Ellen, who departed this life in September, 1892, at the age of nineteen.

The Inkster family attend the Presbyterian Church, although they are not members. Their household is the abode of hospitality, and its doors are ever open for the reception of their many friends. The father and sons are supporters of the Republican party. Mr. Inkster is a self-made

man, who began life empty-handed, and with no capital save a young man's bright hope of the future has steadily worked his way up to success. He is fair and honest in all his business dealings, and the uprightness of his public and private life has won him universal esteem and confidence.



PAUL YONKE is a farmer and stock-raiser residing on section 19, Otto Township. He is a native of Poland, Austria, and was born in Janamel, on the 5th of February, 1826. He received good school advantages in his native country and grew to manhood in Austria. He was an apt student and can now speak four languages. He early decided to try his fortune in the New World, and carried his resolutions into effect in 1854. Going to Bremen, he took passage on a sailing-vessel, the "Bramanoff," which was bound for New York. They were seven weeks upon the Atlantic and met with some quite severe weather. In November, 1851, the ship cast anchor in New York Harbor, and from there our subject went directly to Chicago. As he had an uncle living in Bourbonnais Grove, Kankakee County, he joined him and remained here for about six months, while learning the English language. He then engaged in peddling wares through Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, and after a year was enabled to purchase a horse and wagon. He soon carried a good stock of merchandise, which he peddled for a period of about eleven years. He was frugal and industrious, and from the first showed good business ability and enterprise. With his carefully saved earnings he then bought a small tract of land in this township, which he located upon and proceeded to improve and develop. As his financial resources increased he added adjoining land to his original purchase, and now has three hundred and fifty-five acres of arable land located three miles from Kankakee. Mr. Yonke is truly a self-made man, having commenced life in the New World without a dollar; he

has now become one of the most thrifty and well-to-do farmers of the community. This success he has achieved through his own unassisted efforts and business ability.

In Woodford County, Mr. Yonke married Mary Shook, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of George Shook, one of the pioneers of Woodford County. The marriage ceremony was performed in Peoria December 27, 1859, and by this union have been born eight children: John, a farmer of Iroquois County; Lizzie, wife of Henry Schafer, of this county; Anna, William, Joseph, Frank, Mary and Antony, who are still at home and attend school in the neighborhood.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Yonke is a supporter of the Democratic party, but cast his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln. He has been a resident of this State for nearly forty years, and has witnessed vast changes in this county, with whose growth and development he has long been identified. He is a worthy citizen of his adopted country, and well deserves a place in the history of the honored pioneers and worthy citizens of Kankakee County.



E AXEL WIKSTROM, is a capitalist residing in Momence. His birth occurred in northern Sweden on the 27th of October, 1842. He is a son of Nils and Emilie (Hallstrom) Wikstrom, both natives of the same country. The father was an extensive lumberman in Sundsvall, and was the owner of two of the largest lumber and saw mills in Sweden, which business he followed for a number of years. There were eleven children in the family, six of whom are now living, two sons and four daughters: Emilie, Axel, Swea, Hildur, Gregor and Sallie, all but our subject now residents of Sweden. On the 29th of November, 1883, occurred the death of the father at his old home in Stockholm. His wife had been called away many years previously, on the 27th of August, 1874. Mr. Wikstrom was not a politician in any sense, but was a liberal and public-spirited

man, who was recognized as a friend of the poor. He was of a kind disposition, a man of rare gifts of mind and heart, and his charitable deeds were numerous.

Until twenty-three years of age our subject remained in his native land and then decided to try his fortune in the New World. In December, 1865, he landed on these hospitable shores and at once proceeded to Kankakee, Ill., where he resided for a year and a-half. He then went to work upon a farm for P. Burchard, by whom he was employed for six months, more for the object of learning American methods of farming than for any other purpose.

On the 25th of March, 1869, Mr. Wikstrom wedded Miss Deal A. Stratton, daughter of William J. and Margaret E. (Patrick) Stratton, of Momence, the former a native of Virginia and of English origin, the latter being of Irish descent and a native of Kentucky. Mr. Stratton emigrated to Illinois when a boy of sixteen years and located in Edgar County, near Paris, where he lived until 1842 engaged in agricultural pursuits; later he removed to Cook County, and after living there for one year became a resident of this county, then known as Will County. His death occurred on the 4th of December, 1880. His wife still survives him and is now in her seventy-fifth year.

In 1869, Mr. Wikstrom became the owner of a farm of two hundred acres in Sumner Township, five miles from Momence, to which property he has since added eighty acres. It is what he calls the home farm and is one of the finest and best improved in the county. He also owns a two hundred acre farm in Momence Township, six miles northeast of the city of that name. Mr. Wikstrom lives in Momence but exercises a wise supervision and management of his farms. He is at present erecting a beautiful brick residence, which will be the finest in the place, with all the modern improvements. Mr. Wikstrom is a Republican in politics, which ticket he has always supported since his naturalization in 1870. He is a faithful citizen of his adopted country and is one of the most enterprising and public-spirited men of this city. He is what may be termed a

fancy farmer and uses the most improved methods and appliances in the cultivation of his land. He has an income annually from his lumber and saw mill interests in Sweden. He is generous and genial and has a host of friends in this community. Socially, he is a Knight Templar, belonging to Mommence Lodge No. 481, A. F. & A. M.; Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M., and Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T. of Kankakee.



ARTHUR J. CHANGNON, a general merchant of St. Anne, was born in Beloeuil, near Montreal, Canada, September 17, 1850. His parents are likewise natives of Canada, and are of French descent. They are Andre and Sophie (Barcelou) Changnon. The former was for many years a farmer in Canada, and came to the United States in 1855. He located at St. Anne, and has since coming here followed the trade of a carpenter and builder. Though now sixty-five years of age, he is active and still pursues his trade for a livelihood. He was one of the very earliest settlers here, and has noted the progress and development of this vicinity almost from its start. His wife is also living, and is now sixty-one years of age. Her father, Toussaint Barcelou, came to St. Anne in 1856 and located upon a farm half a mile east of the village. He lived to be seventy-six. Our subject is the eldest of a family of thirteen children, eight sons and five daughters, ten of whom are still living: Arzelie, now Mrs. E. L. Gros; Mary, wife of Rev. P. Boudreau; Edmour; Georgiana, the wife of Nelson Pelletier; Adelor, Alcide, Harry, George; and Zetea, wife of N. Pouton.

Until he had reached the age of twenty-three years Arthur Changnon remained with his parents, assisting his father in the care of his farm and in his carpenter work. He received a good common-school education in the district and public schools of St. Anne and afterward attended college at Monmouth, Ill. Returning home, he entered the employ of P. G. Gilbert, in Kanka-

kee, who there carried on a grocery and bakery. After remaining with him for a year, Mr. Changnon returned to St. Anne, where he entered the employ of N. Bastien as clerk in his drug and grocery store.

At the expiration of two years he entered into partnership with George Soucie in a grocery in St. Mary's, Iroquois County. After a few months they removed their stock to St. Anne, and have added dry goods and gents' furnishing goods. They also operate a store at Rensselaer, Ind., where they carry dry goods, clothing, hats, caps, boots and shoes. They are doing a large and prosperous business, and are on the road to success.

On New Year's Day of 1873 Mr. Changnon was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Pelletier, whose parents are Abraham and Ellen (Martin) Pelletier. Four children graced the union of our subject and his wife, a son and three daughters: Aylmer, Della, Laura, and Helen (now deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Changnon and son are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which the former is an Elder and also Church Treasurer.

The cause of education is warmly championed by Mr. Changnon, and he is now serving as one of the School Directors of St. Anne. For many years he was a member of the Village Board, and has also been Town Clerk. He casts his ballot in favor of the nominees and principles of the Republican party, and is one of the public-spirited citizens of this community. He is a member of the Independent Order of Good Templars. In manner he is courteous and affable, and by his honorable dealings makes friends of all his customers.



PAUL HATHAWAY SEAGER is numbered among the pioneers of Kankakee County, of which he has been a resident since its organization, and in the territory now included in the county for a period of about half a century. The maternal grandmother of our subject, Mrs.

Hathaway, who bore the maiden name of Esther Toby, was a native of New Jersey, and removed to Massachusetts when a child. At the time when the British captured New Bedford she was about fourteen years of age and lived in the place. At the time she was in charge of a young child, which she took in her arms and with it escaped.

The father of our subject, Jephtha Seager, was a native of Connecticut, and came to New York when a child with his father, Russell Seager, who settled in Ulster County, where he was among the early pioneers. There Jephtha grew to manhood, and married Achsah Hathaway, of Massachusetts, whose father, Arthur Hathaway, went to Greene County when she was a child, and afterwards removed to Ulster County. He served in the Revolutionary War and was one of the gallant defenders of our country. Previous to his marriage Mr. Seager was a soldier in the War of 1812. He located on a farm in Ulster County, N. Y., and engaged in agricultural pursuits for a few years, after which he removed with his family to a farm located in Delaware County. There, in addition to his farming interests, he engaged in the manufacture and shipping of lumber, rafting it down the Delaware River. The remainder of his life was spent upon his farm, and there his death occurred in 1836, when he was in the prime of manhood, being but forty-three years of age. His wife survived him many years, departing this life in 1863, having attained to sixty-seven years of age. After her husband's death, she removed to Illinois with her family, in 1842, and settled in what is now Yellowhead Township, Kankakee County. The remaining years of her life were spent in Illinois, and after her death her remains were buried in Union Corners Cemetery, where a marble monument has been erected to her memory.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Seager consisted of seven children, the eldest being Russell, who grew to manhood in New York and came to Illinois in 1838, becoming a resident of Yellowhead Township, this county, where he opened up a farm, which he engaged in cultivating and improving until his death in 1881. Esther became the wife of Chauncey Chipman, of this county, and located in Moinence Township; they are both now deceased.

Mamre Ann married J. Perry Stratton, a farmer of Yellowhead Township; Mrs. Stratton is now deceased. Nelson settled first in the same township but is now located upon his farm near Manteno. Our subject is the next in order of birth. Sophrona died after arriving at womanhood. Orlando H., the youngest of the family, died when nineteen years of age.

Paul Seager came to Illinois with his mother in 1842, when but twelve years of age. He grew to manhood in this county and had but limited school advantages. During the winter he attended the district schools, and in the summer months assisted in the care of the farm. For about a year he attended Plainfield Academy, and after that for a few years taught school during the winter season. The remainder of the year he spent in agricultural pursuits. He lived with his mother until arriving at mature years and did not leave home until after her death.

In Manteno, on the 7th of February, 1866, Mr. Seager married Miss Helen M. Peters, who, though born in Vermont, was reared and educated in the neighboring State of New Hampshire. She is a lady of good education, and was a teacher previous to her marriage. As our subject and his wife were without children of their own, they adopted and have reared a child whom they call Carrie Alice Seager. They are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mrs. Seager is a member and active worker in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

After his marriage, our subject settled upon a farm in Manteno Township, where he purchased a partially improved place, and where he continued to reside until 1881. He then sold that property and removed to his present farm in Otto Township, on the Iroquois River. He was an old-line Whig, and upon the organization of the Republican party became identified with its interests. He has ever been in favor of temperance, and for the last ten years has voted for the nominees of the Prohibition party. Though never aspiring to office, he has been induced by his fellow-citizens to fill several local positions. During his residence of just fifty years in this county, he has seen the wilderness bloom and blossom as the rose. He has



Thiophile Dvorion

assisted in its development, and has ever been in the front ranks of those who have been actively engaged in the advancement of the county's best interests. He has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances throughout this section, and has won the confidence and esteem of all through his characteristics of manliness and by his upright character.



THEOPHILE DORION is without doubt the oldest merchant of Kankakee County in point of continuous and uninterrupted business. He began the mercantile business at St. Anne, in this county, in the fall of 1855, and there continued until the autumn of 1869, when he removed to Kankakee and has since carried on business here without interruption, making in all thirty-seven years up to this writing.

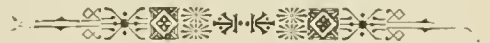
Mr. Dorion was born in St. Eustache, near Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, on the 15th of April, 1830, and is a son of Nestor and Rebecca (Morin) Dorion. His parents were also natives of Canada, and were of French origin. The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in his native province, and at an early age began his mercantile training as a clerk in a wholesale house, where he acquired the thorough knowledge of mercantile pursuits which has marked with success his business career.

On the 1st of July, 1852, Mr. Dorion was united in marriage in Montreal to Miss Flavie L. A. De Couagne, a daughter of Francois and Heloise (Deschamps) De Couagne. Mrs. Dorion was born in Berthier, Canada, November 25, 1830. In June, 1855, Mr. Dorion came to Illinois with his family, and located at Kankakee in the fall of that year. He began merchandising at St. Anne, a French-Canadian settlement in Kankakee County, and remained in successful business at that place until the fall of 1859, when he removed to Kankakee, where he has since carried on business uninterruptedly, and with marked success. In 1860, Mr. Dorion built the fine brick block which he still owns and occupies, and which is twenty-eight feet

front by one hundred feet deep. The building, which is located at No. 186 Court Street, is of stone and brick, and is three stories with basement. It is known as the Department Store, and in it is carried a large stock of dry goods, carpets, upholstery and millinery.

Mr. and Mrs. Dorion have four children, three sons and a daughter: Charles T. is with his father in business; Edward A. married Miss Annie Alvord, and is in business in Chicago; August G. T. married Miss Alice Fenouille, and is employed in his father's store; and Marie Louise E. is the wife of Edward W. Chiniquy, a journalist of Chicago. In their religious sentiments, Mr. Dorion and his family are Catholics.

In his political relations, our subject is a member of the Democratic party, and takes an active part in its support. He is not only the oldest merchant of Kankakee County, but one of the most successful, having built up an extensive business and acquired a valuable property. His intercourse with his fellow-citizens has always been distinguished by urbanity and strict integrity, and he enjoys, as he well deserves, their respect and high esteem.



REV. CHRISTOPHER LA FONTAINE, a general merchant of St. Anne, was born near Quebec, Canada, on the 29th of December, 1830, and is a son of Charles and Eulalie (Brochu) La Fontaine. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Charles La Fontaine, was a farmer of Canada, and of French origin, his father having emigrated from France to Canada. He reared a large family and attained the age of eighty-six years. The grandfather of our subject on his mother's side was Andre Brochu, a Canadian farmer, and also of French origin.

Charles La Fontaine was for many years a teacher under the Government of Canada, and was also a merchant in a village near Quebec, in which latter city his death occurred in 1861, he then being about sixty-five years of age. His wife had died several

years previously. Their family consisted of twelve children, but six of whom are now living: Christopher, Jean, Israel, Sarah, Josephine and Melvina. Sarah is a nun in the Convent of the Sisters of Charity in Quebec, and Josephine is also unmarried. The others are all married and have homes of their own.

Rev. Mr. La Fontaine, whose name heads this sketch, was reared in the country, in the parish of St. Gervais. For about twelve years he attended the seminary in Quebec with the view of preparing himself for the priesthood in the Catholic Church. In 1855 he was ordained and remained a priest there for about nine years. In 1864, removing to New Hampshire, he took a charge in connection with Rev. Mr. Noiseux, where he remained for about a year. Coming to St. Anne in 1865, he was fully turned from his former faith by Rev. Charles Chiniquy, a former Catholic priest. After a course of study under the tutelage of that famous minister, Mr. La Fontaine was ordained a minister of the French-Presbyterian Church, and he frequently officiated for Rev. Mr. Chiniquy during his absence on his frequent lecturing tours. The main life work, however, of our subject was that of a teacher. From November, 1865, until 1888, covering a period of twenty-three years, he was the principal of the Presbyterian school at St. Anne. During this time he assisted a number of young men in their preparation to enter Knox College, of Canada, and also the Presbyterian College of Montreal, where they finished their course of preparation for the ministry.

In July, 1866, Mr. La Fontaine was united in marriage with Marcelline Mason, a daughter of Felix and Des Anges (Gabrieau) Mason, who were natives of Canada. Four children have been born of this union. Pauline is the wife of Lawrence Blanchett, an artist of Chicago. They have two children, Irene and Alma. Alvine and Irene are now deceased. Josephine completes the family.

In 1888, Mr. La Fontaine stopped teaching because the school at St. Anne was then discontinued on account of its possible influence against the public schools. Rev. Mr. Chiniquy had also resigned the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church to give his attention to lecturing. The two Presbyterian congregations united, having been formerly di-

vided on account of one being under the control of the United States, and the other under Canadian direction. They are now comprised in the Chicago Presbytery. After leaving the college Mr. La Fontaine entered the mercantile business and is doing well in that line, as St. Anne is one of the best business towns for its size on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, having a wide scope of country from which to draw trade in various directions. His store is a general one, consisting of dry goods, groceries, etc. He has been a resident of this village for twenty-seven years and has witnessed almost its entire growth, having taken an active share in all public measures and has served his fellow-citizens in various capacities. He has been School Director for nine years and is at present Village Clerk, in which position he has been for a number of years. Politically, he is a firm Republican and is interested in the welfare of that party.



HARRISON MORRICAL, residing on section 31, Otto Township, is a well-known and enterprising agriculturist. He was born in Darke County, Ohio, on the 26th of November, 1835, and is a son of Col. Clark Morrical, a native of the Green Mountain State. The paternal grandfather of our subject, John Morrical, moved from Virginia to Ohio, becoming one of the pioneers of Darke County. When he settled in that portion of the State, the county was a wilderness and heavily timbered. On arriving at maturity, Clark Morrical wedded Sarah Pense, who was born in Preble County, Ohio. In that State for many years he was a farmer, after which, moving to Indiana, he operated farms in Henry and Fulton Counties. About 1852 he settled in Kankakee County, Ill., and was one of the earlier pioneers of what is now Otto Township. He opened up a farm and spent a number of years in this locality. In 1856 he went to Indiana to settle up some business affairs and there died. His remains lie buried in Tippecanoe. While in Ohio he became a member of the militia and was pro-

moted to the rank of Colonel. After surviving her husband for many years, the wife and mother died at the residence of her son and was buried in Evergreen Cemetery, at Chebanse.

Our subject is second in order of birth in the family of four sons and three daughters. The oldest of the family, Adam, was an early settler of this county and here died; Phoebe is the widow of Alexander Miller, of Otto Township; Elias carries on a farm in Indiana; Eliza Ann died when twelve years of age; Lewis is a farmer of this county; Amanda, and Sarah, now deceased, buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Chebanse.

The early days of our subject were passed in Ohio, and when a young man he came to Kankakee County. He assisted his father in opening up a farm, and after the death of the latter took charge of the homestead and business. For some years he remained on the farm and then rented a place near by, which he afterwards bought and which was located on section 6. This property was raw prairie, with no improvements upon it. With untiring energy he proceeded to cultivate it, and built fences and necessary farm buildings. He also planted a large grove, which is one of the largest in the township. In 1891, Mr. Morrical sold the farm, which has upon it a fine orchard, grown under his persevering care, and invested the proceeds in one hundred and eighty acres, the farm on which he now resides. This tract is arable land and is well cultivated. He has a good residence, barns and out-buildings, and is considered one of the most enterprising and well-to-do farmers of Otto Township.

In Wells County, Ind., on the 25th of April, 1875, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Morrical and Miss Eliza Ann Houdyshell. The lady was born in Ohio, reared to womanhood in Indiana and is a daughter of David Houdyshell, one of the pioneers and early settlers of Wells County, Ind. Five children have graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Morrical, as follows: Oscar, Elmore, William, Tolfy and Lesley. With the exception of the youngest, the children are all attending school.

Since becoming a voter, Mr. Morrical has been identified with the Democratic party. His fellow-citizens have honored him a number of times by

electing him to fill various positions of responsibility. He has given of his means and influence to the support of the public schools and in company with Mr. Kendall got up a petition for the division of the old school district. Thus was established the school district in which he now resides and of it he was elected the first Director and also the first Clerk. He has also served as a member of the School Board for several terms. Both Mr. and Mrs. Morrical are influential members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and it was through the influence of our subject that the church and Sunday-school were established here. He is well known in this and adjoining counties as a man of integrity and upright character and by his fellow-citizens he is held in the highest regard.

The members of the family are Adam, Harrison, Phoebe, Eliza Ann, Elias; Aaron, who died when one year old; Lewis; Amanda, who is married to Thompson Adams, and lives in Iroquois County; and Sarah, deceased.



M OSES CHARTIER, a dealer in real estate and an insurance agent of St. Anne, Ill., is a native of Chambly, Lower Canada, his birth having occurred on the 15th of April, 1810. He is one of fourteen children, eight sons and six daughters, born to Francis and Josephine (Boiseau) Chartier, both natives of Canada, where their fathers were both farmers. Our subject's father was a British soldier in the War of 1812. He was a carpenter by trade, and followed that business throughout his life. In 1847, he came to the United States, settling in Keeseville, Essex County, N. Y., which was his home for eight years. In 1855 he came to Illinois and located in Bourbonnais Township, living with his sons, Moses and Israel, later removing to St. Anne in 1859. While on a visit to Kankakee to his daughter, in 1869, he was taken sick and died, being then seventy-nine years of age. His wife departed this life one year later, aged seventy-one

years. They were both of French descent. Of their large family, twelve of whom grew to mature years, but two are now living. Ray resides in Brooklyn, N. Y. Four sons were in the army during the late war. Louis was a member of Company D, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, and was in the service for three years. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg, the battle of Mobile and a number of other engagements. His death occurred in 1880. Leander and Israel were in the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, and served for three years. The former died in 1882, and the latter in 1866, soon after leaving the army. Ray enlisted three times, and was also about three years in the service.

Moses Chartier worked in a nail factory in Keeseville, N. Y., when a young man, and removed with his parents to Illinois in 1855. He engaged in farming until the year 1866, when he entered the mercantile business. His education was received in the common schools of the State of New York. In 1886 he retired from active mercantile life, and rented his building. In 1888 he erected his brick block upon the same site where the former one was destroyed by fire in February of that year. He at once rebuilt, and has a large and substantial building, in which are located a number of offices and stores. He does a real-estate and insurance business by way of pastime, and has large rents for income. He also owns a good residence, and is accounted one of the substantial and respected citizens of St. Anne.

Mr. Chartier has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Delima Boudreau in her girlhood. She was a daughter of Julian and Phœbe (Cyr) Boudreau, both natives of Canada. Their union was celebrated March 20, 1862, and to them were born three sons and a daughter: Samuel, who married Miss Ida Reeve, now deceased; Abbie, who died when seven years of age; Camille and Alfred. Mrs. Chartier departed this life February 26, 1885. Our subject on the 16th of January, 1886, wedded Mrs. Leonie Durand, widow of David Durand, and a daughter of Desire and Orelie Drollette, of Canada. The lady was born in St. Anne, Ill., and has by her former marriage a daughter, Leda.

Mr. Chartier is at present School Treasurer of

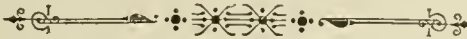
the township, and for a period of four years was Supervisor of the town. He has held various offices, and from 1876 to 1885 was Postmaster. He was the prime mover in having the village incorporated in 1872, and was the first President of the Village Board, which position he has filled a number of times. For nineteen consecutive years he was a member of the Village Board. He and his wife hold membership with the Presbyterian Church. Socially, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a Republican in politics.



SID. R. DURFEE, Clerk of the Court and ex-officio Recorder of Kankakee County, Ill., was born in Limestone Township on the 27th of July, 1858. His birth occurred on the old Nichols homestead, the girlhood home of his mother in the pioneer days of Eastern Illinois, where her father had made his home in 1842, now just half a century ago. Our subject is the second child and eldest son of Otis and Harriet (Nichols) Durfee, whose sketch appears on another page of this work.

The childhood days of our subject were spent upon a farm and on the 1st of November, 1865, he removed with his parents to Kankakee, where he received good educational advantages in the public schools of that city. Upon completing his studies he assisted his father, who was an invalid, in the duties of his office. His physical disability, which made it difficult for him to get around, especially on outside matters, made his son's assistance valuable and necessary to him. He did a general collection business and was also Justice of the Peace and Assessor. Our subject continued with his father from December, 1874, until February, 1882, at which time he was relieved by a younger brother, who took his position as aid to the father. Mr. Durfee then accepted the office of Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court and ex-officio Recorder under J. Frank Leonard, which position he held for nearly eleven years, or until elected as the successor of Mr. Leonard in

the fall of 1892, entering upon the discharge of his official duties on December 5, of that year. Mr. Durfee from his long experience as Deputy in the office and the ability and fidelity displayed by him in the discharge of his duties, gives fair promise of proving an efficient and acceptable officer. He possesses good clerical ability, a thorough knowledge of the routine duties pertaining to the position, and an extensive acquaintance in the county. These, in connection with an intimate knowledge of papers and records, cannot fail to be of great advantage to him in the successful performance of his duties. He is an earnest Republican in politics and enjoys a well-deserved popularity throughout the county.



VOLNEY DICKEY, Postmaster at Grant Park, and dealer in school books and stationery, is one of the leading auctioneers of the county and has resided longer in Yellowhead Township than any other living man or woman. He well knows what pioneer life is, and remembers when the Indian children were his only playmates.

Mr. Dickey is a native of Indiana, born in Fountain County, October 19, 1833. He was the eldest child in a family of three children, two sons and one daughter, whose parents were James and Hannah (Sales) Dickey. The father was born in 1790, in Cornwallis, Kings County, Nova Scotia. Until sixteen years of age he remained with his parents on their farm, after which he engaged as a sailor on a vessel owned by his brother. He sailed upon the high seas for five years, and for eighteen years was on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. He landed in what was then Will but is now Kankakee County, on the 1st of December, 1834, and located on the Yellowhead Indian Reservation. From that time until his death he devoted his whole attention to agricultural pursuits. His death occurred on the 1st of April, 1863, when he was seventy-three years of age. He was one of the very first white men to settle in the county. His wife was a native of Connecticut, and was the

widow of M. Chapman when she married Mr. Dickey. Her death occurred in this county in 1843.

Volney Dickey was only about a year old when his parents settled in Illinois, and at the time of his mother's death was a lad of eleven years. His father was never again married and for five years they kept house as best they could. They then broke up housekeeping, and our subject started out in life for himself. His first step was to hire out at farm work for \$6 per month, at which labor he was employed four years.

When only nineteen years of age Mr. Dickey was married, on the 15th of February, 1852, to Miss Julia Hayden, who was a daughter of Nehemiah and Sarah (Kitchel) Hayden, of Lake County, Ind. Ten children were born to them, nine of whom are still living. Harriet is the wife of George Love, a prosperous farmer of Yellowhead Township; Mary Ellen became the wife of Andrew J. Love, also a well-known farmer of the same township; Erwin, who follows agricultural pursuits here, married Miss Mary Smith; Lora is the wife of William Finerty, owner of a horse ranch in Lane County, Ore.; Clara, who wedded Frank Love, now a retired farmer, resides in Grant Park; Don Pedro, an auctioneer living in this county, married Edna Hamilton; Lucinda wedded Julius Dodge, now a resident of Dalerville, Mich.; Otis, late of Montana, married Miss Mary Markel, of this county; Julia is the wife of Louis Childers, a prosperous farmer of Sherburnville; and Alcesta is now deceased. Mrs. Dickey was called to her final rest on the 17th of November, 1867, and lies buried in the Sherburnville Cemetery. In September, 1868, Mr. Dickey wedded Mrs. Arminta Patte Hayden, widow of Andrew Hayden, and by their union were born five children, three of whom died in infancy. Those surviving are Arthur and Mansfield.

Mr. Dickey has resided in Yellowhead Township almost his entire life, carrying on agricultural pursuits on his farm until 1888. At that time he removed to Grant Park, which has been his home up to the present time. In his political views he is a Republican and has held all the township offices. For six terms he was Assessor of Yellow-

head Township, and was Tax Collector for about five years. He gives his hearty co-operation to the cause of education and for eighteen years was School Director. He holds membership with Grant Park Lodge No. 740, A. F. & A. M., of Grant Park, and is a member of the Christian Church of this place and an active worker in it. He owns a pleasant home in Grant Park, and has the respect of the community in which he dwells.



JOSEPH HAYDEN, a well-known farmer and pioneer living on section 15, Yellowhead Township, has spent nearly his entire life in this locality. He was born July 7, 1832, in Knox County Ohio, and is the son of Nehemiah and Harriet (Kitchel) Hayden. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, and was of German origin. When only a child, he went to Ohio, where he lived until 1835, at which time he located in Lake County, Ind. He engaged in agricultural pursuits, and was one of the earliest settlers of the county, where he resided until his death in 1856. Lake County, Ind., adjoins Kankakee County on the east, and a portion of Mr. Hayden's farm was over the line in this county.

Joseph Hayden is the sixth in order of birth in his father's family, which consisted of seven sons and six daughters. He was a child of but three years when he removed with his parents to Indiana, since which time he has always resided in this vicinity. Until reaching his majority, he remained with his parents on the old homestead. His educational privileges were limited, as the country schools of that early day were scarce and poorly conducted. At the age of twenty-one years, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in Yellowhead Township on time, and at once commenced to improve and place it under good cultivation.

In Lake County was celebrated on the 10th of December, 1854, the marriage of Mr. Hayden and Maria P. Green. Nine children have graced their

union. Lester J., an enterprising farmer of Lake County, wedded Almeda Brannon; Sidney married Miss Clara Smith, and is engaged in farming in this county; Wilbur A., also a farmer of Kankakee County, married Miss Clara Mann; Anna, who became the wife of Elias Bryant, resides in La Fayette, Ind., where Mr. Bryant is a partner in an agricultural implement house; Hilton is a traveling salesman for the above house; Clarence married in this county Miss Etta Pemble, and is engaged in agriculture; Cass is bookkeeper in a wholesale establishment in Indianapolis; Merritt is helping his father carry on the homestead; and Ralph, who lives at home, is now attending school.

Mr. Hayden's farm comprises two hundred and fifty acres, which yield to him bountiful harvests year by year. The farm is in a good condition, and is one of the most thrifty in this locality. Our subject is a loyal Republican, and takes an active interest in the welfare of his party. He has won many friends, who hold him in the highest regard as a worthy and honorable man. During his long residence of nearly a lifetime in this immediate vicinity, he has been a witness of vast changes, and has ever given his support to all worthy enterprises tending to benefit this locality and bring it to its present high state of prosperity.



GEORGE W. VAN HORNE, M. D., one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Kankakee County, owns one of the best drug stores in Grant Park. He was born near Frankfort, Will County, Ill., on the 26th of March, 1848, and is the youngest of a family of eight children, four sons and four daughters, born to Mathew and Ann E. (Yost) Van Horne. On the paternal side he can trace his ancestry back to 1635, when the colony of Hollanders landed on Manhattan Island. His grandfather was born at White House N. J., in 1763, and was a noted minister of the Lutheran Church. He wedded Anna Covenhoven, of New Jersey, on the 13th of October, 1785. On the day of his death, which happened in New

York in 1846, he had married two couples and preached a funeral sermon; later, while sitting in his chair, he suddenly expired. His wife had died six years previously. Mathew Horne was a native of the Empire State, and was a son of Abraham and Anna (Covenhoven) Van Horne. He was born on the 12th of November, 1806, and in his youth learned the harness-maker's trade. In 1832, he came to Illinois, crossing Ohio by canals, going down the Ohio River to Cairo, then up the Mississippi to Quincy, and across to Beardstown by wagon, where he worked at his trade until 1834, at which time he went to Will County and settled upon a tract of Government land. There he followed agriculture until his death, which occurred January 30, 1867. His wife died in Missouri, January 30, 1887.

Dr. Van Horne was born on the old homestead in Will County, and spent his boyhood days in the customary manner of farmer lads. He attended the country schools until about nineteen years of age, afterward taking a course at Joliet and at Grand Prairie Seminary, of Onarga, Ill. For about three years after completing his studies, he engaged in teaching school, and at that time determined to adopt the medical profession. He entered the office of Dr. H. Le Caron, of Braidwood, Ill., under whose direction he began the study of medicine, and with him remained for a year. He entered the Chicago Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1875. Coming directly to Grant Park, he commenced the practice of his profession, in which he has been actively engaged ever since.

On the 24th of March, 1875, Dr. Van Horne wedded Miss Sarah Mather, of Will County, and by their union has been born three children: Mabel, Willard and Della, all of whom are living. Mrs. Van Horne was called to her final rest March 23, 1886, and on the 7th of September, 1887, the Doctor married his present wife, who was Miss Cora Parish, of Burkesville, Ky. One child, Robert R., graces their union.

Politically, the Doctor supports the Democratic party, and for four years has been Postmaster of Grant Park. He is also now serving as School Treasurer of the township, and is Mayor of the

city. He holds membership with Camp No. 1357, M. W. A., of Grant Park. In addition to a large practice, Dr. Van Horne operates a general drug and stationery store, and is a successful business man, as well as a skillful practitioner.



ROBERT GIBSON is a prominent farmer and stock-raiser on section 12, Ganier Township. He is a son of John and Mary (Dawson) Gibson, and was born in Wayne County, Mich., on the 16th of February, 1838. The father was a native of Yorkshire, England, and the mother was born in Scotland. When about grown both came to the United States and were married in Michigan. In their family were eight children. John is a prosperous farmer of Norton Township, Kankakee County; Thomas is also a farmer residing in Ganier Township; Robert is next in order of birth; Janet is the fourth of the family; Charles died in 1873; George is engaged in farming in Michigan; James resides on the old homestead in the same State, as does Henry, the youngest of the family. The father of our subject departed this life in 1855, and the mother, who survived her husband many years, passed away in 1885.

Our subject was born and reared to manhood on a farm in Michigan. He received the common-school privileges afforded by the district schools, and when nineteen years of age started out in life for himself. In 1857 he came to Kankakee County, Ill., where he entered the employ of a farmer and worked by the month as a farm hand for one year. With his very small capital, the result of his careful saving, Mr. Gibson prepared to farm on his own account and rented land, which he engaged in cultivating for the succeeding four years with such success, that in 1862 he was enabled to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of land, situated in Ganier Township. This property, which he bought of the railroad, was in an unimproved state, and for twenty years he lived upon it, bringing it under a high state of

cultivation. In the spring of 1882 he sold that farm and purchased the place of one hundred and eighty acres upon which he now lives, on section 12, Ganier Township. This is one of the most fertile and well-improved farms in the township, and shows the thrift and care of its owner on every hand. Mr. Gibson, in addition to general farming, is largely engaged in stock-raising.

On the anniversary of Washington's birthday in 1865, Mr. Gibson wedded Miss Henrietta, daughter of Campbell and Mahala (Lewis) Sergeant. To our subject and his wife eight children have been born: Alice, wife of William Hoag, a well-known farmer of Ganier Township; Elmer, a successful school teacher; Campbell, who departed this life October 29, 1881; Henrietta, Edward, May, Arthur and Flora, who reside at home.

Mr. Gibson has always taken quite an interest in political affairs and is a strong Republican. He has served his fellow-citizens in various capacities, and among other offices has held those of Road Commissioner and School Director. He is public-spirited and does his share in the various enterprises for the benefit of his township and county. Beginning life without any capital except a good constitution and those indispensable qualities to success, well-directed energy and industry, he well deserves the success he has attained.



PORTER RIGGS is engaged in carrying on his farm situated on section 26, Aroma Township. He was born in Tyler, W. Va., on the 27th of August, 1832. His father, Isaac Riggs, was a native of the same place and was of German descent. He was twice married, our subject being the only child by the first union. By his second marriage Mr. Riggs became the father of four children.

When Porter Riggs was a young child his mother died, and he went to live with his grandmother. Her death occurred when he was about ten years of age, and after this he lived on

the same old homestead in Virginia with an aunt, remaining with her until he was about eighteen years of age. As he was without means, he commenced working on a farm by the month, receiving \$10. For five years he was employed at farm labor, never receiving over \$12 per month. His school privileges were very limited and he is largely a self-educated man. In the spring of 1854, he came West to Perryville, Vermillion County, Ind. He rented land and engaged in farming at that place for a period of about four years. The year 1858 witnessed his arrival in Illinois. He settled in Kankakee County, where he purchased two hundred and eighty acres of land. This was entirely unimproved and there was not a stick of timber upon it. By his years of labor and improvement he has developed this property until it is now one of the most valuable pieces of land in the township. His well-tilled fields yield him a golden tribute in return for the care and labor he expends upon them, and success has largely attended his efforts. He is now engaged in general farming and stock-raising.

Mr. Riggs enlisted in defense of his country in February, 1865. He entered the service as a private in Company A, One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry. He was mustered out of service September 13, 1865, at Memphis, Tenn., and received his discharge about September 23, 1865, at Springfield, Ill.

In 1859 Mr. Riggs was united in marriage with Miss Mary Swan. Her parents, Matthew and Susan Swan, are numbered among the old settlers of this county, where they are held in the highest regard. Four children have blessed the union of our subject and his wife: Edwin H., Leonard W., Grant and May, who have all received good educations and take an active part in the social circles of this community.

Mr. Riggs has always taken a great interest in political affairs and is affiliated with the Republican party, with which he has been connected for many years. He has never been an office-seeker, but has always taken a leading part in the advancement of all measures tending to the welfare of his fellow-citizens. Socially, he is a member of Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R., of Kankakee, and



Respectfully
Daniel Day



Very Truly Yours
Mrs. E. G. Day

the boys in blue have ever held a warm place in his affections. For thirty-five years Mr. Riggs has been associated with the progress and welfare of this section, and has done much in making this county what it is to-day, a prosperous and thriving community.



DANIEL DAY, a leading farmer residing on section 12, Aroma Township, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred on the 10th of May, 1838, near Crete, Will County. He is a son of Asa and Permelia (Beebe) Day. The father was a native of the Empire State and emigrated to Illinois at an early day. When our subject was an infant of about a year, Mr. Day located in what is now Aroma Township, Kankakee County, but which was at that time a portion of Iroquois County. He purchased a farm which was but little improved and here he engaged in tilling the soil until his death in 1819. His wife had departed this life two years previously. To them had been born four children: Daniel; Nancy Calista, who died in 1880; Susan, who died in infancy; and Virgil, who departed this life in 1862, being then in Company C, One Hundred and Thirty-eighth Illinois Infantry.

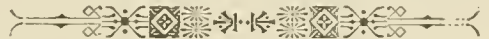
Our subject is the eldest of the family and before he reached the age of twelve years death had deprived him of both father and mother. In 1850, he went to live with his uncle, Orson Beebe, near Momence, and with him he made his home until he was twenty-nine years of age. His school privileges were somewhat limited, as he attended subscription and district schools during much of his boyhood years.

In 1861, Mr. Day, fired by patriotic zeal, entered the service of his country, becoming a member of Company D, Forty-second Illinois Infantry. He was mustered into service at Chicago, and his first active engagement was in the battle of Farmington, Miss., near Corinth. He received an honorable discharge on account of disability and then returned to his home.

April 9, 1863, Mr. Day was united in marriage with Miss Edetha F. Perry, daughter of John and Abigail (Tower) Perry, who were natives of Vermont. Three children have graced their union: Owen L., who is now at home, October 19, 1892, married Almy C. Gray, daughter of C. S. Gray, of Onarga, Ill.; John B. met death by drowning on the 26th of December, 1890, while skating alone upon treacherous ice on the Kankakee River. Luey C., who is at home, completes the family. Mr. and Mrs. Day with their children are all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Soon after his marriage, Mr. Day removed to the farm where he now resides, which is a portion of his father's homestead. It consists of one hundred and seventy acres of fertile and well-improved land, and is considered one of the finest farms in Aroma Township. Mr. Day is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and his wise investments and good business ability have been attended with marked success.

Our subject has always taken quite an active part in politics and is in sympathy with the principles of the Prohibition party, for whose nominees he casts his ballot. He is also interested in educational matters and has held the office of School Director for several terms. Socially, he is a member of Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R., of Kankakee. He is a valued citizen and numbers many friends and acquaintances in this vicinity, who hold him in the highest regard.



RICHARDSON BROTHERS is the title of one of the well-known law firms of Kankakee. This firm is composed of William H. and Hiram L. Richardson. They are sons of Amasa Richardson, who emigrated with his family from St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and settled on a farm in Wesley Township, Will County, Ill., in the spring of 1856. In his family were nine children, all of whom came west with their parents, with the exception of two brothers, William H. and Joseph W., who had come two years

previously. The father died in Will County, in October, 1890, and the mother still survives, living on the old homestead with her two youngest sons.

The eldest of the brothers was Joseph W. He was a lawyer by profession, and entered the service of his country in the late war as First Lieutenant of Company A, Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry. His death occurred at Harper's Ferry, December 17, 1861, but a few months after his enlistment. William H. is the second of the family in order of birth. Lewis C. was a teacher for many years. He finally removed to South Dakota, settling near Huron, where his death occurred several years ago. Olive J. died at the homestead in Will County, in 1863. Levi makes his home at Rose Lawn, Ind. Hiram L. is the next in order of birth. Alfred G. resides with his mother. Mary A. became the wife of Henry Kahler, and lives near Wilmington, in Will County. Benjamin Franklin still resides on the home farm.

The brothers whose names appear at the head of this sketch have been associated in the practice of law since 1870. William H. was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., on the 18th of February, 1833. His early life was passed on a farm, and during the summer months he assisted in the work pertaining to the farm, and in the winter attended the district schools. He received an academic education at Ogdensburg and Gouverneur, N. Y. He came West to Illinois in 1855, and in the following year commenced the study of law at Wilmington with his brother Joseph W. and Maj. F. W. Munn. He also for a time taught in the public schools of that place. On the 18th of September, 1858, he came to Kankakee, resumed the study of law, was in due time admitted to the Bar, and has been constantly in practice since that time. Mr. Richardson is numbered among the oldest and most experienced lawyers of Kankakee. He is noted for his extensive knowledge, and has for many years occupied a front rank in the legal profession. On the 29th of April, 1875, he was united in marriage with Miss Addie Wescott. They have one daughter, Mamie.

Hiram L. Richardson is a much younger man than his brother, his birth having occurred in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1844. He received a

good English education, and studied law in the office of his elder brother and present partner. He was admitted to practice in the spring of 1869, and has been in partnership with his brother since 1870. In that year he was elected City Attorney, and served in that capacity for two years. He was next elected States Attorney in 1872, and served four years in the most satisfactory manner, as was shown by his re-election to that office in 1880, when he again served for four years, and by his election in 1893 for the third term. He is an able and successful lawyer and a popular citizen, who is held in the highest esteem. In politics, he is an ardent Republican and an able exponent of the principles of that great national party.



HENRY W. NATTORF is one of the leading young business men of Sollitt. His birth occurred on the 17th of March, 1863, in Lombard, Du Page County, Ill. He is the third in order of birth in a family of four children, but three of whom are now deceased, and whose parents were Corsten and Dora (Bockelman) Nattorf. Both parents were born in Germany, the former emigrating to America when young. He landed in Chicago with scarcely any means, and for the following five years hired out as a farm hand. He was married in Cook County, where he lived until 1863, at which time he removed to Will County. In 1871 he located upon a farm in Yellowhead Township. For many years he carried on that farm, and was held in the highest regard by all who knew him as one of the men who helped to make this county the prosperous one it is today. On the 26th of November, 1892, he died very suddenly from heart failure. He left quite a valuable estate, which represented the toil and economy of many years. His widow lives with her son, Henry W.

When a child of only a few months our subject was brought to Yellowhead Township, and has made this his home up to the present time. His boyhood and youth were passed in the usual study

work and play common to farmer lads, and his school privileges were those afforded by the common district schools of the neighborhood. At the age of twenty-two years Mr. Nattorf came to Sol-litt, where he opened a general store, which he has since conducted successfully.

Mr. Nattorf and Miss Alvina Kesler were married on the 16th of October, 1885. The lady is a native of Will County, Ill. Her parents, who came from Germany, became prominent people of that county. Four children were born to our subject and his wife: Anna, the eldest, was born August 6, 1886, and three others died in infancy.

On the subject of politics Mr. Nattorf is a thorough Republican, and is prominent in educational matters, now serving as School Director. Both he and his wife hold membership with the German Lutheran Church, in whose work they are active. Mr. Nattorf is a wide-awake and enterprising merchant and owns the leading general store in Sol-litt, besides a fine farm of one hundred and sixty-two acres in Yellowhead Township. In his dealings with his customers he is courteous and honorable, his word being considered as good as his note. In social circles himself and his wife are very popular.



WILLIAM KRUEGER, is a well-known gro-cer of Kankakee. He is a native of Ger-many, his birth having occurred in Shu-row on the 19th of September, 1847. His grand-father Krueger was a Tax Collector in the service of the King and lived to be ninety years of age. The parents of our subject, William and Wilhel-mina (Leichmann) Krueger, were both natives of Germany, where the former, like his father, was a Tax Collector. In 1867 he emigrated to the New World, and at once coming to Illinois, located in Kankakee, which he made his home until his death. On account of his extreme old age he had lived a retired life for many years, and died on the 2d of June, 1888. Had he lived until August he would

have been eighty-two years of age. His wife still survives him and in August of 1892 reached her eighty-second birthday. In their family were ten children, as follows: Theodore, Herman, Frank, Henry, William, Otto, August, Mina, Amelia and Alvina, all of whom are living with the exception of Frank, who died in this city about 1874. All of the members of the family came to America with the exception of the eldest son, who still re-sides in Germany, where he has been engaged in teaching school for the past twenty-five years. He is employed by the Government and holds a life position. The father was a soldier in the regular army for three years.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in the Fatherland, where he received his ed-ucation. He early determined to emigrate to the New World in quest of a fortune. In 1864, he crossed the Atlantic in a vessel bound for Quebec. From there he came directly to Kankakee County, where he had two brothers who had arrived in this locality two years previous. Mr. Krueger soon ob-tained employment in the country and went to work on a farm by the month. At the end of two years he went to Chicago, where he learned the carpenter's trade and was employed there for four years, after which he returned to Kankakee and followed the same vocation until 1882. That year he built a small store building, in which his brother opened a grocery store and continued to run it for two years. Our subject then purchased his brother's stock and has carried on the busi-ness since that time. He now has one of the most complete and well-equipped grocery stores in the city and has a constantly increasing trade.

Mr. Krueger was married to Miss Augusta Rad-zom, daughter of Carl and Carolina (Gungel) Radzom, natives of Germany, where the former died in 1870. The marriage of our subject was celebrated on the 28th of July, 1872. Mrs. Rad-zom emigrated to America in 1889 and has lived in Kankakee since that time, being now in her sixty-first year.

Mr. and Mrs. Krueger are members of the Ger-man Lutheran Church, where for the past three years our subject has held the office of Treasurer. Politically he uses his right of franchise in sup-

port of the Democratic party. He was elected Alderman of the Fourth Ward, in which capacity he served his fellow-townsmen for two years. He is a man of good business ability and has accumulated his property by hard and honest toil. He owns a good home and his store building, his extensive stock of goods, several lots and other residence property. He is an unpretentious and genial man and has won many friends in this vicinity by his life of industry and integrity.



JAMES M. MCKINSTRY, the first Justice of the Peace of Sumner Township, has been for about forty years prominently identified with the advancement and prosperity of this section, and has the honor of being the one who named the township after Charles Sumner, of Massachusetts. Mr. McKinstry helped lay out the roads and otherwise organize the township.

The birth of our subject occurred in Lamoille County, Vt., on the 6th of October, 1819. His parents, George and Marian (St. Clair) McKinstry, were of English and Scotch extraction. The father, like his son, was a native of the Green Mountain State and was a farmer by occupation. His death occurred in 1845, and after the death of her husband, Mrs. McKinstry came West with her sons and lived in Illinois for many years. She was called to her final rest in 1870. Their family consisted of eight children: Byron N., who is a farmer of South Dakota; James M., the subject of this sketch; Sarah A., the wife of David S. Smith, who resides in St. Paul, Neb.; George P., who died in 1860; Joseph E., a resident of Morocco, Ind.; Mary E., wife of Lemuel Buck, who carries on farming in Sumner Township; Leroy, who departed this life in 1870; and William, a farmer of Kansas.

Mr. McKinstry, whose name heads this sketch, was born and reared on a farm, and his educational advantages were very limited in his early years. Since arriving at man's estate, by a wise course of reading he has made himself conversant with the leading facts and topics of the day and is largely self-

educated. He worked for his father upon the home farm until arriving at his majority, at which time he went to Boston, and for the period of about three years worked as a clerk in a general store. Then returning to Vermont he purchased a farm, where he resided until 1851. He then came by way of the Lakes to Chicago, at which place he remained a short time. In that city he was offered ten acres of land on State Street for \$1,000, which offer he did not think it wise to accept. After traveling considerably over the State with a view to locating in a good farming district, he decided that Kankakee County had the brightest prospects for the future. Accordingly he purchased between six hundred and seven hundred acres of land for his mother and the family. In 1852 they also came West and located upon this farm. He secured this land on four Mexican land warrants.

At the breaking out of the late war, Mr. McKinstry helped to raise a company, which was mustered into service as Company K, Fourth Illinois Cavalry. He enlisted in September, 1861, for three years and was chosen First Lieutenant of his company. He took part in many active engagements and battles, among the most important being those of Ft. Henry, Ft. Donelson and Shiloh. At the last-named battle his horse was shot from under him, but he fortunately escaped injury. He received his discharge in 1863, on account of disability, and for the following year was made Quartermaster under Gen. Grant.

When peace was again established Mr. McKinstry returned to his home and resumed farming. He now owns between four hundred and five hundred acres, most of which is valuable and arable land. He carries on general farming and stock-raising and as an agriculturist has proved his exceptional ability. At the time of his settling in Sumner Township Mr. McKinstry was obliged to haul grain and other farm produce to Chicago, which was the nearest market. He has truly been a witness of vast changes in this and surrounding counties and to him in a large measure is due the advancement of this particular portion.

In 1842, a wedding ceremony united the destinies of Mr. McKinstry and Miss Sophrona, daughter

ter of Lemuel White. Five children graced their union. Horace was killed at the battle of Vicksburg in 1863, at which time he was in the same regiment as his father, holding the position of Quartermaster-Sergeant; Byron died at the age of four years; the third son, Abner, also in the same regiment and company as his father and elder brother, died in the service in 1863; Lavina, wife of Mervin Seager, resides in Des Moines, Iowa; and Alice, who is the wife of George Place, makes her home in Chicago. The mother of these children was called to her last reward in 1869. The following year, Mr. McKinstry wedded Mrs. Livonia (Brown) Foster, widow of David J. Foster. By her first marriage she had two children, Julia, now the widow of Charles Crissey, resides in Omaha, Neb.; and Georgia, wife of Lincoln Walker, is a resident of Momence. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. McKinstry: Bert, Clara and J. Floyd, who are all at home. In addition to rearing their own children, Mr. and Mrs. McKinstry are rearing an orphan, Ollie Bear, who has taken the name of her foster-parents.

Politically, Mr. McKinstry is a Republican and cast his first vote for Gen. William Henry Harrison. He also has had the privilege of twice voting for the grandson of the Tippecanoe hero. In educational matters he takes an active part and has served in many local positions. He holds membership with the Baptist Church, as does his wife, and is considered by his neighbors and friends to be a man well worthy their confidence and respect. Socially he belongs to Worcester Post No. 627, G. A. R., of Grant Park.



HENRY SCHAFER is a well-known farmer and stock-dealer who makes his home on section 24, Otto Township. He has the honor of being a native of Illinois, his birth occurring in Kendall County on the 10th of December, 1858. His father, Anton Schafer, is a native of Germany, who passed his boyhood and youth in the Fatherland. When a young man,

bidding adieu to his friends and relatives, he crossed the broad Atlantic. Upon arriving in the United States he turned his face Westward, and on reaching Illinois settled in Kendall County. He was there married, and engaged in farming for over thirteen years on one place, for the most of this time being a renter. About the year 1865 he removed to Iroquois County, where he purchased a farm and engaged in its cultivation for a number of years. He is now a resident of Chebanse, having retired from the arduous and active duties of farm life, and is enjoying a well-earned rest and the fruits of his many years of labor and industry.

The first few years in the life of our subject were spent in Kendall County, where he was born, and in 1865 he went with his father to Iroquois County. During his youth he spent the summer months working on his father's farm, and during the winter attended the district schools of the vicinity. He remained under the parental roof for about two years after attaining his majority, assisting in operating the home farm. He then came to this county and located on section 27, where his father had given him an eighty-acre farm. There he lived for about eight years engaged in agricultural pursuits and then became the owner of the farm where he now resides. In this tract he has one hundred and sixty acres of land, located three miles south of Kankakee, and which is all arable and valuable property. He has a good residence, large barns and substantial farm buildings.

In this county, April 22, 1884, Mr. Schafer was married to Elizabeth Yonke, who was born, reared and educated here, and whose father, Paul Yonke, was one of the early settlers of this community. Three children grace this union, Willie, Laura and Joseph. Mr. and Mrs. Schafer are members of the Catholic Church of Kankakee.

Almost the entire life of Mr. Schafer has been spent in this State and most of the time in Kankakee and the adjoining county of Iroquois, and in this section he is well and favorably known. He is a believer in good public schools and is a friend to all educational measures. Politically, he is a supporter of the Democratic party, and though interested in politics has never aspired to official recog-

niton. He is a worthy citizen and is known to be a man of upright character and worth. For the last five years, Mr. Schafer has made a business of feeding and fattening steers for the Chicago market and at this time has about one hundred head of cattle and will feed for the spring market about two car-loads.



THOMAS AND JAMES HUGHES, of the firm of Hughes Bros., are well-known hay merchants of St. Anne. They are the sons of Michael and Jane (McCloskey) Hughes, both natives of County Tyrone, Ireland. The former was a son of Thomas and Sarah (Doons) Hughes. He emigrated to America in the early '40s and located in Iowa County, Wis., where he followed agricultural pursuits for thirty years and was one of the pioneer settlers of that county. He was enterprising in business and dealt largely in grain and stock. In 1873 he came to St. Anne, where, in connection with that business, he also had an extensive trade in agricultural implements.

Michael Hughes was twice married; his first wife, the mother of our subject, he met and married in Wisconsin, and to them were born six children. Mary Jane is now deceased. Thomas was born December 11, 1858, in Iowa County, Wis. Ellen married John O'Connell, who is a prominent farmer living two miles east of St. Anne; their family consists of four children, Laura, Gertie, Alma and Thomas. Sarah is deceased. James was born February 12, 1864. Eliza has also departed this life. The mother of these children was called to her final rest in 1877. For his second wife Mr. Hughes married Mrs. Walkerly, widow of John Walkerly. In her maidenhood she was Rebecca Gammon and was a native of Boston. By this union two children were born: Carrie, who died when two years of age, and Ada, who is still living. Mrs. Hughes departed this life in April, 1892. Her husband had previously died, in January, 1891, being then eighty-two years of age. He was a prom-

inent citizen and held the office of Supervisor of St. Anne Township for two or three terms and was Justice of the Peace for a number of years. He was a member of the Chicago Board of Trade, and commenced in life without property but accumulated a valuable estate. At the time of his death, he was the owner of eight hundred and forty acres of improved farm land two miles east of St. Anne. He also owned a good residence and other town property there, which was his home for about eighteen years. Mr. Hughes and his first wife were members of the Catholic Church, and he was esteemed among the much respected citizens of this vicinity.

Thomas Hughes married Miss Nellie, daughter of Thomas Lottinville. In 1883, he went to California, on account of poor health, and spent about eight years in the West. With that exception he has been a resident of St. Anne since 1873.

James Hughes and Miss Ella Hughes were married in Momence in 1892. After the death of the father, Thomas and James went into partnership and have since carried on the business successfully. They are both members of the Catholic Church, as are also their wives. The brothers are stalwart Democrats and take an active part in public affairs. Thomas is now serving as a member of the Village Board of Trustees.



WILLIAM WALLACE PARISH is now living a retired life in Momence, where for over half a century he has made his home. His birth occurred in Naples, Ontario County, N. Y., on the 14th of June, 1821, his parents being Jeremiah B. and Clarissa (Clark) Parish, both of whom were natives of Berkshire County, Mass. The family was founded in this country in early Colonial days. In 1789, a colony of sixty persons emigrated with ox-teams and sleds from the old Bay State to Ontario County, N. Y. They made the journey in the dead of winter, cutting their way through the woods for a distance of about one hundred and twenty miles

The colony purchased an entire township for twelve and a-half cents per acre and divided the land equally among themselves for homes. Our subject's great-grandfather, grandfather and a brother of the latter were the first ones to locate in the township of Naples, the others following in the spring. They settled in the midst of the Indians and bore all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. The great-grandfather was a farmer by occupation, and had served in the Revolutionary War. The grandfather also followed agricultural pursuits, and the farm on which he first settled is still in the possession of the family.

Jeremiah B. Parish was in his country's service in the War of 1812, and served through the same without receiving a wound. The family have always been interested in military affairs and in the country's hours of peril they have always been found among her defenders. Mr. Parish was a very prominent citizen in the town of Naples, was a leading lawyer and served as Judge of the Circuit Court of that place. He also held a number of other offices of honor and trust. His brother, Orson Parish, was a prominent lawyer of Ohio and pleaded at the Bar in Washington, D. C. He always dressed in continental style and his wearing apparel was very rich in quality. On one occasion Jeremiah accompanied him to the county seat, going in his bare feet, while Orson wore an elegant pair of silk stockings. The former continued his residence in Naples until his death. He was born on the 21st of July, 1781, and died June 22, 1848, when about sixty-four years of age. His wife was in her maidenhood Clarissa Clark, and her father was also a soldier. She reached the advanced age of seventy-five years and died on the old homestead. Seven children blessed their union: Mary, Bishop, Emily, Edwin, William W., Corydon and Caroline. Only two of these are now living, our subject, and Edwin, who is married and resides on the old homestead in the Empire State.

In the month of September, 1840, William W. Parish, of this sketch, came to Illinois by various conveyances, after the fashion of those early days. He traveled from Buffalo to Chicago by boat and was there met by a wagon and team that was wait-

ing for him and his sister, Emily Higgins, who previously had become a resident of Kankakee County. On the journey to this place they stopped on the Sac trail at a place called a hotel, but which was nothing more or less than one of the old-fashioned Pennsylvania wagon-boxes. It was kept by a Mr. Brown, who still lives at the same place, about three miles south of Crete. Mr. Parish became one of the pioneer settlers of Kankakee County, and is familiar with its history from an early day. He paid his first taxes while living in Lorain precinct, walking six miles to discharge the indebtedness, which amounted to fifteen cents. He still has in his possession an old letter from his father, written from Naples, N. Y., and bearing date July 31, 1812. It required twenty-five cents' postage and four months elapsed ere it was delivered. Mr. Parish located near the site of Momence, where his brother Bishop had settled some four years previous. He took up eighty acres of Government land on what is now section 26 and at first thinking that he had too much land he tried to sell forty acres. He failed in this and it was not long ere he decided that his farm was not large enough and purchased eighty acres more. This tract was two miles southeast of where Momence now stands. Subsequently, he purchased other land, which he afterward sold. He also opened up business in Kansas, handling large tracts of land and loaning considerable money. At that time he also dealt largely in Texas cattle. He is now the possessor of land in Kansas, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Nebraska and Iowa.

Mr. Parish has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Salhe Woodard, daughter of Benjamin and Sylvia (Vail) Woodard, of Kankakee. She died October 11, 1848, about a year after her marriage, and left one child, a daughter, who is now the wife of Charles Bellinger, who resides on a farm some three miles northeast of Momence, one of the finest farms in the county. They have two children, William and Allie. On the 10th of April, 1852, Mr. Parish wedded Miss Catherine Parkhurst, who became the mother of four children: Varnum, William, Carrie, and one who died in infancy. Of this family only one now survives, William, who married Miss

Katie, daughter of Anthony Canavan. They reside in Momence, where Mr. Parish is extensively engaged in contracting and building, having erected eighteen houses in the past year. He also supervises large farms near the town. They have three children: Varnum, Carrie, and William. In 1889, Mr. Parish of this sketch was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who on the 30th of January was called to her final rest.

Our subject has lived retired for several years, placing the management of his various interests in the hands of his children. He has never belonged to any church or secret society, but is a staunch Republican and has voted that ticket since the organization of the party, and previous to that time was a Whig, though his people were all Democrats before him. Although seventy-one years of age, Mr. Parish is a well-preserved man and bids fair to live for many years. He is one of the substantial and public-spirited citizens of Momence and has materially aided in making Kankakee County one of the best portions of Illinois. He has seen it change from a wild and desolate waste of land, inhabited by howling wolves and other wild animals, to a beautiful, thrifty and populous commonwealth of industrious and intelligent people.



ROBERT GOODILL is a prosperous farmer residing on section 21, Ganier Township, and is one of the early pioneers of this county. He was born in Yorkshire, England, and his parents, George and Mary Goodill, emigrated to America in 1852, and soon after their arrival in the New World became residents of Kankakee County, where the father died in 1854, aged fifty-eight years, and the mother in 1865, aged seventy-one years. In their family of five children, our subject was the only son, the daughters being Hannah, Jane, Ann and Mary.

Robert Goodill was the second in order of birth in the family and was born and reared upon a farm. His educational advantages were limited, and he is largely self-educated. When fifteen

years of age he started out to make his own way in the world, and served for five years as an apprentice at the carpenter's trade in his native land. In 1850 he came to America on a sailing-vessel bound for Canada, and was shipwrecked in the St. Lawrence River. In this disaster he lost all of his carpenter tools and outfit, which was a serious loss to him at that time. When they landed there were about two feet of snow on the ground, and for two weeks the unfortunate passengers endured untold suffering before they were rescued. Mr. Goodill remained in Canada from May until October of 1850, working at his trade and whatever afforded an honest means of livelihood. Then going to Dayton, Ohio, he worked at his trade until May of the following year, at which time he proceeded to Danville, Ill., residing there until March, 1852, which date witnessed his arrival in Momence, Kankakee County. He came by stage from Danville, and took two days to make the journey. For a year our subject worked as a carpenter in Momence, Kankakee and vicinity; and then determined to turn his attention and efforts in the direction of tilling the soil. Accordingly, he purchased a land warrant for one hundred and sixty acres of Government land, located on section 21, Ganier Township, for which he paid \$160. This property he placed under good cultivation, and now owns two hundred acres in a body, all well improved and valuable land. For thirty-nine years, Mr. Goodill has made this property his home, and is well and favorably known in this and adjoining townships.

On the 12th of December, 1857, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary Cox, who was also a native of England. Four children graced this union. Jane died October 27, 1888, aged twenty-two; George W. is married and assists his father in the care of the homestead; Hester and Charlotte also reside at home. The mother of these children, who was a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist Church, was called to her final home February 15, 1892, aged sixty-nine years. She was a devoted wife and mother, and left a wide circle of friends, who deeply mourn her loss. She lies buried in the Momence Cemetery.

Mr. Goodill has always taken an active part in

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G. Gunnarson



Flora Gunnarson

local affairs, and has served his township as School Director and Pathmaster in a satisfactory manner. He holds membership with the Methodist Church, having been Trustee for a number of years. He is the originator of the church at Exline, which but for his liberal assistance would not be standing to-day. He has affiliated with the Republican party, and is a man highly esteemed for his worth and integrity.



GUNNER GUNNERSON, who for almost a quarter of a century has been a resident of Kankakee County, and who has been prominently identified with its agricultural interests, is now living a retired life in Herscher. As he has a wide acquaintance we feel assured that this record will prove of interest to many of our readers. Mr. Gunnerson is a native of Norway. He was born on the 20th of September, 1840, and is a son of Gunner and Margaret (Waage) Gunnerson, both of whom were natives of the same country. The family emigrated to the New World in 1846, when our subject was a lad of six summers, and settled in La Salle County, Ill. The father died the same year, after which the mother reared her family, continuing her residence in La Salle County until her death, which occurred in 1857.

Mr. Gunnerson of this sketch is the youngest of a family of five sons and three daughters, of whom two died in childhood. He has one brother and two sisters yet living, the eldest of whom, Fulton, is now in business in Rankin, Ill.; Mrs. Margaret Anderson and Mrs. Christina Williamson both reside in La Salle County.

Gunner Gunnerson grew to manhood in that county and in its common schools acquired his education. He remained with his mother until her death, and then began to make his own way in the world. He first earned his livelihood by working as a farm hand by the month, but when the late war broke out put aside all business cares and responded to the country's call for troops. In 1861

he became a member of Company F, Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry, and went to the front, where he served until his discharge at the close of the war. He enlisted as a private August 9, 1861, and was promoted to the rank of Second Sergeant. He participated in a number of important engagements, including the battles of Pea Ridge, Perryville, Stone River and Chickamauga, where he was wounded by a gun-shot through the left shoulder. For several months he was confined to the hospital on account of this injury, but as soon as he had sufficiently recovered he rejoined his regiment, and with the troops took part in the Atlanta campaign. He was under fire at the battles of Resaca, Adairsville, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain and Peach Tree Creek; he also took part in many lesser engagements. When the war was over and the country no longer needed his services he was honorably discharged and mustered out at Springfield, Ill., October 8, 1865. For four years he had faithfully followed the old flag and defended his country in her hour of peril, and as an honored veteran he now returned to his home in La Salle County.

The following winter Mr. Gunnerson spent in that county, and in 1866 came to Kankakee County. In company with his brother Fulton he here purchased a tract of land in Pilot Township and began the development of a farm. Together the brothers continued to operate their land for two years, when Gunner sold to Fulton and purchased another tract, upon which some slight improvements had been made. Soon he had the entire amount under a high state of cultivation and the land yielded him a golden tribute in return for the care and labor he bestowed upon it.

The marriage of Mr. Gunnerson and Miss Flora Christian, who for more than twenty-five years have traveled life's journey together as man and wife, was celebrated in Grundy County, Ill., October 28, 1867. The lady is a native of this State, and her maidenhood days were spent in Grundy County. Mrs. Gunnerson's father was a native of the Isle of Man, and her great-grandparents came from Holland. The father was a farmer by occupation, and in 1852, about the time of the "gold fever," went to California, and there died. Her

mother died when she was a child, but she was reared by her grandmother. Three children have been born unto Mr. and Mrs. Gunnerson: Bertie Grant, who is a school teacher of recognized ability in this county; William C., who is now pursuing the scientific course of study in the Normal College of Valparaiso, Ind., and Clifford H., a lad of seven years, who is attending school in Herscher.

In his social relations, Mr. Gunnerson is a member of Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R., of Kankakee. Until of late years he exercised his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, with which he voted from 1864, when he cast his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln, while home on a furlough. He is now identified with the Prohibition party. He is the present efficient Assessor of Pilot Township, to which office he was elected in the spring of 1892. In that year Mr. Gunnerson left his farm, and having built a neat and substantial residence in Herscher, removed to that village, where he now makes his home. For many long years he has been a resident of this part of Illinois, and has witnessed much of the growth and development of the county, having seen it transformed from an almost unbroken wilderness into one of the best counties of the State. As a citizen, Mr. Gunnerson is progressive and public-spirited, and manifests an interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community.



REUBEN DAYTON, who is engaged in general farming on section 24, Momence Township, has spent almost his entire life on his present farm, which is the old homestead of the Dayton family. He was born in Canada on the 3d of July, 1833, and is a son of William and Elizabeth (Hess) Dayton, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. They had a family of four children, three sons and a daughter, of whom Reuben is the eldest.

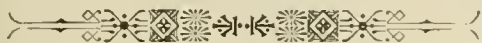
Our subject was only six years of age when he came to the West with his parents. The family located in Kankakee County, Ill., and the father

took up a claim. This was in 1839, at a time when the entire county was wild and but sparsely settled, indeed, the work of progress and civilization seemed scarcely begun, and the Dayton family endured all the hardships and went through all the experiences of pioneer life. As Mr. Dayton secured his land from the Government, it was in its primitive condition, not a furrow having been turned or an improvement made; but with the aid of his son, he developed the wild tract into rich and fertile fields. Upon that farm and amid the scenes of the frontier, Reuben Dayton was reared to manhood. His boyhood days were passed amid play and work, but the latter greatly predominated and he was early inured to the hard labors of developing a new farm. He remained at home with his parents until after they were called to their final rest. His mother died when he was only about nine years of age, and the death of the father occurred when Reuben was about fifteen years of age. He was then thrown upon his own resources, and began life for himself. A farm was left to the four children, which our subject at once began to cultivate and improve, and the old homestead has since been his place of abode, he having purchased the interests of the other heirs in the same.

Mr. Dayton has been twice married. In 1856 he was united in marriage with Miss Elmira Force, of this county, who died two years later, and on the 1st of January, 1860, he was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Marinda Wells, widow of Timothy Wells, a farmer of this county, who died in 1859. By her first union she had three children. Mary A. became the wife of Cyrus B. Scott, and died in 1887; Martha L. married John Kesler, a farmer of Momence Township; Fremont J. is also a farmer of the same township. By her second marriage she became the mother of two children: Leonidas R. and Mahlon J., both of whom died in childhood.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Dayton is a Republican, having long supported the men and measures of that party. For two years he has been Postmaster of the Wem post-office, which is located upon his farm. Throughout his entire life, Mr. Dayton has engaged in agricultural pursuits.

He owns a desirable farm of about one hundred and thirty-three acres, which he has now rented. Our subject is a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families of the county, and in the community where he has so long made his home he is widely and favorably known. His best friends are among those who have known him from his boyhood days, a fact that indicates the honorable, upright life which he has lived and the high regard in which he is held.



HARMON MEAD, one of the honored veterans of the late war and a retired farmer of Kankakee County, now residing on section 31, Pilot Township, is a native of the Green Mountain State. He was born in Franklin County, Vt., on the 15th of March, 1833, and is of German descent. His paternal grandfather, Caleb Mead, was a native of Germany. Emigrating to America, he became one of the early settlers of Vermont and the founder of the family in the New World. On his trip across the broad Atlantic he was accompanied by two brothers, who settled in New York.

C. A. Mead, the father of our subject, was also born in Franklin County, Vt., and there grew to mature years. He followed the occupation of farming as a means of livelihood, and continued his residence in the State of his nativity until called to the home beyond. His family numbered eight sons and two daughters, but the latter are now deceased, and one brother has also passed away.

Under the parental roof our subject spent the days of his childhood, and in the common schools of the neighborhood he acquired his education, although his privileges were quite meagre. He remained with his father until the age of twenty years, when, desiring to follow some other pursuit than that of agriculture, he began learning the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for some three years. Following Horace Greeley's advice, he came to the West, a young man, in 1851, and made his first location in Kankakee, Ill. Soon after his ar-

ival he secured employment with Mr. McIntosh, a manufacturer of brooms, with whom he worked during the winter season for two years, while in the summer months he was employed as a farm hand. He then continued his farm labors and also engaged in carpentering, for he had his own way to make in the world.

After the breaking out of the late war Mr. Mead responded to his country's call for troops, and in 1862 joined the First Marine Artillery, after which he was sent to New York. He remained in the service until the following spring, when he was discharged and returned to his home in Kankakee. Here he again resumed farming, which he carried on until the autumn of 1864, when he once more re-enlisted, becoming a member of the Eighth Illinois Infantry. He joined his regiment at Duvall's Bluff, Ark., and remained in the service until the close of the war, participating in all the engagements in and around Spanish Fort and Ft. Blakely. When peace had been restored he was discharged at Jefferson Barracks in August, 1865.

Mr. Mead at once returned to Kankakee County, and in 1866 rented a farm of forty acres in Pilot Township, which he operated for several years. In 1867 he purchased a tract of forty acres, upon which he now resides, removing hither about 1870. He broke and fenced the land, built a small residence thereon, and opened up a farm. With characteristic energy he carried on the work of development and improvement, and as his labors were blessed with prosperity, a few years later he was enabled to purchase an additional forty-acre tract adjoining. Subsequently he bought sixty acres, and he now owns a well-improved and cultivated farm of one hundred and forty acres. Upon it he has erected a neat and substantial residence, together with barns and outbuildings which are models of convenience. The improvements upon the place stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

On the 20th of February, 1867, in Pilot Township, Mr. Mead was married to Miss Elizabeth Woods, a native of Indiana, born in Jefferson January 4, 1813, and a daughter of Francis and Elizabeth (Francess) Woods, who removed from the Hoosier State to Illinois, locating in Kankakee County

when Mrs. Mead was about eight years of age. Four sons have been born of this union: Delmer, who aids in operating the home farm; George; Roy and Emory. The two youngest children are now in school. The family is one of prominence in the community, widely and favorably known.

Mr. Mead cast his first Presidential vote for Hon. Stephen A. Douglas, since which time he has been a staunch supporter of the men and measures of the Republican party. However, he has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his whole time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with good success. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Herscher. This worthy couple have long been residents of Kankakee County, have seen much of its growth and development, and well deserve to be mentioned among its early settlers and prominent citizens.



WILLIAM HIPKE, a well-known citizen of Herscher, who for many years was connected with the farming interests of Kankakee County, but is now living a retired life, was born in Bergenhausen, Schleswig, Germany, March 4, 1841. His mother was also born in Germany, and his father, Frederick Hipke, was a native of Prussia. He died in his native land, leaving the mother with a family of ten children to support. About three years after her husband's death, Mrs. Hipke crossed the Atlantic to America and made her first location in Calumet County, Wis. The family settled upon a tract of wild land in the midst of the forest, which the sons cleared and transformed into a good farm. The mother there spent the last years of her life, passing away in 1876, at the age of about seventy-six years.

William Hipke is the sixth in order of birth in this family. John, the eldest, is now deceased; Frederick is living a retired life in Fremont, Neb.; Jacob is also living retired and makes his home in Holstein, Wis.; Carl is engaged in farming in Calumet County, Wis.; Christian is a retired farmer

of Holstein; the next younger are our subject and his twin sister Anna, who is the wife of David Hausheldt, of Holstein, Wis.; Margaret is the wife of Peter Lipp, a farmer residing in Holstein; George, a contractor and builder, resides in Erie, Pa., and completes the family.

The subject of this sketch spent the first fourteen years of his life in the land of his birth and then, bidding good-bye to the home of his childhood, accompanied his mother on her emigration to America. He spent about four years in Calumet County, Wis. He had good school advantages in Germany, but in the English language he is entirely self-educated. When a young man of eighteen years, he left Wisconsin and came to this State, locating first in Kendall County, where he worked for S. P. Bushnell, then of Kendall County, but now of Paxton, Ill. He remained with that gentleman for seven years and found in his employer a good friend, whom he remembers with deep gratitude.

About 1867, Mr. Hipke purchased a tract of wild land of one hundred and sixty acres, located in Milk's Grove Township, Iroquois County. Settling thereon, he broke the land and developed a farm, continuing its cultivation for a number of years. He afterwards purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Kankakee County, an improved place, to the development of which he devoted his energies for a number of years. In 1883 he removed to Pilot Township, where carried on agricultural pursuits for two years. He then determined to make his home in the West and in 1885 removed to Colorado, locating in Denver. He spent the winter in that city and in the spring of 1886 returned to this county. He then took up his residence in Pilot Township, but after two years removed to Herscher, where he continued to reside until 1891. He then sold out and changed his place of abode to Onarga. This was in the spring of 1892. He resided in Onarga until the fall of that year, when he purchased lots in Herscher, built thereon a substantial and pleasant residence, and returned to the village in November of that year.

On the 12th of November, 1871, in Morris, Grundy County, Ill., was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hipke with Miss Mary J. Duckworth, who was born in Lisbon, Kendall County, Ill., Feb-

ruary 15, 1815, and reared in that county. She was the youngest child of the venerable George and Mary (Nuttall) Duckworth, both natives of Lancashire, England, who removed directly to New Hartford, N. Y., and again removed in the year 1836 to Lisbon, Kendall County, Ill., remaining there until retiring, and spending the remainder of their lives with their children. Three children have been born of the union of our subject and his wife, the eldest of whom, George F., died on the 14th of April, 1891, in Herscher. He had received a good education, first graduating from the Herscher public schools, then pursuing a commercial course of study in Onarga Seminary. He was a young man of many excellencies of character, a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, and was beloved and esteemed by all who knew him. His health, however, was never very robust and disease fastening itself upon him, he passed away at his parents' home in Herscher, mourned by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Walter W., the second son, is attending school, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Herscher. Lulu, a bright little maiden of six summers, completes the family.

Mr. Hipke began life for himself empty-handed, possessed of a strong determination to succeed and a young man's bright hope of the future. With untiring energy he steadily worked his way upward, overcoming the obstacles in his path by his great energy and progressive spirit. With the assistance of his wife he has accumulated two valuable farms, together with a good home, and to-day is one of the substantial citizens of Kankakee County. Upright and honorable in all his business relations, his career has been a commendable one, well worthy of emulation. He is now living retired, enjoying a well-earned rest.

In political sentiment, Mr. Hipke is a Republican, having been identified with that party since he cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. Since that time he has supported each Republican nominee for the Presidency. While in Milk's Grove Township he served as Trustee and for a number of years was a member of the School Board. He gives his support to all worthy enterprises calculated to prove of public

benefit and is a warm friend to the cause of education. Himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Hipke served as Elder and Trustee for a number of years, or until his removal to Onarga in the spring of 1892. This worthy couple are held in the warmest regard throughout the community where they reside, for universal confidence and esteem are theirs.



HERBERT WHEELER, M. D., is a well-known physician and surgeon of Grant Park, Ill., and was born December 4th, 1851, near Saratoga, N. Y. According to family tradition, three brothers by the name of Wheeler emigrated from England at an early day, settling in Connecticut, and from them have descended the numerous families of that name in the United States. Elias Wheeler, who was born February 1, 1780, and died May 11, 1834, was a wealthy farmer residing near Shaftsbury, Vt. He was a man of strict integrity and was highly respected. He married Miss Olive Niles, who was born October 22, 1784, and whose death occurred May 6, 1875. To them were born eight sons and six daughters, who grew to maturity. The Niles family was of pure Welsh extraction and was possessed of great strength and vitality.

Andrew Pitchner Wheeler, the tenth child born to Elias Wheeler, was the father of our subject. He was born January 7, 1817, and died April 20, 1882. He inherited almost a giant's strength and was a man of great activity and energy. Though quick to resent a wrong, he was ever the first to come to the defense of a friend. On the 5th of May, 1846, he wedded Sarah Jewett, who was born near Bennington, Vt., October 26, 1822, and who, though over seventy years of age, is still living, making her home in Grant Park, Ill. Her father, Levi Jewett, who was born July 18, 1789, and whose death occurred on the same farm near Bennington, was a respected agriculturist and surveyor of that section. His wife, who was formerly Miss Laura Perry, was born in Stamford, Vt.,

on the 8th of February, 1799, and died when her daughter Sarah was a child of but seven years. Though subjected to many hardships, and left an orphan at an early age, the latter succeeded in attaining a good education in the private and academic schools of Bennington and was a successful teacher.

To Andrew P. and Sarah (Jewett) Wheeler were born the following children: Harriet Maria, born on the 8th of March, 1847; Hamilton Jewett Kincaid, on the 5th of August, 1848; Herbert, on the 4th of December, 1851; Mary, on the 6th of November, 1853; Charles Harry, March 10, 1857; Thomas, July 19, 1859; and Laura Finett, January 7, 1865. The two older children are natives of Shaftsbury, Vt., and the four younger were born on the old homestead near Grant Park.

In the spring of 1853, when our subject was not two years of age, his parents located on section 30, Yellowhead Township. The farm consisted of forty acres of land, one mile south of the present village of Grant Park. After living in a log house for two years they purchased and removed to a farm adjoining the village. This farm consists of two hundred and forty acres and is the south half of the northwest quarter and the northeast quarter of section 19, Yellowhead Township. In common with the other children, Herbert Wheeler had to endure the hardships of pioneer life, and while young was only enabled to attend school during the winter months. In 1868 he entered the public schools of Kankakee, residing in the home of A. B. True. The following winter he attended the district school at McKinstry Corners for a term comprising fifty-six days. From November, 1869, until March, 1870, he was a student at St. Paul's School at Kankakee. On the 12th of April, 1870, he passed an examination given by County Superintendent T. W. Beecher, a nephew of Henry Ward Beecher, and received a teacher's certificate. He did not immediately avail himself of this, but during the summer worked on the home farm and in the fall again entered St. Paul's School. On the 10th of April, 1871, he commenced teaching at Sherburnville, where he remained for four months. The following winter he taught in the same town for six months and then later a

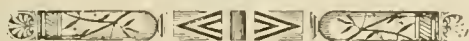
three months' term. In 1872 he taught for one term at Yellowhead Point, and in the following year conducted the first public school in Grant Park, where his sister Harriet had previously carried on a private school. In September, 1872, Mr. Wheeler entered the Illinois Industrial University (now the University of Illinois) at Urbana, where he took a course in literature and science. He remained there until 1874, when, on account of a severe illness, he was not able to return.

Mr. Wheeler became a student in the medical department of the University of Michigan in October, 1874. After taking a six months' course he engaged as a clerk in a drug store at Grant Park until the fall of 1875, when he entered Rush Medical College of Chicago, there remaining until the close of the spring term in 1876. At that time the conditions for graduating in that college required three years' study, and though he had given his attention to the study of medicine for two years he did not then apply for a diploma. However, in the following year, when the Medical Practice Act of Illinois took effect, he stood the first examination held by the State Board of Health of Chicago, which he passed creditably. He received certificate No. 3, of the State Board of Health, dated January 12, 1877. Newton Bateman, LL. D., and J. M. Gregory, LL. D., were then members of the Board.

In May, 1876, Dr. Wheeler commenced the practice of medicine at Momence, where he was located for six months, after which he removed to Grant Park, where he has successfully practiced since. He now owns a handsome residence and has a pleasant home in this place. His practice is large and lucrative and he is held as a worthy citizen and one of the prominent men of Grant Park.

On September 6, 1881, Dr. Wheeler and Miss Anna Matilda Herbert were married in the Methodist Episcopal Church of Grant Park. The lady was born at Monee, Will County, May 7, 1860. Her father, who was a native of Germany, was the first settler and founder of that village, where for many years he served as a Justice of the Peace. He was in the Regular United States Army during the Mexican War. While a resident of Will County he was a member of the Board of Supervisors.

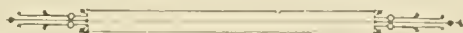
In 1876 he removed to Grant Park, which is still his home. Mrs. Wheeler is an accomplished musician and is very popular in social circles. By her marriage she has become the mother of two children: Herbert Edward, born May 10, 1883; and Mary Margaret, born August 5, 1884. Both our subject and his estimable wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Doctor is a staunch Republican in politics.



CHARLES F. SMITH, M. D., a leading physician and surgeon of Kankakee, was born in the town of Hermon, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., June 6, 1851. His parents were Morris G. and Orissa (Lake) Smith, and are now deceased. Our subject came to Illinois with his parents when thirteen years of age. The family located in Kendall County and he attended the public school at Bristol. At an early age he was thrown upon his own resources and had to secure the means for his education. He became a student at the Aurora (Ill.) College, and later in the University of Champaign. Under Dr. N. A. Wantling, of that city, he began the study of medicine and attended lectures at Miami Medical College of Cincinnati, receiving his degrees in 1874 and 1878. He began practicing in Cincinnati, but on account of his health he removed to Danforth, Iroquois County, Ill., where he built up a large and lucrative practice. He continued to live there for seventeen years, or until May, 1892, when he moved to Kankakee, where he hoped to get a little rest from overwork. While only six months have elapsed since opening an office here, his practice has grown to be extensive. About the year 1886 it occurred to Dr. Smith that he would like to be a lawyer, so he read under the direction of the Hon. Free P. Morris, of Watseka, and in 1888 was admitted to the Bar through examination in the Supreme Court of Illinois. He practiced but a short time, however, and then returned to his first love and has since devoted himself to the medical profession.

In February, 1880, Dr. Smith was married in Danforth, Iroquois County, to Miss Emma McDougall, daughter of John McDougall, and a native of Kentucky. They have one child, a son, Charles K., who was born in 1883.

Dr. Smith is a member of the Illinois State Medical Association, the Kankakee County Medical Society and of the National Association of Railway Surgeons. In his social relations he is a member of Gilman Lodge No. 591, A. F. & A. M.; of Watseka Chapter No. 114, R. A. M., and of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T. He is also a member of Gilman Lodge, No. 648 I. O. O. F. Dr. Smith is essentially a self-made man. He has had to make his own way since childhood, and by pluck, energy and hard work he has attained to a prominent place in his profession and has accumulated a valuable property.



FRANKLIN S. FRIES, a well-known druggist of Kankakee, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred near Geneseo, Henry County, on the 11th of June, 1854. The paternal grandfather of our subject, George Fries, was a native of Pennsylvania and of German descent. He was a cabinet-maker by trade, and of his large family of children six are still living, four sons and two daughters. They have all reached a ripe old age and have families of their own. One of the sons lives in Moline, one in Nebraska, one near and the other in Geneseo, Ill. One daughter resides in Johnson County, Neb.; and the other in Kingman, Kan.

The parents of our subject are John and Susanna (Klinger) Fries, the former a native of Pennsylvania, and the latter of Ohio. Four sons and five daughters were born to them, but three of whom are now living: Franklin S., Hannah A. and Sarah E., the others dying in infancy. In the summer of 1853, the parents emigrated to Illinois from Ohio, where they had lived for some years. They settled upon a farm in Henry County, near Geneseo, where Mr. Fries has engaged

in agricultural pursuits for about forty years. He has now reached seventy years of age and is still hale and hearty. He comes from a long-lived family, his grandparents having been octogenarians. He was a soldier in the late war, having enlisted in the one hundred day service. He and his wife are consistent members of the Evangelical Church, to which they have belonged for many years and in which Mr. Fries has held various offices.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed upon his father's farm, where he worked in the summer season, attending the district school through the winter term. In 1874, he left the parental roof, going to Aekley, Iowa, where he entered a drug store and served a three years' apprenticeship under Dr. W. H. Roberts, learning thoroughly the compounding of prescriptions. In 1877, he returned to his home in Geneseo, where he remained for two years. Mr. Fries next went to Chicago, and entering the employ of Rockwood Bros., druggists, remained with them until 1882. He then came to Kankakee and clerked for about six years in the drug stores of Kurrasch & Stege and that of F. Swannell. About 1888, Mr. Fries formed a partnership with J. S. Cline and purchased the stock formerly owned by F. Swannell. They continued in business together until March, 1890, when Mr. Cline sold his interest to Dr. H. H. Rogers, since which time the style of the firm has been Fries & Rogers. They have a well-stocked store of druggists' supplies, also paints, oils, wall paper and stationery. Since embarking in business in this city, Mr. Fries has met with signal success and has a constantly increasing trade.

The 17th of January, 1878, was an eventful day in the history of Mr. Fries, for he was then united in marriage with Sarah A. Babel, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Sinsinnicht) Babel, of Naperville, Ill., who were natives of Germany, and emigrated to America when young. Mr. Babel was a blacksmith, farmer and carpenter, and at the present time has a shop on his farm. Mr. and Mrs. Fries have one child, a son, Howard Lloyd, who is now about twelve years of age.

Mr. Fries is interested in civic societies and is a member of the Ancient Order of United Work-

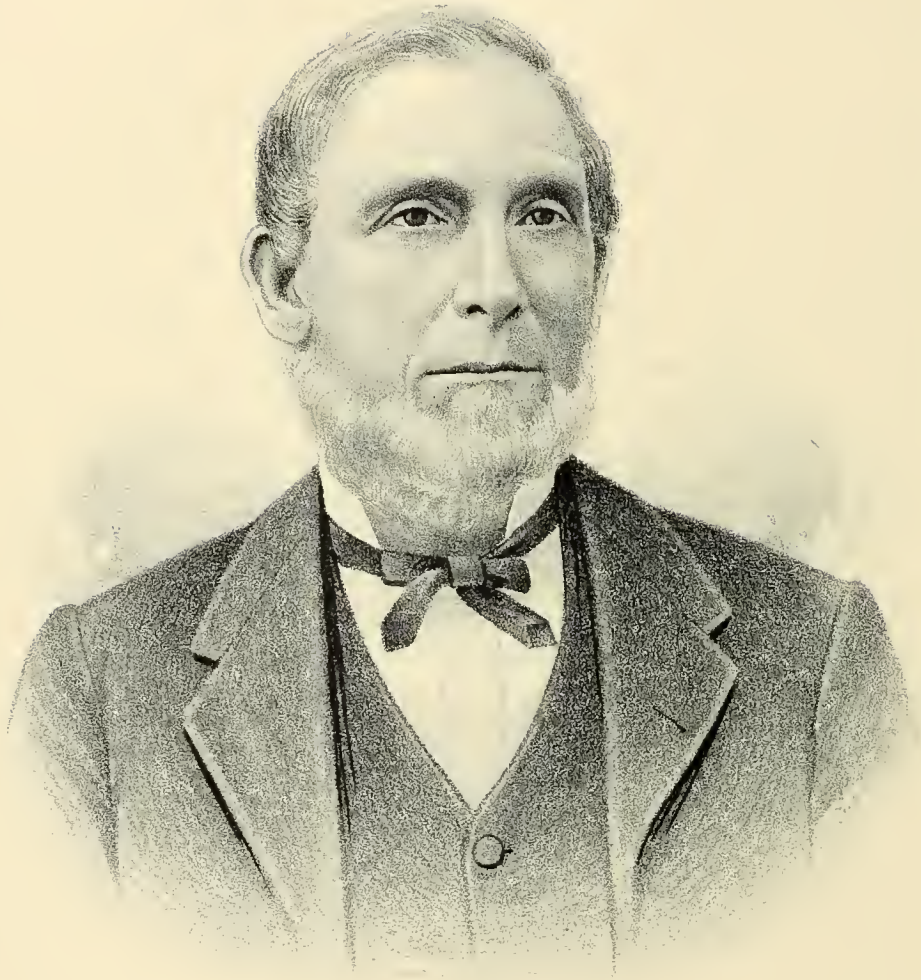
men, and also holds membership with Lodge No. 379, A. F. & A. M. He is not a politician, as his time is fully occupied in carrying on his business without aspiring to the honors of office, but he is a loyal Republican and has always voted that ticket. He is one of the enterprising business men of Kankakee and has a large acquaintance and patronage.



JONAS J. NEFF, who resides on section 10, Sumner Township, is a well-known and progressive farmer and has been a resident of this county for nearly thirty years. His birth occurred in the Buckeye State on the 29th of December, 1836, in Tuscarawas County. His grandfather, Christopher Neff, was of German descent, and his father, Jonas, was born in the Keystone State. At an early day the latter removed to Ohio and throughout life has been a farmer. He is still living in Ohio on the old homestead, at the advanced age of eighty-five years. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Susanna Royer, and by her marriage became the mother of ten children: David, Jacob, Simon and Mary A. (twins), Jonas, Elizabeth, Ezra, Martin L., Susanna and Peter. The mother's death occurred in 1857. Both she and her husband were members of the Lutheran Church. Afterward the father married again and had one child, Austin.

Until twenty-one years of age our subject remained at home with his father. His early education was acquired in the district schools, after which he attended a select school for four summers, teaching during the winter months. He engaged in that profession most of the time until coming to Illinois in 1864. Upon his arrival in Kankakee County, Mr. Neff rented land, turned his attention to agricultural pursuits during the summer, and taught school during the winter terms for three years. In 1868 he purchased the farm which has been his home ever since. This tract consisted of one hundred and twenty acres on section 10, and was raw, unimproved railroad

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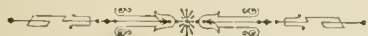
SARAH WEBLER

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land. He is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres, having all modern improvements. In addition to general farming, he makes a speciality of raising a high grade of hogs. He has acquired a good competence, the result of years of economy and industry.

In 1860 occurred the wedding of Mr. Neff and Miss Caroline Swihart, a sketch of whose family appears elsewhere in this volume. Two children, sons, have graced their marriage. David Lincoln is a farmer of Sumner Township, and Herbert assists his father in carrying on the homestead.

As is natural on account of his many years spent as a teacher, Mr. Neff has always been especially interested in educational matters and is a believer in good schools and teachers. He has served his townships in a number of minor offices and does his share toward the promotion of all measures calculated to benefit the community in which he dwells. Politically, Mr. Neff is a Republican and uses his right of franchise in support of that party. For many years he and his wife have been valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



PETER WEBLER, one of Kankakee's well-known citizens, has been a resident of this city since 1863, and of the State of Illinois for about forty years. He operated a foundry and machine shop in Kankakee for nearly eighteen years, but finally sold that branch of his business to Messrs. Woodruff & Beaumont.

Our subject is a native of Hartford, Conn., his birth occurring July 1, 1821. His parents were Reuben and Martha (Maynard) Webler, the family name having doubtless originally been spelled Webber. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a Hollander by birth, and on his arrival in this country he settled in Connecticut, where he resided until his death. The Maynard family is supposed to be of German origin. Reuben Webler was engaged in the codfishery business for a number of years off the New England coast. Soon

after the discovery of gold in California he started for the Pacific Coast, hoping to make his fortune, and to this day his family have never received any tidings from him. Whether he reached his destination or perished on the way has never been learned. Previous to this time, however, his family had removed from Connecticut to Cherry Valley, N. Y., and later the mother removed with her family to Cazenovia, in Madison County, the same State. A number of years afterward the mother removed to Illinois and passed her remaining years with her son, our subject, her death occurring when she had attained the advanced age of eighty-two years. Her family consisted of five children, three of whom, two sons and a daughter, are still living. The eldest of the surviving members of the family is Fannie, widow of George Miller, who makes her home at Pleasant Mount, Wayne County, Pa.; Peter is the next in order of birth; and Jerome is a resident of Wilmington, Ill. Those deceased are Mary and Thomas.

Mr. Webler learned the trade of a molder or stove-maker, which occupation he has followed much of his life in connection with other branches of the foundry business. About 1850 he came to Illinois and located at Wilmington, where he had friends. In that city he lived until coming to Kankakee in 1863.

In Madison County, N. Y., on the 6th of October, 1847, Mr. Webler married Miss Sarah, daughter of Adam Walrath. On the 20th of October, 1891, Mrs. Webler, who had been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, passed away. Five children had graced their union, but two of whom are now living, a son and a daughter. George is a resident of Kankakee; and Ella is the wife of John Pitzel, who operates a farm owned by Mr. Webler in Otto Township. Our subject has ten grandchildren, four of whom are children of his son and six of his daughter.

For quite a number of years Mr. Webler has devoted considerable attention to real estate, in fact that has been his principal business since he sold his foundry. He has done considerable building, and thus has contributed to the growth and development of the city. He has been successful

in business and is respected as a worthy and estimable citizen. He resides at his pleasant home situated at No. 203 Third Avenue. Politically, he was a Whig until the rise of the Republican party, with which he has since been identified. Though he has held a number of minor offices in the city he has never been an office-seeker.



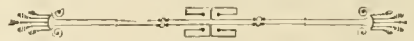
MATTHEW ANDERSON, who has been for nearly half a century a resident of this county, was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, on the 19th of February, 1814. He is the son of Alexander and Elizabeth (Miller) Anderson, also of Scotland. Their family consisted of seven children, six of whom were sons and one a daughter: Alexander, John, Thomas, Robert, Mary, Matthew and Robert.

Our subject was born and reared on a farm and is largely self-educated, as his advantages for obtaining an education were most limited. When only seven years of age he commenced herding cattle in his native land and continued in that occupation until thirteen years of age. For a number of years he worked at general labor, principally upon farms, and received but small remuneration. Believing that the New World would afford him better chances of making his way in the world, he bade adieu to the friends and scenes of his youth, and in 1833 took passage on a sailing-vessel bound for Canada. After a voyage upon the briny deep of over eight weeks he landed at Quebec. From there he went to Huntington, Canada, where he lived for four years. Then going to Wayne County, N. Y., Mr. Anderson commenced working on a farm, receiving \$10 per month. He was industrious and frugal and remained there for about six years, thence returning to Canada, where he lived until 1844. That year witnessed his arrival in Kankakee County, which was then a portion of Will County. For the period of a year he worked in a sawmill at Wilmington, and then, coming to Momence, was in a sawmill for ten years. He next determined to turn his atten-

tion to agricultural pursuits and accordingly moved on an eighty-acre farm of wild land, which he had previously purchased on section 10, Ganier Township. There were at that time three log and three frame houses in Momence. The farm on which he is now living he settled upon in 1857, and has made it his home up to the present date. When he first came to this section the Indians were still numerous and the country was almost a wilderness. He now owns one hundred and twenty acres, which are under a high state of cultivation and have many improvements.

Mr. Anderson was married September 24, 1850, to Miss Sarah A. Beadle, and by their union were born four children: Mary, John, and twins who died in infancy. Mrs. Anderson was called to her final rest in 1856, and her remains are interred in the Momence Cemetery. Our subject was united in marriage in 1859 to Miss Rebecca Wilson.

Mr. Anderson was a supporter of the old Whig party previous to the organization of the Republican party, and since that time he has been one of its staunch adherents. He is public-spirited and always ready to do his part in the various enterprises intended for the advancement and progress of the community in which he dwells. For between twenty-five and thirty years our subject has served in the capacity of Highway Commissioner and School Director. In a business and financial way he has been very successful, and from a most humble beginning has worked his way upwards to a fair competency by his own unassisted efforts and industry.



FREDERICK HOLTZMAN, a grain and seed merchant and wealthy citizen of Grant Park, is a native of Germany. His birth occurred on the 17th of February, 1836, in Prussia. He is the elder of two children, a son and daughter, born to Frederick and Fredericka (Rosen, Holtzman, who were also natives of Prussia, a were their ancestors for many generations. In 1856 they crossed the broad Atlantic to the New

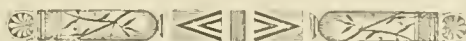
World, and came directly to Du Page County, Ill., where they located upon a farm, which was their home for the following ten years. From there they came to Yellowhead Township, where they are both still living, the father having attained the advanced age of eighty-seven years, while his wife is over eighty-two. Both are members of the Lutheran Church.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in his native land, and there he received good educational advantages. He came to the United States when twenty years of age, and there got rid of serving in the German army. For two years after his arrival in Illinois, he assisted his father on his new farm in Du Page County. He then purchased a farm in Yellowhead Township, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits on his own behalf for some five years, after which he determined to become a merchant, and accordingly came to Grant Park, where he has since been engaged in the grain business.

March 31, 1865, occurred the marriage of Mr. Holtzman and Miss Sophia Rave, of Du Page County. By their union were born four children: Bertha, who is now the wife of Rev. Mr. Hornung, a Lutheran minister of Effingham, Ill.; August, who is the second of the family; Louisa, wife of Fred Komman, a merchant of Chicago; and Rassic, who is the youngest. In 1871, Mr. Holtzman was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, whose death occurred in Kankakee County. In 1872, he wedded Miss Ellen Hoffman, a resident of Will County. Two children, Minnie and Albert, were born to them. Mrs. Holtzman met death by accident in 1879, while crossing the railroad tracks. Our subject was again married in 1880, at which time Miss Louisa Garehow became his wife. The lady is a native of Prussia, and emigrated to Chicago while quite young.

In his business Mr. Holtzman has been very successful, energetic and enterprising. He is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of fine farm land in Yellowhead Township, all under good cultivation. He also owns thirty-five lots in Glendale, a suburb of Chicago, and property in Normal Park, in addition to large land interests in Hammond, Ind., the latter being valued at about \$100,-

000. He has a beautiful home in Grant Park, which is hospitably opened to his many friends. He owns and operates two elevators, and is one of the wealthiest men of the county. By his honorable business methods and strict integrity, Mr. Holtzman has won the respect of all who know him. In his political views, he is a stalwart Democrat, as is also his father, but though taking an active interest in political and public affairs, he has devoted himself to his extensive business interests, and has never desired to hold official positions. He is a respected member of the German Lutheran Church, in which faith he was reared.



DAVID D. LYNDS, M. D., deceased, who for many long years was one of the leading medical practitioners and prominent citizens of Kankakee County, was a native of Nova Scotia. He was born in the city of Truro in 1811, and comes of a family of English origin, which at an early day was founded in the United States. His parents were both natives of New Hampshire, and his mother was also of English descent. From the old Granite State they removed to Nova Scotia and the father devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits.

The early years of his life Dr. Lynds spent upon the home farm with his parents, but his taste seemed not to lie in the direction of agriculture. He early manifested a desire to engage in the practice of medicine, and at the age of sixteen years he entered the office of his uncle and began the study of that science. Some time afterward he pursued a course of medical lectures in New York City, and then finished his studies in Canada, where he also began the practice of his chosen profession. With the desire to try his fortune in Illinois, Dr. Lynds located in Iroquois County in 1840, and began practice, but he remained there only a short time and in 1841 came to Momence, Kankakee County, where he opened an office. It was not long ere he was receiving a liberal patronage and from that time

to the day of his death he was recognized as one of the leading physicians of the community.

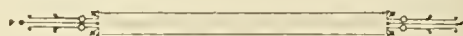
On the 22d of December, 1842, the Doctor was united in marriage with Miss Loraine Beebe, who was born April 23, 1812, in Bennington County, Vt., and was the second in order of birth in a family of four children. Her parents, Hardin and Susan (Mellen) Beebe, were among the first settlers of this county, locating here in 1836. The remainder of their lives was here passed and they were recognized as leading and highly respected people. Mrs. Lynds is a sister of the late Judge Orson Beebe, who was Probate Judge of this district for a period of eight years. Further mention of her family is given in the sketch of Newell Beebe on another page of this work. Mrs. Lynds accompanied her parents to the West and during the succeeding winter after her arrival engaged in teaching school, being the only lady school teacher in what is now Kankakee at that time, in fact was one of the very first ladies to teach school in the county.

The Doctor and his wife became parents of three children, the eldest of whom, Sophia Jane, is now the wife of George Little, a professor of music in Newton Falls, Ohio; Susan is the wife of E. S. Cook, a well-known druggist of Momence; and Eva is the wife of J. H. Freeman, a prosperous farmer residing on the old Lynds homestead.

The Doctor was a man of recognized ability among his professional brethren and throughout the county. He was ever a close student of his profession and ever kept abreast with the advancement and discoveries of the science. From the beginning his practice constantly increased until it assumed extensive proportions, and his liberal patronage brought him a good income, which he judiciously invested in land and thus left to his widow a handsome property. The Doctor was a staunch Republican in his political views and for a number of years was a member of the Odd Fellows' lodge. He went to Momence in the days of its early infancy, and ever took a prominent part in all that pertained to its upbuilding or was calculated to promote the general welfare. His pleasant, genial manner won him many friends, and his sterling worth and many excellencies of character gained him the high esteem of all with whom busi-

ness or social relations brought him in contact. He died at his home in Momence on the 19th of May, 1877, and his loss was deeply regretted throughout the community.

Mrs. Lynds still survives her husband and is now living upon the old homestead, which his care and forethought provided for her. It is pleasantly located only about a mile from Momence and comprises three hundred and seventy-five acres of valuable land, under a high state of cultivation and well improved. With her reside her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Freeman. Mrs. Lynds has now reached the advanced age of eighty-one, but her years rest lightly upon her and she is now enjoying quite good health. Her faculties, both mental and physical, are scarcely impaired and she is a well-informed lady who can talk entertainingly on most subjects of general interest. Mrs. Lynds is numbered among the pioneer settlers of this county, where for fifty-six years she has made her home, and well deserves mention among its pioneer settlers.



DAMER D. DENNIS is a progressive farmer owning property on section 27, Sumner Township. He was born on the 22d of March, 1845, near the town of Liberty, Jackson County, Mich., and is a son of William D. and Jane (Goodwin) Dennis. The father was native of Connecticut and was largely self-educated. By trade he was a cabinet-maker. He removed to Oneida County, N. Y., in 1828, where he was married and remained for about three years working at his trade. In 1831 he went by team with his family to Jackson County, Mich., where he was one of the early settlers. He purchased eighty acres of heavy timber land and erected a small log cabin in the woods. Much of this property he cleared and otherwise improved. He also entered two hundred and eighty acres of Government land some four years after his arrival in Michigan. Later, he removed to the village of Brooklyn, where he started a cabinet factory and

the manufacture of furniture, and also ran an old-time tavern. In these various lines he was engaged until 1857, at which time he came to Illinois, settling upon land which he had purchased in 1853, in Sumner Township, this county. The tract consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land, located on section 27. For many years he gave his whole attention to the cultivation and general improvement of this property, and here he lived when cut down by the hand of death on the 18th of February, 1880. His remains were interred in Union Corners Cemetery, and by his side was buried his wife, whose death occurred April 12, 1887. Mr. Dennis was an ardent supporter of Gen. Jackson, but later became a Republican. By his energy and industry he had accumulated two hundred and forty acres of land, all located in Sumner Township. Unto William Dennis and his wife were born seven children, of whom but four are living: Calvin G., who lives in Washington, D. C.; Mary J., who lives in Beaufort, S. C.; Damer D., and Stephen W., who lives in Chicago. Those deceased are Amelia M., whose death occurred August 12, 1872; William F., who departed this life the 9th of September, 1839; and Willie, who died August 6, 1851.

The boyhood of our subject was passed in his native village in Michigan, and when eleven years of age he came with his father to Illinois, where he has lived continuously up to the present date. His educational advantages were fair, and since arriving at mature years he has become well read. When twenty-one years of age, Mr. Dennis rented land of his father, and from that time forward has given his attention exclusively to his farming interests. After renting for about a year he purchased forty acres of land on section 27, which is still in his possession. In addition to this he owns one hundred and sixty acres which formerly belonged to his father, and one hundred and twenty acres in Ganier Township. His home residence is situated on the property which was purchased by his father. His farms now comprise three hundred and twenty acres, which are well improved and valuable land.

On the 29th of December, 1878, occurred the wedding of Mr. Dennis and Alice E., daughter of

Albion and Laura (Sheldon) Smythman. Mrs. Dennis was born in Momence Township September 1, 1851. By their marriage they became the parents of six children, of whom five are living, one having died in infancy. Those surviving are Harold N., Lena M., Laura J., Raymond and Percy D.

Mr. Dennis has always been a firm believer in one of America's distinctive features—her grand public school system. He is also much interested in the welfare of his party, but is not an office-seeker. He uses his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party. Mr. Dennis is a good citizen and has won the esteem of his friends and neighbors by his upright course in life. His wife is a faithful and consistent member of the Baptist Church.



JOHN SMITH makes his home on section 36, Yellowhead Township, and is one of the pioneers of this county. He was born March 5, 1828, in Vigo County, Ind. His parents were James and Mary (Soesbe) Smith. The father was born in Virginia in 1802, and was among the pioneers of Indiana. At an early day he removed to what is now Kankakee County, where he located on a piece of Government land and resided until his death, on the 25th of March, 1843. He was one of the very first settlers of Yellowhead Township. The mother of our subject was a native of Kentucky and died in Kankakee County February 26th, 1876. By her marriage she became the mother of five children, three sons and two daughters, of whom John was the fourth in order of birth.

When about seven years of age, John Smith came to Yellowhead Township with his parents, and well knows what life on the frontier means with its inconveniences and privations. For some years his father was obliged to go ninety miles to Fountain County, Ind., for provisions and other supplies. There were no public or free schools,

and so the educational advantages were of the most limited order. Our subject was the eldest boy of the family at the time of his father's death, which occurred when he was fourteen years old. For many years, he assisted nobly and manfully in the support of the family. He is really self-educated and largely since arriving at mature years. He is now the owner of the same land upon which his father located over half a century ago. He has a very pleasant home and a desirable property situated five miles east of Grant Park and about one mile from Sherburnville. He has acquired over three hundred acres of land in this county, which represents his years of toil and industry.

In this county, on the 2d of November, 1851, Mr. Smith and Miss Jane Britton were joined in marriage. The lady was born on the 16th of October, 1833, in Fountain County, Ind., and is a daughter of David and Mary (Fitzgerald) Britton, who located in what is now Kankakee County in 1833, when Mrs. Smith was a small child. Her mother was the first white woman ever in Yellowhead Township, but they only remained here for a short time on account of sickness. They returned to Fountain County, Ind., from which ten years later they again came to Kankakee County, and until about 1862 were residents of this neighborhood. Mr. Britton now lives in Anna, Union County, Ill., aged eighty-four years. His first wife died some three years after going to Anna. Mrs. Smith is the eldest of eight children, of whom only three now live.

Ten children, three sons and seven daughters, have graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Smith: Daniel, an enterprising farmer of Yellowhead Township; Mary E., wife of Irwin Dickey, also a farmer of the same township; Nancy J., who is now the wife of Elmer Hayden, who carries on a farm in Lake County, Ind.; Sarah, the wife of Robert Hayden, also an agriculturist of Lake County; Julia, deceased; Ansel, who is engaged in farming near the old homestead; Darius and Maggie L., at home; Lucy M., a student in the school at Lowell, Ind.; and Alma, attending school near home.

Mr. Smith holds membership with Grant Park Lodge No. 740, A. F. & A. M., of Grant Park. He

and his wife, with their family, are active members and workers in the Christian Church. Our subject supports the Prohibition party and takes an active part in both temperance and educational affairs. For fifty-eight years he has lived on the same farm. As pioneers, he and his wife are widely known and esteemed.



SAMUEL NICHOLS, who is engaged in general farming on section 8, Momence Township, is one of the honored pioneer settlers of this county, his residence here dating from 1837. Few have longer been numbered among the citizens of this community than our subject, who has been an eye-witness of almost the entire growth and development of the county. He has seen its wild lands transformed into beautiful homes and farms, its hamlets grow into thriving towns, and while watching its progress and advancement he has also aided in its upbuilding. In writing the history of the old settlers of this county his sketch cannot well be omitted.

Mr. Nichols claims Ohio as the State of his birth, having been born in Franklin County, on March 11, 1817. He was the fourth child in a family of twelve children, numbering seven sons and five daughters, whose parents were William and Mary (Gundy) Nichols. The father was born in Virginia April 7, 1788, and was of English descent, the Nichols family being founded in this country in early Colonial days. In early life he left Virginia, removing Westward to Ohio. From there he moved to Vigo County, Ind., where he lived some eight years, and in 1836 came to Vermilion County, Ill. The spring of 1837 witnessed his arrival in what is now Kankakee County, where he took up Government land and began the development of a farm. There were few settlers in the county at that time, and with its pioneer history his name is closely connected. Mr. Nichols was the first Justice of the Peace ever elected in this part of the State, and he took quite an active part in public affairs. His wife died two years after

they came to Illinois. She was called to her final rest December 25, 1839, and her remains were interred in the Nichols Cemetery. The husband and father died on the old homestead in Momence Township, November 11, 1871, at the ripe old age of eighty-six years.

Samuel Nichols, whose name heads this record, spent the first ten years of his life in the State of his nativity, and then accompanied his parents on their removals to Indiana and Illinois. His entire life has been passed upon a farm. He was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads, and in the winter season, when his services were not needed at home, he attended the district schools of the neighborhood. Thus was he educated. He worked with his father until twenty-one years of age, but on attaining his majority left the parental roof and started out in life for himself with \$1 capital. Content to follow the occupation to which he was reared, he entered land from the Government in Momence Township, and began farming. Upon the tract of land which he secured, not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made, but with characteristic energy he began its development, and in the course of time rich and fertile fields were yielding to him golden tribute in return for the care and labor he bestowed upon them.

On the 27th of March, 1850, Mr. Nichols married Miss Elizabeth Hill, a native of Sullivan County, Ind., born June 17, 1828, and a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Silvers) Hill, of the same county. By their marriage they became the parents of eight children, five sons and three daughters. In order of birth they are as follows: John H., who is now foreman of a railroad force employed in carpenter work; Sarah E., who is next in order of birth; Emily E. and Charles G., both deceased; James M., a carpenter by trade, who married Miss Nellie Inman, of Sutherland, Iowa; Frank L., a telegraph operator; Thomas G., a prosperous farmer of Momence Township; and Cora Z., a teacher of recognized ability in the public schools of this county.

Mr. and Mrs. Nichols have a pleasant home, located upon a good farm of one hundred and thirty-five acres of well-improved land, conveniently situated about a mile north of Momence. He is

now in comfortable circumstances, and for his success he certainly deserves credit, as it has been achieved entirely through his own efforts. In politics, he is a stalwart supporter of the principles of the Republican party. His first Presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison, and his last for the illustrious grandson of that general, Hon. Benjamin Harrison. Mr. Nichols takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and is a valued citizen, as well as a leading farmer and honored pioneer of Kankakee County.



FREDERICK HERSCHER, a well-known merchant and the President of the Village Board of Herscher, Kankakee County, deserves mention in this volume, for he is one of the honored pioneers of the community. He dates his residence in the county from the 2d of May, 1855, when he located in Pilot Township.

Mr. Herscher is a native of France. He was born on the River Rhine, October 17, 1839, and is a son of Andrew and Catherine (Welsh) Herscher, both of whom were natives of the same country. The father died when our subject was a small child. Frederick remained in the land of his birth until about thirteen years of age and there acquired a good education, both in French and German languages. In 1854, when a lad of fourteen, he bade good-bye to his old home and crossed the broad Atlantic to the New World, joining his mother and family at Newark, Wayne County, N. Y. Andrew Herscher, with the family, moved West the same year and spent that season in Cook County, Ill. The following year he removed to Kankakee County, locating in Pilot Township, and was among the first settlers in this part of the county.

After coming to Kankakee County, Frederick Herscher began life for himself by working as a farm hand. He gave evidence of his progressive spirit and enterprise, two prominent characteristics of his nature, by spending his leisure time in study. Thus he became proficient in the English lan-

gnage. To agricultural pursuits he devoted his energies until the summer of 1862, when, prompted by patriotic impulses, he responded to the call of his adopted country for troops, enlisting in the First Marine Artillery and joining the navy in New York. Remaining in the service until the following spring, he then received his discharge and returned home.

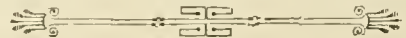
When he again reached home, Mr. Herscher purchased a tract of land with slight improvements and began its further development. The land was transformed into rich and fertile fields, and the place under his care became one of the excellent farms of the neighborhood. Mr. Herscher was actively and successfully engaged in farming until 1879, when he rented out his farm and removed to Herscher, the village which had been founded by his brother and was named in his honor. There our subject took charge of and carried on the grain business for his brother, John Herscher, until the death of the latter in 1885. Our subject then engaged in the same line of business for himself for a period of about three years, when he embarked in the furniture business, which he has now carried on for four years. He has been a successful merchant and is doing a thriving and constantly increasing business. This liberal patronage he well deserves, for in all his dealings he is upright and honorable and desires to please his customers.

On the 20th of February, 1867, in this county and township, Mr. Herscher was united in marriage with Miss Millie E., daughter of John M. Falkenberry. She was born in Tennessee, August 28, 1846, but was reared and educated in Missouri. Six children came to bless this union, the eldest of whom, William A., is a young man of sterling worth and excellent business ability, and aids his father in the furniture store; John F. died at one year of age; Mary I., Charles E., Henry R. and Martha E. are all at home, and the three youngest are attending school.

Since becoming a voter, Mr. Herscher has been identified with the Republican party. His first ballot was cast for Abraham Lincoln in 1864, and he has supported each Republican nominee for the Presidency since that time. He has never been a

politician in the sense of office-seeking, yet his worth and ability have led his fellow-townsmen to select him for several public positions. He has been Constable, Collector and Town Clerk, and is now serving as President of the Town Board. He has been thrice elected Justice of the Peace and has served as such twelve consecutive years in Pilot Township. His duties in all the offices he has filled have been promptly and faithfully performed, and thereby he has won the commendation of all concerned.

Mr. Herscher commenced life a poor boy, and to his own labor, enterprise and industry and the assistance of his estimable wife, is due his success in life. He has acquired a valuable farm, a good home, a thriving business, and to-day is one of the well-to-do and substantial citizens of Kankakee County. In 1881 Mr. Herscher returned to France and visited his friends and the scenes of his youth, spending about two months in his native country, the trip proving a very pleasant one. Almost his entire life, however, Mr. Herscher has passed in Kankakee County, where he is widely known. His honorable career is well worthy of emulation and has won him high regard. A representative and valued citizen of this county is Frederick Herscher.



JAMES BOWLBY, one of the honored pioneers of Kankakee County, is numbered among the leading citizens of Herscher, and has for a number of years been prominently connected with the business interests of this place. His life record is as follows: He was born in Nova Scotia, July 24, 1835, and his father, George Bowlby, was also a native of that country. The latter removed to Canada in 1851, and there spent the latter years of his life.

The subject of this sketch passed the days of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, and received such educational privileges as the common schools afforded. When a young man, he came to the United States, and in 1855 located in Kankakee County, Ill., where he embarked in farm-



Yours
W. J. Gaynor

ing. The following year he commenced farming as a laborer by the month, which occupation he continued for about one year. In this county he was married on the 3d of December, 1860, the lady of his choice being Mrs. Mary Jane Howe, a widow, daughter of John Barber. She was born in Ireland, and when a child, emigrated to Canada, where her maidenhood days were passed. Four children were born of this union. Charles W., a young man of excellent business ability and sterling character, is now engaged in merchandising in Silver Creek, Merrick County, Neb.; Norman L. is married, and follows farming on the old homestead; Elmer H. holds a responsible business position in Chicago; Rhoda C. completes the family.

Mr. Bowlby's first purchase of land consisted of a tract lying on either side of the dividing line between Norton and Pilot Townships. It was all wild prairie, upon which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made, but with characteristic energy he began its development, and in course of time the entire amount was transformed into fields of great fertility. He there carried on farming until 1880, when he abandoned agricultural pursuits and removed to Herscher. Here he built a business house, and embarked in merchandising, which he successfully carried on for about ten years. In 1889, he engaged in the hotel business, and then closing out his mercantile establishment, he continued to carry on the hotel until the fall of 1892. Mr. Bowlby was not only a prosperous farmer, but also a successful merchant and hotel-keeper.

We see in our subject a self-made man, who has worked his way upward from a humble position in life to one of independence. He now has a handsome property, which enables him to live retired, and stands as a monument to his thrift and enterprise. In politics, Mr. Bowlby was formerly identified with the Republican party, but for a number of years he has now been identified with the Prohibition party, supporting its men and measures. He has never been an aspirant for public office, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with such excellent success. He and his wife

are active and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Bowlby holds the office of Trustee. In social life they hold an enviable position for their many excellencies of character have won them the high regard of all with whom they have been brought in contact.



CAPT. WILLIAM T. GOUGAR, proprietor of Gougar's Park and owner of three steam pleasure yachts and also of extensive sand pits, is a native of Will County, Ill., his birth occurring on the 26th of March, 1841. He is the only son of Jacob F. and Artie (Durham) Gougar, of whom see sketch elsewhere.

Our subject was reared on a farm and received his education in the common schools and in Beloit College, situated at Beloit, Wis. In 1865, he came to Kankakee and engaged in the grain trade, later going into the coal business. In 1882 he litted up his park, which is situated on the Kankakee River, about two and a-half miles above the city, and is a very charming picnic and pleasure ground. His three steam pleasure yachts, the "Minnie Lillie," "Modoc" and "Shabbona," are commodious, well-equipped and popular pleasure boats. In addition to his other business, Capt. Gougar has built up an extensive trade in sand, of which he has an almost unlimited supply, both for plastering and foundry. He ships large quantities by rail to neighboring towns, and was awarded the contract of furnishing sand for the construction of the immense mass of buildings forming the Insane Hospital. His annual trade amounts to upward of four thousand yards of sand.

Capt. Gougar is a Democrat in politics, and has held various local offices. He has served as Alderman of Kankakee almost continuously since 1870, has been a member of the School Board for five years, and has been twice made Assistant Supervisor of his town. Socially, he holds membership with Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M., and with Howard Lodge No. 281, I. O. O. F. The Captain is an enterprising business man, and has

been quite successful. His improvement of the suburban pleasure grounds and the putting on the river of his boats have proved a source of enjoyment to the citizens of Kankakee and neighboring towns and he has won popular favor by his courteous and prompt attention to the wants of his patrons.

In January, 1892, Capt. Gougar was appointed Mayor of Kankakee to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of P. J. Kelly, and his long familiarity with the affairs of the city pre-eminently fits him for the position which he is now filling.



JEFFERSON O'BRIEN, who owns a farm on section 35, Sumner Township, has the honor of being a native of this county. His birth occurred in Yellowhead Township on the 13th of November, 1811. His father, Martin O'Brien, was born on the 9th of December, 1810, on the Emerald Isle. His mother, who was a native of Ohio, was before her marriage Amy Hurley. The father was three times married, and by his first union there were eight children. James died in 1888; Rhoda is also deceased; Thomas enlisted as a private soldier in Company D, Forty-second Illinois Infantry, in 1862, and was killed in a battle on the 19th of September of the following year; our subject is next in order of birth; Daniel resides in Momence; Merwin was adopted by Russell Seager, and now makes his home in Des Moines, Iowa, and is a traveling salesman for a large drug house; and two children died in infancy.

Martin O'Brien emigrated to America in 1830, and after a voyage of sixty days arrived in Quebec, Canada, and from there traveled for about two years through the Eastern and Southern States. In 1832, he removed from New Orleans to Miami County, Ohio, where in 1834 he was married. For some two years Mr. O'Brien resided in Ohio, and then, coming to Kankakee County, he took up a one hundred and sixty acre claim in Yellowhead Township. This property he afterward purchased at \$1.25 per acre, and there he re-

sided until 1849, at which time he sold and removed to a farm in Momence Township. There he resided for some four years, devoting himself to its cultivation. In 1853, he started for California by the overland route, and upon his arrival engaged in mining with good success for about three years. He then returned to his home in Momence Township, where he lived until 1868, but later sold his farm and went to Missouri. He afterward returned to Momence, which he made his home until his death, which occurred on his birthday, the 9th of December, 1876. Politically, he was a Democrat. His remains were interred in the Nichols Cemetery. The death of our subject's mother occurred in 1848.

Jefferson O'Brien, whose name heads this sketch, was born and reared on a farm, and received a common-school education. At the time of his mother's death, which occurred when he was very young, he went to live with Ansel Chipman, and with him remained until 1859, at which time he was fourteen years of age. For two years he resided with his father, and then started out in life for himself. At first he went to Iowa, and for ten months worked in Appanoose County as a farm hand. At the expiration of that time he returned to Illinois, where he was engaged on a farm by the month until 1861.

Soon after the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion, Mr. O'Brien, fired by patriotic impulses, enlisted August 7, 1861, as a private in Company D, Forty-second Illinois Infantry, and was mustered into service at Chicago. He with his regiment took an active part in many of the important battles of the war. His first active engagement was at Farmington, Miss. He also participated in the battles of Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Jonesboro, and many other engagements of greater or less renown. He was never taken prisoner, and was always to be depended upon by his superior officers. For his bravery and fidelity to duty he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. On the 10th of January, 1866, he was mustered out of service at Springfield, Ill., having served four years, five months and three days.

On leaving the army, Mr. O'Brien returned to

Momence, Ill., working at general labor for two years. He then learned the mason's trade, which calling he followed until 1886. At that time he was elected Sheriff on the Republican ticket, in which position he proved an able and capable officer for four years. In 1891, he purchased the farm where he now resides. This tract consists of one hundred and forty acres located on section 35, Sumner Township, and to its cultivation and improvement he is now devoting himself.

On the 15th of April, 1866, soon after his return from the war, Mr. O'Brien was united in marriage with Miss Lovisa Burns, who was born in Momence Township, on the 12th of January, 1817, one of nine children in the family of Alva and Julia A. (Foree) Burns, who were both natives of Canada, and pioneer settlers of Kankakee County. To our subject and his wife four children were born, two of whom died in infancy. Grace is the wife of Fred Wiltse, and resides in Momence, Ill.; and Florence makes her home with her parents.

In his political affiliations, Mr. O'Brien is a loyal Republican, and has held various offices in the gift of the people. He has been Sheriff, Township Collector, School Director, etc. He is a member of Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R., of Kankakee, and Mrs. O'Brien holds membership with the Methodist Church.



SEBASTIAN L. EASTWOOD, who resides on section 31, Pilot Township, is an enterprising and progressive farmer, the owner of a valuable farm pleasantly and conveniently located within two and a-half miles of Herscher. He deserves mention in this volume, for he is recognized as one of the esteemed citizens of the community. Mr. Eastwood has the honor of being a native of Illinois, his birth occurring in the southern part of the State, on the 19th of July, 1833. He was the second in order of birth in a family of three children born unto Jacob and Delina (Little) Eastwood. His father was a native

of Missouri, and his mother was born in Kentucky. When a young man, Jacob Eastwood went to southern Illinois, locating near St. Louis, where he engaged in farming for three years. When the trouble with the Indians arose he aided in the protection of the settlers and served in the Black Hawk War under Gen. Atkinson. By a removal to La Salle County he became one of its pioneers and there resided until his death, which occurred in April, 1810. Mrs. Eastwood is still living, at the advanced age of eighty-four years, and now makes her home with her eldest son. Abraham J. Eastwood, the youngest of the family, is a carpenter by trade, and resides in Streator, Ill. The sister, Marena D., is now deceased.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who spent the days of his youth upon a farm in La Salle County, Ill. He received fair school privileges and after quitting the school room he devoted his time to agricultural pursuits. On arriving at years of maturity he was married in La Salle County, November 1, 1853, to Miss Lorinda Brunson, a native of New York, born July 6, 1831, and a daughter of Benoni and Nancy (Cargill) Brunson. The young couple began their domestic life upon a farm in La Salle County, where they resided for about seventeen years. In the spring of 1869 they came to Kankakee County, and Mr. Eastwood purchased a farm, consisting of a tract of land of one hundred and sixty acres, which was only slightly improved. He placed the entire amount under the plow and soon the wild prairie was transformed into rich and fertile fields. Buildings were erected thereon and the work of development was carried forward until the Eastwood farm is now one of the valuable and desirable places in this part of the county. The lawn is decorated with forest and ornamental trees and shrubs and a great many varieties of small fruits supply the table with their delicacies in season. A splendid rock-lined well with a wind-pump furnishes an abundance of excellent water sufficient for the stock and all other purposes.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Eastwood was born a family of four children, three sons and a daughter. The eldest, Benoni T., died at the age of eleven months; Ernest E., who married Miss Isabella

Smith, a native of Scotland, February 9, 1881, is engaged in farming in Pilot Township; Jasper N. follows the carpenter's trade; and Lillian, the youngest and only daughter, is the wife of Robert Wadleigh, a farmer of Iroquois County.

In political belief Mr. Eastwood did not follow the example of his father and brother, who were Jackson Democrats, but instead he cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. John C. Fremont in 1856, and has since supported each Presidential nominee of the Republican party. His fellow-townsmen, appreciating his worth and ability, have several times called upon him to serve in public positions of honor and trust. To those who know him and are acquainted with his honorable, upright career, it is needless to say that his duties were ever promptly and faithfully performed. Mr. Eastwood is recognized as one of the enterprising and practical farmers to whom good management has brought success, and is known as a valued and worthy citizen.



JOHAN J. PASEL has been for eighteen years engaged in farming on section 26, Aroma Township. He was born in Germany, on the 22d of December, 1823. He is a son of Samuel and Mary (Westfall) Pasel, who were the parents of nine children. Our subject was the second child in order of birth, and was born and reared upon his father's farm. He received a good common-school education in his native language, and remained until twenty-seven years of age with his parents, assisting his father in carrying on the home farm. He was in the service of his country as a soldier for nearly six years, lacking only fifteen days of that time.

Mr. Pasel remained in the Fatherland until 1857, by which time he had arrived at the conclusion and determination to try his fortune in the New World; therefore bidding farewell to the home and friends of his youth, he took passage on a sailing-vessel, and for six weeks and four days was upon the broad Atlantic. Upon arriving in New York

he came directly to the West, and landing in Chicago secured work by the day, at which he was employed until 1874. He then determined to adopt agriculture as his life occupation, and coming to this county he purchased one hundred and eighty acres of land in Aroma Township. This he has greatly improved and brought under a high state of cultivation. He is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and has never had occasion to regret his choice of occupation. Bountiful harvests have rewarded his labors, and on every hand may be witnessed the care and thrift of the owner.

In 1852 Mr. Pasel married Miss Sophia Gruger, and to them have been born ten children, seven of whom are now living: Frederick, Lewis, Gustavus, Herman, Sophia, Minnie and Bettie, who have all had the benefit of good educational advantages and are worthy citizens of this community.

Politically, our subject affiliates with the Republican party, and is a loyal and devoted citizen of his adopted country. He holds membership with the German Lutheran Church, to which he gives his earnest support. He is a representative and leading German-American citizen of this section, where he has made many friends by his qualities of enterprise, industry and integrity.



JOHAN T. JOHNSON, who carries on general farming and stock-raising on section 19 Ganier Township, owns a valuable tract of land of two hundred and eighty acres and the entire amount is under a high state of cultivation. It is well improved with a good residence and all the accessories of a model farm; the fields are well tilled and the neat and thrifty appearance of the place gives evidence of the practical and progressive spirit of the owner.

Mr. Johnson is of German birth. He was born on the 5th of August, 1838, near Jever, in Oldenburg, Germany, and is one of six children born of the union of John J. and Efka Johnson. The father was a weaver by trade and followed that bus-

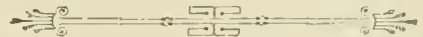
iness for many years in his native land. The children of the family were Gerd, Mattie, Margaret, Frederick, John T. and Mary. Our subject, who was the youngest son, received a good education in the common schools, which fitted him for a practical business life, and at the age of sixteen he left home and began to earn his own livelihood. Bidding adieu to friends and native land, he crossed the broad Atlantic to America on a sailing-vessel. The voyage across the water consumed six weeks, but at length he arrived safely in New York City in June, 1855. He had heard much of the advantages and privileges afforded young men in the United States and with the hope of securing a comfortable home and property he determined to leave the Fatherland.

From the Eastern metropolis, Mr. Johnson at once made his way to Kankakee, Kankakee County, Ill., and soon after locating here began work on a farm by the month. For a period of five years he was thus employed. During the first year he was to receive the munificent sum of \$6 per month in compensation for his services, but his employer ran away, so he got nothing. The next year he was to receive \$75 and go to school in the winter, but as the schoolhouse was not built he had to work most of the winter also. The succeeding three years he worked nine months each year at \$10 per month, and in winter worked for his board and went to school. He thus got his start in the New World. On the expiration of that period, having attained his majority, he began farming for himself, renting land for three years. With the capital he had acquired through industry, perseverance and economy, he then purchased the farm upon which he resides, buying at first only forty acres. With characteristic energy he began its development and soon the entire amount yielded to him a good income in return for the care and cultivation he bestowed upon it. He worked hard, and as his financial resources were increased thereby he added to his original purchase until, as before stated, his farm now comprises two hundred and eighty acres of well-improved land.

December 27, 1863, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage with Miss Lydia White, and by their union has been born a family of five children, a

son and four daughters, all of whom are living. Rose, the eldest of the daughters is now married, being the wife of Roy Corbin, of this county. The other children are, Ella; Mary, who is the wife of John T. Corbin and resides in Chenango County, N. Y.; and Edgar and Lydia, who are still under the parental roof. On the 27th of September, 1892, Mr. Johnson was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who was a consistent member of the Methodist Church, and a woman highly esteemed by her neighbors and friends.

Mr. Johnson's possessions represent his own labor and perseverance and his farm is a monument to his well-directed efforts. Socially, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and in religious belief is a Methodist, holding membership with the church in Exline. He has efficiently served in the offices of School Director and Pathmaster, and in politics is a stalwart Republican, who warmly advocates the principles of that party. Mr. Johnson is one of the early settlers of this county, where for thirty-eight years he has made his home. He well deserves mention in this volume and with pleasure we present to our readers this brief record of his life.



HON. THOMAS SYLVANUS SAWYER, County Judge for Kankakee County, was born in Pomfret, Windham County, Conn., on the 9th of November, 1811, and is a son of Lucius and Patience (Carpenter) Sawyer. The father was also born in the same place, in 1817, and the grandfather of our subject was residing in the same town at the age of six years. The Judge's mother was born in Coventry, R. I., in 1821.

In 1856, Thomas S. Sawyer came to Illinois with his parents and settled in Grundy County, where he was reared on a farm and attended the district and High Schools, after which he learned the printer's trade. In the fall of 1865 he was appointed to a clerkship in the United States Pension Office in Washington, D. C., and served until the fall of 1866. He began the study of law in Washington,

while employed in the Pension Office, and on his return continued his studies with E. Sanford, of Morris, Ill., and was admitted to the Bar in June, 1867. He at once began practice in Chebanse, continued there until elected County Judge, in the fall of 1886, and entered upon the duties of the office December 1 of that year. In November, 1890, he was re-elected and is now serving his second term in that responsible office.

Judge Sawyer is a Republican in politics and served as Representative in the Sixteenth Senatorial District of Illinois in 1873 and 1874. He has also served as Supervisor on the County Board from Otto Township and has held other minor offices. In the fall of 1868 he started the *Chebanse Herald*, a weekly Republican journal, and sold a half-interest in the paper in 1880. The other half he disposed of in 1886. Judge Sawyer has two fine farms, one in the township of Chebanse, Iroquois County, and a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Griggs County, N. Dak., all of which are being carried on under lease.

In Morris, Grundy County, on the 18th of June, 1867, occurred the marriage of Judge Sawyer and Miss Addie A. Barnes, a daughter of Benjamin C. and Amanda (Palmer) Barnes. Mrs. Sawyer was born in Kendall County, Ill., and by her marriage has become the mother of four children, three sons and a daughter. Dr. Clyde L., a graduate of Ontario Veterinary College, of Toronto, Canada, is engaged in practice in Kankakee. The other members of the family are Aileen P., Thomas Roy and Clifford B. The Judge had a brother and sister, but he is the only survivor of the father's family.

Our subject is a Knight Templar Mason, holding membership with Chebanse Lodge No. 429, A. F. & A. M.; of Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M.; and of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T., of Kankakee. Since entering upon the duties of his present office, Judge Sawyer has made a complete set of abstracts of Kankakee County and does an extensive business in this line, as he is known to be exact and correct in his work. He has made a popular and reliable officer and has discharged the duties of his position with promptness, ability and fidelity. He is a courteous gentleman, kind and obliging, and enjoys the good-

will of those who have had business in the Probate Court during his administration, as well as of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. He has made his home in Kankakee since 1888.



HON. REUBEN RICHARDSON, who is a prominent citizen engaged in the real-estate, loan and law business of Grant Park, was born on the 5th of August, 1832, in Fletcher, Franklin County, Vt. He was next to the youngest of a family consisting of four sons and four daughters, children of William and Mary (Strait) Richardson. The father, who was of Welsh extraction, was a native of New Hampshire, and followed the occupations of farming and coopering. He went to Vermont in an early day, when he was quite young, and there was married. He emigrated to Pigeon Prairie, Mich., in 1833, making the trip by team, and there made his home for some three years. Later he removed to Yellowhead Township, Kankakee County, but which was then Will County, and located upon Government land. His remaining years were spent upon this place, and in September, 1847, he was called from the scene of his labors by death. He is numbered among the honored early pioneers of this county. His wife, who was a native of the Green Mountain State, after surviving her husband just ten years, died in this county in September, 1857.

The subject of this sketch was only about four years old when, with his parents, he removed from Michigan to Illinois. From that time he lived on the old homestead in Yellowhead Township until 1870. He is really a self-educated man, as when he was a boy there were no schools in the neighborhood in which he lived. By extensive reading and study he has kept himself well informed and is fully abreast of the times. At his father's death Mr. Richardson inherited the old homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he carried on successfully until he removed to Grant Park in 1870, and he still owns the place.

In 1852 occurred the marriage of our subject

and Miss Harriet Curtis, who is a daughter of Solomon and Phoebe (Slocum) Curtis, of New York, who emigrated to this county at an early day. By the union of Mr. and Mrs. Richardson have been born two children: Alma, who departed this life in 1888, in Dakota; and Clarence Slocum, who is a prominent farmer and real-estate dealer in Wessington Springs, Jerauld County, S. Dak. He married Miss Minnie Farrington, of that State, and they have two children, Reuben F. and Cecil.

Mr. Richardson has many thrilling remembrances of the early pioneer days. He well remembers when they were obliged to go to Michigan City, Ind., a distance of sixty miles from where he lived, in order to get their grain ground. Often two weeks were spent in making the trip, which was accomplished with an ox-team. There were no roads, and traveling was far from pleasant. In 1810 a mill was built at Joliet, and in December of that year our subject's eldest brother, Ezra, started for that point with a large load of grain to be ground. While on the return trip there came a heavy rain that caused the streams to rise rapidly. A cold snap came on, and the streams were frozen over. As his oxen were not shod, he cut prairie grass with his knife, spread it on the ice, then poured water on, letting it freeze and roughen in order to cross. Having returned as far as Trim Creek, his oxen broke through. After working a long time and getting thoroughly wet, he got them out, but so badly sprained were they that they could not travel. He walked back seven miles to John Dutton's, of Beebe's Grove, reaching there late in the night with his clothes so frozen that he could not knock at the door. However, his feet were nimble, and he succeeded in arousing the household by kicking. Having dried his clothes (for Mr. Dutton had no second suit to lend him), he loaded up with hay for his cattle the next morning and carried that seven miles. His oxen had to be left, but, knowing the lack of bread-stuff at home, he took a half-bushel of meal on his back and started to walk home—a distance of ten miles. It is needless to say that the family welcomed him, as he had been gone from home two

weeks, and during that entire time not a bite of bread had been in the house. There were but few settlers in the county, their nearest neighbor being four miles away. Many a time Mr. Richardson has gone the entire distance for a little fire, as this was before the days of matches. Such were the hardships incident to pioneer life in Kankakee County.

Mr. Richardson is prominent and takes a great interest in politics, being a staunch adherent of the Republican party. In the winter of 1874-75 he represented his district in the Legislature, and has served as Postmaster of Yellowhead Postoffice, which was on his old farm for a number of years; he was also Commissioner of Highways for several years, and for twelve years served as Justice of the Peace in this township. That was when he was quite a young man residing on a farm. He is a charter member of Grant Park Lodge No. 740, A. F. & A. M., of Grant Park. About thirty years ago he joined Momence Lodge, since which time he has been a member of the Masonic fraternity. He is one of the oldest living pioneers in the county to-day, and has the respect of all in the vicinity in which he resides.



MARTIN GEIGER, an enterprising and successful farmer of Pilot Township, resides on section 4, where he owns a farm of two hundred and twenty acres. Almost the entire amount he has placed under cultivation, and the well-tilled fields yield to him a golden tribute in return for his care and labor. The improvements upon the place are many and excellent. In addition to the comfortable home, Mr. Geiger has erected large barns, and also a granary and tool-house. His outbuildings are models of convenience, and altogether the place is considered one of the best farms in the township. Everything is kept in first-class order, and its neat appearance indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner, which qualities have been instrumental in securing him his well-merited success.

Mr. Gregier claims Germany as the land of his nativity. He was born in that country May 30, 1848. His father, Peter Geiger, was also a native of that country. In 1849, when his son was a babe of a year, he crossed the Atlantic to the New World, and after a few months spent in Chicago, located at Naperville, near Joliet, where he engaged in farming for six years. On the expiration of that period he came to Kankakee, in 1855. For a few years he rented land in Salina Township, after which he purchased a tract of eighty acres of raw land, where his son now resides. To this he subsequently added forty acres. With characteristic energy he began its development, breaking and fencing it and making of it a good farm. There he resided for twenty years, devoting his time and attention to the cultivation of his land. He is now living a retired life, making his home with his son, who resides south of Herscher.

We now take up the personal history of Martin Geiger. In his youth he received limited educational privileges, for schools at that day were poor, and his time was largely taken up with work upon the farm. He remained at home aiding his father until he attained his majority. He was then married on the 26th of May, 1877, to Miss Mary Cimmerman, daughter of Christopher Cimmerman, and a native of Cook County, Ill. By their union they have become the parents of six daughters, namely: Amelia, Mary, Katie, Emma, Sophia and Martha.

Mr. and Mrs. Geiger began their domestic life upon a farm, where they resided for about ten years. Our subject then purchased land adjoining the old Geiger homestead, and also bought his father's farm. In the fall of 1888 he removed to California, and purchasing a small place in the southern part of that State, was there engaged in farming for two years, but in September, 1890, he rented his land in California and returned to Kankakee County. A year later he sold his farm in the West. Since his return he has devoted his time and attention entirely to the cultivation of the farm on which he now resides.

Mr. and Mrs. Geiger are both members of the Catholic Church, and in politics he is a Democrat. Their home is the abode of hospitality, and the

members of the family rank high in the social circles in which they move. Mr. Geiger is a representative farmer of this community, and an industrious and energetic man, and by his straightforward business career he has won high regard.



JAMES H. BARTLETT, residing on section 17, Yellowhead Township, is one of the representative farmers and old settlers of this region. He was born on the 27th of March, 1833, in Smyrna, N. Y., being the eldest son of Oliver P. Bartlett. The latter was also a native of the Empire State, his birth occurring June 6, 1807. He was a farmer by occupation. Coming to Kankakee County in 1854, he located upon a farm in Yellowhead Township, which he engaged in cultivating until his death, in 1886. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Polly Henry and was born and reared in Madison County, N. Y. By her marriage she became the mother of five children, four sons and a daughter. Mrs. Bartlett's death occurred in Kankakee County in 1879.

The boyhood days of James Bartlett were spent on the old homestead in New York, where he remained until coming of age. On his removal West, he settled in Yellowhead Township, where for a few years he worked for farmers. With the money which he had earned and so carefully saved, he purchased a tract of wild prairie land and at once began the improvement of the same.

On the 29th of December, 1868, Mr. Bartlett and Miss Julietta McDonald were married. She was born May 19, 1840, in the Green Mountain State, and is a daughter of John and Martha (Hughes) McDonald, who were early pioneers of this county. A son and daughter were born to our subject and wife. Cora Ida, born February 1, 1870, died at the age of ten years; and Jerome M., whose birth occurred June 23, 1871, is yet at home with his parents.

The farm belonging to Mr. Bartlett is valuable and well improved. It consists of one hundred



*Yours most truly
David H. Sherry*



Truly yours
Eleanor Lenny

and fifty acres, two and a-half miles north of Grant Park. For some time past he has given his attention especially to the raising of a fine grade of English Shire horses. For over eighteen years he has served as School Director, and politically is affiliated with the Prohibition party.



DAVID H. DENNY, one of the early settlers of this county, and who is now engaged in farming on section 9, Limestone Township, claims Ohio as the State of his nativity, his birth having occurred in Pickaway County on the 12th of September, 1808. He is of Scotch descent, his paternal grandparents being both natives of Scotland, who in Colonial days emigrated to America, locating in Pennsylvania. The father of our subject, William Denny, was born in Chester County, Pa., in 1776 (the year which witnessed the birth of the nation in the writing of the Declaration of Independence), his father having been a soldier of the Revolutionary War in Gen. Hull's army. Having attained to mature years, he married Marjory Denny, and for some years they resided upon a farm in Pickaway County, Ohio. Later they became residents of Indiana.

Our subject was the third in order of birth in a family of eight children, consisting of six sons and two daughters. He resided upon his father's farm in the Buckeye State until sixteen years of age, when he removed with his parents to Indiana, where the succeeding thirty-five years of his life were spent. He had no special advantages in his youth, educational or otherwise, but attended the old-time subscription schools during the winter season, while in the summer months he worked in the fields. His advantages in the practical lessons of life were not meagre, for he was early inured to the hard labors of the farm.

When twenty-six years of age, Mr. Denny was married, and at that time started out in life for himself. He wedded Miss Emily Nichols, who was born in Ross County, Ohio, and is a

daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Dawson) Nichols. Her father was of German extraction. In the Nichols family were twelve children, of whom Mrs. Denny was the second in order of birth. Our subject and his wife began their domestic life in Indiana, and there resided until the 1st of April, 1857, when they started for Illinois, reaching Kankakee County on the 12th of the same month. Here Mr. Denny purchased two hundred acres of raw prairie land on the banks of the Kankakee River, and, locating thereon, has since made it his home. Not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon the place, but with characteristic energy he began its development, continuing the work of cultivation until he is now the owner of one of the fine farms of the township. His place is well improved and highly cultivated, and the owner is one of the successful agriculturists of the community.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Denny were born a family of six children, the eldest of whom, Mary, is now the wife of Judson D. Nichols, a prominent merchant of Kankakee; Patience E. is the wife of Albert Nichols, a retired farmer residing in Kankakee; Frances married Frank Nichols, a prosperous farmer of Limestone Township; Freeman, a carpenter by trade, is married and resides in Kankakee; Elizabeth is the wife of Albert Martin, who is engaged in the real-estate business in the same city; and Townsend is a photographer of Kankakee, and is also married. The family circle remains unbroken and the children are all occupying responsible and useful positions in society.

Mr. Denny was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife July 21, 1871, and her remains are interred in the Kankakee Cemetery. Our subject was again married, September 17, 1888, this time to Mrs. Eleanor (Rogers) Dickerson, a native of Ross County, Ohio, who was born September 1, 1824. She was educated in the common schools, and her maidenhood days were spent in Vigo County, Ind. She married for her first husband Walter L. Dickerson, a native of Ohio, who was born October 17, 1817, and was reared till the age of seventeen on the farm, but during the latter part of his life was engaged in public works. To Mr. and Mrs. Dickerson were born seven children, four sons and

three daughters: Mary C., the wife of Samuel H. Harrison, of Terre Haute, Ind.; Rachel F., the wife of Washington La Fayette Jones, of Kansas; Nancy E., the wife of John Lucas, a resident of Indiana; Walter S., who is married and is a resident of St. Paul, Minn., and a bookkeeper; Samuel J., who died at the age of three years; John H., who is married and a resident of Indiana; William W., a resident of Terre Haute, Ind., and a salesman. Mr. Dickerson departed this life January 25, 1876, and his remains are interred in Glendale Cemetery at Terre Haute, Ind.

Mr. Denny was a Whig in politics in early life, and by his first Presidential ballot supported William Henry Harrison. Since its organization he has affiliated with the Republican party. He has lived a quiet, unassuming life, devoting his time and attention chiefly to agriculture, and his honorable, upright career has won him high respect and the unqualified esteem of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.



HENRY APPEL is a well-known farmer and stock-dealer of Pilot Township. He resides on section 18, where he has a valuable farm. As he is widely and favorably known in this community, we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers, and therefore gladly insert it in this volume. Mr. Appel was born in Hanover, Germany, November 27, 1851. His father, Frederick Appel, was also a native of the same locality. About 1868 he came to this country and joined his son in Chicago, but four days after reaching his destination he died from a sunstroke. His wife survived him for a number of years, and then she too passed away.

Our subject is the eldest of a family of two sons and four daughters, all of whom grew to mature years and are yet living at this writing. He spent the first thirteen years of his life in his native city, and acquired a good education in the German tongue. When a lad of thirteen he took passage

upon a westward-bound sailing-vessel, which at length dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. It was in November, 1864, that he arrived in that city. He had now started out to make his own way in the world, and whatever success he has achieved is due entirely to his own efforts. Making his way to Chicago, he secured a position as a farm hand in Cook County, receiving \$50 a year for the first year, and \$75 for the second and third years. He was thus employed for a term of six years in Cook County, after which, at the age of nineteen, he came to Kankakee County. This was in the autumn of 1870. During the winter after his arrival he attended school, but he is mostly self-educated in the English language. In 1871 he rented a farm, purchased a team, plow and wagon, and embarked in business for himself. For three years he operated that rented tract. He was successful in his undertakings, crops were good, and the second year he raised three thousand bushels of corn. With the money he acquired through his industry and good management he purchased land in Norton Township, becoming owner of a tract of eighty acres, only partially improved. Locating thereon he began its development, and has since successfully carried on farming.

A marriage ceremony performed in this county on the 17th of October, 1875, united the destinies of Mr. Appel and Miss Mary Obrecht, daughter of George Obrecht, one of the pioneer settlers of this county. The lady was born in Indiana, and when a child of three summers was brought by her parents to Kankakee County, where she was reared and educated. Two children grace the union of this worthy couple, a son and daughter: George, who is now attending the home school, and Julia, who is now attending the home German-Lutheran school of this town.

Mr. Appel continued to operate his first farm for a period of eight years, when he sold out and purchased one hundred and seventy acres of land on section 18, Pilot Township, where he now resides. This was then a well-improved place, but he has carried the work of improvement still further, until the Appel farm is now one of the finest in the community. He has upon it a windpump and scales, has laid many rods of tiling, erected good

buildings, and now has all the accessories of a model farm and has extended its boundaries. He has purchased an additional one hundred and twenty acres in Norton Township which adjoins the home farm, and this is also supplied with good buildings. A farm of one hundred and thirty-two acres in Berry County, Mo., also yields to him a golden tribute. In connection with the cultivation of his land, Mr. Appel has for the past four years engaged extensively in stock-dealing. He has built up a big business, and is meeting with success.

Our subject has invariably voted with the Democratic party, but has never been an aspirant for public office. However, he served for nine years as a member of the School Board, and while occupying that position did effective work in the interests of education. Himself and wife are members of the Lutheran Church, and are highly respected citizens. In all his business dealings Mr. Appel has maintained a reputation for honor and uprightness that has won him the confidence and esteem of all with whom he has been brought in contact. He may truly be called a self-made man, for he came to this country a poor boy, empty-handed, and by his own unaided efforts has steadily worked his way upward. Overcoming the difficulties and obstacles in his path by energy, industry and good management, he has reached a position of affluence, and is classed among the substantial citizens of his adopted county.



CARSON C. PORTER, who resides on section 6, is a well-known farmer of Pembroke Township. He was born in Naples, N. Y., on the 5th of February, 1852, and is the son of Edward A. and Sarah (Miller) Porter, whose record will be found elsewhere in this work.

Our subject passed his boyhood days in New York and there received a good common-school education. When about fourteen years of age he emigrated Westward to Illinois with his parents and since that time he has made his home on the

farm where his father then settled in Pembroke Township. Until twenty-three years of age he remained under the parental roof, assisting in the care of the farm. At that time he married Miss Ellen Richardson, of Momence Township, who became his wife on the 26th of January, 1876. By their union were born two children, Edward A. and Ellen R. Mrs. Porter was called to her final rest on the 7th of February, 1881, and in the following year our subject was united in marriage with Sarah E. Beedle, of Momence Township. Two children have graced their union, Ezra B. and Clare C.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Porter is a firm adherent of the Democratic party. He has been Assessor of his township for eight years and has been School Trustee for the past six years. He is much interested in all that pertains to the good and advancement of society and the welfare of the community in which he dwells. He is now the owner of the old homestead upon which his father located twenty-seven years ago and which contains one hundred and thirty-one acres, all under good cultivation and well improved.



HENRY P. LOWE, one of the prominent citizens of Waldron, is widely known throughout the county, where since a very early day in its history he has made his home. In fact, he and his father's family were among its first pioneers. Our subject was born near Covington, Fountain County, Ind., on the 14th of April, 1830, and was the seventh in order of birth in a family of nine children, whose parents were Peter and Julia A. (Taylor) Lowe. His father was a native of New Jersey, and was of German lineage. In an early day he emigrated westward to Indiana, and after some years' residence in the Hoosier State came to Illinois in 1835. The trip was made by ox-teams, and they located in what was then Iroquois County, but is now Aroma Township, Kankakee County.

The father of our subject entered a claim from the Government, and when it came into market purchased the land. The first home of the family was a small log cabin, and they lived in true pioneer style. Peter Lowe continued to engage in agricultural pursuits and stock-raising on the old homestead until 1855, when he removed to Waldron, where he resided for three years. He then removed to Jackson County, Mich. At the time of his removal he owned about one thousand acres of land in this locality, which he traded for Michigan property. He was a man of excellent business ability, enterprising and progressive, sagacious and far-sighted, and accumulated a handsome property. His success was all the more remarkable from the fact that he started out in life a poor boy with no money or influential friends to aid him. In politics he was a Whig until the dissolution of that party, when he joined the ranks of the new Republican party, fighting under its banner until his death. He passed away at his home in Jackson County, Mich., on the 12th of April, 1873. His wife died in this county, March 31, 1853.

Of the Lowe family, Mary A. is now the widow of Samuel Exline; Vincent T. died in 1872; Martha J. became the wife of Lorenzo D. Legg, a farmer residing in Aroma Township, and died on the 14th of February, 1846; Harriet M. is the wife of M. J. B. Hawkins, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Limestone Township; Peter V. is a farmer of Kankakee Township; David N. was killed in a railroad accident near Cedar Lake, Ind., October 27, 1886, and was burned in the wreck; Henry P., of this sketch, is the next younger; Sidney L. is now a retired farmer of Cowley County, Kan.; and Sanford W. died January 31, 1855.

The subject of this notice was a lad of only five summers when his parents came with their family to this county. His education was received at home, the father hiring teachers for his children, and school being held in one room of their little log cabin. Although his privileges in this direction were limited, he possessed an observing eye and retentive memory, and has made himself a well-informed man. Amid the wild

scenes of frontier life he was reared, and shared its experiences and hardships. Until the day on which he attained his majority he remained at home, giving his father the benefit of his services, but when he had reached man's estate he started out in life for himself. His possessions consisted of a team of unbroken colts three years old. He rented land of his father and lived at home for a period of four years. He then made his first purchase, consisting of a tract of State land of three hundred acres, for which he paid \$3 per acre. Removing to that farm, he at once turned his attention to its development and improvement, and continued successfully to operate it until 1865, when he sold out and removed to Otto Township, where he spent the succeeding summer. In the autumn of that year he came to Waldron and, purchasing a house and lot of his father, he has here since made his home, one of the leading citizens of the place. He has always been interested in agriculture and now owns two hundred and fifty-nine acres of well-improved and valuable farming land, besides considerable town property.

On Christmas Day of 1855 Mr. Lowe was married to Miss Adeline M. Brown, daughter of John and Sarah Brown. Their union has been blessed with a family of seven children, but Floren, their first-born, died on the 5th of December, 1859; George A. is now a resident farmer of Aroma Township; Florence is the wife of A. C. Shreipe, who is engaged in merchandising in St. Anne; John J. is acting as Police, Street Commissioner, Town Constable and Deputy Sheriff, holding all those offices in the village of Waldron; Mary A. is the wife of Harry McDaniel, a telegraph operator and station agent residing in Zionville, Ind.; Lillie is the wife of Walter A. Guertine, who carries on a general merchandise establishment in St. Anne; and Walter completes the family.

Mr. Lowe has always taken quite an active interest in political affairs, and by his ballot supports the Republican party. He has been honored with a number of local offices of trust, having served as Constable, School Director and School Trustee, was Assessor for several terms and was Highway Commissioner for twenty years. He is alike true

to every public and private trust, and the faithful manner in which he ever discharges his duties has brought him high commendation and won him warm regard. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic fraternity. All educational, moral and social interests find in him a friend, and he aids every public enterprise calculated to promote the general welfare.

Mr. Lowe can relate many interesting incidents concerning pioneer life in this county, and certainly no one is more capable of giving the history of early life in this community than our subject, whose residence here covers a period of fifty-seven years. When his family first located in this community almost their only neighbors were the Indians, and when the red men left for the West he followed about fourteen hundred of them two miles on their way. He has seen the wild prairies transformed into beautiful homes and farms, has witnessed not only the growth of the villages of this county, but has seen the entire upbuilding of Kankakee, has seen the introduction of the railroad and has watched the onward march of progress as it has transformed the country from a barren region to a tract of rich fertility. During his long residence here Mr. Lowe has become widely and favorably known, and among his staunchest friends are numbered many of his acquaintances of early years—a fact that indicates the honorable and upright life he has lived.



HENRY AMIDON, a retired farmer, who for almost forty years has been a resident of Kankakee County, now makes his home in the village of Herscher. He is a native of New York, his birth having occurred in Granville, Washington County, on the 3d of November, 1827. The Amidon family is of English origin and was founded in America at an early day by ancestors who settled in the colony of Connecticut. Moses Amidon, the grandfather of our subject, was born in that State and together with three brothers enlisted in the Revolutionary War, serving through-

out that long and bloody struggle, in which two of his brothers were killed. After the colonies had achieved their independence, Moses Amidon removed with his family to New York, becoming one of the early settlers of Washington County, where he spent the last years of his life.

The father of our subject grew to manhood in that county and after attaining to years of maturity wedded Miss Polly Steadman, who was born in Washington County and was a daughter of Charles Steadman. After his marriage, Mr. Amidon located in Granville, where he was engaged in the stock and butchering business. He reared his family and spent his entire life there. In politics he was a Jacksonian Democrat, a staunch supporter of the principles of that party. He took quite an active part in local politics and served in several public offices. His death occurred in Granville in 1880, at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife survived him about eleven years and departed this life in 1891, having reached the advanced age of ninety years.

Henry Amidon, whose name heads this record, is the eldest of a family of four children, numbering three sons and a daughter. Edwin, the second brother, was a soldier of the late war and died in the service of his country in 1864. William was also one of the boys in blue and served until after peace was declared. He first joined a regiment of New York Infantry and after two years he became a member of a regiment of cavalry, with which he served until the close of the war. He is now living in Granville, N. Y. The sister, Sarah A., is the wife of Judge O. F. Thompson, a prominent citizen of Washington County, N. Y., and a former Judge of that county.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who spent his early life in Granville, where he had the advantages of good schools. When a young man of seventeen years he came to the West, locating in Chicago, Ill., whence he soon afterward enlisted for the Mexican War, joining Company G, Sixteenth United States Infantry. He then went to Mexico, where, with his regiment, he participated in a number of engagements. He served for about sixteen months, or until after the close of the war, when he received his discharge

and was mustered out at Newport, Ky. Mr. Amidon then returned to his home in Granville, N. Y., and soon afterward went to Salem, that State, where he secured a position as clerk in a hotel. While in that place he married on the 15th of July, 1851, Miss Adeline Stevens, a Vermont lady, who was born in the town of Wells, in Rutland County, Vt. She is a daughter of Ithamer Stevens, also a native of the Green Mountain State.

After his marriage, Mr. Amidon was engaged with his father in the stock and butchering business for about two years, but at length he determined to again seek a home in Illinois. In 1854, he came to this State and in July of that year located in Rockville, Kankakee County, where he rented a farm. This was his first experience as an agriculturist. The following year, he removed to Du Page County, where he carried on farming for about two years. In 1857, he returned to Kankakee County, purchased land and located in Manteno. The wild and unimproved tract he transformed into rich and fertile fields and for several years he there successfully carried on farming. On the expiration of that period he sold his land and removed to Rockville, where he rented a farm, to the cultivation of which he devoted his energies until 1868. In that year he purchased the southwest quarter of section 29, Pilot Township, a place with some improvements, and located thereon. Industrious and energetic, he engaged in its cultivation for about fifteen years and was acknowledged to be one of the successful and progressive agriculturists of the community. He erected a substantial and commodious residence thereon, also built a large barn and otherwise greatly improved the place. At length he determined to lay aside the arduous duties which had hitherto occupied his time and in 1883 he rented his land and removed to Herscher, where he has since resided.

Mr. and Mrs. Amidon have a family of three children, all of whom are grown and married. Edwin, the eldest, is now operating the old homestead; James is a successful farmer of Pilot Township; and Eva is the wife of A. T. Anderson, a prosperous merchant of Herscher, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work.

Mr. Amidon has followed in the political foot-

steps of his ancestors and supports the Democracy. He cast his first Presidential vote for James Buchanan in 1856 and has since voted for each Presidential nominee of his party. He keeps well informed on the political issues of the day, takes an active part in local politics, and has served in various official positions of honor and trust, discharging his duties with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. He received the appointment of Postmaster of Herscher during President Cleveland's administration and served in that position for four years. He has many times been a delegate to the county conventions of his party and also was a member of the Democratic County Central Committee. His wife is a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is a lady much beloved for her kindness of heart and her benevolent character. This worthy couple are among the highly respected citizens of the community, and their friends are many. Mr. Amidon during the long years of his residence in Kankakee County has proved himself a valued citizen by the prominent part he has taken in public affairs, especially those calculated to prove of benefit to the community.



HILTON B. HALL, a retired merchant and dealer in real estate, is one of the early settlers of this portion of the county, as he has resided here for more than forty years. His birth occurred in Washington County, N. Y., near Ft. Edward, on the 23d of January, 1833. His paternal grandfather died when quite young, as did also his mother's father, but the wife of the latter survived him for many years, and at the time of her death, which occurred at the home of one of her daughters in Ft. Edward, N. Y., she had reached the extreme age of ninety-six years.

Our subject is the son of Henry M. and Elizabeth (Wilber) Hall, the former a native of Rhode Island and the latter of the Empire State. On the paternal side our subject is of English extraction, while his mother was a native of New York State.

The father was a farmer in New York and died in that State in 1867, at the age of eighty years. His wife, who had died the year previous, had attained the age of seventy-four years. Though her parents were of Quaker stock, she had been for a great many years a consistent member of the Methodist Church. By her marriage she became the mother of seventeen children, fifteen of whom lived to manhood and womanhood, the others having died in early childhood. At the present time eleven of the family are living, five sons and six daughters, who are married and live in widely separated States. They are as follows: Rebecca, Adelia, Alcesta, Eliza, Susan, Maria, Merchant, Duane, Dorr, Hilton and Hillman.

The subject of our sketch was reared on a farm, and his educational privileges in early life were those afforded by the district schools of the neighborhood. He afterward attended the Argyle Academy, and when nineteen years of age left his home and came West to grow up with the country, because he believed it afforded wider opportunities for advancement and fortune. He landed at Momence in October, 1851, and after a short visit with relatives in this city went to Bourbonnais, where his brother Henry was just opening a general store. His brother Hillman also accompanied him and they entered the employ of their elder brother. Hillman returned home about a year later, and Hilton B. remained with his brother until the latter sold out his business, when for the succeeding two years he was employed by his successor. Henry went from Bourbonnais to Kankakee, where he opened a store, and thither our subject removed after a time and was in his employ for two years. From that place Mr. Hall came to Momence, and for eight years clerked for W. H. Patterson. At the end of that time Mr. Patterson died, and his son, in connection with our subject, took the stock of goods and carried on business for a few years under the firm name of Hall & Patterson, when the latter also died, and Mr. Hall became the owner of his deceased partner's interest, and from that time did business in his own name until the year 1885, covering a period of about twelve years. He then sold out his business and invested the proceeds in real estate, to which he has since de-

voted his time and attention. Mr. Hall is the owner of considerable property in Momence and vicinity, including a very fine farm of two hundred acres north of town and a beautiful home in Momence. Mr. Hall has acquired his property through his own industrious efforts and economy, and is esteemed in this locality for his honorable course of life.

Our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Veatch on the 21th of July, 1877. Mrs. Hall is the daughter of George and Eliza (Barringer) Veatch, the latter a native of Pennsylvania, and the former of Kentucky. Mrs. Veatch is still living and makes her home with Mrs. Hall, and though in her eighty-first year is still hale and hearty.

Mr. Hall for many years affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and helped to organize the Momence Lodge. He became a Mason while residing in Kankakee, belonging to the Chapter, but has since been demitted. For two years Mr. Hall served as Supervisor of Momence Township, but has never been a politician or an aspirant for public offices. In politics he is a staunch Republican and has always voted for the nominees of that party. When our subject first came to Momence there were probably not more than two hundred inhabitants in the town, and the country around was mostly wild prairie, with not a house to be seen between Momence and Kankakee. He has seen the wilderness change into a prosperous and well-cultivated section, which justly deserves its rank among the best counties of the State.



SLOCUM WILBER, wholesale dealer in garden seeds, and a retired merchant of Momence, is one of its early settlers. His birth occurred in White Creek, Washington County, N. Y., on the 21st of December, 1815. His father, George Wilber, was a native of Dartmouth, R. I., and was left fatherless when six years of age. He was a farmer and seed-grower in New

York and was a prominent man, holding at various times many responsible official positions. His death occurred in that State on the 5th of September, 1853, at the age of sixty-four years and seven months; this was about three weeks after his return home from a trip to Illinois, where he had visited our subject. His wife, Triphena Slocum, was a native of the Empire State and by her marriage had become the mother of seven children, four sons and three daughters, only two of whom are now living; our subject and a sister, Mrs. Adeline Webster, who resides in Momence and whose husband is engaged in the grocery business. One brother died in California, on the 14th of November, 1851. He had formerly been in business in a general store in Momence, but sold his stock to his brother Alvin. A brother Hiram, who was about two years younger than our subject, took part in an Indian uprising in Oregon. He was a brave man and helped to repel many of the attacks of the Indians in that State and was known as Capt. Hiram Wilber. On numerous occasions he was the bearer of important messages for the military commanders of that region. His death occurred August 22, 1892, in Momence, which he had made his home for some time and where he was held in high esteem by the entire community. He was one of the first settlers of Portland, Ore., and was the first Marshal of that city after its organization.

Mr. Wilber, whose name heads this sketch, has resided in Momence since 1850. He started in business with his brother Alvin, under the firm name of A. S. & S. Wilber. They were instrumental in starting the town of Aroma, situated about ten miles from Momence, having built the first store and started the first mill there. Our subject continued in the mercantile business with his brother for two years and a-half, when they dissolved partnership, he then associating with him Messrs. G. W. Van Kirk and W. J. Stratton, under the firm name of Wilber, Van Kirk & Co. This partnership continued for a number of years, when our subject and Mr. Stratton purchased the interest of the other partner, who retired on account of failing health. Mr. Wilber has the reputation of being the pioneer seed-grower of Illi-

nois, as he embarked in that line in 1855, and has continued until the present time in that occupation. One year he raised and shipped about sixteen thousand pounds of cucumber seeds alone. When starting in business he began in a very humble way but succeeded in making it one of the largest seed industries in the State, often employing large forces of men, at one time having seventy-five persons engaged in harvesting cucumber seeds. His pay rolls were very large and he helped many poor people to earn a good and honest living. He has many customers now that he had from the start, which is an evidence of the merit of his goods and his straightforward manner of business dealings.

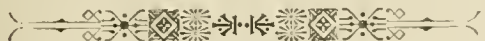
On the 24th of September, 1845, Mr. Wilber was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ann Lake, who was born February 13, 1822, and was the daughter of James Lake, of White Creek, N. Y. Two children were born to them, who died in infancy. On the 9th of April, 1891, Mrs. Wilber was called from this life, being then in her seventieth year, and having been a resident of Momence for about forty-one years. She was a consistent member of the Methodist Church, which she joined when young.

A brother of our subject, Alvin Wilber, now deceased, was the first Postmaster of Momence, and afterward G. W. Van Kirk was appointed to the position and our subject acted as his Deputy. The former died during his term of office and our subject succeeded to the position, there remaining until after Lincoln's election. The postoffice was originally at Loraine, one mile east of here, but was afterwards removed to Momence. In politics, Mr. Wilber has always been a Democrat and has held various local offices of trust. Early in life he became a member of the Baptist Church, to which he has always liberally contributed. He owns a good home, a comfortable and commodious brick house, which was erected in 1850, and in which he has lived continuously for a period of forty-two years. He also owns two large seed warehouses, a farm of thirty acres one mile west of town, five acres in the town plat, and an interest in a number of town lots of Aroma and other property. He is a man of intelligence and wide



Yours Truly
Samuel McKim

reading, and when a young man taught for seven winters in the East. He is now past seventy-seven years of age and is esteemed one of the leading and honored citizens of Momence.



LEMUEL MILK. From the earliest history of mankind the ownership of land has been an honorable distinction, and to be a land-owner or free-holder often was, and in some States of the Union and other countries is still, a necessary qualification for the right of suffrage. There is something grand and ennobling in feeling that one has the sole and exclusive right to a certain tract or section of God's footstool. From this standpoint, the subject of this sketch during his maturer years has had good reason to enjoy that peculiar pleasure in no limited degree, because he has owned and controlled vast tracts of land, equal at one time to upwards of a hundred and fifty farms, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres each. He also was the owner of large herds of cattle and imported blooded horses, besides sheep and hogs. While he has sold some thousands of acres, Mr. Milk still possesses nine thousand acres of good farming land, lying partly in Illinois and Indiana, and eighteen hundred acres situated in North Dakota. Much of his property consists of improved farms, well stocked and productive. On one of his Indiana farms he keeps a large number of imported Norman and English Shire horses of thorough blood stock. He has probably the largest number of that class of horses in the State owned by one individual, and has by his introduction of these horses done much to improve the stock of Indiana and eastern Illinois. Mr. Milk is also largely engaged in growing, feeding and fattening cattle, sheep and hogs, during the winter of 1891-92 turning off some seven hundred head of fat cattle and a corresponding lot of hogs. In fact, it is generally conceded that he is one of the largest, if not the largest, land-owner and stock-grower in the two States of Illinois and Indiana.

Mr. Milk is a native of the Empire State and was born in Ledyard Township, Cayuga County, October 18, 1820. His parents were of New England birth and of English descent. His father, William Milk, was born in Westport, Mass., on the 18th of October, 1783, and died in the town of Fleming, Cayuga County, N. Y., August 25, 1866. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Mary Hathaway, was born in the town of Dartmouth, near New Bedford, Mass. Her death occurred in the town of Fleming, on the 14th of August, 1838. Their family consisted of six sons and one daughter, of whom Lemuel, the youngest, is the only one living.

When about two years of age the subject of this sketch accompanied his parents to Fleming, in the county of his birth, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits, was educated in the public schools and was early taught the necessity of habits of industry and frugality. His father was a blacksmith by trade, but carried on a farm and engaged in stock-raising during the boyhood of our subject. When about fourteen years of age, young Lemuel worked for his brother a month in haying for a calf valued at \$3. To get a mate for him he raked and bound wheat for a brother-in-law six days at fifty cents per day. To feed his calves he mowed hay from fence corners and cut corn tops. Having fattened them he sold them at three years of age for \$45 to William Dolby, who drove them to New York City market, a distance of three hundred miles. Such cattle at this time would bring \$50 each. This was Mr. Milk's first financial venture. While yet a youth he carried on his father's farm on shares, and on attaining his majority purchased a farm adjoining that of his father and ran both of them. For his own farm he was to pay \$2,600, but his entire capital consisted of but \$400, which he had made by reinvesting his "calf money." For the balance he went in debt. In four years he paid for the farm. Continuing to enhance its value by erecting good buildings and putting up first-class fences, he sold it ten years later for \$6,120. This was Mr. Milk's first real-estate transaction.

On the 1st of June, 1854, a marriage ceremony united the destinies of Mr. Milk and Miss Jane A.

Platt, who was a daughter of Storson and Minerva (Sherwood) Platt, of Butternuts, Otsego County, N. Y., where the marriage of our subject was performed. Mrs. Milk was born in the same town on the 20th of May, 1831, and died December 7, 1881, at El Paso, Tex., where she had been in attendance upon an invalid son. She left two children: Jennie M., who is now the wife of George E. Conrad, of Newton County, Ind.; and a son, Sherwood Platt, who was born February 8, 1859, and died on the 17th of June, 1883.

In 1850, Mr. Milk purchased a large tract of land in Iroquois County where now is what is known as Milk's Grove, the grove and township both being named in his honor. While not at that time an actual resident of Illinois, he became fully identified with the State through his large property interests and his frequent visits to the same and the supervision and care of his stock. For about a year after his marriage Mr. Milk resided in Auburn, N. Y., and in 1855 removed with his family to Kankakee, which has since been his home. About 1872, he engaged in merchandising in Chebanse, Iroquois County, and for many years carried one of the largest stocks of general merchandise in the two counties of Kankakee and Iroquois, on the dividing line of which lies the town of Chebanse. Recently he sold out all but the hardware department of that business. Among his varied interests, Mr. Milk stores and ships large quantities of ice from Waldron, Kankakee County, his annual trade in that line frequently equalling four hundred earloads. In addition to his large landed estate in this vicinity, Mr. Milk owns property in Kankakee, Wilmington, Manteno and Waldron. His farming operations are upon a magnificent scale and he handles thousands of head of cattle and other live stock.

In politics, Mr. Milk was a Democrat in early life, but joined the Republican party at its organization. He has never had time or inclination to accept public office, but was induced to serve for two years as a Trustee of the Eastern Illinois Hospital for the Insane, located at Kankakee. He has always been known as a man of indefatigable energy and enterprise and he has ever been ready to give a liberal support to all worthy objects of a practical nature of which he approves.

On the 30th of November, 1886, Mr. Milk was married in Sherwood, Tenn., to Miss May E. Sherwood, a daughter of C. D. and Charlotte P. (Ferriss) Sherwood. Mrs. Milk was born in Rushford, Minn., and is descended from an old Connecticut family. She is a cousin of Mr. Milk's first wife. One child, a daughter, Mary Sherwood, graces the union of our subject and his wife. Mrs. Milk is a member of the Presbyterian Church and is a consistent woman, possessed of many excellencies of character. In his views regarding religion, Mr. Milk is the reverse of orthodox, and while he respects the belief of those who differ from him and contributes liberally to the support of churches, he does not hold membership with any. In 1890, he gave eight acres of land at Milk's Grove, Iroquois County, Ill., and the money necessary to erect a Catholic Church, dwelling, and schoolhouse amounting to \$5,000. He thinks that home life rightly conceived and lived is the nearest supreme happiness that man will ever attain, and also believes that one should do right through the love of right and justice rather than for hope of reward or fear of punishment in a future state. He is a man of marked individuality and independence of character, possessed of excellent executive ability, is self-reliant and sagacious, and has managed his vast business enterprises with a forethought and sound judgment which have wrought him an almost phenomenal success.



WILLIAM R. HUNTER, of Kankakee, attorney and counselor at law, is the present States Attorney of Kankakee County, to which position he was elected in 1888. He is still a young man, having been born in the Province of Ontario on the 12th of January, 1858. His father, Robert Hunter, was a native of the North of Ireland and came first to the United States when about eighteen years of age. Going to Pittsburgh, Pa., he remained in that city for a time, but his health becoming impaired he returned to his native land. Later he again set sail for Amer-

iea, and upon arriving in the United States went to Cincinnati, making that his home for some time. He then removed to Ontario, Canada, where he resided until claimed by death on the 24th of September, 1884. His wife survived for a number of years and passed to her final reward January 29, 1891. In their family were two sons and five daughters, but two of the latter are now deceased. The only brother of our subject, James M., is a farmer by occupation and a resident of Kankakee County.

The educational advantages of William R. Hunter were quite limited in his early life. He worked on a farm until the age of twenty, and though deprived of good school privileges, on account of an inherent desire for knowledge he improved his leisure time in reading and study, and consequently on arriving at his majority was well informed on the current events. Being ambitious to attain a more elevated position in life, and believing that under the free institutions of the Republic better opportunities would be afforded him, he resolved to become a citizen of the United States. Therefore, September, 1879, saw him domiciled in Kankakee, and he at once set about preparing himself for the active duties of life. As he was possessed of a natural talent for music and had given considerable attention to that subject, he gave private instruction in music for a time and was otherwise variously engaged. He pursued a course of nearly three years' study of the classics and general literature under the instruction of the Rev. Daniel Dye, of this city, and to that gentleman Mr. Hunter feels greatly indebted for a thorough mental training and for many acts of kindness and words of encouragement. During that time he also studied telegraphy and with others erected a private line, which gradually became general throughout the city. In addition to these various pursuits and studies, our subject turned his attention to stenography, and after receiving but eight lessons in the principles of that art he pursued the study alone, improving on the systems then in use and adopting methods of his own. He soon became proficient in stenography and for four years filled the position of court reporter in a most acceptable manner. In the mean-

time he had studied law and was admitted to practice January 1, 1882. His examination was conducted by the Judges of the Appellate Court of the Second District. Mr. Hunter's average standing was ninety-six, the highest in the class being ninety-seven. Soon after his admission to the Bar he went to Toronto, where for a short time he occupied a position as stenographer for a firm composed of seven lawyers.

In March, 1882, Mr. Hunter was united in marriage in Kankakee to Miss Lillian Morrison. Mrs. Hunter is a daughter of Noah and Sarah Morrison, of this county. One child graces the union of our subject and his wife, a little daughter, Estella B., who was born July 24, 1885. They lost a son, Julius, when about one year old. On the 10th of January, 1893, Mr. Hunter was called to mourn the loss of his wife, who died at Colorado Springs, Colo., while there to regain her health.

Returning to Kankakee in the spring of 1882, Mr. Hunter engaged in the practice of his profession. For a number of years his office was in that of the Judge of this county. In the winter of 1885, our subject was taken seriously ill with bronchitis and was removed to southern Kansas for the benefit of his health. He remained about three months in that State and in Indian Territory, but returned in the following July without having derived any appreciable benefit from the change of climate. He then decided to go to southern California and try the effect of that well-known salubrious climate. Locating in Los Angeles, Mr. Hunter engaged in practice with Judge Brouseau, of that city. In the spring of 1886, he returned fully restored to health. He was appointed City Attorney in 1887 to fill an unexpired term, and during his position in that office he revised the ordinances of the city. He was appointed City Attorney again the following year and at the same time received the Republican nomination for the office of State's Attorney. Accepting the latter, he was elected by a large majority, and has discharged the duties pertaining to that office in a most satisfactory manner. He was again nominated in 1892 but declined the honor, preferring to attend to the duties of his profession. On the 1st of June of that year, he formed a partnership with H. K. Wheeler. It is

hardly necessary to state that Mr. Hunter is a stalwart Republican and takes a deep interest in the welfare of his party. He may truthfully be termed a self-made man, having by his indomitable energy, application and natural ability attained to his present high rank in his profession.



LOUIS SCHNEIDER, Jr., is one of the leading young citizens of Kankakee. He is a member of the Board of Aldermen of the city, and is prominent in business circles, being the junior partner in the firm of L. Schneider & Son, manufacturers of and dealers in carriages, wagons, etc. Louis Schneider is the father of our subject and the senior member of the firm. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, on the 6th of December, 1834, and when he had attained to a suitable age, he was sent to learn the trades of wheelwright and blacksmith in the city of Ulm. After mastering the business he decided to try his fortune in America, and bidding good-bye to his old home, crossed the briny deep to the United States. This was in 1851.

After coming to this country, Mr. Schneider resided for a time in the State of New York, and then went south to Louisville, Ky. He became a resident of Chicago, Ill., in 1858, and there resided until the 18th of October, 1861, when he again changed his place of residence, locating in Kankakee. Since coming to this city he has engaged in his present line of business. He first formed a partnership with J. H. Lueth, which connection continued for a period of about sixteen years, or until the 1st of November, 1881, when the relation was discontinued. Mr. Schneider was then alone in business for some time, but in October, 1892, formed a partnership with his son Louis, and the present firm title of L. Schneider & Son was assumed.

While a resident of Chicago, Mr. Schneider, Sr., was married, on the 15th of March, 1859, Miss Constantina Reis becoming his wife. The lady was born in Eberstein, Germany. Their union has

been blessed with a family of five children, two sons and three daughters: Matilda, Wilhelmina, Louis, Catherine and Edward F. They lost their second child, David, in infancy.

We now take up the personal history of the gentleman whose name heads this record. His boyhood days were passed in the city of his birth, and his education was acquired in the parochial and public schools of Kankakee. He learned his trade of wagon and carriage making in the establishment of his father, and before the present partnership was formed he was in his employ for a time. The firm of Schneider & Son carries a large line of carriages and wagons and is doing a good business, which it well deserves. To the experience and mature judgment of the father was added the enterprising and progressive spirit of the son, and the firm therefore has those qualities which insure success.

On the 5th of October, 1892, Mr. Schneider, Jr., was married to Miss Mary Hayes, daughter of James Hayes, of Clifton, Ill. The young couple are prominent people of this city, who hold an enviable position in social circles. In politics, Mr. Schneider is a stalwart Democrat, and he has the distinction of being the youngest Alderman ever elected to the Kankakee Board. He represents the Third Ward of this city. He is one of the enterprising and energetic young business men of the city, and his future career will no doubt be one of success.



SYLVESTER HATTON, who makes his home on section 35, Yellowhead Township, was born May 27, 1837, in Fountain County Ind., and is a son of Leslie R. and Elizabeth (Stingley) Hatton, a sketch of whom will be found in that of W. L. Hatton, on another page of this volume. With his parents our subject came to Yellowhead Township, this county, in 1840, though it was then Will County. His father died when he was ten years of age, and he

remained upon the homestead, assisting his mother in carrying on the farm, until she too was called from this life, in 1852. Then, going to Indiana, he lived with an uncle, working on his farm until reaching his majority. His education was largely acquired in Indiana. Returning to Yellowhead Township, Mr. Hatton took possession of eighty acres of land, which he inherited from his father's estate.

On the 7th of October, 1858, Mr. Hatton and Miss Martha A. Allhands were united in marriage. Mrs. Hatton was born in Montgomery County, Ind., on the 29th of November, 1837, and is a daughter of Andrew and Margaret (Swank) Allhands. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born ten children, eight of whom are living. Raymond, born October 16, 1860, died August 20, 1872; Ida M., whose birth occurred April 24, 1862, is the wife of John Dowsey, a prosperous farmer of Jasper County, Ind.; Esther J. was born July 16, 1866; Laura A., October 21, 1867; Ernest, February 16, 1869; William M., March 21, 1872; Francis M., July 28, 1873; George, April 29, 1875; Bertha R., August 23, 1878; and Mary, the first-born, who died in infancy.

Prompted by patriotic impulses, Mr. Hatton enlisted as a private in Company H, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, on the 6th of August, 1862. He was promoted for his bravery and merit to the rank of Sergeant under Capt. Jacob Ruger. He participated in the following engagements and skirmishes: the siege and surrender of Vicksburg, Miss.; that of Jackson, in July, 1863; Champion Hills, in February, 1864; Benton, Miss., in May, and the engagement at Jackson Cross Roads in July, of that year. In 1865 he took part in the battle of Clinton, La., and in April in the siege and assault on Ft. Blakely. Mr. Hatton was a faithful and efficient soldier, and during the three years of his service was fortunate in never being wounded or captured by the enemy. He received an honorable discharge at Galveston, Tex., on the 22d of July, 1865.

After the cessation of hostilities, Mr. Hatton returned to his farm in Yellowhead Township, which he has since carried on successfully. His property consists of one hundred and thirty acres,

which is well improved and yields to him a golden tribute in return for his care and cultivation. He has always taken an active part in educational affairs in his district, which he has served as School Director for over eighteen years. He has given his children the best of school advantages, thus making them intelligent and worthy citizens. In his political affiliations he is a supporter of the Democratic party.

On the 27th of May, 1892, Mr. Hatton celebrated his fifty-fifth birthday, at which time several of his old army comrades of the Seventy-sixth Illinois congregated at his residence, taking him by surprise. In the following words his guests presented him with an elegant rocking chair:

"We, the members of Company H, Seventy-sixth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, desiring to express our friendship and good feeling toward our old comrade, Sylvester Hatton, in token thereof present to you this chair, hoping that in your declining years your weary limbs may find rest and the balance of your life's burdens may rest lightly on you."

CAPT. J. RUGER,	W. D. LANE,
E. S. COOKE,	H. HOAG,
JEROME VAIL,	SAM SHRONTZ,
F. O. CLARK,	F. SCRAMLIN,
	F. MASSEY.



ABRAM PLANTE, of Kankakee, the efficient superintendent of Mt. Grove Cemetery of this city, is a Canadian by birth.

He was born in St. Johns, Canada, August 15, 1841, and is one of a family of ten children. The father, August Plante, was also a native of Canada and there continued to reside until called to the home beyond. He had seven sons and three daughters, all of whom are yet living with the exception of one son and one daughter. Only two, however, came to Illinois, Abram and his brother Solomon. The latter has since removed further West and is now living in the State of Washington.

Our subject spent the days of his early boyhood and youth in Canada. He was a young man

of seventeen years, when, in 1858, he left his home and removed to Kankakee County, Ill. He made his first location in the township of Aroma and was engaged in agricultural pursuits from that time until his enlistment for the late war. Prompted by patriotic impulses, he entered the service of his adopted country on the 24th of August, 1862, and joined the boys in blue of the Seventy-sixth Illinois Regiment. He was assigned to Company D, and served until the close of the war. He fought under a number of famous commanders, including Gens. Grant, Sherman and Logan, and participated in some of the most important engagements of the war. He was under Gen. Grant at the famous siege of Vicksburg and participated in the siege and capture of Ft. Blakely, near Mobile, Ala., one of the last military engagements of the war. Although in many battles, he was fortunate enough to escape the bullets of the enemy, neither was he captured or taken prisoner, but his health was much broken down by the hardships, privations and trials incident to army life.

Mr. Plante was married in the town of Aroma in 1860, when Miss Odille Morin became his wife. The lady was born in Canada August 16, 1841, and is just one day her husband's junior. She is a daughter of Julius Morin, who with his family removed from his native land, Canada, to the State of New York in 1851. He settled near Lake Champlain and after residing there for a time removed thence to Illinois, locating in the village of Aroma, Kankakee County, where he worked at his trade, that of a carpenter. Subsequently he went to Iroquois County and took up his residence on a farm, where he spent the remainder of his life. His death occurred in May, 1872. The wife and mother survives her husband and is now living in the city of Kankakee. This worthy couple were the parents of four children, a son and three daughters, the eldest of whom is Odille, wife of our subject; Josephine is now the wife of August Poutre, who is living in Kankakee; and Adeline is the wife of Onesine Versailles, also of Kankakee. The only son, Julius, died at the age of nine years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Plante has been born a family of six children, four sons and two daughters:

Julius, their eldest child, was born in Aroma November 12, 1862, and is now engaged in business as a railroad engineer. Bird, a clerk for John G. Knecht, was born in Aroma Township July 6, 1867; Arthur, employed in Abert Spencer's store, Chicago, was born on the 20th of January, 1869; Edwin, employed in Sprague, Warner & Co.'s wholesale grocery, of Chicago, was born February 8, 1872; Luella was born July 23, 1873; and Lillian, the youngest of the family, was born on the 27th of April, 1877. The last four were born in Papineau, Iroquois County. The family circle yet remains unbroken.

Mr. Plante returned to Kankakee County soon after the close of the war, but did not long remain here. He removed to Iroquois County, where he successfully carried on agricultural pursuits and made his home until 1883. In that year he returned to Kankakee, where he is now filling the position of superintendent of Mt. Grove Cemetery. He was a gallant soldier in the war for the Union, and throughout his three years of service was ever found at his post of duty, faithfully defending the old flag which now floats so proudly over the united nation. In his political views he is a Republican, having long supported the men and measures of that party. He and his wife both hold membership with the Baptist Church. Mr. Plante is a worthy and respected citizen and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers this brief record of his life.



CHABOD STODDARD, an extensive farmer residing on section 23, Ganier Township, is a native of Leeds County, Canada, his birth occurring on the 14th of April, 1808. He is a son of Sheldon Stoddard, who was of English descent, and was born in Woodbury, Litchfield County, Conn. His ancestors first came to America in 1639, and settled in Boston, the earliest American representative of the family being Anthony Stoddard, a Presbyterian minister. The grandfather of our subject was a soldier in the War of the Revolution.

Sheldon Stoddard, who was a farmer by occupation, wedded Miss Olive Chipman. To them were born the following children, our subject being the eldest: Truman is deceased; Polly and Sarah have also passed away; William is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Porter County, Ind.; Charlotte became the wife of Samuel Burns, a farmer residing in Lawrence County, S. Dak.; Frances, widow of John J. Casswell, resides in Indiana; Olive and Martha are deceased; Lewis makes his home in Indiana; and three children died in infancy. The father was called from this life in 1852. The mother survived her husband twenty-four years, departing this life in 1876.

Our subject was born and reared on a farm, and his school privileges were quite limited. For some years he taught school in Canada, but early learned the carpenter's trade. In 1836 he came to the United States, locating in Toledo, Ohio, where he worked at his trade in the winter of 1836-37. In the spring following, Mr. Stoddard emigrated to Illinois, settling in what was then Iroquois, but is now a portion of Kankakee, County. For some years he continued at his trade as a carpenter, and then purchased the farm which has been his home until the present time. This purchase consisted of one hundred and fifty-three acres on section 23, Ganier Township, for which he paid \$4. 50 per acre. The farm was raw prairie land, but six acres having been broken. The nearest market was Chicago, and to that city Mr. Stoddard has many times driven hogs and cattle, going all the way on foot. The same year of his arrival, the Indians were removed from this portion of the State to the Western reservations. Mr. Stoddard and his sons own a large wheat ranch of about one thousand acres of land in Dakota.

In 1840, Mr. Stoddard married Miss Eliza W. Perry, by which union one child was born, Arvin, who is a mason by trade, and resides in Red Oak, Iowa. Our subject married his present wife, Miss Alpha L. Tower, on the 8th of November, 1853, in Vermont, where she was born October 21, 1816. She is a daughter of Joseph Tower, whose birth occurred in Nova Scotia. However, his progenitor came from England in 1637, settling at New Hingham, Mass. Joseph was married in Vermont to

Priscilla Edmunds, a native of Clarendon, Rutland County, where they passed their lives upon a farm. Mr. Tower died in 1840, at the age of seventy, and his wife in 1851, aged seventy-four. Mrs. Stoddard is the eleventh child of a family of twelve children, of whom but two survive, Mrs. Stoddard, and Mrs. Abigail Perry, a resident of Aroma Township, Kankakee County. Mrs. Stoddard has become the mother of two children, William and George H., who are both in Dakota at present, operating their extensive wheat ranch.

The subject of this sketch was for many years a loyal Whig, and since the organization of the Republican party, has been one of its staunch supporters. He voted for Gen. William Henry Harrison, and has cast two votes for his grandson, Benjamin Harrison. He has served in various positions of responsibility and trust, among which we mention those of Commissioner of Highways and School Trustee.



I SAAC BIRD HANNA is engaged in the insurance business in Kankakee, and is the agent of the Standard Oil Company in this county. Though comparatively a young man, he is one of the representative business men of this city. He is the only surviving son of Maj. Richard J. Hanna, who settled in Otto Township, Kankakee County, in 1855. There on the 30th of January, 1857, the subject of this sketch was born, and he has the honor of being the first white child born in that township. In 1863, while his father was in the army fighting the battles for the Union, the mother removed with her children to Kankakee.

Our subject attended the public schools of the city, and acquired a good education. He was for two years a student of Asbury University. Returning from school in 1874, he was employed in his father's store for a period of six years. When, in 1881, Maj. Hanna was appointed Postmaster at Kankakee, Isaac assisted him, and became Deputy Postmaster, having general charge of the office un-

til 1885. Then he purchased the insurance agency of John Dale, since which time he has conducted a general insurance business with good success. In August, 1891, he was appointed by the Standard Oil Company as their representative in this section. From a business and financial point of view he has prospered, and owes his success to his industry and wise business methods.

The wife of Mr. Hanna was formerly Miss Bell Hall, whose father, Henry S. Hall, was one of the early settlers of this county. Mrs. Hanna is a native of Sangamon County, Ill. Her father was accidentally killed, having been the victim of an accident on the Grand Trunk Railroad in Canada. This was in March, 1889, and at that time twenty-three persons lost their lives in the terrible wreck. When but two years of age Mrs. Hanna's mother died. Two sons have graced the union of our subject and his wife: Richard Henry and Thomas Williams.

Mr. Hanna has been called upon by his fellow-citizens to serve in various official capacities, the duties of which positions he has discharged with ability and fidelity. He was elected Town Collector for the years of 1887, 1888 and 1889. He was elected Alderman in 1890, and was made Supervisor two years later. Politically, he is a supporter of the Republican party, and socially is a member of various civic societies, including the Odd Fellows, Royal Arcanum, Modern Woodmen and Sons of Veterans. He is highly esteemed in this community, where he numbers a large circle of friends and acquaintances.



MARTIN M. PORTER is a prosperous farmer, who owns and operates two hundred and twenty acres, of which one hundred and sixty are on section 31, Momence Township, and sixty acres are on section 6, Pembroke Township, three and a-half miles southeast of Momence. His birth occurred in Ontario County, N. Y., on the 23d of March, 1857. He was the second in order of birth in a family of three chil-

dren, two sons and a daughter, who were born to Edward A. and Sarah (Miller) Porter. The father was of Irish extraction, born on the 6th of August, 1829, in the State of New York. He was a farmer by occupation, and in the fall of 1866 emigrated to Kankakee County. He purchased a farm, to the cultivation of which he devoted himself for nine years. He departed this life on the 13th of May, 1875, when forty-five years of age. The mother of our subject was also a native of the Empire State, where her birth occurred September 27, 1833. She was of English ancestry and was called from this life when she had reached the age of forty-eight, her death occurring March 12, 1882.

Martin Porter was reared on a farm, and lived with his parents until he was twenty-one years of age. He received a good common-school education, which he supplemented by well-directed reading, and is now fully acquainted with the topics of the times. After reaching his majority, he left the parental roof and started out to make his fortune. His first move was to rent a farm, to which he brought his young wife, who was formerly Miss Mary E. Dutcher, and to whom he was married on the 23d of January, 1879. She was born in Warren County, Ind., on the 11th of January, 1860, and is a daughter of George and Hannah (McCord) Dutcher. The former was born in Canada, April 4, 1831, and was of German descent. He came to Kankakee when but eight years of age, in 1839, and was consequently among the first settlers in these parts, where he resided until his death, on the 6th of December, 1875. Mrs. Dutcher was of Irish extraction, born on the 30th of April, 1839, in Indiana, and was called to her final rest in Kankakee County on the 5th of May, 1873. Mrs. Porter was only three years of age when with her parents she came to this county, and here she has lived continuously since. By her marriage she has become the mother of five children: George N., who was born July 8, 1880; Niles L., born October 6, 1882; Iva Bell, whose birth occurred August 17, 1884; Alex S., born September 8, 1889; and Grace L., who was born on the 7th of August, 1891.

In his political views, Mr. Porter is a staunch Democrat and supports the men and measures of



Edwin Woodard



Belinda S Woodard

the Democratic party. As an agriculturist he has been successful, abundant harvests being the reward for his care and cultivation. His property shows on every hand the attention which is given it by a careful and enterprising owner.



EDWIN WOODARD, a retired farmer of Kankakee, is one of the earliest pioneers of this county, the date of his arrival being the 15th of April, 1838. He is a native of Massachusetts, his birth having occurred near Worcester on the 3d of October, 1811. His father, Benjamin Woodard, was also a native of the Bay State, and was of English origin, several of his ancestors having been early members of the Massachusetts Colony. He served his country in the War of 1812, and on arriving at man's estate married the mother of our subject, who bore the maiden name of Sylvia Vale. About the year 1817, when Edwin was about three years of age, his parents removed to Vermont. In the winter of 1834-35, the father was accidentally killed, leaving a wife and nine children to mourn his loss.

Our subject was the eldest son and second child, and by the death of his father much responsibility fell upon his shoulders. It was to prepare a home for the family thus left without support that our subject struck out for the Far West when he had just attained his majority. A neighbor, Revilo Beebe, had emigrated from Vermont in 1836, and his father, Oliver Beebe, soon followed him. They located in Kankakee County and were much pleased with the country. Revilo Beebe wrote our subject a glowing account of this section, and it was largely through his influence that Mr. Woodard emigrated from the Green Mountain State in the spring of 1838. He located in the Kankakee Valley, in what is now the township of Aroma. On his trip he was accompanied by two men, Eber Gleason and Lansing Taylor. The three purchased a claim of a man who had originally pre-empted the land. This tract the three

friends divided, each taking his share. In June of the same year Mr. Woodard returned to his mother and her family. Six of her children came at that time to this county, the others coming later, with the exception of the eldest sister, who was married and died many years ago in New York, leaving a family of six children. Mrs. Woodard was afterward married in this county to Oliver Beebe and lived to the age of about seventy years. She was born on the 20th of May, 1792, and her death occurred December 23, 1862.

Of the family, which consisted of nine children, four are yet living: Edwin, the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Catherine Leonard, who was born on the 23d of March, 1817; Benjamin, born August 17, 1822, and now living in Hazel Green, Iowa; and Cyrus, born May 3, 1834, and now residing in Waldron, this county. Those deceased are Amy, whose birth occurred May 14, 1813, and who died in 1861; Harriet, who was born May 11, 1820, and died March 20, 1891; Sylvia, who was born April 21, 1825, and departed this life on the 11th of April, 1891; Sallie, born April 11, 1828, and who died many years ago; Willard, who was born on the 23d of August, 1832, and was killed at the battle of Franklin, December 16, 1864; and Hiram, who was born August 31, 1834, and died December 25, 1837.

On the 8th of October, 1841, occurred the marriage of Edwin Woodard and Belinda J. Legg, who was a native of Kentucky. On New Year's Day, 1890, our subject was bereft of his wife after they had traveled the journey of life together for more than forty-five years. They had no children of their own, but reared Lucy Perry from the time she was six years of age. She was born in Vermont, and was the daughter of John and Abigail Perry. In 1841, her family removed to Michigan, where the father died in the fall of the same year. In 1845 the mother with her seven children came to this county. She is still living, having attained the advanced age of eighty-four years, and makes her home in Aroma Township, Kankakee County. Four of her children still survive. When but six years of age Lucy was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Woodard. On the 1st of December, 1859, she became the wife of Willard Woodard, who entered

the army in the War of the Rebellion and, as already stated, was killed at the battle of Franklin. He was a member of a Minnesota regiment, as at the time he enlisted he was living in Fillmore County of that State. His wife had but one brother, Alden Perry, who enlisted in the Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, and died at Mound City, Ill., while returning home. After the death of her husband Lucy returned to the home of her foster parents and she is still living in the pleasant home of our subject in Kankakee.

Mr. Woodard of this sketch was for many years one of the well-known farmers and stock-raisers of this county. He continued to operate his farm until 1866, at which time he removed to Kankakee; however, he still carried on farming for several years, though not actively engaged as an agriculturist for himself. He has since sold his farm property and in his declining years is enjoying the reward of his long years of toil. Among the many pioneers and early settlers of this county none are held in higher regard than the gentleman whose name heads this sketch, and his many friends in this locality will be pleased to read this brief account of so worthy a citizen.

Politically he was a Whig until the rise of the Republican party, with which he has since been identified. His first Presidential vote was cast for William H. Harrison in 1836 and again in 1840. His last Presidential vote was given for Benjamin Harrison, whom he has also supported twice for that position.



JOHN JACKSON owns a farm on section 19, Otto Township, and came to this county in the spring of 1857. He was born in Cambridgeshire, England, on the 7th of April, 1826, and is a son of William and Rebecca (Taylor) Jackson, both natives of the same place. They reared their family, spent their entire lives and died in England.

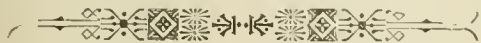
Our subject is the fifth child of the family of

ten who grew to maturity. Two of this number died in England and two passed away in this country. The boyhood and early youth of our subject were passed in England, where his school advantages were but limited. He there learned the routine duties of farm life and was early trained as an agriculturist. In 1850, taking passage in a ship at Liverpool which was bound for Boston, he emigrated to the New World. Thirty days were spent in crossing the Atlantic, as he was on board a sailing-vessel. Arriving in Boston in October of 1850, Mr. Jackson immediately started westward, and spent about four years in Medina County, Ohio. He afterward removed to Summit County, where he lived for the three years succeeding. The year 1857 witnessed his arrival in Kankakee County, Ill. He first located in the spring of that year in Momence Township, where he secured work of the farmers for about two years. He was frugal and industrious, and with his carefully saved earnings of years he embarked in farming for himself. He first rented a farm for a few years, and in January, 1861, located upon the land where he now resides and of which at that time he became the possessor, purchasing in company with his brother William a tract of one hundred and sixty acres. At that time Otto Township was almost a wilderness, and this property had few improvements and only an old house upon it. In this, however, he and his brother made their home for a number of years. He commenced his life in the New World almost empty-handed, and by the labor, enterprise and well-directed efforts of years, has now a good home and a valuable farm, and is considered one of the thrifty, enterprising and progressive farmers of Otto Township.

Mr. Jackson was united in marriage on the 9th of June, 1852, to Miss Rebecca Taylor, of Medina County, Ohio. The lady is a daughter of Thomas Taylor, and was born in Cambridgeshire, England. Our worthy subject and his wife are the parents of seven children. Emeline Antoinette is the wife of Hiram King, of Onarga, Ill. William Henry received a good education and has been a successful teacher. He is now completing a course of study at Valparaiso (Ind.) College. John Thomas

is a farmer by occupation, and is now engaged in carrying on the home place. The remaining members of the family, Frank Edward, Ida Blanche, Amanda Ethel and George Raymond, are still under the parental roof.

Since becoming a voter, Mr. Jackson has used his right of franchise in favor of the Democratic party. He has never longed for official recognition, but has served his fellow-citizens in several local offices. For a number of terms he has been a member of the School Board, and in him the cause of education finds a warm friend and staunch supporter. He is one of the early settlers of this county, having made his home here for a period of over thirty-five years. He is a man of unblemished reputation and true worth, and has the respect and esteem of all, and is well worthy of being represented in the volume which records the lives of many of the pioneers and early settlers of Kankakee County.



GEORGE C. SERGEANT is a progressive and practical farmer residing on section 34, Sumner Township. He is a native of Kalamazoo County, Mich., his birth having occurred on the 3d of August, 1810. His father, Campbell Sergeant, was of German descent and was born in New Jersey, in which State, on arriving at maturity, he married Mahala Lewis. He was a wagonmaker by trade and soon after his marriage removed to Kalamazoo County, Mich. He arrived there in 1836 and was one of the early settlers of what was then a wilderness. He located upon land within two miles of Kalamazoo, which was largely timber. Until 1850 he engaged in agricultural pursuits and while in Michigan did not work at his trade. In 1850, Mr. Sergeant removed to Chicago, where for two years he worked as a wagon-maker. From there he came to Kankakee County, and locating in Sumner Township purchased one hundred and sixty acres of Government land on section 31, for which he paid \$1.25 per acre. Through this section of country it was

only open and unimproved prairie. As there was no house upon the farm, he erected a small frame dwelling and here he lived during the remainder of his life. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Church and in that faith he died in 1856. He lies buried in Momence Cemetery and by his side reposes his companion through life, who survived her husband many years, her death occurring in 1890.

Our subject is one of a family of ten children, as follows: David, a farmer living in Davis County, Mo.; Charlotte, whose death occurred in 1817; George C.; Euphemia, who died in infancy; Milton and Catherine, who were both called to their final home in 1854; Lewis, who resides in Kalamazoo, Mich.; Frederick, who is a farmer of Madison County, Neb.; Campbell, also an agriculturist, who carries on farming in Phelps County, Neb.; and Henrietta, wife of Robert Gibson, a farmer of Ganier Township.

The early years of George Sergeant were passed in the wilderness of Kalamazoo County, the place of his birth. When twelve years of age he came with his parents to Kankakee County, which has since been his home. He was early trained to the life of a farmer and has followed that vocation up to the present time. In his youth he received such education as was then imparted in the district schools. He assisted his father in the care of his new farm in this county until the death of the latter, after which he took charge of the old homestead for his mother. This property now belongs to Mr. Sergeant and on it he erected a beautiful residence. He is the owner of three hundred and twenty-six and a-half acres of desirable and valuable land, where he is engaged in general farming and stock-raising.

October 8, 1869, Mr. Sergeant was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Hamilton, whose parents were William and Elizabeth (McAvoy) Hamilton. Mrs. Sergeant was born in New Brunswick, Mo., March 5, 1841, and in girlhood moved to Wisconsin, later to Michigan, and thence to Kankakee County in 1861. Unto them were born three children, who reside under the parental roof, Frank, Albert and Mabel.

In various offices, Mr. Sergeant has served his

friends and neighbors to their full satisfaction. He is always active in all public enterprises and is much interested in the welfare of the Republican party, to which he gives his influence and for whose nominees he casts his ballot. Success has attended his efforts as a farmer and this he well deserved, for he has brought to bear the sterling qualities of perseverance, ceaseless labor and energy. He has the respect of all who know him and has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.



SAMUEL BEEBE, a retired farmer, is one of the very oldest settlers of this county, and when he first located here there were only one or two families between Momence and Chicago. He came from Vermont with his parents in 1836 and landed in what is now called Beebe's Grove. His birth occurred in Winhall, Bennington County, Vt., on the 13th of January, 1824, he being a son of Oliver and Nancy (Mellen) Beebe, who were both natives of the Green Mountain State. Very little is known of the grandparents, but it is certain that the Beebes were originally from Wales. Both of the grandfathers attained to a remarkable age. Oliver Beebe was a hotel-keeper in Winhall and also did farming after the fashion of those early days. His family consisted of ten children, three sons and two daughters now surviving, as follows: Julia, Jane, Daniel, Samuel and John, all of whom are married and have families.

At the time our subject, Samuel Beebe, came to Illinois, the Indians were very numerous, but were friendly and were about the only companions of the young lad. The country was very wild, wolves, deer and wild game of all kind abounding. Mr. Beebe particularly remembers the large herd of deer which roamed over the prairies and he has seen as many as three hundred in one herd. The family did their marketing in Chicago, the trip requiring some three or four days. There were no school privileges until some years later, when were introduced select and afterward district schools. The educational advantages, therefore, of our subject

in early life were very meagre. When about seventeen years of age he was thrown upon his own resources to make his way in the world as best he could. His mother also died a few years later. The hardships incident to pioneer life had early inured him to an endurance and hardihood unknown to the present rising generation, and with a brave heart and willing hands he worked for a while by the month in order to get a start. He then purchased a farm of eighty acres, for which he paid the munificent sum of \$59. This he at once began to improve, and as time went by and he was able to accumulate money he purchased more property.

On the 27th of February, 1851, occurred the marriage of Samuel Beebe and Miss Laura, daughter of Isaac and Relief (Barnes) Chipman, who were residents of Kankakee, then called Will County, as early as 1842, and were also natives of Vermont. Ten children graced the union of our subject and his wife, seven sons and three daughters: Albert, Milan (who died at five years of age), Charles, Oscar, Florence, Bertha, Elnora, Frank (one of twins, the other dying in infancy), and Fred. Albert left home at the breaking out of the war and never has been heard from since. Charles married Miss Nellie Hayden, of Lake County, Ind., which is their present home. They have three children, Flora, Alice and Royal. Oscar died when a young man. Florence became the wife of Leonard Bradley, a farmer of this county, and to them one child was born, which is now deceased, as is also its mother, who died in 1889. About two years later Bertha became the wife of Mr. Bradley, who now carries on the old homestead of our subject, and they have a child, Frank Elwin.

Mr. Beebe continued farming until February, 1892, when he moved to Momence and occupies a fine residence which he built in that city. He is the owner of over eight hundred acres of land and a number of houses in the town. Though never belonging to any religious denomination or secret society, Mr. Beebe contributes liberally to the support of churches and helped in the building of the new Methodist house of worship, to which his wife and two of their children belong. Two other children hold membership with the

Baptist Church. Mr. Beebe is a loyal Republican but has never held or aspired to official positions. In personal appearance he is of spare build but of strong constitution, and is about five feet, six inches in height. Although sixty-eight years of age he is active and well preserved and looks many years younger. He has been a resident of Momenoe Township since before its organization, a period of fifty-six years, and is one of the pioneer settlers whom the present generation is justly proud to have in their midst as an example of what strong purpose and will can accomplish. His beloved companion in life has ever been a true helpmate, and justly shares the blessings and honors which belong to her worthy husband.



ISAAC D. AYRES, an enterprising farmer residing on section 5, is one of the representative citizens of Pilot Township, who for twenty-three years has made his home in this community. His life record is as follows: He claims New Jersey as the State of his nativity, his birth having occurred in the city of Newark, on the 20th of August, 1855. Through several generations he traces his ancestry back to one of three brothers of English birth, who in 1630 left their home across the water and braved the dangers of an ocean voyage at that early day in order to secure a home in the New World. One brother settled in New Jersey, another in Massachusetts, and the third in Virginia. The grandfather of our subject, Daniel Ayres, was born in New Jersey, and the birth of Alexis, the father of our subject, occurred in that State, May 9, 1820. The former was a carpenter by trade, and from Newark he moved to Troy, N. Y., where he followed that line of business for a number of years.

Alexis Ayres learned the printer's trade, which he followed throughout his entire life. In Troy, N. Y., he married Harriet A. Risley, a native of Augusta, Oneida County, N. Y., born March 20, 1823. About a year after their marriage, Mr. Ayres removed with his family to Newark, N. J.

He was employed as a printer at that place and also in New York, and was employed as a compositor by Horace Greeley, of the New York *Tribune*. Later Mr. Ayres, in company with a brother-in-law, established *The Mercury*, the first daily paper published in Newark. He soon afterward sold out, however, but continued to work in that line of business until his death, which occurred February 23, 1861. Mrs. Ayres still survives her husband, and is with an aged aunt in Oneida County, N. Y., but her home is with her son, our subject.

Isaac Ayres is the younger of two sons. His brother, Albert Alexis, is a substantial farmer of Pilot Township, and is well known in this county and represented elsewhere in this volume. Isaac resided in Newark, N. J., until 1864, and in his youth obtained a good English education. In that year his mother removed to Lisbon, Kendall County, Ill., where she resided for about five years. With her family she then came to Kankakee County, and in 1869 purchased a tract of land in Pilot Township, the same on which our subject now resides. Her sons immediately began the development and improvement of a farm, for at that time there were only slight improvements upon the place. As the years passed, the uncultivated tract was transformed into rich and fertile fields and the Ayres' farm is now known as one of the best in the community. It is pleasantly located about two miles south of Herscher, and is a valuable and desirable property of eighty acres.

On the 19th of September, 1880, in the Hubbard schoolhouse of Pilot Township, was celebrated the marriage of Isaac Ayres and Miss Albertina Olson. The lady was born in Chicago, Ill., November 20, 1861, and the days of her girlhood were spent in Pilot Township. She is a daughter of Albert S. and Alice (Johnson) Olson, now a resident of Onarga, Ill. Four children have been born of this union, namely: Alexis M., Alice L., Elmer G. and Willie H.

Mr. Ayres cast his first Presidential vote for R. B. Hayes. He now upholds the principles of the Prohibition party, but is not strictly partisan, holding himself free to support the candidates whom he thinks best qualified for the offices. He

has been elected to several local offices of honor and trust, having served for one year as Township Collector, four years as Township Clerk, and is now efficiently serving in that capacity. His public duties have ever been promptly and faithfully performed, and he is recognized as a valued citizen. He is public-spirited and progressive, and takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community. For several years he was the local correspondent for the Kankakee papers, writing under the *nom de plume* of "Jersey Blue." The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and for a number of years he served as School Trustee. Mr. Ayres is a good farmer. Everything about his place is neat and orderly, and its thrifty appearance indicates an important characteristic of the owner. During the long years of his residence in Kankakee County, his life has been such that he has won the esteem and confidence of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.

Socially, Mr. and Mrs. Ayres were members of the Good Templar lodge. He was a charter member of "The Orient," the first Good Templar lodge in Pilot Township. Mr. Ayres is a charter member of Herscher Lodge, I. O. O. F., at Herscher, Ill., which numbers about twenty-six initiated members, and was organized in May, 1893. Mrs. Ayres is a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.



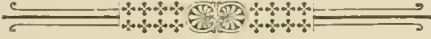
ANTHONY STYLES carries on general farming and stock-raising in Ganier Township. He is a native of the Empire State, where his birth occurred in Ulster County, on the 13th of April, 1819. His father, Samuel Styles, was a native of the same place, and of English extraction. When he arrived at man's estate, he wedded Hannah Houghtling, and to them were born ten children: Sarah M., Lizzie, Anthony, Edward, Jane, Alfred, Benjamin, Gertrude, Charles, and one who died in infancy.

Our subject received good common-school advantages, and when but sixteen years of age served an apprenticeship to the harness-maker's trade. This occupation he followed almost continuously until 1818. In the year 1814, Mr. Styles went to Kalamazoo County, Mich., where he remained for the succeeding nine years. In the year 1853, he first became a resident of Kankakee County, where he purchased eighty acres of partly improved land on section 12, Ganier Township. From time to time as his financial resources permitted, Mr. Styles added to his original purchase, until at the present time he owns two hundred and forty acres of land, all of which is in Ganier Township, under a high state of cultivation, and is valuable property. He carries on general farming and stock-raising, and his farm shows the careful and constant supervision of the owner.

On the 26th of July, 1816, occurred the wedding of Mr. Styles and Miss Janette Stuart, and by this marriage eleven children were born: Elizabeth, Alfred, Janette, Eleanor, Alice, Edward, Charles, Hannah, David, William and George; of these three died—Hannah, Eleanor and William. Elizabeth is the wife of James K. Rahm, of Centralia, Ill.; Alfred is a farmer of Ganier Township; Janette is the wife of H. C. Paddock, a newspaper publisher of Libertyville, Ill.; Alice is at home; Edward is a train dispatcher at Bloomington; Charles is a locomotive engineer of Centralia, Ill.; David is a leading hardware merchant of Momence; and George is at home.

Our subject has served his county and township in various official capacities in a most acceptable and efficient manner, having at various times been Poor Master, School Commissioner, Pathmaster and School Director. In 1844 Mr. Styles united with the Presbyterian Church, with which he was identified until 1891, when, there being no church of his choice near by, he united with the Methodist Church, ever taking an active part in its work. He uses his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party, and always assists in all worthy enterprises tending to the advancement and best interests of his fellow-citizens. Mrs. Styles was called to the home beyond on the 28th of January, 1892. She was a consistent Christian,

being identified from 1814 until her death with the same church organization as was her husband. Her remains are interred in the Momence Cemetery, and many friends mourn her loss.



CHARLES S. McNICHOLS, editor of the *Momence Press*, was born in Belmont County, Ohio, near Barnesville, on the 15th of October, 1858, and is a son of George and Rebecca (Kirby) McNichols. The father was of Scotch-Irish origin and a native of Virginia, while the mother was of English descent and born in Ohio. The father was twice married, his first wife being Miss Martha Williams, also a native of Ohio, and unto them were born nine children, eight of whom are still living: John, Thomas, George, Cyrus, Martha, Mary, Ruth and Esther. About the year 1850 the mother of these children died, and five years later Mr. McNichols married Miss Rebecca, daughter of Thomas and Rebecca (Bigelow) Kirby, by which union were born four children, two of whom died in infancy, and Elizabeth departed this life in Plainfield, Ind., when about twenty years of age. Charles S., the subject of this sketch, was the youngest of the family.

The father of our subject was an extensive and successful farmer. When quite a young man he left the old homestead in Virginia and started out in the world for himself. Traveling Westward, he located in Belmont County, Ohio, where he purchased a farm, to which at various times he added additional land until shortly before he left there, in June, 1863, he was the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land. He was one of the Directors of the Ohio Central Railroad. In the year mentioned he sold his property in Ohio, and, removing to Indiana, bought land in three or four different counties, but finally located near Monrovia, in Morgan County. He lived there, however, scarcely two years, as his death occurred in 1865, when he had attained nearly the age of sixty-five years. His wife survived him until 1883, when she was called from this life at

the home of her son Charles at West Liberty, Iowa. Her father was descended from Quakers, and her maternal grandfather conducted the retreat from Quebec at the time Montgomery was wounded and defeated. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a Philadelphia merchant and a valiant soldier in the Revolutionary War.

The early boyhood days of Charles S. McNichols were passed upon his father's farm in the usual routine of a farmer lad's life. When about ten years of age he went into town and attended school for several years in Plainfield, Ind., receiving his education principally there. He also had the advantage of higher schooling in the Central Academy and Asbury University at Greencastle, Ind., which is now well known as De Pauw University. When in his early teens, he decided to adopt the printing business as his sphere in life, and when sixteen years of age he became the owner of an interest in the printing-office in Mooresville, Ind., and commenced learning the trade. This business he sold before entering the college at Greencastle, but after his studies at the university were completed, he worked at the printer's trade in Brazil and Indianapolis, after which he established a paper at Plainfield, which he published for some time successfully. He next taught school for some terms, when, going to Iowa, he published a paper and later was on the editorial staff of the *Prairie Farmer*, and was also reporter for the *Herald* and *Inter Ocean* of Chicago, and did special writing for the *Tribune* of that city.

On New Year's Day of 1880, occurred the wedding of Mr. McNichols and Miss Louise, daughter of Joshua Chandler, of Bloomington, Ind. On the 7th of June, 1881, our subject was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away at her home near Monrovia, Ind. On the 8th of October, 1892, Mr. McNichols was united in marriage with Miss Emma Dobbs, who is a daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth (Longstreth) Dobbs, of Creston, Iowa. Mrs. McNichols is a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church.

In February, 1887, Mr. McNichols came to Momence and took charge of the *Reporter* office, remaining here until June, 1891, when he purchased the *Island Park News* and changed its name to

the *Momence Press*, which he is still publishing with good success, being its editor and proprietor. This paper is well conducted, and merits the patronage which it has secured by its reliable news and well-written editorials. Mr. McNichols was the originator and prime mover in the work of building the hay palace which was exhibited in Momence in the years 1890-91, and which was attended by at least forty thousand people each year, it being one of the achievements of which Momence is justly proud. He was also the organizer of the Momence Building and Loan Association, and did much to promote its interests. He is a staunch Republican in his political affiliations, and was the first Secretary of the Republican State Press Association. Socially he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. Well fitted by educational advantages and experience for journalistic work, genial and full of enterprise, Mr. McNichols has won a deserved popularity both as a newspaper man and as a citizen.



WILLIAM ASTLE, a hardware merchant, a member of the firm of Astle & Son, is one of the old settlers and substantial citizens of Momence, having resided here for thirty-two years, during which time he has always taken a lively interest in the welfare of the place, being one of its enterprising and public-spirited citizens.

Mr. Astle is a native of Derby, England, where he was born November 28, 1823, and is a son of John and Catherine (Fearn) Astle, both of whom were natives of Nottinghamshire, England. The paternal grandfather was a machinist, who followed blacksmithing for many years, and lived to an advanced age. The mother's father, Robert Fearn, was one of the extensive hop-growers in England, which business is one of the largest industries of that country. Seven children were born to John and Catherine Astle, three of whom are now living: William, George and Betsy, the two last named being still residents of Derby, England, where the mother died in 1860, at the age of fifty-nine years.

Her husband died in 1883, being eighty-two years old at the time of his death. During his life he followed the occupation of a machinist, was an honest and industrious man, and by his upright life won the esteem of all.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in his native land, where he received fair educational privileges. When young he learned the coppersmith's trade, which vocation he followed until coming to America. The year 1857 witnessed his arrival in the New World, and with his family he located in Chicago, arriving there in October of that year, where they made their home until 1859, when, coming to Momence, Mr. Astle entered the employ of M. A. Atherton, a hardware merchant, and remained with him for about four years. Afterwards he worked for W. H. Patterson, in the same line of business, which he managed for him until 1870, when his employer died. Mr. Astle then decided to embark in business for himself, and, forming a partnership with F. Scramlin, opened a hardware store with an entirely new stock of goods. They also purchased the stock formerly owned by Mr. Patterson on River Street, and opened their business in the rooms now occupied by Mr. Astle. Mr. Scramlin retired from the firm in 1880. In May, 1891, our subject associated with him his grandson, Charles B., and the firm is now known as Astle & Son. They handle all kinds of shelf and heavy hardware, and also do tin-smithing.

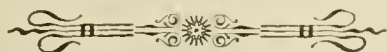
On the 3d of May, 1844, William Astle was married to Miss Ellen Heath, daughter of William and Anna Heath, who lived in the neighborhood of Chesterfield, England. Seven children graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Astle, four of whom were sons and are now deceased. Emily and Kate were born in England, and Ella in America.

Mr. Astle was a member of the Village Board of Trustees before the city organization, was its President for several terms, and has also served as School Trustee. He and his estimable wife are members of the Episcopal Church, of which he was Senior Warden for a number of years, and was also chairman of the building committee at the time the new church was erected. He uses his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party,



Arthur J. Byrnes

but has no aspiration to political or official honors. He is a member of Momence Lodge No. 481, A. F. & A. M., having united with that order in 1867. He is also an Odd Fellow, to which society he belonged in England, and is to-day the oldest living member of his home lodge. Mr. Astle has always been an industrious man, and has accumulated his property by his perseverance, frugality and correct business methods. In addition to his store he owns a good home and a number of lots in Momence. Although sixty-nine years of age, he has the appearance of a much younger man, and is still actively engaged in business.



ARTHUR J. BYRNS, Sheriff of Kankakee County, is a native of this county and was born in what is now Aroma Township, Kankakee County, but was then Iroquois County, on the 5th of August, 1852. His parents, James and Mary A. (Dille) Byrns, were early pioneers of this section, of whom see sketch elsewhere in this work. Our subject was educated in the public schools and was reared upon a farm.

On the 12th of July, 1871, when nineteen years of age, Mr. Byrns enlisted in the United States regular army as a private in Company D, Seventh United States Infantry, and was assigned to duty in the Department of the West among the Indians. He helped to survey the Beaufort and National Indian Reservations and was in several skirmishes with the hostiles. On one occasion, while on vedette, he was slightly wounded by a gunshot from an Indian. His father was much dissatisfied with his son's action in becoming a soldier in the regular army and through the influence of Senator John A. Logan secured his discharge December 27, 1872, by a special order of the War Department.

On his return from the army, Mr. Byrns taught school in the country, his experience as a teacher covering four terms of summer school and eighteen winter terms, he being employed in but four different districts. He is the owner of a farm consisting

of one hundred and twenty acres, which is a portion of the old homestead in Aroma Township where he was born.

Our subject is a Republican in politics and has filled various official positions of honor and trust. He was elected Supervisor of his township and re-elected without opposition, representing the same in the County Board until elected Sheriff in the fall of 1890, when he resigned the office of Supervisor and entered upon the duties of his present office December 1, 1890. He is now serving his second year as Sheriff and has proved a very competent and faithful officer. Mr. Byrns' family has been pretty well represented in the Sheriff's office at Kankakee County. His uncle, George Byrns, was the first Sheriff of the county, in 1853, and was succeeded by James Byrns, the present Sheriff's father.

In Aroma Township, on the 27th of December, 1881, occurred the marriage of Mr. Byrns and Miss Clara L. Kent, who was born in Aroma Township and is a daughter of Henry and Christina Kent, who were among the early settlers of this county. To our worthy subject and his wife has been born one child, Roscoe A., whose birth occurred June 7, 1885.



ALFRÉD FARR owns and operates a farm on section 28, Ganier Township, and has been a resident here for forty-one years. He is of English birth, being a native of Worcestershire, where he was born on the 18th of May, 1820. His parents, Thomas and Ann (Green) Farr, were natives of the same country, and the father was a carpenter by trade. Their family consisted of fourteen children, of whom our subject was the sixth in order of birth. The father died in 1870, and his wife in 1887.

Our subject was born and reared upon a farm and is mostly self-educated. When a lad he learned the carpenter's trade of his father, but determined to seek his fortune in America, believing that the New World afforded wider opportunities than his native land. When eighteen years of age he left

home and started to make his way in the world. In the year 1839 he embarked on the sailing-vessel "Josephine," and for six weeks was upon the bosom of the broad Atlantic. For a short time after his arrival he remained in New York City, but soon went to East Troy, N. Y., where he obtained work on a canal. He resided in that State for about three years, at the expiration of which time he went to Elkhart, Ind., where he worked in a pottery for about two years. For the succeeding three years he carried on a pottery of his own. Having resolved to abandon that line of business, he decided to become a farmer, and for some time rented and operated a farm in Indiana. In 1852, Mr. Farr proceeded by team to what is now Kankakee and became the owner of one hundred and twenty acres situated on section 28, Ganier Township. This farm was but little improved, only ten acres of it being broken. There was a small frame dwelling on the place, which bore little resemblance to the well-cultivated and thrifty farm which its owner has developed from the wilderness of former years. From time to time Mr. Farr made additions to his original purchase until he now is the possessor of three hundred acres, all well improved and valuable land, where he is engaged in general farming and stock-raising.

Mr. Farr was united in marriage with Miss Margery Rush on the 4th of June, 1846. The lady was the sixth in order of birth of a family consisting of ten children, whose parents were Jesse and Mary (Sumption) Rush. Her birth occurred on the 16th of May, 1828, in Elkhart, Ind. Eleven children have been born to our subject and his wife, of whom seven are still living. Caroline, wife of Johnson Brown, resides in Iowa; Thomas and Mary, twins, died in infancy; Mary A. departed this life in 1878; Ella is at home; Francis W., twin brother of Ella, died aged eleven and a-half months; Willis A. is a farmer of Aroma Township; Janet resides at home; Manis G. is a farmer by occupation; Strickland resides at home; and Myra, the youngest of the family, died when seven years and two months old.

Mrs. Farr is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Farr in politics is a Republican and has held various local positions of

honor and trust. He has taken an active part in educational matters, being a staunch supporter of our public school system, and has been both School Director and School Trustee at various times. He has been a witness of, and participated in, the progress of this section. At the time of his arrival in this county, the Indians were frequently to be seen and wild game was plentiful. Their trading-post was Chicago, to which city Mr. Farr hauled all his grain and pork as the nearest market for his product. As a pioneer he has been an important factor in the development of this locality, and it is with pleasure that we record this brief history of so worthy a man.



ALONZO CURTIS is a prominent citizen and the leading business man of Grant Park, Kankakee County. He has been a resident of this place from the time it was started, and it is conceded that in its growth and development he has done more than any other one man. He is the owner of the large tile factory and is proprietor of the largest general store in the town. He also owns and carries on the reliable and well-known Grant Park Bank.

Mr. Curtis is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred in Washington County on the 19th of April, 1831. He is the sixth in order of birth in a family of ten children, five sons and five daughters, who were born to Solomon and Phæbe (Slocum) Curtis. The father was born in Washington County, N. Y., November 14, 1796, and by occupation was a farmer. Emigrating to Illinois about 1854, he lived upon a farm in Yellowhead Township, this county. Some two years later he removed to Momence, where his death occurred on the 24th of June, 1865.

After coming to this State, Mr. Curtis engaged in the loan business. Both he and his wife were of the Baptist faith. Politically, he was a Whig and subsequently a Republican, but had no official aspirations, preferring to devote himself to personal business. His great-grandfather, John Curtis, and

grandfather. Comfort Curtis, emigrated to New York, later settling in the house where our subject and his father were born. Comfort Curtis, who was born in February, 1746, married Rachel Chase, whose birth occurred February 5, 1756. The old Curtis homestead is situated in the southern part of Washington County, at the terminus of the Adirondack Mountains, where the battle of Bennington was fought. This Revolutionary battle was really fought in New York and not in Vermont, as is usually stated.

The mother of our subject was of Scotch and English extraction, being also a native of Washington County, where she was born May 2, 1801. Her death occurred February 20, 1885, at her home in Grant Park. She was a daughter of Elijah and Hannah (Preston) Slocum, who were natives respectively of Dutchess and Washington Counties, N. Y. Hannah Preston's father with three hundred soldiers was taken prisoner near Albany, N. Y., during the Revolutionary War and imprisoned in a church, which the British burned with all the men.

The boyhood and youth of Alonzo Curtis were passed on his father's farm in New York, where he received a good common-school education. On arriving at his majority in 1852, he determined to seek his fortune in the West, and accordingly came to Illinois. After prospecting considerably he decided to locate in what is now Kankakee County but was then Will County, and purchased a farm of wild prairie land in Yellowhead Township. To its improvement he devoted himself with characteristic energy and remained upon it for about ten years. At the expiration of that time he decided to turn his attention to mercantile life, and leaving the farm went to Grant Park, where he for a number of years successfully conducted a large grain business.

On the 11th of November, 1861, Mr. Curtis and Miss Elizabeth Campbell were united in marriage. The lady is a daughter of James and Priscilla (Mick) Campbell, who were among the honored first settlers of this locality. Four children, all sons, have graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis: Everett C., the eldest, who was educated at Evanston and in De Pauw University, is cashier in his father's bank at Grant Park, and is one of the wide-awake

and enterprising young business men of the town; Ernest A., educated at De Pauw, is also prominent in business circles and is manager of his father's general store; Willis C. is a student in the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill.; and Vernon S., who completes the family, lives at home with his parents.

In his political views, Mr. Curtis is a staunch Republican and uses his right of franchise in favor of the nominees and principles of that party. He holds membership with Grant Park Lodge No. 740, A. F. & A. M., of Grant Park. For two terms he has represented his township as Supervisor and for twenty years has made a most efficient and trustworthy Justice of the Peace, being elected to that position term after term. Though not a member of any religious denomination, Mr. Curtis contributes liberally of his means to the support of the Methodist Church, of which his wife and children are all members. Coming to this county a poor boy, entirely without capital, he has made for himself an enviable reputation and by well-directed efforts and business ability has reached a position among the wealthiest and most influential men in the county, having the respect of all with whom he has come in contact.



BARTLEY Y. REINS owns and operates a farm of eighty acres situated on section 10, Ganier Township, where he has lived for over twenty years. He was born in Grayson County, Va., on the 15th of September, 1820, and is a son of John M. Reins, a native of North Carolina and of German descent, who married in early manhood Lucretia Hogan, a lady of Scotch ancestry. Nine children were born to them: Mary, who died in 1827; Annie, who died in 1850; William, now living in Montana; Powell, residing in Marion County, Iowa, where he is engaged in carrying on a farm; Franklin, who departed this life in 1863; John, a farmer of Iowa; our subject, who is next in order of birth; Armstead, who died

in 1856; and Thomas, who is the youngest of the family. The father of this family, who was a farmer by occupation, was called from his labors in this life in 1832. His wife survived him for several years and passed away in 1850.

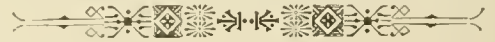
Bartley Y. Reins, the subject of this sketch, was born and reared upon a farm. He attended the subscription schools in the neighborhood of his home, as at that time and in that locality the public school was a thing of the future. Until fifteen years of age he attended these schools a portion of the time only, and as his father died when he was but twelve years of age, he was largely thrown upon his own resources when quite a lad. He remained at home with his mother until sixteen years of age, when he started out in the world to carve his own way and fortune. He commenced working on a farm for \$6 per month, and worked for farmers for the succeeding three years. The largest wages that he received at any one time during this period were \$10 per month. He then concluded to become a carpenter, and worked at that line of occupation for another three years. He remained in Virginia until 1842, when he emigrated Westward to Illinois, settling in Edgar County, where for two years he worked at his trade and also upon a farm. During that time Mr. Reins was somewhat of a traveler, making three trips to New Orleans by flatboat, in order to see something of the country in which he dwelt.

The year 1844 witnessed the arrival of our subject in what is now Kankakee County. He first located in Yellowhead Township, where he rented land for seven years and devoted himself to tilling the soil. He then moved to Jasper County, near Newton, Ill., where he became the owner of a two hundred and forty-five acre farm, which he purchased of the Government. Upon that place he lived and engaged in its improvement until 1859, when he again returned to Kankakee County, purchasing one hundred and ten acres of land, situated in Yellowhead Township. This was his home until 1866, when he sold that farm and purchased a place of eighty acres on section 10, Ganier Township. On this he lived till early in 1893, when he sold out to remove to Momence.

On the 24th of July, 1845, Mr. Reins was united

in marriage with Mrs. Ruth M. Bradley, who was the widow of John Bradley, and is the daughter of Thomas and Ella (Hopkins) Patrick. Four children have been born of this union. Ellen is the wife of Dr. H. M. Keyser, a physician of Momence; Emily became the wife of Somers Rowell, and is now teaching in the missionary schools at Ft. Berthold in North Dakota; Augustus is a farmer of Shelby County, Iowa; and Henry is engaged in general merchandising in Momence. Mrs. Reins is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Reins was a supporter of the old Whig party, and since the formation of the Republican party has been one of its stalwart adherents. He has always taken an interested part in all affairs pertaining to the welfare of his fellow-citizens, township and county, and has held various official positions, among which we mention that of Highway Commissioner, Constable and School Director. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and ally. In a business way his efforts for years have been crowned with fair success, and in this community, he bears an excellent reputation.



RICHARD J. EYERLEY is the well-known editor of the Chebanse *Herald*, and in partnership with Judge Sawyer, of Kankakee, is engaged in the real-estate, loan and insurance business. He is also Vice-president of the Kankakee Investment and Loan Association, and is Notary Public in Chebanse.

The birth of Mr. Eyerley occurred in Punxsutawney, Jefferson County, Pa., on the 29th of October, 1856, and since he was about two years of age he has been a resident of Chebanse. He is a son of Moses and Mary (Hawk) Eyerley, both natives of the Keystone State. The father is of Scotch and Dutch ancestry, and the mother is descended from Pennsylvania Dutch. There were six children born to them, three sons and three daughters. Anna married Philip Spies, a

farmer near Chebanse, and by her marriage has become the mother of two children; Elizabeth became the wife of J. P. Williamson, of Waco, Tex., where they now reside; Priscilla married Samuel Harris, and also lives in Waco; Moses D. died in that city in September, 1890; and Philip H. is the youngest of the family.

The parents of these children removed from Pennsylvania to Illinois in 1858, and located upon a farm in Iroquois County, one mile west of Chebanse, where they lived for about three years. Afterward they removed to Ohio, later to Hillsdale, Mich., and in 1864, returning to Iroquois County, they purchased a farm of forty acres, two and a-half miles southeast of Chebanse, upon which they made their home for the period of a year. Mr. Eyerley then sold his farm and removed to the village, where he resided for the following ten years. In 1875 he emigrated to Texas, where he and his wife are still living.

Richard J. Eyerley received a good common-school education in the public schools of Chebanse, and in 1869 commenced working in the printing office of the *Herald*, in the employ of Thomas S. Sawyer, who was then its editor and proprietor. He remained in this office until 1873, when he again went to school, and secured a certificate to teach in both Iroquois and Kankakee Counties. He then re-entered the employ of Mr. Sawyer, with whom he remained until 1880, with the exception of two winters, that of 1875-76 and the one following. In 1880, Mr. Eyerley purchased a half-interest in the paper, and continued the business in partnership with Mr. Sawyer for the succeeding eight years. In the year 1888 he purchased that gentleman's interest, and has owned and carried on the paper since that time. The politics of the *Herald* have always been Republican, and both the newspaper and job work have always received the hearty support and co-operation of the public at large. The *Herald* has a wide circulation, and is well known throughout this section of the State. On the 28th of May, 1879, Mr. Eyerley wedded Miss Mary A. Burrill, daughter of George and Catherine (McCarthy) Burrill, of Chebanse. One child has blessed this union, a son, Charles M., who was born on the 5th of October, 1883.

The fellow-citizens of Mr. Eyerley have a number of times called upon him to fill positions of responsibility and trust. He is at present Village Treasurer, and for several years held the office of Village Clerk. He is a member of Chebanse Lodge No. 129, A. F. & A. M., and in the year 1894 was Master of the lodge. He has ever been devoted to the Republican party, and has taken an active part in politics. The home of Mr. Eyerley is situated in the northwest portion of the village, and he therefore is a resident of Kankakee country, the dividing line between that and Iroquois Counties running from east to west through one of the principal streets of the place. He is now erecting a comfortable home near his present residence, and his office is also in Kankakee County within a hundred feet of his home, and situated exactly on the county line. With the exception of two winters spent in Texas, and a short time with his parents in Ohio and Michigan, he has made his home in Chebanse for thirty-four years and his acquaintance extends to all parts of both counties.



GEORGE M. WAGNER is one of the substantial and prominent agriculturists of Salina Township. He resides on section 33, where he owns and operates a good farm comprising two hundred acres of land. His fields are well tilled, and the many improvements upon the place give evidence of the thrift and enterprise of the owner. He devotes his time and attention to general farming and stock-raising, and always has on hand a good grade of stock.

Mr. Wagner is a native of Germany. He was born December 20, 1812, and is a son of Adam and Rosina (Kohler) Wagner. In 1817, when George was only five years old, his parents left the Fatherland and in a sailing-vessel crossed the broad Atlantic, landing in New York City after a voyage of thirty-three days. The father at once came to Illinois, locating in Woodford County, where he purchased land and made his home for

about twelve years. In 1859 he became a resident of Tazewell County, where he resided for two years. On the expiration of that period he and his wife came to Kankakee County, where they are still living. They had a family of eight children: Andrew, George, Margaret, Lizzie, Mary, Simon, Kate and Emma.

As before stated, George Wagner spent the first five years of his life in the land of his birth and then crossed the briny deep. He accompanied his parents on their various removals until at length, in 1861, he arrived in Kankakee County, where he has since made his home. He aided his father in the labors of the farm until the 28th of January, 1864, when he responded to the call of his adopted country for troops and became a member of Company I, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. He was mustered into service at Springfield. The first active engagement in which he participated was at Jackson, Miss., after which he took part in the battle of Clinton, La., and Ft. Blakely, Ala. He was never either wounded or taken prisoner, but was always found at his post of duty, faithfully defending the old flag under which he had enlisted. After the war was over he was mustered out, on the 19th of April, 1866, and received an honorable discharge.

On his return from the South to Kankakee County, Mr. Wagner took charge of his father's land in Salina Township, and there carried on general farming for two years, after which he purchased eighty acres of unimproved land on section 33. This was the beginning of his present excellent farm, the boundaries of which he has since extended by additional purchases, until it now comprises two hundred acres.

As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, Mr. Wagner chose Miss Sarah, daughter of Michael and Magdalena Obrecht. By their union, which was celebrated February 13, 1868, eleven children were born, namely: George F., who died in 1885; Emma, wife of Frank Lehnus, a farmer residing in Salina Township; William W.; Mary A.; Katie V., who died in April, 1892; Hattie F., Rosa A., Edwin M., Elsie E., Nettie B., and Lillie M. who complete the family.

In his political affiliations Mr. Wagner is a Re-

publican and strongly advocates the principles of his party, in whose success he takes a deep interest. He has been called upon to serve in several official positions, having filled the office of Township Collector for one year, Justice of the Peace for eight years, Road Commissioner for six years, and School Trustee for sixteen years. He ever discharged his public duties with promptness and fidelity, as is indicated by his constant re-elections. Socially, he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and himself and wife are members of the German Evangelical Church. Mr. Wagner is a friend to all social, moral and educational interests, and does all in his power for the advancement of those enterprises calculated to benefit the community or promote the general welfare. He is recognized as one of the leading and influential farmers of his township. During the late war he was a faithful soldier and in his business career he has proved himself an honorable man, so that the high esteem in which he is held is well deserved.



LUTHER C. STREETER, a hay merchant of Grant Park, is one of the wide-awake young business men of the county. His birth occurred on the 5th of June, 1860, in Sumner Township, Kankakee County. He was the second in order of birth in a family consisting of three children, whose parents were Lorenzo and Hannah (Osby) Streeter. The father was born in Delaware County, N. Y., on the 12th of March, 1834, and was of English extraction. He learned the carpenter's trade, which vocation he followed in New York until coming to Kankakee County, in 1855. This was his home until his death, which occurred on the 5th of December, 1883. The mother of our subject was a native of the same county, born on the 8th of May, 1836. Her death occurred in Grant Park, November 2, 1883.

Luther Streeter, as before stated, is a native of this county and has made Grant Park his home during almost his entire life. His father built and

owned the first dwelling-house in the place. He received a good common-school education and when about fifteen years of age learned telegraphy in a railroad office. This calling he followed for eight years, but in 1883 engaged in the hay business. He has an extensive trade and is enterprising and active.

On the 30th of April, 1883, Mr. Streeter was married to Miss Delia E. Campbell, a daughter of Clinton C. and Ollie (Curtis) Campbell. Mrs. Streeter was born in Grant Park on the 9th of December, 1862, and is a highly educated lady. Her father was in fact the founder of the town and was a highly respected citizen. One child, a daughter, Gertrude, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Streeter on the 30th of January, 1886. Her presence brightened their home but a short time, for on the 12th of March of the same year she passed away.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Streeter is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. Though not a politician he takes a lively interest in all public affairs and is posted on all of the leading topics of the day.



ZENO R. A. GOODELL, a jeweler, is one of the old settlers of Momence, and when he located here on the 1st of October, 1851, there were less than one hundred inhabitants in the village. He has many times killed prairie chickens and ducks to his heart's content without going outside of the present limits of the city. He has seen it grow and develop into a prosperous and thriving business place of over two thousand inhabitants.

Mr. Goodell is a native of Vermont, having been born on the 17th of July, 1823, in Westminster, Windham County. His parents, Simon and Esther F. (Forbes) Goodell, the former a native of Connecticut, and the latter of Massachusetts, lived for many years in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., near the town of Hogsburgh. The father engaged in

agricultural pursuits on a farm which he, in company with his son Addison, purchased. In his early life he had learned the carpenter's and joiner's trade, which vocation he followed more or less during life. His father was a valiant soldier in the War of 1812, and also participated in the Indian wars. The death of Simon Goodell occurred at the home of his son Addison in Syracuse. In the family were four sons and two daughters: Albert, Addison P., Mary E., S. Justin, Sarah Jane P. and Zeno R. A.

When our subject was six years of age, with his parents he left his native State, and for many years resided in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., upon a farm. Believing that the West afforded better opportunities for progress and obtaining a fortune, on the 7th of April, 1845, Mr. Goodell turned his face Westward. The following year he landed in Illinois, stopping in Chicago for about two months, after which he went to Elgin and lived there for about four years, following his trade of carpentering. The year 1851, as previously stated, witnessed the arrival of Mr. Goodell in Momence, where he pursued his vocation of carpentering for three years, when on account of poor health he was obliged to abandon his trade, and enforced idleness for two years ensued. He then decided to choose another occupation, and turned his attention to clock-repairing. Later he opened a jewelry and watch-making establishment, which he has carried on to the present time, occupying one business stand since 1855, a period of thirty-seven years.

In 1847 Mr. Goodell was married to Miss Eunice Mitchell, daughter of James Mitchell, of Elgin, who by her marriage became the mother of two sons and a daughter: Allen H., who is married and lives in Florida, where he is in the employ of a railroad company; Margaret E., who became the wife of Charles Jaquish, who was of Momence, but is now a farmer residing near Neptune, Richland County, Wis.; and Charles J., who married Miss Cora Rice, a daughter of James H. Rice, of Morocco, Ind. In 1863 our subject was again married, his second union being with Miss Mary, daughter of James Bryant, of Momence. There are two children by this marriage: Zena R. A. and Willie.

Mr. Goodell, whose ancestors were Whigs and

Federalists, is a straight Republican, and has been a warm supporter of that party since its organization. He is an Odd Fellow, and is an attendant of and contributor to the support of the Episcopal Church, in which his wife holds membership.



JAMES J. KELSEY, a retired farmer residing in Grant Park, is a native of the Keystone State, his birth occurring February 25, 1842, in Tioga County. His parents were John D. and Eunice (Johnson) Kelsey. The father was born in 1809, in the Green Mountain State, and was of Irish descent. The mother was born in Pennsylvania, and was of English extraction. John Kelsey emigrated to Lake County, Ind., in 1859, where he followed farming for many years. His death occurred June 14, 1876.

At the time of his mother's death our subject was only three years of age. He was reared to farm life, spending the greater part of his early life in Allegany County, N. Y. He received a common-school education, and on arriving at man's estate left Pennsylvania and came direct to Lake County, Ind. He landed in Kankakee County in the fall of 1861, without a dollar in his pocket, and went to work as a farm hand. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, and was in active service about six months. He was taken sick with typhoid fever at Memphis, Tenn., and was sent to a hospital at Keokuk, Iowa, where he remained for about six weeks. He then received his discharge, as he was unable to return to the hardships of army life. He came to Yellowhead Township, where he rented a farm, to which he gave his care for eight years.

On the 18th of September, 1863, Mr. Kelsey and Miss Nancy J. Kile were married. The lady was born in Yellowhead Township on the 3d of January, 1842, and is the daughter of Resen C. and Nancy J. (Hayden) Kile, who were among the first settlers of the county. To our subject and his wife have been born two sons and a daughter: Laura E., wife of Byron Chipman, a farmer of this

township; Merritt W., who is also a prosperous agriculturist of Yellowhead Township; and Leroy E., who lives with his parents and is a student in the Grant Park Schools.

In 1869 Mr. Kelsey purchased a farm which is situated six miles east of Grant Park, in Yellowhead Township, and which now comprises two hundred and sixty acres, all under cultivation. For over twenty years he gave his entire energies and care to the development of this tract, which has well repaid him for his efforts. In November, 1892, he retired from the activities incident to a farmer's life, and has become a resident of Grant Park. He has acted as School Director for about twelve years, and is a warm supporter of educational measures. For a number of years he made an excellent Road Overseer, and has shown that he is much interested in the public welfare. Politically he is a Republican, having cast his first vote for Lincoln. He belongs to Worcester Post No. 627, G. A. R., of Momence.



EDWARD DYER, one of the oldest settlers of Yellowhead Township, owns a farm on section 36. He was born in Vermont on the 9th of July, 1814, and is a son of Thomas Dyer, also a native of the Green Mountain State. The latter was born April 17, 1785, followed the calling of a farmer, and was one of the pioneer settlers of Genesee County, N. Y. He made the trip from Vermont in an ox-cart in 1815. His death occurred four years later. The mother of our subject before her marriage was Miss Chloe Haskins, who was born April 22, 1788, in Vermont. A year after her husband's death she was again married.

Edward Dyer was the third in order of birth in his father's family, which comprised four sons and a daughter. At the time of his father's death he was only five years of age, and he was sent to live with a farmer in the neighborhood until grown. At the end of a couple of years, however, he left the farmer, as he was badly treated, and went to



yours Truly
J. J. Barrow

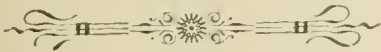


Malvina Carrow

Buffalo, where he lived with an old couple who had come from his old neighborhood. Later he worked in a woolen factory for five years. A few years later he learned blacksmithing, which he followed more or less until 1880. He never attended school six months in his life. In 1834 he emigrated to Jasper County, Ind., which was his home for two years.

In the year 1840 Mr. Dyer married Miss Maria L. Woodard, of Jasper County. To them were born two sons and four daughters: Martha, wife of David Love, of this county; Caroline, who became the wife of George Hamilton, a prosperous farmer of Yellowhead Township; Chloe, wife of Eugene Childs, a farmer of this county; Henry, one of the prominent agriculturists of Kankakee County; Clara and Alonzo, who are now deceased. Mrs. Dyer was called to her final rest in 1882.

In 1836 Mr. Dyer landed in Kankakee County, locating at Sherburnville, where for a number of years he pursued his calling of blacksmith. He is now one the oldest settlers of the county who still survive. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, which is well improved and which he has operated for over a half-century. He has never been an office-seeker, but has instead given his attention solely to his own affairs. Since the organization of the Republican party he has been one of its staunch adherents.



JOSEPH J. CARROW is one of the prominent and well-known citizens of Pilot Township, residing on section 1. He is Postmaster of the Carrow postoffice, is a dealer in grain at that place, and is proprietor of the Carrow Limestone Rock Quarry. As he occupies a leading position in both business and social circles, it gives us great pleasure to present to our readers this record of his life, knowing that it will prove of interest to many.

Mr. Carrow is a native of Illinois—indeed he claims the honor of having Kankakee County for his birthplace. He was born on the 16th of Feb-

ruary, 1855, and is a son of Joseph Carrow, who was born in Quebec, Canada, and in 1818, when a young man of nineteen years, came to Illinois. He located in Kankakee County and is counted among its honored pioneers. The first two years after his arrival were spent in Limestone Township, and he then located on section 1, Pilot Township, where he opened up a farm and for thirty-five years successfully carried on agricultural pursuits. His life has been a busy and useful one, but he is now living retired, while two of his sons operate the old homestead. Mr. Carrow was married in this county to Miss Susan Tatro, a native of Montreal, Canada, and by their union were born nine living children, five sons and four daughters, who are all living. Our subject is the eldest son and the second in order of birth.

In the usual manner of farmer lads J. J. Carrow spent the days of his boyhood and youth. During the summer months he aided his father in the labors of the farm, and in the winter season attended the common schools of the neighborhood. Under the parental roof he remained until twenty-three years of age, when he purchased an eighty-acre tract of improved land, on which he located in 1878 and began farming for himself.

On the 4th of February of that year, Mr. Carrow was married to Miss Mary Malvina Perry, a native of Canada. When a child of five summers she was brought to this county by her father, Louis Perry, now a farmer of Limestone Township. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born five children, four sons and a daughter: Arthur, Louis, Lola, Alex and Elmer, the last-named a boy of five years. The others are all attending the home school.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Carrow are members of St. James Catholic Church. In politics the former is a stalwart Republican, having supported that party since he cast his first Presidential ballot for Hon. R. B. Hayes. He was never an aspirant for public office, however, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests, yet he has ever borne well his part as a citizen. He does all in his power for the advancement of the best interests of the community and his support is never withheld from any worthy enterprise.

On his marriage, Mr. Carrow located where he now resides and for several years engaged exclusively in farming. In the fall of 1883, he was appointed Postmaster of Carrow and still holds that position. The same year he opened up a valuable limestone quarry upon his place. At first, however, he did not operate it very extensively, but from year to year he has increased the business, and now during the season takes out an average of three hundred carloads of rock. This is very fine limestone rock, in fact it is said to be second to none in the State. In connection with his other interests, Mr. Carrow was for four years engaged in merchandising. He has also been buying grain for other parties for about ten years and is now performing that work for a Chicago firm. He is a man of excellent business ability, is clear sighted and sagacious, and possesses great tact; moreover, he has a fund of energy and enterprise without which no one wins success. He has become one of the prosperous and substantial citizens of this community through his own efforts, and his career might well be taken as an example by others.



IRA WILLIAMS, a farmer who resides on section 25, Salina Township, is one of the worthy citizens that Pennsylvania has furnished to this county. He was born in Kane County, of the Keystone State, December 12, 1810, and is the third in order of birth in a family of six children. His father, Job Williams, was born in New York, and was of German descent, while the mother, whose maiden name was Deborah Alger, was a native of Massachusetts, and was of Scotch lineage. In 1848, they emigrated Westward, making the journey by team, and at length arrived in Kankakee County, where Mr. Williams purchased eighty acres of Government land on section 25, Salina Township. There he erected a log cabin, which was his home for a number of years. He hauled his grain to Chicago, which place and Joliet were his nearest trading-posts. The family endured many hard-

ships and difficulties of pioneer life in the early days, but as the years passed the labors of the father placed them in more comfortable circumstances. With the exception of four years, he resided upon the farm where he first located until his death, which occurred February 6, 1892, at the advanced age of eighty-two years, ten months and thirteen days. He was buried in Shreffler Cemetery. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and was a well-known and prominent citizen, holding the position of Road Commissioner and other offices in the township. His wife was also a member of the Methodist Church and a most estimable lady. She passed away January 30, 1892.

The children of this worthy couple were Emily, who died February 23, 1838; George; Ira, the subject of this sketch; Oliver, Hannah and Deborah. This family had the honor of being descended from Revolutionary heroes, their great-grandfathers on both sides having been soldiers in the War for Independence.

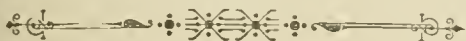
When eight years of age, Ira Williams accompanied his parents to the West. He remained at home until twenty years of age, when he started out in life to earn his own livelihood. For a year he engaged in farming. He then abandoned all peaceful pursuits and, prompted by patriotic impulses, responded to his country's call for aid. In August, 1862, he donned the blue and became a member of Company B, One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Infantry. He was mustered into service in Chicago and, going to the South, took part in the battle of Arkansas Post, the siege of Vicksburg and the battle of Jackson, Miss. At the latter place he was captured, on the 22d of July was taken to Richmond, and from there to Belle Isle, where he was incarcerated until the 28th of December, following. On being released from the Southern prison, he went to St. Louis, where he remained until May, 1864, when he came home on a fifteen days' furlough. While at home he was taken with the smallpox, but as soon as possible he rejoined his regiment, and from November, 1863 was again with his command until honorably discharged on the 29th of June, 1865.

Mr. Williams then returned to his old home but soon afterward purchased land and embarked

in farming for himself. Since that time he has carried on agricultural pursuits with the exception of four years, when in Chicago at work at the carpenter's trade. In 1881, he purchased the old homestead upon which his father first located and where he is now residing. The place comprises one hundred acres of well-improved and valuable land, and in return for his care and labor it yields to him a golden tribute.

Mr. Williams has been twice married. In 1866, he wedded Miss Mary O'Donnell, who died in 1886. Eight children were born of that union: Joel, Annie, Frank, Deborah, Alice, Willie G., Cora and Flora. Mr. Williams was again married, in 1887, his second union being with Miss May Freie.

Mr. Williams is a supporter of the Republican party, with which he has been identified since attaining his majority. He takes a deep interest in its success and keeps himself well informed on the issues of the day, yet has never sought or desired the honors or emoluments of public office. Religiously, he is a member of the Evangelical Church. The best interests of the community find in him a friend, and by his influence and support he aids all worthy enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit or to promote the general welfare. His life has been well and worthily spent and has won him universal confidence and esteem.



EDWARD S. MARTIN, who is engaged in general farming on section 36, Limestone Township, is one of the worthy citizens that England has furnished to Kankakee County. He was born on the 6th of February, 1825, in Cornwall, and is the eldest in a family of four children, two sons and two daughters, who were born of the union of Henry and Mary (Spargo) Martin. The father was also a native of the same locality. The grandfather too was born in that neighborhood and for several generations his ancestors had there resided. Henry Martin was educated near his home and became manager of one of the richest copper mines in the world. He died

in his native county at the advanced age of eighty-two years. The mother of our subject was born in Cornwall, where her ancestors had also lived for several generations.

Edward Martin, whose name heads this record, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native land, was educated in the common schools of the neighborhood and resided upon a farm until about eighteen years of age. About that time he began working in the copper mines of Cornwall, under his father, with the expectation of making that his life work, and for seven years he was thus employed. It was in 1819 that he left his native land and went to Chile, under the direction of a Spanish company, to work in the silver mines of that country. He there remained for about five years, during which period the revolution in Chile occurred. Returning to his home he spent the succeeding year in his native land and during that time was united in marriage with Miss Annie Trelore, of Cornwall, England. The bridal trip of the young couple consisted of a voyage across the Atlantic, for, immediately after their marriage, they bade adieu to England and sailed for Canada, where they remained for about eight months. They then came to Kankakee County, Ill., where Mr. Martin has since made his home. This was in 1857. His wife died about a year after coming to America, leaving one child, a daughter, Lillie, who is still a resident of Kankakee.

Two years later Mr. Martin was again married, his second union being with Miss Sophia Gilkes, who was born in England and who was the first English girl to become a resident of Kankakee County. Her death occurred in 1877. Six children were born of this union, as follows: William Henry, the eldest, who was born in 1861, and died at the age of three years; Lucy, who was born in 1863, and is now the wife of Orlando Hawkins, a prosperous and well-known farmer of this county; Mary, born in 1865; Edward John, born in 1867; Anna, who was born in 1869, and died when about eighteen years of age; and Charles Frederick, the youngest of the family, who was born in 1872.

The lady who now bears the name of Mrs. Martin was formerly Miss Mary Alma Kerns. She was

a resident of Rock Creek, and her parents were the oldest settlers in the county. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Martin was celebrated in 1879, and unto them has been born a daughter, Albertie Louise, born in 1883.

For some time after coming to Kankakee County, Mr. Martin engaged in farming and in the butchering business, but he now devotes his time and attention solely to the former pursuit. He owns a good farm of eighty acres, which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. In his political views he is a Democrat and takes quite an interest in politics. The cause of education ever finds in him a warm friend, and for fifteen years he did effective service in its interests while filling the office of School Director. At length he resigned that position in favor of a lady director. For twenty-seven years Mr. Martin has been a member of the Baptist Church, and his career has been an honorable, upright one, in harmony with his profession. He is a well-informed man and has led quite an eventful life. He has traveled considerably and is a pleasant, popular gentleman, who has the high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



HENRY A. MAGRUDER has spent almost his entire life in this county, his birth having occurred on the 28th of November, 1852, in Rockville Township. He is the eldest son of Thomas H. and Mary E. (Shadley) Magruder. He received a common-school education in the district and public schools of Rockville and Kankakee. In the year 1875 he located on a farm in White County, Ind., of which he was the owner, and which contained one hundred and sixty acres. For seven years he also managed seven hundred acres of land for his father and brothers, and helped to give the latter a good start in life. His brother Thomas, the next older of those living, is a traveling man and also owns a good farm in Indiana; William,

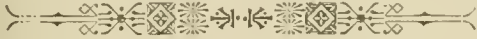
who married Georgia Duryea, is a hotel-keeper of Indianapolis and a prosperous business man; Edward is a carpenter and contractor of Kankakee; and Myron, who married Ada Hawkins, lives upon a farm four and a-half miles northwest of Kankakee.

In 1881 Mr. Magruder rented his farm in Indiana, and removing to this city clerked for about a year in the clothing store of M. Rohrheimer. On the 1st of March of the following year he engaged in the clothing business for himself in partnership with W. H. Dawson, in the building on Court Street known as the Rony Building. He remained there until December of that year, when he removed to his present location, No. 194 Court Street. At the end of two years he purchased his partner's interest and has since continued the business alone. In 1888 he also bought the building in which his store is situated. In addition to this he owns his home residence at No. 252 Greenwood Avenue and considerable other property in the city.

On the 18th of January, 1875, Mr. Magruder was united in marriage with Miss Euphemia S. daughter of Daniel and Hattie Shreffler. They hold membership with the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church of this city.

Our subject has been called upon to fill various positions requiring ability and fidelity. He is a present Alderman for the Second Ward, which office he has held for four years. He is one of the directors in the City National Bank and is a stock holder in the North Kankakee Improvement Company, being one of the founders of the most remarkable town of North Kankakee. Mr. Magruder is what may well be called a self-made man and although comparatively young, is one of the substantial citizens and business men of Kankakee. He is progressive and wide-awake, and has ever manifested a great interest in all public movements connected with the city's welfare. He has accumulated his property by good business management, and early in life manifested a taste and natural ability for mercantile pursuits. He is the proprietor of one of the best furnished clothing stores in the city, and by his straightforward business methods, affable manner and courteous treat-

ment of patrons, has built up a large and lucrative business. Socially, Mr. Magruder is a member of Grove City Council No. 832, R. A. His first vote was cast for Samuel J. Tilden, and since that time he has been a staunch supporter of the Democracy.



HENRY REUTER, a well-known business man of Kankakee, was born in Simmern, Canton Capelen, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, on the 18th of June, 1856. He is a son of John and Marguerite (Klop) Reuter, both natives of the same place. The father was a farmer by occupation, was a soldier in the war between Belgium and Holland, and fought throughout that long and bloody conflict, which lasted for nine years. He died in his native land in 1886, and his wife passed away some years previous, dying in 1874. They were the parents of nine children, of whom eight are now living: Henry, Barbara, Jacob, William, John, Nicholas and Francisca, twins, Henry and Barbara.

Believing that the New World offered wider opportunities and greater chances of success, Henry Reuter, the subject of this sketch, in company with his brother Nicholas, bade adieu to the friends and scenes of their youth and crossed the briny deep, landing in America on the 28th of August, 1880. In September of that year they located in Chicago, where they lived for about two years, working at their trade of tinsmithing, cornice-making and roofing, which they had learned in the Fatherland. In June, 1882, our subject removed to Kankakee, and has here lived continuously, with the exception of a year spent in Battle Creek, Mich. He established the business of manufacturing roofing and cornice material in Kankakee, beginning in a small way. He has been prospered and his trade has grown to a considerable extent.

On the 14th of January, 1882, occurred the marriage of Henry Reuter and Katrina Glesner, who was born in Foltshette, Canton Redingen, Lux-

embourg, and who is a daughter of Andrew and Margaret (Rice) Glesner. To Mr. and Mrs. Reuter have been born seven children, two sons and five daughters: Maggie Katie; Henry William; Hettie Mary, who died March 19, 1889; Frank Theodore; Edna Anna, who died March 28, 1889; Mamie Barbara, and Mabel Isabel, who died in infancy.

In 1890 Mr. Reuter built a beautiful residence on the corner of Rosewood Avenue and Merchant Street, which is one of the handsome residences which add so much to the beauty and picturesqueness of Kankakee. He and his wife are members of the German Catholic Church and worship with St. Mary's congregation in this city. Mr. Reuter is a Republican in politics and is loyal in his devotion to his adopted country. He has been truly successful since arriving in America and has never had occasion to regret coming to these hospitable shores.



THOMAS H. MAGRUDER, a retired farmer who makes his home in Kankakee, is one of the earliest settlers of this county, having resided here for nearly half a century, in which time he has been identified with its growth and prosperity. His maternal grandfather, Joel Rouse, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and served the entire period without being wounded. He was reared on a farm and always followed the vocation of an agriculturist. He lived to the extreme age of ninety-seven years, the last seven of which he was totally blind.

Our subject is the son of Thomas and Susan (Rouse) Magruder, the former of Scotch descent and a native of Maryland, and the latter of Rockingham County, Va., and of German extraction. Their marriage occurred in Boone County, Ky., where they lived for a number of years, and at an early day, probably about 1842, they removed to Clark County, in Southern Illinois. They removed to Kankakee County in 1845, and located in what is now known as Rockville Township. This was before the organization of Kankakee County,

this whole district then being comprised in Will County. People were obliged to go to Chicago to do their marketing, the journey being made by team. There was not a fence to be seen along the road for the entire distance. The country abounded in wolves, deer and wild game of all kinds. There were not more than a dozen houses around the Grove at that time. The father was a poor but hard-working man, and settled upon about twenty acres of land in Rockville Township, where he resided until his death, in 1873. His wife survived him about six years, and died in the faith of the United Brethren Church, of which she was a consistent member, and to which her husband, though not a member, contributed. They died after a residence in Rockville Township of forty and forty-five years respectively, and are well worthy of a place among the honored pioneers of this vicinity.

Thomas H. Magruder, Jr., was born on the 4th of September, 1826, near Florence, Boone County, Ky., about twenty miles from Cincinnati. He is one of a family of thirteen children, three of whom are now deceased, the others all residing near Kankakee. About 1841 our subject removed to this county and went to work upon a farm about a mile north of the present site of Kankakee. In 1851 he engaged in agricultural pursuits for himself, which vocation he followed until 1889. In partnership with his brother Henry he settled upon a farm of ninety acres in Rockville Township. At the end of two years Mr. Magruder purchased his brother's interest and devoted himself to the improvement and cultivation of the farm for the succeeding twelve years. He then sold that property and bought a farm of one hundred and forty acres in the same township, which he operated for about twenty-four years. At the time he retired from active life he was the owner of two hundred and twenty acres of land, eighty acres of which were in Indiana.

On the 26th of February, 1852, Mr. Magruder was married to Miss Mary E. Shadley, daughter of Daniel and Mary (Haymond) Shadley. Nine children have blessed this union, six of whom are living. Henry A., the eldest, married Miss Euphemia S. Shreffler, daughter of Daniel and Hattie Shreffler, of Rockville, and they now make their home in

Kankakee. At present Henry Magruder is one of the City Aldermen and one of the Directors of the City National Bank. He is also a clothing merchant, doing business at No. 194 Court Street, where he has been engaged for a number of years. John died when two years of age. Thomas I. is a traveling salesman and owns a farm in Indiana. Charles William married Miss Georgia Duryea, daughter of Jarvis Duryea, of White County, Ind., and lives in Indianapolis, where he is engaged in the hotel business. They have three children: Elmer, Jesse and Ray. Ira J. died when four years of age. George E. married Miss Louisa, daughter of Alfred Gerard, of Kankakee, where Mr. Magruder is engaged in carpentering and building. They have three children: Tessie, Flossie and Lois. Myron married Miss Ada, daughter of Eli Hawkins, and they reside upon a farm four and a-half miles northwest of this city. Ella M. and Alta, twins, complete the family. The former was married February 23, 1893, to George P. Butz, of this county. The latter died when nine months old.

In 1889 Mr. Magruder removed to Kankakee and bought a comfortable home on Indiana Avenue, where he resides. He and his wife hold membership with the United Brethren Church. He uses his right of franchise in favor of the Democratic party. He has been a progressive and practical farmer during the most of his life, and has done much to advance the best interests and welfare of this county. During the many years which he has passed in this vicinity he has made many friends who esteem him highly for his qualities of worth and honor.



JEFFERSON VINING is a retired farmer, residing on section 28, Otto Township, Kankakee County. The history of the pioneers of this county would be incomplete without the sketch of the early settler whose name heads this brief sketch. He was born in New York, in Steuben County, on the 21st of September, 182-

and is a son of Abijah and Abbie (Steele) Vining, also natives of that State and county. The Vining family are of English descent, and were among the sturdy pioneers of the Empire State. The father enlisted and served in the War of 1812, on the northern frontier. He was Orderly-Sergeant, and was afterwards promoted to the rank of Captain in the militia. His wife was the daughter of Bethel Steele, of New York, and in that State Mr. Vining engaged in agricultural pursuits for a number of years. In 1835, he removed with his family to Ohio, and, settling in Delaware County, made that his home for the succeeding five years. The year 1840 saw him located at Plainfield, Will County, Ill., where he lived for about two years. He next came to Kankakee County, and spent the last years of his life upon a farm in Limestone Township. He died about the year 1875, at the age of sixty-six years. After surviving her husband two years, Mrs. Vining was also called to the better land, and now husband and wife lie buried side by side in Limestone Cemetery, where a suitable monument marks their last resting-place.

Jefferson Vining is the third in order of birth of a family of four sons and six daughters, who grew to maturity. Until the age of fifteen he lived upon his father's farm in the State of his nativity, and with his parents emigrated to Ohio about the year 1835. He had fair school advantages, and by wise reading and study made himself a well-informed man on all of the leading issues of the day. When a young man, he came to Illinois and spent his first year here in the southern part of the State. Returning to Ohio, he remained there for about one year, and in the spring of 1842 became a resident of Plainfield, Will County, where he engaged in farming for about three years. In the year 1845, he located in Limestone Township, of this county, and entered land, which he proceeded to develop and improve. He was one of the first settlers of the county, and was one of the hardy pioneers when this country was almost a wilderness. He was obliged to drive to Chicago for all supplies, that being the only point at which they were obtainable. After spending a few years upon this farm, which he placed under a good state of cultivation, he sold the same, and became

the owner of a tract of land just north of Kankakee. There he had a valuable farm, and built upon it a substantial residence, but after a few years he sold that property and bought a place situated on the Iroquois River, which was improved, and where he has made his home for twenty-eight years. He has in this farm about sixty acres, with a good substantial residence, commodious barns and other farm buildings, and his farm bears evidence of the thrift and carefulness of its owner.

Mr. Vining was married in Will County to Elizabeth M. Frazer, on the 13th of March, 1849. The lady is a native of Virginia, where she lived until about eight years of age, at which time she came to Illinois with her father, John Frazer, who was one of the first settlers on Forked Creek, Will County. By the union of our subject and his wife were born seven children. Clara M. is the wife of Calvin Drayer, of Grant Park, Ill. Emily grew to womanhood, but is now deceased. E. P. was married in 1877 to M. Elizabeth Marsteller, who was born in Ohio, and reared in Delaware County, that State, but who is now deceased. He was again married, in 1885, this time to Sarah Louise Haven, a native of Otto Township, and has one son by each marriage, Lee and Chauncey. He is a man of good education, and has been a teacher in this county, and at present has entire charge of his father's farm and business. The next younger, Almira E., upon arriving at womanhood became the wife of Warren Wilnot, and is now deceased. Effie C. married Rolland Gruver, who is now deceased. Festus G. has received a good school education and resides at home. The youngest of the family is William P., who, after receiving good educational advantages, became one of the teachers of this county. He now holds a responsible business position in Kankakee.

Mr. Vining has held several local official positions, and has served as a member of the School Board in this township for over twenty years. He has ever been a friend to education, and is devoted to securing good schools and teachers. Formerly Mr. Vining was a Jackson Democrat, but upon the organization of the Republican party, joined its ranks, and was identified with it for a number of

years. He has always been a friend to the temperance cause, and for the last five years has supported the Prohibition party. For half a century he has lived in Illinois, and for forty-seven years of this time has been identified with this county, which he has assisted to its present condition of prosperity and fruitfulness. As a man, Mr. Vining is marked by uprightness of character, and by his worthy qualities has won the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has come in contact.



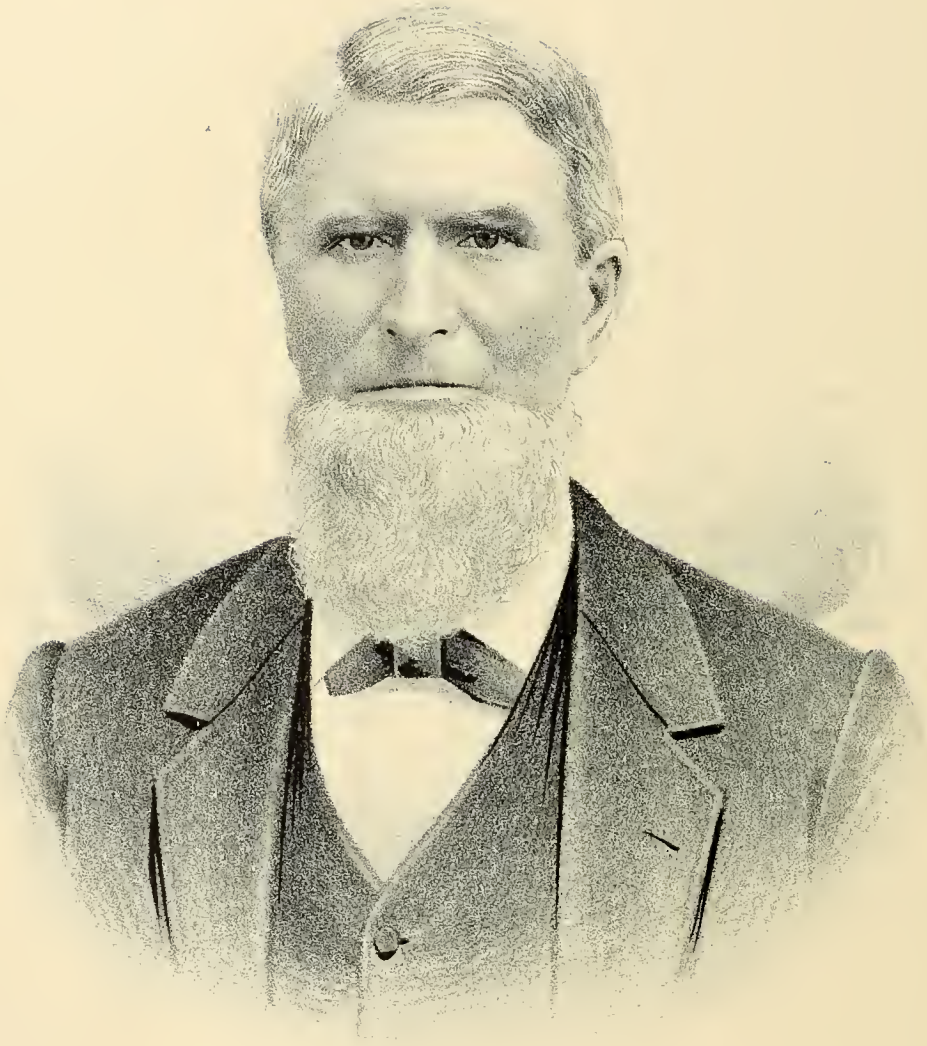
HON. JAMES CHATFIELD was a prominent and well-known citizen of Kankakee County and a leading farmer of Momence Township. It is but justice to his family and friends that he be represented in this volume, and with pleasure we present this record of his life to our readers. A native of Indiana, he was born in Parke County, on the 24th of December, 1831, and was a son of William Arnold and Elizabeth (Crane) Chatfield. The former was born in Connecticut, and the latter was a native of the Empire State, both parents being of English extraction. They remained in Indiana until about 1835, when they removed to Chicago, but after a short residence in that place, which was then a mere hamlet, they went to Joliet, Ill., where they remained until 1840. In that year William A. Chatfield, with his family, went to Wilmington, Ill., where he spent the succeeding four years of his life, and then became a resident of Kankakee County, making a permanent location on the present site of the city of Momence. In early life he had learned the trade of carpenter and joiner, which he followed for some years, but he afterward became a machinist and millwright, and on locating in Momence, built and operated a mill in that place. He was the second Representative from Kankakee County to the Illinois Legislature, serving as a member of the General Assembly in 1856 and 1857. He was quite prominent in public affairs, and his worth and ability made him a

valued citizen. He died in March, 1872, and his loss was deeply regretted by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. He had been three times married.

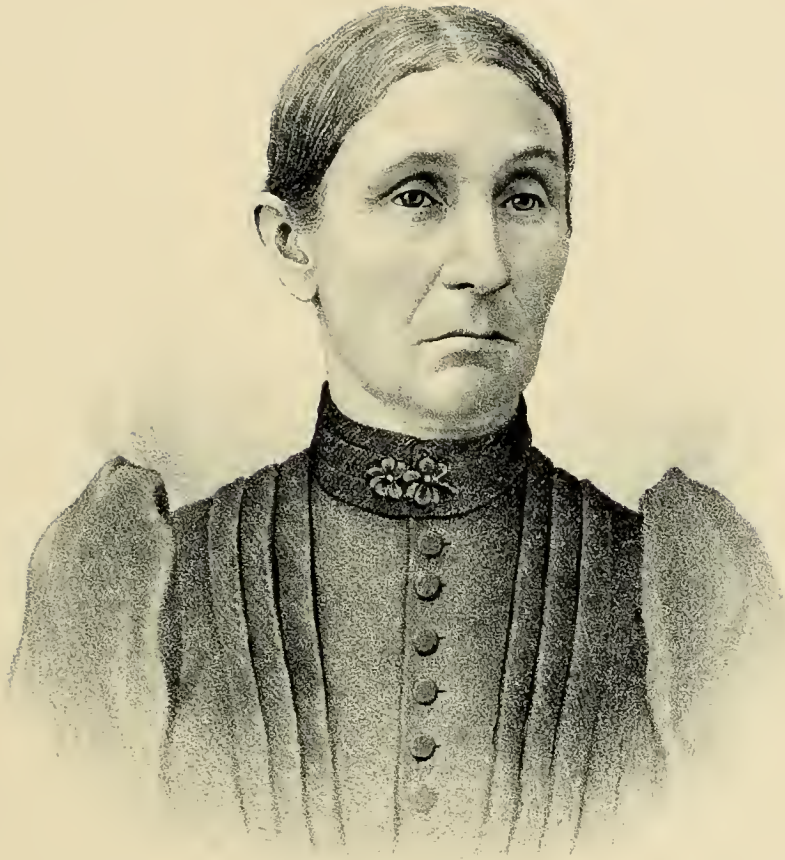
As before stated, James Chatfield, whose name heads this record, was about four years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois. He accompanied them on their various removals in this State, until they at length settled in Kankakee County, where he spent the remainder of his life. The public schools afforded him his educational advantages, and he entered upon his business career as a clerk, which vocation he followed for several years during his early manhood. He afterward turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and became the owner of an excellent farm, pleasantly situated about a mile from Momence. A man of good business ability, he attended carefully to his work in all its details, and as a result won success. His prosperity was certainly well deserved. The well-tilled fields and neat appearance of his farm indicate his thrift and enterprise, which were numbered among his chief characteristics.

In August, 1856, Mr. Chatfield was married to Miss Sarah Jane Briddell, of this county, who died about seven months later. He was a second time married, on the 10th of January, 1861, the lady of his choice being Miss Sarah Shockley, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Livingston) Shockley, who are residents of Milan, Ind. Her parents are both natives of Maryland, and are of English extraction. By the union of Mr. and Mrs. Chatfield was born a family of six children. William E., the eldest, is now a liveryman of Momence, and one of the prominent young business men of that city; he married Miss Mary Bunker, of Martinton, Iroquois County, whose parents are old settlers and prominent people of that county, and one child has graced their union, James Bunker. Edwin K. is engaged in business in Momence, carrying on a meat-market. George S., a wide-awake young man and successful farmer, operates the old homestead. J. Webster is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Iowa. Maude A. is one of the popular and successful school teachers of this county. Beulah, who completes the family, is still at home with her mother. The children have all received good common-school

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A. Dayton



Marilla Dayton

educations, and have thus been fitted for the practical and responsible duties of life.

Mr. Chatfield was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and was a man of great popularity throughout the county, his friends being indeed many. He took a very active part in politics, and was honored with a number of official positions. The Republican party found in him a staunch supporter, who did all in his power to aid in its upbuilding and insure its success. He was elected on that ticket as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the county, and in 1880 he was elected and represented his district as a member of the State Legislature. He ever worked for the interests of the people, and won their hearty commendation. His public and private life were above reproach, and he had the respect and confidence of all with whom business, political or social relations brought him in contact. He passed away at his home on the 24th of June, 1889, at the age of fifty-six years. His widow, an estimable lady, who is widely and favorably known in the community where she makes her home, still resides on the farm left her by her husband.



ANDREW DAYTON, deceased, was born on the 11th of March, 1835, and died at his home in Momence Township July 26, 1892. No death in this community has been more deeply regretted than that of the gentleman whose name heads this sketch, for he was a prominent man, a valued citizen and a leading farmer. He certainly deserves representation in this work, and we gladly insert in the record of the county this account of his life.

Mr. Dayton was a Canadian by birth, and was a son of William and Elizabeth (Hess) Dayton, both of whom were also natives of Canada. On leaving that country and coming to the United States, they took up their residence in Kankakee County, Ill., settling on the banks of the Kankakee River. That was about the year 1839, when the subject of this sketch was only four years of age. To

farming William Dayton devoted his energies throughout the remainder of his life. He secured a tract of wild land, totally unimproved, and through his cultivation and labor transformed it into a tract of great fertility. Both he and his wife spent their remaining days in this county.

We now take up the personal history of Andrew Dayton, who spent the first four years of his life in the land of his birth, and then, as before stated, was brought by his parents to Kankakee County. From that time he became a resident of this community. The days of his boyhood and youth quietly passed, unmarked by any event of special importance. He was entirely self-educated, but through business experience and observation, he made himself a well-informed man. He was quite young when his father died, and was thus thrown upon his own resources to make his way in life unaided. He was familiar with no kind of work except that of a farm, and in consequence he began working by the month as a farm hand, being thus employed for a period of several years. It was in this way he got his start in life. Industry and enterprise, qualities essential to success, were numbered among his chief characteristics, and as a result brought him prosperity.

On the 21st of November, 1858, Mr. Dayton was married, winning the hand of Miss Marilla Lamport, also a native of Canada. She was born on the 31st of March, 1839, and was the fourth child in order of birth in a family of ten children who graced the union of Benjamin and Mary (Force) Lamport. Her parents came to this county when she was quite a child, only about six years of age, and took up their residence upon a farm, where Mrs. Lamport is still living. The husband and father carried on agricultural pursuits upon the land which he first purchased until his death, which occurred on the 2d of April, 1872, at the age of sixty-four years. His widow still survives him, and is yet living on the old homestead in this county, at the advanced age of eighty-one years.

By the union of our subject and his wife was born a family of five children, numbering three sons and two daughters, all of whom are yet living. William B., the eldest, is now a representative and progressive farmer of this county. He was married

to Miss Belle Winfrey, of Bloomington, Ind., and four children grace their union. Anna May is now the wife of William Garrett, a prosperous farmer residing in Momence Township, and by their marriage have been born four children. Emory T., the third of the family, wedded Miss Ida Bales, a resident of Kankakee County, and their union has been blessed by one child. Etta A., the next younger, is at home. Merritt A., who completes the family, is also at home. The latter operates the old homestead farm, and is a successful young agriculturist. The children all received good school privileges, and were thus fitted for the practical and responsible duties of life.

Mr. Dayton was truly a self-made man, and to his own untiring efforts and well-directed energies was due his success in life. He began as a farm hand, and by his industry, hard labor and perseverance, he accumulated some capital. This enabled him to purchase a small farm. Buying a tract of land, he began its development with characteristic energy, and from early morning until darkness prevented his further work, he labored in the interests of himself and family. His land soon began to yield him a ready return for the care and cultivation bestowed upon it, and from time to time as his financial resources increased, he extended the boundaries of his farm, until he became the owner of four hundred and fourteen acres of valuable land which he placed under a high state of cultivation. He also made many improvements on the place, which stand as monuments to his enterprising and progressive spirit. He was a man of good business ability, and though he had no advantages whatsoever, he made the most of his opportunities and steadily worked his way upward. Overcoming the obstacles and difficulties in his path, he acquired a competence.

Mr. Dayton exercised his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Republican party, being a warm advocate of its principles, yet he was never a politician in the sense of office-seeking, caring nothing for the honors or emoluments of public office. Fair and honest in his business dealings, and straightforward in all the relations of life, he won the respect and confidence of all with whom he was brought in contact, and gained

the high regard of many who remained his warm friends until his death. While standing in the door at his son's, Mr. Dayton was struck by lightning and killed instantly, July 26, 1892, at the age of fifty-seven years. His wife and children still reside upon the old homestead. Mrs. Dayton is a member of the Baptist Church. He left them in comfortable circumstances, their farm being considered one of the finest and best improved in the township.



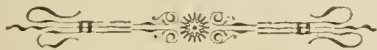
WILLIAM SNOW, a farmer and stock-raiser on section 36, Sumner Township, is one of the early settlers of Kankakee County, having come to Illinois in 1849. He was born on the 16th of December, 1821, in Yorkshire, England. His parents, Francis and Elizabeth (Mortimer) Snow, were natives of the same country and had seven children, but three of whom survive. John is deceased; Rachel, William and Mary are yet living, while Ellen, Elizabeth and Ann are deceased. In 1826 the family crossed the briny deep in a sailing-vessel bound for the United States, and were four weeks and three days in making the voyage. They located in Franklin County, N. Y.

Our subject grew to manhood in New York and received the most of his education in a log school house. He has been largely self-educated since arriving at mature years. When only thirteen years of age, Mr. Snow started out in the world to fight the battle of life. He commenced by working for neighboring farmers, receiving \$8 per month as his compensation. In 1849, he came to Illinois and purchased a farm in Sumner Township, the very property on which he still resides. This farm consists of one hundred acres, which at the time of his purchase were entirely unimproved and which he received of the Government on a land warrant. In those comparatively early days of this county's history the country was wild and but little inhabited, and game of all kinds abounded. Mr. Snow, as there was no house upon his property,

was obliged to go to Chicago for lumber with an ox-team. Upon his return he constructed a small frame house, which was his home for many years. The nearest market being Chicago, to that place he had to haul his grain and other crops in order to dispose of them. The farm on which he has made his home for so many years he has placed under a high state of cultivation and it little resembles the raw prairie of which he became the possessor over forty years ago.

January 26, 1846, Mr. Snow was married to Miss Olive Haslett, a native of Vermont born in 1824. By their union eight children were born: Francis, George, Elizabeth (now deceased), Lizzie, William, Carrie, Olive and Fannie. The mother of these children departed this life April 5, 1866, and lies buried in Momence Cemetery. Mr. Snow was again married, August 3, 1867, Mrs. Rachel A. Otis, a daughter of Jacob and Maria (Griffin) Sipes, becoming his wife. Mrs. Snow was born in St. Lawrence County, in the town of Lewisville, N. Y., April 16, 1826.

Mr. Snow was an old-line Whig, then a Republican until 1880 and since a Democrat. Mrs. Snow is a consistent member of the Methodist Church. It is an act of simple justice for the present favored generation to give due credit to those worthy, patient and persevering pioneers who have so nobly paved the way for the success and growing prosperity of this county, and among these who have taken an active part we are glad to record this brief history of the life work of William Snow.



DR. LEVI MATHIEU has engaged in the practice of his profession in St. Anne since 1883. He is a native of Kankakee County, his birth having occurred in Bourbonnais Grove, on the 5th of November, 1850. His parents, Francis and Solemie (Langlois) Mathieu, were both natives of Canada and of French origin. The maternal grandfather of our

subject was a farmer in Canada and emigrated to Illinois in 1818, locating upon a farm about four miles from Kankakee, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death in 1857, at which time he was about fifty-four years of age. Francis Mathieu was one of the pioneer settlers of this county, to which he came in 1818, and where he was soon after married. He was a farmer by occupation in early life, but afterward learned the shoemaker's trade, which calling he followed in this county till the time of his death, which occurred in 1877. His family consisted of nine sons and four daughters, ten of whom are yet living. They are as follows: Levi, George, Edward, William, Horace, Arthur, Victorine, Agnes, Delia and Louisa.

The Doctor was reared to mature years in Bourbonnais Grove, and received his education at St. Viateur's College. Upon the completion of his studies in that institution, he entered the employ of Wesley Bonfield in his drug store in Kankakee, and remained with him for four years. He then purchased the drug store of E. S. Cook, which he carried on until 1876. Selling out, he then purchased a drug store at St. Mary's, Iroquois County, where, however, he only stayed some six months. Returning to Kankakee, he entered into partnership with George Letourneau, and was engaged in the same business under the firm name of Letourneau & Mathieu. At the expiration of a year and a-half he removed to St. Anne and clerked for N. Bastien for two years.

On the 7th of September, 1873, Dr. Mathieu and Miss Zephyrine Brouillette were united in marriage. The lady's parents, Landre and Emile (Fortin) Brouillette, were of French descent and natives of Canada. Five children were born to our worthy subject and wife, a son and four daughters: Nettie, Wesley, Belle, Mattie, and one who died in infancy.

In the fall of 1881, Dr. Mathieu went to Chicago and studied medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, being graduated therefrom in 1883. Returning to St. Anne, he commenced the practice of his profession and has succeeded admirably. He is very popular, having always taken an interest in the public improvements and prog-

ress of the town. Mrs. Mathieu holds membership with the Presbyterian Church, and the Doctor is a member of Maple Camp No. 1321, M. W. A. He served as Town Clerk for two years, proving an acceptable officer. Politically he is a Democrat.



WILLIAM L. HATTON, a retired farmer, now makes his home in Grant Park. He is one of the oldest native-born citizens of this county, where he has spent the greater portion of his life. His birth occurred on the 20th of February, 1815, in Yellowhead Township, and of a family of three children he was the youngest. His parents were Leslie R. and Elizabeth (Stingley) Hatton. The former was a native of Ohio, where he lived on a farm with his parents until arriving at man's estate. In an early day he emigrated to Fountain County, Ind., where he remained until 1810, when he came to Yellowhead Township and settled upon a farm which he cultivated until his death, on the 30th of January, 1817. He was obliged to go to Chicago to market, and on one of these trips was nearly frozen, this being the immediate cause of his death. He was of English descent. His wife was also born in Ohio and was of German extraction. She departed this life in Kankakee County, May 24, 1852.

When only about seven years of age our subject was left an orphan and went to live with some relatives. On reaching his majority, he inherited eighty acres of his father's farm. On the 10th of February, 1871, Mr. Hatton was united in marriage with Miss Flora Kile, who was also born in Yellowhead Township, on the 25th of November, 1854. Her parents, Reason C. and Jane (Hayden) Kile, are old settlers of this county and are still living in Yellowhead Township. To Mr. and Mrs. Hatton were born two children, a son, Willie, who died in infancy, and Alma, who was born on the 9th of February, 1877.

Mr. Hatton, responding to the call of his country, donned the blue and became a member of

Company H, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, August 12, 1862, being the date of his enlistment. He participated in the following battles and engagements: the siege and surrender of Vicksburg, which occurred on the 4th of July, 1863; the siege of Jackson, Miss., in July of the same year; the skirmish at Champion Hills, in February, 1864; Benton, Miss., in May, 1864; and in the engagement at Jackson Cross Roads, July 7, 1864, he received a gunshot wound in the right hand and was sent to the City Hospital at Vicksburg, where he remained for about a month. He afterward took part in the siege and assault of Ft. Blakely, April 9, 1865. That evening after they had captured the fort the army received word that Gen. Lee had surrendered. Mr. Hatton was discharged from the service July 22, 1865, and arrived at his home on the 6th of August, having served his country faithfully for nearly three years.

For twenty-four years our subject engaged in farming in Yellowhead Township and is still the owner of one of the best improved farms of the county, consisting of three hundred and twenty acres, six miles east of Grant Park, in Yellowhead Township. He also owns a beautiful home in that place. For the past three years he has been Assessor of his township. In his political views, Mr. Hatton affiliates with the Democratic party. As one of the early pioneers and representative citizens, he has won the respect and esteem of all and well deserves a place in this volume.



THOMAS STROUD is a well-known farmer residing on section 24, Salina Township. Throughout the community he is recognized as a leading and influential citizen, and as such we take pleasure in presenting to our readers this record of his life. He was born in South Newington, England, March 4, 1836, and is a son of William and Mary (Gunn) Stroud. His father and grandfather were both large horse dealers of England. The former, in 1817, left his native land, and in a sailing-vessel crossed the broad Atlantic,

landing in New York City just five weeks from the time he had left England. Making his way to Toronto, Canada, he purchased a farm in that locality, but later removed to Black Rock, N. Y., where he spent the succeeding year. In the spring he went to Cambria Centre, where he purchased a farm, and there resided until 1859, when he sold out and rented a large farm near Lockport, N. Y. After operating that place for three years, he made his way Westward, and for about ten years was engaged in farming near Valparaiso, Ind. In 1869, he removed to Dallas Centre, Iowa, where he engaged in farming for about ten years, when he became a resident of Scranton, Greene County, where he purchased a farm. Both are now eighty-three years of age, but they are still enjoying good health, and are yet well preserved.

Mr. and Mrs. Stroud had a family of nine children: Catherine, who became the wife of Richard Hall, and died in 1851; Thomas, of this sketch; John, a farmer of South Dakota; Lottie, Mrs. Scott, of Valparaiso, Ind.; Mary Ann, widow of William D. Guthrie, and a resident of Chicago; William, who follows farming in Greene County, Iowa; Jane, wife of Charles Ellerman, a well-to-do farmer of Dallas, Iowa; and Lucy, wife of Richard Gunn, of Peoria, Ill.

Thomas Stroud, whose name heads this record, was in his eleventh year when his parents emigrated to Canada. By his father he was placed in a grocery store in Toronto, where he remained for about three years. He then went to the Empire State, and at the age of twenty-two he came West by way of the Lakes, landing in Chicago. This was in 1858. He began working on a farm at \$16 per month, being thus employed for about half a year, after which he joined his parents in Indiana. For two years he remained in that State, but on the 7th of August, 1862, he left his home to enter the service of his country.

Mr. Stroud enlisted as a private in Company I, Seventy-third Indiana Infantry, and was mustered into service at South Bend. His regiment was sent to Louisville, Ky., and went South under Gen. Rosecrans, and was in a number of skirmishes. The first active engagement in which he participated was at Stone River. He was disabled in

fording that river on the 1st of January, 1863. He had to cross four times, and as this was in the middle of winter, when the river was full of ice, he caught a severe cold, and was taken with rheumatism so that he was unfitted for further field duty. He was then sent to Hospital No. 1, in Murfreesboro, where he remained for about three months. Soon afterward he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps for garrison duty, where he served until August, 1865. During that time he was made Sergeant. When the war was over, and the country no longer needed his services, he returned to his home.

While home on a furlough, in December, 1863, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Jane P., daughter of Abiel and Eliza D. Garrish. When the war was over he went to West Creek, Ind., and operated the farm belonging to his father-in-law for two years. The year 1868 witnessed his arrival in Kankakee County. Purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 21, Salina Township, he began the improvement of the farm where he has since lived. With the exception of the orchard he has placed upon his farm most of its improvements. The land is now under a high state of cultivation, and good buildings and all the accessories of a model farm indicate the practical and progressive spirit of the owner, and stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

By the union of Mr. and Mrs. Stroud have been born five children, as follows: Mary E., a successful teacher, now employed in the public schools of St. Anne, Ill.; Frederick H., a school teacher of this county; Anna B., a student in the seminary of Onarga, Ill.; Edwin G. and Esther O. The Stroud household is the abode of hospitality, and its members rank high in social circles. Since becoming a voter, Mr. Stroud has been identified with the Republican party, and is one of the staunch and stalwart advocates of its principles. Socially, he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and he also holds membership with the Methodist Church. Our subject is a man of good business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, and through his own well-directed efforts has won prosperity. The obstacles in his path he has overcome by good management, and by his enterprise

he has steadily worked his way upward. He is alike true to his country in times of peace, as well as in times of war, and Kankakee County numbers him among its valued citizens.



HENRY KRAMER, who is engaged in general merchandising in Grant Park, is an example of America's self-made men. He came to this country a poor boy, without a dollar and with no knowledge of the language, and has steadily and perseveringly overcome all obstacles in his pathway until he has acquired a fortune. He is the eldest child in a family of four children, two sons and two daughters, and was born on the 15th of March, 1850. Germany is the land of his birth, and his parents, Hans Detlef and Dorathea (Blohm) Kramer, still make their home in the Fatherland.

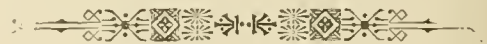
When only ten years of age Henry Kramer embarked on one of his father's ships as a sailor and sailed between inland ports for nine years. At that time, then nineteen years of age, he emigrated to America and landed in the village of Sherburnville, Kankakee County, on the 1st of May, 1869. His first employment was in a brickyard, where he was a faithful worker for about half a year. For the following five years he engaged upon a farm and during that time obtained a fair knowledge of the English language. He returned in the fall of the year 1875 to his native country on a visit, but remained there only a short time. Returning to Illinois, he again worked by the month for two years, carefully husbanding his income. On the 6th of April, 1877, he built a small store in Sherburnville Grove, on the Momence road, and there engaged in the mercantile business until 1880. He then sold out his stock and again visited his native land.

On the 11th of September, 1880, Mr. Kramer wedded Miss Heilewig Kruse, who was born in Germany January 23, 1855. They were married in Chicago by the Rev. Mr. Hartmann. Three chil-

dren were born of their union: Hans Detlef, Claus J. and Frederick Wilhelm. The mother of these children departed this life on the 4th of July, 1888. Mr. Kramer was again married, on the 27th of January, 1889, at which time Miss Margaretha Naeve became his bride. The lady was born in Germany on the 29th of April, 1868, and by her marriage has become the mother of two children, a son and daughter, John Hinrich Albert and Anna Dorathea Caroline.

On his return from Germany in 1880, Mr. Kramer again purchased the Sherburnville store, where he engaged in business. For about a year he was Postmaster of the village. In 1882, removing to Grant Park, he purchased the store which he now occupies and where he has since carried on a successful and increasing business. He also still owns and operates a store at Sherburnville, and is the owner of three hundred acres of land.

For four years, Mr. Kramer has served as Police Magistrate in Grant Park, and in regard to politics is a stalwart Republican. He and his family are members of the German Lutheran Church. His educational privileges in his early years were those of the common schools, but by wide reading he has become very well educated and is well informed. He is a great reader and owns one of the largest private libraries in the town.



FREDERICK HORNBERGER, who is engaged in general farming on section 8, Pilot Township, was born in Dearborn County, Ind., November 8, 1847, and is the sixth in order of birth in a family of nine children. He is of German descent, his parents, John and Mary E. (Bonet) Hornberger, both being natives of the Fatherland. They were married in that country, and in the spring of 1847 sailed for the New World. The voyage across the briny deep consumed sixty days, but at length they reached their destination in safety. They made their first location in Cincinnati, Ohio, but after two months spent in that city removed to Indiana. The fa-

ther purchased land in Dearborn County and was there engaged in farming for eighteen years. He then sold out and came to Kankakee County, where he purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of improved land, the same upon which our subject now resides. Prosperity attended his industrious and well-directed efforts, and as his financial resources increased he added to his original purchase, extending the boundaries of his farm until it comprised two hundred and eighty acres. He made many excellent improvements upon it, erected good buildings and, in fact, added all the accessories of a model farm of the nineteenth century. He died at his home, in December, 1872, and in his death the community lost a good citizen. His wife survived him a number of years and passed away in Dwight, Ill., in August, 1889.

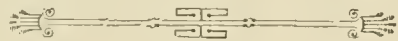
Of the Hornberger family, John, the eldest, is now residing in Vermillion, Edgar County, Ill.; Kate is the wife of John Mabes, a resident of Knox County, Ind.; Christian occupies a responsible position in Indianapolis; Barbara became the wife of Louis Bower and died in Linn County, Iowa; John G. is engaged in farming in Grundy County, Ill.; Mary resides with her sister, Mrs. Christina Hoffman, of Grundy County; and Michael W. is a merchant of Blue Hill, Neb.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who remained in the county of his nativity until eighteen years of age. During that time he acquired a good practical education in the public schools. He accompanied his parents on their removal to Kankakee County, and remained with his father until his death. On the 23d of August, 1873, he married Miss Mary Miller, a native of Niles, Ill., and a daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth Miller. Her father is now deceased, but her mother is living in Kankakee County. Six children grace the union of our subject and his wife, and the family circle still remains unbroken. In order of birth they are as follows: John F., George W., Ida, Thomas, Ella and Eva.

After his marriage, Mr. Hornberger located upon a part of the home farm. Later he purchased his mother's interest in the estate and subsequently bought out the other heirs, so that he is now the sole owner of the old homestead. He has the greater

part of the place well tilled and under a high state of cultivation, so that it is now a valuable farm. It is conveniently located three and a-half miles north of Herscher and about midway between Union Hill and Goodrich.

Mr. Hornberger since casting his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant in 1872 has been a supporter of the Republican party. As every true American citizen should do, he takes an active interest in political affairs, but has never been an aspirant for office. In the interests of the cause of education he has labored faithfully. For about ten years he served as a member of the School Board and his influence was ever used in securing competent teachers and good schools. Any interest calculated to improve or benefit the community receives his hearty endorsement, and wherever he is known he is recognized as a valuable citizen. Himself and wife are members of the Evangelical Church and are highly respected people.



GEORGE M. WALTER, who carries on a general merchandise establishment in Bonfield, is one of the pioneer settlers of this county and well deserves mention in its history. His life record is as follows: He was born in Baden, Germany, December 23, 1839, and is the eldest in a family of five children, four sons and a daughter, whose parents were John George and Catherine (Grob) Walter. The father was born in Baden, where his ancestors had lived for several generations. He took up farming for his life work and carried on that pursuit in his native land until 1853, when he crossed the broad Atlantic to the United States. Making his first location in Cincinnati, Ohio, he there began work in a soap factory, where he was employed for about five years. On the expiration of that period he removed to Henry County, Ind., and entered a farm, upon which he remained until 1861. In that year he came to Kankakee County, Ill., and took up his residence upon a farm in Salina Township. There the succeeding four years of his life were passed,

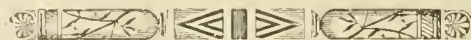
after which he purchased another farm in the same township. He is still living, at the advanced age of four-score years, and now makes his home in Chatsworth. The mother of our subject was also a native of Baden and died in that country.

George Walter of this sketch was only about thirteen years of age when he came to the United States with his father. In the common schools he acquired a good education and until he had attained his majority he remained under the parental roof. At the age of twenty-one, however, he left home to make his own way in the world. He began life as a farm hand, working by the month for about four years. On the 1th of November, 1861, his plans of life were changed. At that date he entered the service of his adopted country as a member of Company G, Fifty-seventh Illinois Infantry, in which he served for three years. He then veteranized and remained in the service until the close of the war. He received a slight gunshot wound in the left leg at the battle of Corinth, but otherwise escaped uninjured. He proved himself a faithful soldier, always true to the call of duty, and at the close of the war he received an honorable discharge.

When his services were no longer needed, Mr. Walter returned to this county, purchased a farm in Salina Township and began its improvement. Not long afterwards he was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Ursula Erzinger. Their union was celebrated on the 14th of October, 1866, and has been blessed with a family of six children, two sons and four daughters, as follows: Ida E., Annie Catherina, Frederick G., Katie, Henry and Ellen. Ida is now the wife of Bert Chester, a telegraph operator in South Dakota. Annie C. is the wife of Frank A. Chester, who is engaged in the hardware business in Bonfield.

Mr. Walter carried on his farming operations successfully until 1883, when he determined to give his attention to some other pursuit and removed to Bonfield. Here he opened a general store and has since engaged in merchandising. He carries a complete line of goods and has a good trade, which has constantly increased from the beginning. In addition to this, he also owns eighty acres of land in Salina Township, together

with his store building. As his possessions have been acquired entirely through his own efforts, he may truly be called a self-made man. He has labored earnestly to gain a competence and his prosperity is certainly well deserved. His career has been an upright and honorable one and is such as to have won him high esteem. His word is as good as his bond. In his political affiliations, Mr. Walter is a staunch Republican. He has filled the office of Town Clerk for about sixteen years and has served as School Director for about twenty years. For six years he held the office of Postmaster in the Bonfield Postoffice. In the discharge of his public duties he has ever been prompt and faithful and his public and private life are alike above reproach. He and his family are members of the Methodist Church.



JONATHAN TURNER, deceased, came to Kankakee County in 1857, and was among the early settlers of this section. He owned and operated a farm, which was located in Ganier Township. His birth occurred in Monroe County, of the Empire State, on the 29th of May, 1822. He was a son of John and Nancy (Fitzgerald) Turner, and was the second in order of birth in a family of fifteen children.

Our subject was reared upon a farm, and early determined to become an agriculturist. He received a common-school education in the district schools of the neighborhood, and was largely self-educated in after life. On the 4th of July, 1841, he was united in marriage with Miss Betsy Dumun, who was a daughter of Cornelius and Hannah (Sharks) Dumun. The fall after his marriage, Mr. Turner moved to Jonesville, Mich., making the trip by way of the Lakes. Upon his arrival in that State he found that his resources consisted of \$15 in money, and in order to gain a livelihood he was obliged to do whatever came to hand to win an honest dollar. He began by splitting rails at fifty cents per day, and his industry, perseverance and frugality are shown by the fact that in



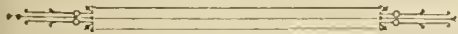
*Yours truly
James McCreary*



MARY A. Mc. GREW

short time he was enabled to buy forty acres of land, even though at that early day the price of land was only nominal on the frontier. With characteristic energy he proceeded to clear and improve his property, and devoted himself to its cultivation until 1857, which year witnessed his arrival in Kankakee County. He decided to rent land for a time until he had made up his mind where to invest his money, and accordingly for three years he rented a farm, after which he purchased one hundred acres of land in Ganier Township. This was unimproved and wild prairie land, and he cultivated and improved it with indefatigable energy until called from this life on the 28th of August, 1890. His remains are interred in the Kankakee Cemetery.

In politics Mr. Turner was a Republican, and took an active interest in educational matters, being a School Director for several terms. Considering the hardships of those early days which had to be overcome by the pioneer, Mr. Turner was quite successful in a business way, and what property he possessed was the result of years of hard labor and well-directed efforts. He was a man of integrity, and won the respect of all by his many excellent qualities and unassuming worth. Mrs. Turner still resides in Ganier Township, having made this county her home for thirty-five years.



JAMES MCGREW. The history of Kankakee County would be incomplete without the life record of our subject, who has been for nearly forty years a resident of this county and has been very instrumental in its growth and progress. The city of Kankakee particularly owes to him a debt of gratitude, for he has been prominently connected with its achievements for many years and is justly entitled to a large share of praise for its present thriving condition.

Mr. McGrew is a native of the Buckeye State, his birth having occurred near Dayton on the 5th of May, 1820. He is a son of John and Elizabeth

(Blackford) McGrew. The father was a native of York County, Pa., and was born in 1766. He was of Scotch-Irish origin, some of his ancestors having resided in County Tyrone, Ireland. They emigrated to Adams County, Pa., in 1726. John McGrew was married in Westmoreland County, that State, in 1788, but the same year removed to Kentucky. Two years later he enlisted in Harmer's campaign against the Indians of the Maumee and was with the army at Harmer's defeat at Ft. Wayne. He then went to Cincinnati, in the fall of 1790, and was discharged from the service. His father was a great horse-dealer of that day and was engaged in the breeding of fine stock.

The mother of our subject was of Welsh descent, with perhaps a mixture of Scotch. Her ancestors emigrated in 1717 to America and settled in New Jersey. Her father and the father of Chief Justice John McLean were first cousins and the two families emigrated from New Jersey to Kentucky in 1790. Later both families removed to Warren County, Ohio, and settled upon farms near Ridgeville, four or five miles to the north of Lebanon,

John McGrew was twice married, his first wife being Miss Mary Thompson, by whom he had seven sons and three daughters: William, Samuel T., Archibald, Milton, John, James, Bracken, Mary, Margaret and Rebecca. His second wife, who was the mother of our subject, was the widow of Elijah Stebbins, by whom she had five children: Mary, Phoebe, Jeremiah, Levi and Elijah. Three children were born of the second union: Elizabeth, James and Esther. Two sons of Mr. McGrew by his first wife married two daughters of his second wife by her former marriage. Of Mr. McGrew's children only two are now living, James and Esther. The father lived for many years in Montgomery County, Ohio, five miles south of Dayton, and there his death occurred in 1848. The mother of our subject survived her husband for several years and departed this life in Kankakee, Ill., in 1859.

The boyhood days of James McGrew were passed in the county of his birth upon his father's farm. He received a district-school education and upon arriving at his majority was united in marriage with Mary A. Binkley, the ceremony being

performed on the 31st of August, 1844. Her parents, Samuel and Catherine (Boehm) Binkley, were natives of Lancaster County, Pa. Ten children blessed the union of our subject and his estimable wife, seven of whom are still living, the others having died in infancy. Harriet M. became the wife of Samuel C. Kenaga and they now make their home in Chicago, where Mr. Kenaga is engaged as foreman in one of the McCormick reaper shops. They have had eight children, five of whom are living: George, Herman, Benjamin, Samuel and Harriet. Catherine E. married N. S. Hathaway, a commercial traveler. They have one child, William, and they also make their home in Chicago. William H., a draftsman and architect, makes his home in Missouri. James B. married Miss Ada Stewart, and to them have been born two children, Ethel and William. They reside in Kankakee. Charles E. is married and lives at Farmer City, Ill. He has two children, Arthur and Pearl. John F. married Miss Emma Eisler and is a flour, feed and coal merchant of Kankakee. Samuel H. resides in Kankakee, is married and has a daughter, Lois. James and Samuel are in the flouring-mill business.

From the time of his marriage until 1856, Mr. McGrew lived upon a farm near Dayton, Ohio, and followed agricultural pursuits exclusively. While thus employed he received a medal from the State of Ohio for having grown the best osage orange hedge. The spring of 1856 witnessed his arrival in Kankakee, which has since been his home continuously. He first engaged in growing, selling and planting osage orange trees for hedge purposes after his arrival, but followed that occupation for only a short time. He then turned his attention to the raising of broom-corn, which vocation he followed for about twelve years, some seasons having as high as three hundred acres planted with that crop. In 1865, he purchased a half-interest in the water power of the mill property in Kankakee and subsequently became the sole proprietor. This right he still owns but has rented his mill to his sons, James and Samuel, who do business under the firm name of McGrew Bros. The mill has a capacity of one hundred barrels of flour per day. Our subject also owns the milldam

and furnishes both power and ground for the paper mill, two foundries, a machine shop, blacksmith shop and wire works, as well as power for the oil mill. In 1868 he was elected President of the Kankakee and Illinois River Railroad Company, afterward named the Plymouth, Kankakee & Pacific. For this railroad, which is now called the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa, Mr. McGrew raised between \$700,000 and \$800,000 of local voted aid, with which he had surveys made, right of way obtained, and much of the grading done. When the pame of 1873 came on the work was abandoned, but about ten or fifteen years later the work of continuing the line was resumed and since that time the railroad has become an important and well-paying one.

Since coming to this county Mr. McGrew has been actively engaged in the advancement of its interests, and that his fellow-citizens have recognized the fact has been shown many times by the part they have taken in electing him to office. About the year 1870 he was Mayor of Kankakee, and was Chairman of the building committee which carried forward the work of erecting the Central Public School building. He was also elected County Treasurer and served for four years during the war, when it was a difficult matter to keep posted as to the value of wildcat money. For a number of years he was active in the promotion of the Kankakee County Agricultural Society.

For over fifty years Mr. and Mrs. McGrew have held membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which our subject for years was a Steward, and in which he is at present serving as a Trustee. He was on the building committee which had in charge the erection of a large stone building known as the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, and his family have always been active workers in church circles. Mr. McGrew is a Mason in good standing, being a charter member of Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M. He has voted the Prohibition ticket since 1882, but for twenty-six years was affiliated with the Republican party. Previous to its organization he was a Whig, like his father before him, who voted for James G. Birney and was greatly opposed to slavery. Mr.

McGrew owns a beautiful home on the corner of Court Street and Chicago Avenue. He is also the owner of a few residence lots in the city. Although seventy-two years of age he is well preserved and bids fair to live for many years. His height is six feet, his step is elastic for one of his years, and his mind is clear and active. We feel assured that his many friends in this locality will read with much interest this tribute to one who has borne so important a part in the history of the county.

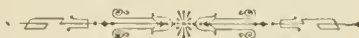


WILLIAM JEREMIAH DIXON, who runs a bakery, restaurant and grocery in Momence, is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in Cleveland on the 7th of November, 1849. His father, Jeremiah Dixon, was a native of England and of English parentage. He has been a ship carpenter by trade during almost his entire life. In 1882 he removed to Braidwood, Ill., where he has lived until the present time. In 1862 he went from Erie County, Pa., to Wilmington, Ill., which was his home for the succeeding twenty years. He is now seventy-six years of age, and has retired from the active cares of life. When a young man he married Jane Miles, a lady of Pennsylvania birth and of Scotch-Irish parentage. Her father was an agriculturist and a valiant soldier in the War of 1812. While taking part in a battle on Lake Erie, under Commodore Perry, he lost an arm, which injury resulted in his death, at which time he was about sixty-five years of age. Mrs. Dixon, now about seventy years of age, resides in Braidwood, and both she and her husband are members of the Methodist Church. Their family consisted of three sons and nine daughters, six of whom are now living: Mary A., Jeremiah, Maggie, Carrie, John and Jennie.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were principally spent in town, but for some years he lived upon a farm in Pennsylvania. He received a good education in the common schools of Wilmington, Ill., and afterward learned the trade of baker, following that vocation for twenty-three

years. In 1880 Mr. Dixon came to Momence, and for nearly a year was in the employ of William Murphy, baker, after which our subject opened a bakery of his own, which business he has continued ever since. He began in a very humble way, but by industry and economy has accumulated a nice property, his present location being in a fine brick business block, which he erected in 1886. In connection with his bakery he also carries confectionery, and runs a restaurant and ice cream parlors.

On the 6th of April, 1881, Mr. Dixon was united in marriage with Miss Jane L. Stevenson, a daughter of George and Rebecca (Law) Stevenson, of Chicago, who were natives of Fishkill, N. Y. Mr. Dixon is interested in secret societies, holding membership with Momence Lodge No. 771, I. O. O. F., and also being a member of Momence Camp No. 1339, M. W. A. Politically, he is a Republican, and casts his ballot in favor of the principles and nominees of that party. Mr. Dixon is truly a self-made man, having had to make his own fortune in life, and as he has met with a good measure of success in his undertakings, he may well feel proud of his achievements.



WILLIAM BRACKEN was born on the 1st of October, 1823, and died at his home in this county on the 22d of June, 1882. For a number of years he was a prominent and well-known farmer of Limestone Township. A native of Delaware, he was born in Wilmington. The Bracken family is of English origin, but we have no authentic history in regard to its establishment in this country.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the neighborhood of his birth, no event of special importance occurring to vary the routine of farm life. During his stay in his native State he followed agricultural pursuits, but at length he determined to seek a fortune and home in the West, where lands were cheaper and where better advantages seemed to be afforded young

men than in the older and more thickly settled States of the East. In consequence he started toward the setting sun.

On the 1st of October, 1856, Mr. Bracken was united in marriage with Miss Harrietta Rietz. The lady is a native of Germany, and was born November 12, 1833. The first fourteen years of her life were spent in the Fatherland, after which her parents determined to emigrate to America, and with them she crossed the broad Atlantic to the United States. They made their first location in Milwaukee, where they spent a period of eight years, and then removed to this State, taking up their residence in Chicago, where the union of our subject and his wife was celebrated.

On his removal to the West, Mr. Bracken took up his residence in Milwaukee, Wis., and he found that the hope of achieving a fortune was not in vain, for it was not long before he became quite prosperous. He was a butcher by trade, and at one time he operated one of the largest meat markets in Watertown. In that line of business he met success and accumulated quite a fortune, but riches take to themselves wings, and through the failure of the banks at that place he lost much that he had made. The year 1864 witnessed the arrival of our subject in Kankakee County, where he followed his trade for three years in Kankakee City.

Mr. Bracken was a consistent Christian gentleman, and his honorable, upright life is well worthy of emulation. His many excellencies of character won him high regard, and his sterling worth gained for him the respect of all with whom he came in contact. In his political views, he was a Republican. After eighteen years spent as a farmer in this county, he departed this life on the 23d of June, 1882.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Bracken numbered eight children, five sons and three daughters, of whom six are yet living. Julia, the second child, was born October 8, 1859, and died in infancy; Amelia, the next younger, was born August 4, 1861, and also died in infancy. Those who still survive are: Charles, the eldest, who was born July 20, 1857, is married and formerly resided near Worthington, Minn., where he carried on agricul-

tural pursuits, but is now of Warren County, Minn.; Frank, a prosperous farmer of Limestone Township, born on the 8th of August, 1863; Edward, September 22, 1865; George, October 20, 1867; Alex, September 19, 1869; and Ida, who completes the family, and was born on the 13th of December, 1871. All of the living children are still single except Charles, and reside with their mother on the old home farm, which is ably operated and managed by Frank and his brothers, Edward, George and Alex, wide-awake and enterprising young business men. The family now owns a very pleasant country home, about five miles from the city of Kankakee. The Bracken household is the abode of hospitality, and its members rank high in social circles, where true worth and intelligence are received as the passports into good society.



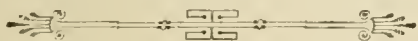
IRA Z. CONGDON, who owns a grocery and runs a boarding-house in Momence, is a native of Connecticut. He was born in Waterford, New London County, on September 16, 1829, and is the only son of Amasa and Cynthia (Chapman) Congdon, both also natives of the Nutmeg State. The daughter, Ann, died when three years of age. Amasa Congdon was a sailor upon the high seas for forty-two years. About the year 1870 he came to Illinois to live with his son at Onarga. His death occurred two years later, at the age of sixty-five. He was twice married. Our subject's mother died when twenty-five years of age. After living a single life for twenty-seven years, Mr. Congdon married again in New London County, his second wife being Mrs. Bedine, a widow.

Ira Congdon was reared on a farm, and received his education in the district schools of his native county. When a young man he engaged in farming. In 1856, coming to Illinois, he located in Ford County, in the portion then known as the Panhandle, now a part of Vermilion County, and there lived for five years. He afterwards removed

to Onarga, where he made his home for the following sixteen years. In 1877 he took charge of five thousand acres of land belonging to George Danforth, and which is located in St. Anne Township, Kankakee County, and that property he operated for eleven years. He afterwards lived in Blue Island for a year, and in 1889 came to Mokence, where he opened a grocery and boarding-house.

On the 15th of February, 1852, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Congdon and Miss Matilda Emerson, of Lyme, New London County, Conn., of which State both she and her parents, Elisha and Mary (Chandler) Emerson, were natives. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Congdon, three sons and four daughters: William A., who died when young; Ladara, who died at the age of seven years; Lillie, who died at age of five years; Charles A.; Eugenia, wife of George Singer, of Austin, Ill., where they carry on a large boarding-house; Mary; and Ira B., who married Miss Amelia Homan, daughter of Henry Homan, of Sollitt, this county.

Mr. Congdon is a supporter of the Democratic party, and cast his first Presidential ballot in favor of Franklin Pierce. He has been a resident of this State for nearly forty years, and is well known in this and neighboring counties.



JONATHAN P. STRATTON, who makes his home on section 4, is one of the leading farmers and stock-raisers of this portion of the country. His property comprises about eleven hundred acres of valuable land in this and adjoining counties. He was born on the 24th of October, 1824, in Paris, Edgar County, Ill., and is the sixth in order of birth in a family of ten children, five sons and five daughters, born to John and Dicea (Mayo) Stratton. The father was born in Virginia, and was a farmer by occupation. He removed to Kentucky with his parents when quite young, and there lived until 1816. For two years succeeding, he was stationed at Ft. Harrison, Ind., at that time in charge of

William Henry Harrison, who was the commander. The Indians were then on the war path, and the settlers needed the fort as a refuge and the soldiers as a protection. Mr. Stratton was of English descent, as was also his wife, the mother of our subject. With her parents, she removed from Virginia, where she was born, to Kentucky, when about ten years of age.

Jonathan P. Stratton remained under the parental roof until arriving at man's estate. He received but a limited common-school education, as there were very few schools in this section of the State during those early days. His father was the first white settler in Edgar County, Ill., to which he came in 1818. When a boy, in 1833, our subject drove cattle from Shawneetown, Ill., to Detroit, Mich., a distance of about five hundred miles. From Bunkum, in Iroquois County, to Chicago, there was not a white settler, and the latter town was but a village. In 1846, leaving the parental roof, Mr. Stratton came to Yellowhead Township, and here purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Yellowhead Indian reservation, since which time this county has always been his home.

On the 29th of October, 1844, Mr. Stratton was united in marriage with Miss Memory Seager, a resident of Kankakee County. By their union three children were born: Mary E., who died in infancy; and Achsah D., who lives with her sister Emma, wife of Frank Freeman, a prosperous farmer of Mokence Township. Mrs. Stratton was called to her final rest in 1870, and on Christmas Day of 1877 our subject was married to Miss Mary Daniels. She is the daughter of Thophifele and Adeline (Breso) Daniels, who were honored early settlers of this county. Two sons and a daughter have been born to our subject and his worthy wife, as follows: Ida B., Jonathan P. and Johnnie.

For several years Mr. Stratton was Postmaster of Yellowhead Postoffice in this county, the duties of which position he discharged satisfactorily. Politically, he is a Republican, and interested in the welfare of his county and State. He is truly a self-made man, as he came to this locality when a boy empty-handed, and it is owing entirely to his qualities of industry and economy that he has accumulated his present fortune. As previously

stated, he is an extensive land-owner, having in his possession nearly eleven hundred acres of land. He is also an extensive stock-breeder, making a specialty of fine Hereford cattle. Though now sixty-nine years of age, Mr. Stratton is hale and hearty, and still keeps a wise supervision over his many farms and large business interests.



JOSEPH CHEFFRE, a retired farmer who makes his home in St. Anne, has been a resident of Kankakee County for forty-one years and has been a witness of its great improvement and progress, particularly in the vicinity of St. Anne, which has grown from the four or five log houses of that day to the present beautiful little village of over one thousand inhabitants.

Mr. Cheffre was born in Montreal, Canada, on the 4th of July, 1824, and is a son of Joseph and Argette (La Vine) Cheffre. In 1851 he came to Illinois in company with his brother Antoine. In his native country he received a good common-school education and resided under the parental roof until arriving at man's estate. In 1841 he went to Syracuse, N. Y., with his father, and lived in that city and at Niagara Falls for seven years. The family then returned to Canada, but in 1851 emigrated to Illinois with a large French colony, consisting of about five thousand persons under the guidance and supervision of Father Chiniquy, and which located at St. Anne.

Mr. Cheffre has been married three times. His first wife was Miss Sarah Morris, daughter of Francis Morris, and by this union one child was born, Joseph, who married Miss Nelda Dube. They live one mile southeast of St. Anne. His first wife having died, on the 20th of May, 1863, our subject was united in marriage with Mrs. Millie (Schose) Cheffre, widow of Charles Cheffre, by whom she had four children: Charles, Emily, Moses and Zulinda. Charles married Miss Mina Spinard, a native of Kankakee County, in January, 1882, and four children, three sons and one daughter, were born to them; they are residents

of Kankakee County. Zulinda married Stephen Lanctot, a native of Canada, in June, 1889, and they are residents of Chicago. Moses married Miss Mary Regnier, a native of Illinois, in December, 1887, and they reside in Iroquois County, Ill. By her second marriage Mrs. Cheffre was the mother of four children, a son and three daughters. Frank married Miss Rose Regnier, and has a daughter, Ruby; their home is one mile from St. Anne. Josephine became the wife of Antoine Goyette, and has two children, Eddie and Artie; they live near Trimello, Iowa. Mina is the third in order of birth. Zoe is the fourth child. Emily was first married to Joseph Brouillette, and to them were born three children: Jessie, George and Arthur. She is now the wife of Julian Charboneau, and resides in Chicago. Mrs. Cheffre was called from this life September 21, 1886. In 1887, our subject married Mrs. Fornier, who had also been twice married before.

In addition to his good residence property in St. Anne, Mr. Cheffre owns three hundred and twenty acres of well-improved farm land in Kankakee and Iroquois Counties. He has always been an industrious and hard-working man, and it is to his own economy and toil that he owes his success in life. He and his wife hold membership with the French-Presbyterian Church. He affiliates with the Republican party, and takes a lively interest in the public welfare. Personally, he is popular, being of a genial, though quiet and thoughtful, disposition.



CHARLES H. BELLINGER is one of the extensive land-owners and leading stock-raisers of Kankakee County, his home being located on section 5, Momence Township. He is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred in Herkimer, N. Y., on the 26th of October, 1848, and he comes of old New England families. His parents were James H. and Caroline (Christie) Bellinger. His father was also born in New York, and his ancestors were among the Dutch families

that settled in the Mohawk Valley of that State. By occupation he was a farmer, and followed that business throughout his entire life. After arriving at years of maturity he married Miss Christie, who was born at East Creek, N. Y., and whose parents were natives of New England. Three children graced the union of this worthy couple, two sons and a daughter, the eldest of whom is Charles, whose name heads this sketch.

Our subject well deserves mention in the record of his adopted county, as he is numbered among its prominent agriculturists. He was reared to manhood in the usual manner of farmer lads, the days of his boyhood being quietly passed under the parental roof. He acquired a good common-school education in the public schools, and this course was supplemented by study in the Fairfield Seminary of New York, where his education was completed.

Ere leaving the East, Mr. Bellinger was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Angeline Parish, who was born in Ganier Township, Kankakee County, on the 6th of October, 1848, and was a daughter of William W., Sr., and Sallie (Woodard) Parish, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this volume. The marriage ceremony of our subject and his wife was celebrated on the 1st of September, 1869, in Kankakee. Their union has been blessed with a family of two children, a son and daughter. William, the elder, who was born October 2, 1870, is an intelligent and highly educated young man, who expects to make the practice of medicine his life work, and to that end is now attending a course of lectures in the Rush Medical College of Chicago. Alice was born January 19, 1876, and is now attending the Young Ladies' Seminary situated in Ft. Wayne, Ind. The family is one of prominence in this community; the Bellinger household is the abode of hospitality and good cheer, and its members rank high in social circles.

Mr. Bellinger dates his residence in this county from 1877; prior to that time he had farmed in New York State. Since that time he has carried on farming and stock-raising, and, as before stated, he is now one of the extensive land-owners of the county, his possessions aggregating eight hundred

and forty acres, which constitute a large ranch, three miles northeast of Momence. It is one of the best improved farms of the township, supplied with good barns and other necessary outbuildings for the care of grain and stock, together with the latest machinery and farm appliances. Mr. Bellinger devotes the greater part of his time and attention to the raising of fine stock, making a specialty of Durham cattle and French coach horses, many fine specimens of which can be found in his fields and stables. He is a man of excellent business ability, sagacious and far-sighted, industrious and enterprising, and upright in all his dealings. He is now one of the wealthy citizens of the community, and is enjoying a well-deserved prosperity. Socially, Mr. Bellinger is a Knight Templar, holding membership with Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, of Kankakee. In politics he is a Republican, and has served as Commissioner of Highways in his township for ten years, discharging his duties with a promptness and fidelity that have won him the commendation of all concerned. As a citizen he is public-spirited and progressive, and manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, its upbuilding and progress.



HON. MATTHEW F. CAMPBELL, a retired farmer, was elected to represent this county in 1881, and was a member of the Lower House during the long contest for the election of United States Senator, in which John A. Logan was victorious. Mr. Campbell was born on the 29th of January, 1816, in Huntingdon County, Pa. His father, Matthew Campbell, though born in Ireland, was of Scotch parentage, and emigrated to the New World in 1794, when but ten years of age, with his parents, who settled in Huntingdon County, Pa., where they were numbered among the early pioneers. On arriving at man's estate, Mr. Campbell married Hannah Postlewait, a native of the Keystone State. Her father, Col. William Postlewait, was born in Lancaster County, of the

same State, and was a soldier in the Indian Wars, serving as Colonel of a regiment. His ancestors were of German extraction; they settled in England, and afterward went to Pennsylvania. Until his death, Mr. Campbell carried on a farm in Pennsylvania, departing this life in April, 1829, being then forty-nine years of age. After surviving her husband over half a century, Mrs. Campbell died in Illinois at the advanced age of eighty-five years, in 1871.

Our subject is one of a family consisting of six sons and three daughters, all of whom grew to mature years. John A. came to Illinois in 1868, settling in Warren County, where he engaged in farming until his death. William located on a farm in Ohio in 1846, and from there was called to his last reward. Thomas P. emigrated Westward in 1866, and settled in Davenport, Iowa. He was a lawyer by profession, and lived a retired life after removing to Iowa. Matthew is next in order of birth. James I. was a printer by trade, and died when a young man in 1838, at Pittsburg. Hannah E. became the wife of Samuel R. Boggs, now deceased, who removed to Illinois in 1848, settling in Warren County. Robert located in Mercer County on a farm in 1848. Martha wedded Alexander Porter, who for many years farmed in Mercer County, Ill., and both are now deceased. Rebecca E. married Rankin H. Gilliland, and resides in Warren County, Ill.

The early life of Mr. Campbell, whose name heads this sketch, was spent on a farm, and his school privileges were very limited. He is almost entirely self-educated, but by judicious reading and careful observation, ranks well in any company of intelligent and well-educated people. He remained on the old homestead until seventeen years of age, at which time he went to Pittsburg, where he secured employment as a clerk. He also learned the trade of a tailor while in that city, and there was in business until 1839. He then returned to Huntingdon County, where he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits for a time. He was then elected Register of Wills and Recorder of Deeds for three terms, serving in that capacity for nine consecutive years.

On the 28th of March, 1838, Mr. Campbell and

Miss Margaret A. Daniels were united in marriage. The lady is a native of Wales, where she was reared to womanhood, and is a daughter of the Rev. Thomas Daniels, a minister of the Baptist Church. Their union has been blessed with seven children, who are living. James D. is a lawyer by profession, and the principal attorney of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad. He was a soldier in the war, as a Lieutenant first, then later as Captain in the Forty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, under Gen. Hancock. John P., who is now deceased, was a soldier in the late war, and served three years in the One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Volunteers. Lizzie C. is the wife of L. M. Kellogg, of Buckingham. Winfield Scott was a soldier in the late war, and died while in the service of his country, in 1862. Maggie, whose husband, R. W. Beardsley, died in January, 1893, lives in Norton Township, Kankakee County. William H. is a business man of Buckingham. Robert F. is the railroad agent at Ludlow Falls, Miami County, Ohio. Rebecca is the wife of Arthur Monteith, of Buckingham. Charles C. is attending a school of pharmacy in Chicago.

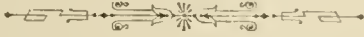
In 1859, Mr. Campbell removed to Illinois and opened up a farm in Norton Township, Kankakee County. He improved a tract of one hundred and seventy acres, which he carried on for over thirty years. In 1891 he retired from active life, rented his farm and moved to Buckingham, where he bought a nice residence property, in which he now resides. In politics, Mr. Campbell was an old-line Whig, and became identified with the Republican party on its organization. He cast his first ballot for William Henry Harrison, of "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" fame, in 1840, and in the last Presidential election voted for Benjamin Harrison. He has held several local positions of trust and honor, and for eighteen years acted as Supervisor of Norton Township. In every official position, Mr. Campbell has shown his ability and zeal in carrying on the duties incident to the position. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell are Baptists in religious belief, but are now attending the Buckingham Methodist Episcopal Church. Having resided in this county for over a third of a century, Mr. Campbell has witnessed vast changes, and has assisted

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Geo. Avery

materially in its progress and prosperity. He has ever had the confidence and esteem of all, and his many friends will be pleased to read this brief tribute to his worth.



GEORGE AVERY, one of the extensive land-owners of Kankakee County, and one of its most prominent and influential farmers, resides on section 21, Pilot Township. He is so widely known that he needs no special introduction to the readers of this volume, but we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our subscribers. A native of Ohio, he was born in Cuyahoga County, near the city of Cleveland, August 18, 1832. His paternal grandfather, George Avery, was a native of Vermont. He was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary War, and while aiding the Colonies in their struggles for independence was made a prisoner by the British at Royalton. The Avery family is of English origin and at an early day in the history of the Colonies was established in the Green Mountain State. Thatcher Avery, father of our subject, was a native of New Hampshire. With two companions he went to Ohio when a young man, they making the journey with an ox-team. They continued their travels until they had reached the Western Reserve, where they arrived six weeks after leaving home. Cleveland at that time was a mere village and the country round about was an almost unbroken wilderness. The county was not then surveyed and Mr. Avery made a claim in what has since become the town of Strongsville. In company with Wheeler Cole he cleared the land and developed a good farm. For some years they kept bachelors' hall, but after a time Thatcher Avery was married to Miss Julia Ann Lyman, who was born near Brattleboro, Vt. They reared their family upon the old homestead in Cuyahoga County, where the father spent his entire life. The mother survived her husband for several years, being called to the home beyond in 1890. Both parents lie buried in

Strongsville Cemetery, where a beautiful monument marks their last resting-place.

George Avery is one of a family numbering seven children, of whom three grew to maturity, two sons and a daughter, and of these our subject is the eldest. The sister, however, is now deceased. The brother, Hollis Avery, is now a prominent business man in Hadley, Pa. George spent the days of his boyhood and youth under the parental roof and was early mired to the labors of farm life. He received good educational privileges, for after attending the common schools he became a student in Berea University. Subsequently he learned the carpenter's trade and engaged in contracting and building for a period of ten years. Thinking the West furnished better opportunities for young men, he came to Illinois in 1854, and in Kankakee County purchased a tract of wild land of two hundred and forty acres, the same on which he now resides. He did not then make a permanent location, however, but returned to Cleveland. In 1856 he again came to the West, and from then until 1861 spent his time working at the carpenter's trade in Chicago and in Kankakee.

Mr. Avery has been twice married. In Seville, Ohio, on the 5th of March, 1861, he wedded Miss Elicia Fleming, who was born in Hardin County, Ohio. She died on the 28th of February, 1880. Three children were born of that union. H. F. is a prosperous farmer who owns and operates a valuable tract of land adjoining his father's farm. H. B. acquired a superior education, began as an engineer and electrician and held a responsible position in Chicago; he died in that city December 30, 1891. The daughter, Ella L., is the wife of Charles Slater, a substantial farmer of Iroquois County. Mr. Avery was again married, January 30, 1883, in Chicago, the lady of his choice being Miss Frances Goodrich, a native of Branch County, Mich.

In 1861, Mr. Avery located upon his land in Kankakee County and began the development of a farm. As the years passed, acre after acre was placed under the plow, until now almost the entire amount is under a high state of cultivation. The owner is regarded as one of the most enterprising and successful farmers of the county. Prosperity

has attended his efforts, and as his financial resources have increased he has extended the boundaries of his farm from time to time until it now comprises six hundred and forty acres. It is well improved with substantial buildings, in fact none of the accessories of a model farm are lacking. The homestead has a comfortable and pleasant residence, and a large barn, good outbuildings and wind pumps. Water is carried through underground pipes, to keep it from freezing, into his barns and feed lots, so that his stock is always supplied. Mr. Avery is a man of good business ability, and his success is the result of his industry, well-directed efforts and enterprise.

In 1856, Mr. Avery proudly cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont, and he still votes with the Republican party. He is a warm supporter of Republican principles, yet has never sought or desired official distinction for himself, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with signal success. Mr. Avery and his wife are both members of the Herscher Presbyterian Church. In social circles this worthy couple rank high and their household is the abode of hospitality. Mr. Avery has for thirty-two long years resided in this county and has therefore witnessed much of its growth and upbuilding. He has also aided in its development and has ever borne his share in the advancement of its best interests. That his career has been an honorable one is indicated by the high regard in which he is held throughout the community.



JOHN DEERSON, a furniture dealer, is one of the substantial and respected citizens of Momence, which has been his home for many years. His birth occurred in Henstedt, Norther Ditmarschen, Holstein, Germany, a place about fifty miles from Hamburg, the date of that event being March 31, 1830. His paternal grandfather, Hans Deerson, was a cooper by trade, which occupation he followed throughout life.

His death occurred when eighty years of age. The maternal grandfather, Hinrich Moller, was a farmer and at the time of his death was seventy-five years of age. Thus it will be seen that our subject is from a long-lived family.

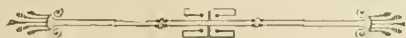
John is a son of Peter N. and Helen D. (Moller) Deerson, both natives of the same town and State as our subject. The father was a cooper by trade and while a resident of the Fatherland followed that occupation for a livelihood. When about forty-eight years of age he bade adieu to his native land and, crossing the broad Atlantic, landed in America in 1852. A year later he settled upon a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Yellowhead Township, Kankakee County, which he made his home until death called him hence in 1871. He was a thrifty farmer and in good circumstances. His wife survived him for eight years, dying in 1879, at which time she was seventy-four years of age. In their family were seven children, four sons and three daughters, five of whom survive: John, Margaret E., Peter N. Christian and Helen, all of whom are now citizens of America, are married and have families.

Until twenty-one years of age the life of our subject was passed in the land of his birth, where he received a good education. In 1850, when Schleswig-Holstein tried to free herself from Denmark, he took up arms in the defense of his country and served for nine months, or until the close of the war, in the German army. In June, 1851, he crossed the briny deep and lived for one year in New York City, but when his parents came to this country, accompanied them to Joliet, Ill. In 1854, Mr. Deerson located in Momence, where he engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, which he has followed continuously since. From 1860 to 1873, he also manufactured furniture, hauling his product to Kankakee, the nearest railroad station. At that time this place was a village of probably not more than three hundred inhabitants.

On the 6th of February, 1854, Mr. Deerson and Miss Lena Koch were united in marriage. Mrs. Deerson is a daughter of Ludwig and Anna (Frahm) Koch, of Joliet, Ill., who were both natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Deerson became

the parents of seven children. Helena grew to womanhood and became the wife of A. A. Axline, a lawyer of Chicago; she departed this life at the age of twenty-eight years, leaving one son, John. Mary Ann died when two and a-half years of age, on the 27th of October, 1857. Henrietta married George Culver, then of Canandaigua, N. Y., but now a merchant of Britton, S. Dak., and to them have been born two daughters, Cora and Margareta. Mary Augusta married A. A. Axline, who was formerly the husband of her eldest sister; they reside at Rogers Park, but Mr. Axline practices law in Chicago; they have a son, Harry. Charles Ulysses died at the age of five years. Clara Mabel lives at home with her parents. One child died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Deerson held membership with the German Evangelical Lutheran Church, to which they belonged in early life, but now the wife and her children are identified with the Episcopal Church. Our subject contributes to the support of all the churches in the community, being of a liberal turn of mind and public spirited. He is a Republican in politics and has voted that ticket since the organization of the party. He is of a modest and retiring disposition, not given to boasting of his achievements, but he is known throughout this section as one who has materially aided in its advancement and development.



MICHAEL BUTZ, a prominent farmer, a highly respected citizen, and one of the early settlers of Kankakee County, resides on section 36, Kankakee Township. He is also one of the extensive land-owners, having six hundred and forty acres of rich and valuable farming land. As he is widely and favorably known, we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers and gladly insert it in this volume.

Mr. Butz is a native of Baden, Germany. He was born on the 13th of April, 1837, and his parents, Michael and Elizabeth (Hieh) Butz, were

also natives of the same country. The father was born in Baden in 1801, and his four children, two sons and two daughters, opened their eyes to the light of day in the same house in which his birth occurred. He was a well-educated man and very prominent, and for twenty years he served as Mayor of his town. A farmer by occupation, he followed that business in pursuit of fortune through much of his life and owned some valuable land in Germany. In 1818, he was one of the leaders in the South German Revolution and on account of the part he took in that uprising his property was confiscated. For about eight years his case was held in court, but finally, through the influence of some men of prominence, he was acquitted. Immediately afterwards he left his native land and sailed for America. He was then fifty-five years of age. He at once came to Kankakee County, Ill., where his son Michael had located five years previous. His wife, a lady of culture and refinement, was born in Kork, Germany, in 1808, and acquired a good education.

The subject of this sketch received his education in the public schools of his native land and remained with his parents in Germany until about fifteen years of age, when, in 1852, he crossed the broad Atlantic to America for the purpose of looking up a location for the family. He visited many places but found none that he liked better than Kankakee County, and having decided to here make a permanent location, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land for the family—an improved farm—for which they paid \$36 per acre. At that time there was much land in the county that could be bought for from \$5 to \$10 per acre, but he determined to get the best.

On the 9th of December, 1861, Mr. Butz married Miss Philipena Ader, who was born in Germany on the 3d of June, 1811. She was the eighth in a family of ten children. The first sixteen years of her life were spent in the land of her birth and then she accompanied her parents to the United States, a location being made in Kankakee County. Her father died in this county November 18, 1886, at the age of eighty-three years. The mother had passed away only a short time previous, being called to her final rest on the 26th of July, 1886, at the

age of four-score years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Butz have been born five children, two sons and three daughters: Emma, at home; Michael W., a prosperous farmer, who is married and resides in this county; Minnie E., now the wife of M. L. Potter, a commission merchant of Chicago; Lina, who was born May 27, 1866, and died September 25, 1869; and George P., who was born October 17, 1871, and completes the family. The children have been provided with excellent educational advantages and are thus fitted for any position in life which they may be called upon to fill. In addition to the common-school course, they received other advantages and all are graduates of colleges.

During the late war, Mr. Butz manifested his loyalty to his adopted country by enlisting in the Twentieth Illinois Infantry for three months, and at the expiration of his term he was honorably discharged and returned to his home. In political sentiment he is a Democrat, and for nine years has faithfully served as Highway Commissioner. Himself and family are members of the German Lutheran Church. The Butz household is the abode of hospitality and its members rank high in social circles where true worth and intelligence are received as the passports into good society. Mr. Butz is one of the leading and most progressive farmers of the county and his extensive possessions have come to him through his own industry, enterprise, perseverance and well-directed efforts.



DENNIS O'NEIL, who is engaged in general farming on section 3, Pilot Township, has for twenty-seven years been numbered among the citizens of Kankakee County. He is a native of the Emerald Isle, his birth occurring in County Kerry, Ireland, on the 10th of March, 1844. His parents, George and Honora (Leahy) O'Neil, were both natives of the same country. In 1855 they bade good-bye to their old home, and with their family crossed the broad At-

lantic to America. Landing in New York, they spent one year in the Empire State, and then came West to Illinois, locating in Dixon. Mr. O'Neil engaged in merchandising at that place for a number of years, and then removed to Chicago, where he spent a few years. Later he became a resident of Bloomington, Ill. From McLean County they went to La Salle County, and remained there one and a-half years, and thence to Beloit, Wis., remaining there about one year, and later to Freeport, Ill., but the last years of his life were passed in Kankakee County, where he died on the 10th of May, 1889, when about eighty years of age.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, Dennis O'Neil, who is known throughout the community as one of its leading farmers. He grew to manhood in Freeport, Ill., receiving good school privileges, and when a young man he came with his father to this county, locating in Pilot Township, about one mile east of Pilot Grove. There he opened up a farm and engaged in its cultivation for a number of years, when he sold out and bought the land on which he now resides. He now owns and operates one hundred and twenty acres of arable land, and the well-tilled fields and neat appearance of the place indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner. His farm is improved with a neat and substantial residence, good outbuildings and all the accessories of a model farm of the nineteenth century.

In the city of Kankakee, on the 20th of November, 1865, Mr. O'Neil wedded Miss Mary J. Murphy, who was born and reared in the county which is still her home. She is a daughter of Dennis Murphy, one of the honored pioneers of this county, now deceased. The union of Mr. and Mrs. O'Neil has been blessed with a family of eight children, the eldest of whom, Honora, is a successful teacher of this community. The other members of the family are Margaret, Mary, Ella, John E., William, Eliza, Catherine W. and Lucy.

The parents and their children are all members of the Catholic Church. In his political views, Mr. O'Neil is a Democrat. He cast his Presidential vote for Gen. Hancock, and since that time has been connected with the Democracy, supporting all of its Presidential nominees. He has never

been an aspirant for public office, but keeps himself well informed on the issues of the day. He takes a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, does all in his power for the advancement of the educational interests, and ever uses his influence toward securing good schools and good teachers. Mr. O'Neil has spent nearly his entire life in Illinois, and for twenty-seven long years has been a resident of Kankakee County. Therefore he has witnessed much of its growth and development, and in every possible way he has aided in its upbuilding.



HIRAM M. COOK is proprietor of the Cook Elevator and dealer in grain, coal and tile in Buckingham, Ill. It is said that Mr. Cook has done more to improve and build up this place than any other man, and he is considered one of its most valued citizens. He was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., on the 26th of December, 1823, and is a son of M. V. D. Cook, who was of German parentage and was also born in the Empire State. On arriving at his majority he married, near Pittstown, Elizabeth Avery, also a native of New York. Mr. Cook was a miller by trade, and followed that vocation for several years, after which he settled upon a farm in Otsego County, whence, after farming for several years, he removed to Jefferson County. He settled in the midst of the wilderness and was among the pioneers of the county. He reared his family and spent his remaining days there, dying about 1844. His wife died several years later and lies buried by her husband in Theresa Cemetery.

Of their family of ten children, the eldest, Richard, was born in 1800; he removed to Illinois in an early day and died near Aurora. Rensselaer died in early life. Alanson is a farmer of Jefferson County, N. Y. Milton embarked on a propellor bound for Chicago, and on the voyage contracted the dread disease, cholera, from which he died and was buried in the Lakes. Nelson is a manufacturer of lumber and a miller at Redwood, Jefferson County.

Eliza is the widow of Ludowie Salisbury, and is a resident of Theresa, N. Y. Sallie died unmarried. Polly and Margaret grew to womanhood, were married, but are now deceased. Hiram M. is the youngest of the family.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in the county of his birth, where during the winter months he acquired his education in the district schools. He remained with his father until the death of the latter, after which, with his brother Nelson, he carried on the farm for a number of years. Then selling the homestead to his brother, he came West to Illinois and first made a settlement near Lisbon, Kendall County. He bought unimproved land and was one of the early settlers of that county, in which he resided for some twenty years. Mr. Cook then sold his farm and removed to Ford County, where he purchased a farm, which he operated for about twenty years. While there he also engaged in merchandising, carrying on business for several years. Afterward he removed to Buckingham, where for some time he engaged in business, but afterward sold out and became the owner of an elevator. About 1877 he began dealing in grain, coal and tile.

On October 6, 1850, Mr. Cook and Lueretia Redfield were married in Jefferson County, N. Y. The lady is a daughter of Nathaniel and Sallie (Webster) Redfield, and was born in De Kalb, Lawrence County, N. Y., May 23, 1829. Mrs. Cook's father was one of the pioneer farmers, and erected his little log cabin in the midst of the forest, where wild animals were plentiful. Both of her parents are dead and are buried in Lisbon, Ill. Her father was born in New York in 1800, and he died October 10, 1875, and her mother was born in Vermont, November 17, 1806, and died February 21, 1892. Both were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Two children grace the union of our subject and his wife: Joseph N., who is married and is in business with his father; and Ada Ella, wife of George B. McNamee, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work, and who is a business man of Buckingham.

Formerly, Mr. Cook was a Jackson Democrat, but united with the Republican party on its organization. He has shown indomitable will and

energy in his business life, having overcome all obstacles in his pathway with courage and pluck. He started in life without any means, and had the great misfortune to lose his right arm by accident in a threshing-machine after removing to Illinois. He is the owner of four hundred acres of valuable farm land in Ford County, and desirable residence property in Watseka, Ill., and likewise in Buckingham. While in Ford County he was appointed Postmaster, in which capacity he acted for about ten years, also serving as Justice of the Peace for two or more terms. He is now School Treasurer of Norton Township. In whatever official position he has been placed, he has shown himself a capable and efficient officer. He has been a resident of Illinois for nearly a half-century, and is well known in Ford, Kankakee and adjoining counties. He is one whose word is considered as good as his bond, and in all public affairs he has taken an active interest.



WESLEY BONFIELD. Among the representative men of Kankakee who date their residence in this city from the days of its early history, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch, and who has made Kankakee his home since 1855. He is a native of Ohio, where his birth occurred in 1828. His father, Dr. Thomas S. Bonfield, was born in Baltimore, Md., and removed from the State of his birth to Ohio at an early period in his professional life. He settled in Stark County, where he engaged in the practice of medicine for many years, and where he resided until his death. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Sarah Troup. She was a native of the Keystone State, and died when her son Wesley was an infant. He and his brother, Thomas P., of Kankakee, were the only children by the first marriage of Dr. Bonfield, who was twice married. Mrs. Eliza Snyder, of San Jose, Cal., is the only child by the second union.

Wesley Bonfield grew to manhood in his native county, and received good educational advantages.

In 1850 he went to Chicago, at which time that now famous city was but an uninviting hamlet, and gave no promise of the importance which it was destined to attain. Mr. Bonfield remained there for about two years, and for the same length of time was employed by the Illinois Central Railroad in the southern portion of the State.

Afterwards he came to Kankakee, and until 1858 was employed as Deputy Circuit Clerk. In the year just mentioned he engaged in the drug business, at what was then Middleport, but now bears the name of Watseka. In 1862, returning to this city, he opened a drug store, which he operated for twenty-six years, when he disposed of it. In 1873, Mr. Bonfield, in company with L. B. Cobb, Franklin Crawford and others, erected a factory for the manufacture of strawboard. This business became a very important one, and was continued until a few years since, when it was sold to what was then the Union Strawboard Company, now known as the American Strawboard Company, but one year later this property was leased by Mr. Bonfield and L. B. Cobb, who engaged in the manufacture of wrapping paper, which business they closed in February, 1893. Mr. Bonfield at one time organized a company for the manufacture of buttons in Kankakee. The enterprise prospered, but the factory being destroyed by fire, was not rebuilt. Since 1880 our subject has been interested in mining in Colorado, and a liberal degree of success has attended his investments in that direction.

Politically, Mr. Bonfield has been allied with the Republican party since its organization. He has served on the School Board some five or six years. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic order, belonging to Kankakee Lodge No. 389, and Kankakee Chapter No. 78.

In 1856 Mr. Bonfield was united in marriage to Miss Emma Dixon, a native of Illinois, by whom he had three children, of whom two are living, namely, Emma, wife of John Dixon, of Kankakee, and Eliza, who is at home. After the death of his wife Mr. Bonfield married Miss Susan A., daughter of L. B. Cobb, a prominent citizen of Kankakee, the marriage occurring at Kankakee in 1868. By this union six children have been born, two

sons and four daughters: Belle; Ellen, wife of Jacob Cline, of Chicago; Emmons, who graduated from the Kankakee High School in 1891; Edith; Haswell T. and Lucia.

All enterprises that have had for their object the best interests of the city and community have ever received the cordial and substantial support of Mr. Bonfield. For many years he has been closely identified with the prosperity and growth of Kankakee. He and his wife have long held membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which they give their hearty support.



CHARLES E. BOYER is one of the substantial farmers and stock-raisers, and a resident of Kankakee County, his home being on section 5, Norton Township. His birth occurred in the city of Philadelphia, Pa., on the 25th of January, 1829. His parents were Peter and Hannah (Bothe) Boyer, both natives of Germany. The father was born in 1800, and when twenty-eight years of age emigrated with his young wife to Pennsylvania. He worked for a number of years at his trade, that of a stone mason, and later moved to Montgomery County, where he engaged in agriculture, also working at his trade. His death occurred in 1884, his wife having died a few years previously.

Charles E. is the eldest of a family comprising six sons and three daughters who grew to maturity. The family circle is still unbroken, and they are all married and have homes of their own. William carries on a farm in Montgomery County; Kate became the wife of Albert Manuel, who is now deceased; John B. is a farmer in Boone County, Ind.; Peter is a mechanic employed in the machine shops of Wilmington, Del.; Mary is the wife of Samuel Fretz, of Clayton, Del.; Elizabeth resides in Canton, N. J., and is the wife of David Crawford; Jacob lives in Lansdale, Pa., and is a dentist by profession; George is a printer of Canton, N. J.

The boyhood and youth of Charles E. Boyer

were passed in Montgomery and Bucks Counties. He left home when sixteen years of age, and entered the employ of a neighboring farmer. Of his limited means he gave to help support and educate the younger children. His own school privileges were very limited, and comprised but three months of the year. However, he was very studious, and by perseverance acquired a good education. He was given a certificate to teach, and taught school for one winter in Montgomery County. He deserves great credit for the zeal and patience which he manifested in obtaining an education, for the obstacles and difficulties in his way required great courage to overcome. For several years he engaged in farming, and contributed to his brothers' and sisters' support.

In the year 1853, Mr. Boyer was united in marriage with Miss Anna Seipt, who was born in Pennsylvania. Unto them have been born eight children, four sons and four daughters. George is a merchant and Postmaster of Reddick; Samuel is a farmer of Kansas; Susanna is the wife of Louis Weis, of this county; Irwin is an agriculturist of Kankakee County; Mary Ann, wife of Charles Reike, now resides in Iowa; Ida is the wife of Ed Unz, a farmer of Norton Township; Frank S. assists in carrying on the home farm; L. Irene also resides at home.

Until 1866, Mr. Boyer carried on his farm in Montgomery County, but in that year he removed West to Illinois. Two years previous he had purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved prairie land. On this property he located, and here he still resides. The care and cultivation which he bestowed upon it brought to him abundant returns, and by wise management he was soon on the road to prosperity. He has added to his original purchase, and now has in his home place two hundred and fourteen acres which are well improved, tiled, and otherwise in good condition, and on the place are a neat and substantial residence, large barns and other necessary farm buildings. He is truly a self-made man, and the prosperity which he now enjoys is well deserved. He bravely overcame the many obstacles in his pathway in his early life, and has carried the same brave determination up to the present time.

Mr. Boyer voted for Hon. John C. Fremont in 1856, and has supported every nominee of the Republican party for President since. Though never wishing official recognition, he has served as Road Commissioner. He has ever given his hearty support to public schools, and for nearly a quarter of a century has been a member of the School Board. Mr. and Mrs. Boyer are members of the Evangelical Church. The many friends whom he has made in this vicinity will be pleased to read this brief tribute to his worth.



ALPHONSO MELLEEN, a retired farmer, now resides in Kankakee. This volume, which gives the records of many of the most prominent pioneers, would be surely incomplete without a sketch of Mr. Mellen, who dates his residence in this county from 1838. He has been prominently identified with the growth and development of this section, and has been a strong factor in its prosperity.

Mr. Mellen was born in Bennington County, Vt., on the 26th of September, 1821, and is a son of Nathaniel and Achsah (Wheeler) Mellen. The Mellen family are of English descent, and were among the pioneers of New England. The paternal grandfather of our subject, who bore the same name as his father, was a native of Connecticut, while the father was born in Bennington County, Vt., where he grew to manhood. In that State for several years after his marriage he carried on agricultural pursuits, and in the year 1838 emigrated Westward. He settled in what is now Kankakee County, at a place about three miles from Waldron. He was one of the first settlers to locate there. At that time the nearest mill was in Wilmington, and all marketing was done in Chicago. Mr. Mellen opened up a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land, which did not come into market until the following year, 1839. At the time of his death, which occurred on the 27th of March, 1866, his property

comprised two hundred and thirty acres. He was a man of considerable influence in the community, and at various times, both in Vermont and Illinois, occupied local official positions. His wife survived him several years, and departed this life on the 27th of October, 1875. Both parents were buried in Beebetown Cemetery, and their last resting-place is marked by a suitable monument.

Alphonso Mellen is the only son and is fourth in order of birth in a family of seven children, who grew to mature years. When but seventeen years of age, he came with his parents to Illinois, and since that time has passed his entire life in this county. He received common-school advantages in his native State, and afterward attended a school at Hadley, Ill. As he was the only son, he remained at home, assisting his father in carrying on the homestead, for several years after he had passed his majority. After his marriage, Mr. Mellen located on a farm, which was a portion of his father's homestead. In the spring of 1853 he purchased a farm in Otto Township, located on the Iroquois River. Of this tract but twenty acres were broken, and as there was no suitable residence, he erected a good farm house and other buildings. For many years he carried on and cultivated his farm of one hundred and sixty-five acres in that township, and in 1890 he rented the place and became a resident of Kankakee. In this city he owns a nice residence property, and has retired largely from the active duties and anxieties incident to the life of a farmer.

Mr. Mellen was first married in Joliet, Will County, on the 9th of December, 1844, to Miss Sarah Ann Sirpless, who was born in Ohio. To them were born two children, Clarence D. and Henry J., who are both farmers of Wilson County, Kan. Mrs. Mellen died on the 27th of July 1853. In Will County, on the 13th of September, 1854, Mr. Mellen and Gertrude Brinkerhoff were united in marriage. The lady is a native of the Empire State, born in Albany County, and when a child of nine years came West with her parents. Her father, Martin N. Brinkerhoff, was one of the honored early settlers of Will County, Ill. By his last union Mr. Mellen has two daughters living: Lizzie A., wife of Charles Havens, of Holt

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Jacob Myers



EMILY . A. MYERS

County, Neb.; and Gertie E., who is engaged in business at Mineral Springs, Ind. A son, Walter A., grew to mature years, was an invalid during his entire life, and passed away on the 8th of January, 1889, at the age of thirty-one years.

Mr. Mellen cast his first ballot for Henry Clay, and was formerly an old-line Whig. He became identified with the Republican party on its organization, but recently has become allied with the Prohibition party. For about six years he served as Supervisor of Otto Township, and was also Road Commissioner. The cause of education finds in him a faithful friend, and for a quarter of a century he was a member of the School Board. Both our subject and his wife hold membership with the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church of Kankakee, and the latter is actively engaged in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union work. In civic societies, Mr. Mellen has ever been interested and is a Master Mason, having served as Master and representative of Grant Lodge, to which he belongs. For fifty-four years Mr. Mellen has made Kankakee County his home and the center of all his interests, and by his unassuming worth has won the confidence of his many friends and acquaintances.



JACOB MYERS, a retired farmer and coal merchant, has lived in Kankakee for thirty-five years. He was born in Frederick County, Md., a mile and a-half from Frederick City, on the 10th of April, 1817. His maternal grandfather, John Kenaga, reared quite a large family and was seventy-two years of age at the time of his death, which occurred in Pennsylvania. He followed agricultural pursuits throughout life. Our subject is the son of Rudolph and Anna (Kenaga) Myers, both of whom were natives of Berks County, Pa., and of German descent. The father was twice married, the first time in May, 1800, to Anna Kenaga, by whom he had six children, Elizabeth, John, Mary, David, Jacob and Susan Ann, of whom only the two younger ones

are now living. Susan is the widow of Jacob Metz and is now living in Wooster, Ohio. The mother of this family died in 1827, when our subject was ten years of age. The father was again married the same year, his second wife being Miranda Montgomery, by whom he had three children: William Henry, who lives in St. Paul; Asbury Hamilton, who resides in Cincinnati; and Edwin James, who died in Wooster, Ohio.

Rudolph Myers commenced farming in Pennsylvania, residing in Berks and Cumberland Counties until about 1815, when he removed to Maryland and there engaged in agricultural pursuits for about twelve years. He then returned to Pennsylvania, living there until 1833, when he finally removed to Ohio, settling upon a farm in Wayne County, about six miles to the southwest of Wooster. He followed agricultural pursuits during his entire life and died in 1852, being seventy-two years of age at the time of his death.

In 1857, the subject of this sketch came from Champaign County, Ohio, to Kankakee County, Ill. He located in the then small village of Kankakee and until 1892 lived continuously in one house. On the 31st of December, 1816, Mr. Myers was united in marriage with Miss Minerva Drake, daughter of Nathan and Miranda Drake, of Holmes County, Ohio. One child graced their union, a daughter, Rovilla Ann, who was the wife of J. S. Sheiler and died December 18, 1886. Mrs. Myers departed this life on the 18th of September, 1852, and on the 12th of September of the following year, Mr. Myers married Miss Emily A. Funk, a daughter of Joel and Elizabeth (Kenaga) Funk, of Champaign County, Ohio. One child was born to them, a son, Alval Forest, who is now engaged in buying hay and grain in Kankakee in carload lots, and is also Secretary of the Kankakee Building and Loan Association. He married Miss E. May Reed, of Frankfort, Kan.

Mr. Myers during the first two years of his residence here rented a farm and afterward bought a farm of eighty acres one mile east of town. About three years later he purchased three hundred and twenty acres three miles east of Kankakee, which last tract he still owns but has disposed of his former purchase. He is also the possessor, in ad-

dition to his residence property, on which he has a large and pleasant house, of another good residence. When Mr. Myers first located in this city the Illinois Central Railroad had been built but three years. During the war he clerked in the warehouse of S. C. Kenaga and for two years was bookkeeper in the flouring-mill of Dickson, McGrew & Kenaga. For about two years he ran a flour store in the town and after that entered the employ of Smith & Johnson, grain merchants, for whom he was bookkeeper. Mr. Myers then engaged in the coal business for a few years and has been for some time retired from active business life.

Our subject is an active worker in the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church of Kankakee, in which he held the offices of Secretary and Treasurer for twenty years. He was also Trustee and Steward for many years and still holds the former office, and was Secretary of the Sunday-school for thirty years. He is a believer in the principles of the Prohibition party, which he supports. The cause of temperance has ever found in him a warm and able defender and all other reforms calculated to benefit the people may be sure of his hearty endorsement. He has never aspired to official positions, though he has shown ample ability to act in such capacities, could he be induced to accept the same.

On the 21st of November, 1892, Mr. Myers was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who was taken from his side by the hand of death after nearly forty years of married life. She had been a consistent and faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for sixty-five years, and Mr. Myers for sixty-three years.



JOHAN H. SHAFFER, of Kankakee, a well-known dealer in coal and sewer pipes, has been a resident of this city for over a quarter of a century, and has been engaged in his present business since May, 1879. He was born in Berne, Albany County, N. Y., on the 17th of March, 1829, and is a son of Thomas L. and Eva

(Warner) Shaffer. The parents were natives of Albany County, where they spent their entire lives in agricultural pursuits. They were useful and respected members of society, and their deaths occurred in their native county, the father having died at the age of eighty-one years; the mother died in 1882. The Shaffer family emigrated from Berne, Switzerland, in a very early day, and took a lease of the Van Rensselaer Patent. On the Warner side our subject is of German descent.

John H. Shaffer was reared upon his father's farm, and his education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood. Beginning life for himself as a farm hand, he saved sufficient money to set up a home, and was married in his native county on the 2d of April, 1846, to Miss Elizabeth Winne, who was born in Bethlehem, Albany County, N. Y., in 1829, and is a daughter of Francis and Maria (Hogan) Winne. The Winne family is of Dutch extraction, having crossed the ocean in an early day. They have had two children, a son and a daughter. Frank was born in 1847. He enlisted under the flag in 1864, in the Ninth Illinois Cavalry, and after participating in two battles died from exposure at Memphis, on the 1st of August, 1864. Mary is a resident of Kankakee, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church, as are also Mr. and Mrs. Shaffer.

In 1860, Mr. Shaffer emigrated to Illinois and settled in Boone County, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until March, 1867. At that time he removed to Kankakee and engaged in the farm implement and machinery business, which he conducted successfully until 1879. He then sold out and engaged in his present line. In 1884, Mr. Shaffer was appointed Postmaster of Kankakee by President Cleveland, and served acceptably in that position for four years. He has been Mayor of Kankakee for three years, those of 1875, 1876 and 1877. He was the anti-ring candidate, and made a popular and efficient officer. He uses his right of franchise in favor of the Democratic party. Socially, he is a Master Mason, being a member of Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M., in which he was initiated and made a Mason. He is a stockholder in, and a member of, the Board of Directors of the City National Bank of Kankakee.

He is also one of six proprietors of a rich gold mine in Colorado. Mr. Shaffer has now been actively identified with the business interests of Kankakee for twenty-five years. In all the relations of life, both public and private, he has been found upright and honorable and faithful to every trust. He is well informed, affable and courteous in manner, and has formed many warm friendships among the best citizens of Kankakee.



JERMAN HARDEBECK, Trustee and Manager of the North Kankakee Improvement Association, and general dealer in real estate, has been a resident of this city only four years, but during that time has done more to encourage its improvement and development and that of the territory adjacent than many who have spent a lifetime here. He was the organizer and chief mover in the formation of the important association of which he is manager and through whose influence a rapidly developing manufacturing center has sprung into existence just to the north of the old city, and which is incorporated as a separate municipality under the name of North Kankakee. Mr. Hardebeck came to this city from Fowler, Ind., in 1889, and handled large bodies of land. He platted and sold in lots three subdivisions in the city of Kankakee and succeeded in awakening an interest in the real-estate business and public improvement such as the town had never known before. In the spring of 1891, he organized the syndicate known as the North Kankakee Improvement Association, which purchased a tract adjacent to and north of this city. In 1892 he formed a second syndicate, and platted another tract adjoining the first, all known as North Kankakee. Under Mr. Hardebeck's direction, sites were given with cash bonuses to several manufacturing companies which have erected their plants and are in successful operation. The Joseph Turek Furniture Company, the Ideal Folding Bed Company, the Gibbs Chair Factory, the John Lane & Company's

Machine Works, the Seth Hart Planing Mill Company and the Dimme & Dirkes Furniture Company are here located, the last-named said to be the largest and best-equipped furniture factory in the United States. The result of the efforts made by Mr. Hardebeck as Manager of the North Kankakee Improvement Association can therefore be readily seen. A thrifty and prosperous manufacturing community has sprung into existence upon a tract which two years ago consisted of bare fields. The Illinois Central Railroad Company has established a station there, churches and schoolhouses are being built, a postoffice is established and the town is incorporated. This and other enterprises which originated with Mr. Hardebeck have caused a general advance in the price of real estate in and about Kankakee and an awakening of a spirit of enterprise, which is shown in the erection of numerous substantial buildings and fine residences and the enlarging and improving of others.

The birth of our subject occurred in Hamilton County, Ohio, on the 1st of September, 1842. He is a son of Barney and Elizabeth (Holt) Hardebeck. His parents are natives of Hanover, Germany, and emigrated to America in early life. They are both living and make their home with our subject. When a young child Mr. Hardebeck removed from Hamilton County, Ohio, to Decatur County, Ind., where he was reared and educated. At an early age he turned his attention to mercantile and manufacturing pursuits. In 1871 he went to Indianapolis, where he engaged in the real-estate business for about four years, during which time he handled large bodies of land as agent and effected satisfactory sales. From 1878 to 1883 he was engaged in agricultural pursuits near Fowler, Ind., and from that point removed to this county.

On the 11th of September, 1862, Mr. Hardebeck was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Schulte, a daughter of J. B. Schulte. She was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and departed this life on the 11th of June, 1880, at Fowler, Ind. By her marriage she became the mother of eight children, six of whom are now living. William J. married Katie Studer and resides in Kankakee; George H. is married and is a successful farmer of this county; Josephine R. is the wife of Robert L. Cox

of North Kankakee; Ida is the wife of Frank Maier and resides in North Kankakee; Clara died in childhood; Olivia and Doretta are still at home; and Robert H., the youngest of the family, died in childhood.

On the 21st of October, 1884, Mr. Hardebeck was again married, the lady of his choice being Philomena Schroeder, a daughter of Herman Schroeder. She was born in Franklin County, Ind. Three sons have been born of this union, Everette, Frank and Lawrence. The parents are members and regular attendants of the Catholic Church.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Hardebeck is a Democrat, and while a resident of Fowler, Ind., he served for several years as a Trustee of that town. The business operations of our subject are characterized by sound judgment, enterprise and sagacity. His boldness and energy in speculation, supported by cool judgment and indefatigable application to details, have won for him substantial and increasing success and the confidence and respect of all with whom he has been associated. Strict integrity and correct business methods have always marked his course in life and have been important factors in building up and maintaining the reputation which he now enjoys.



JAMES BYRNS, deceased, a worthy pioneer and the second Sheriff of Kankakee County, was born in New York, December 31, 1815, and was a son of James and Margaret (Myers) Byrns. The parents removed to Lake County, Ohio, when he was yet a child and later to Macomb County, Mich., arriving there in 1819. When quite young our subject lost his mother, and when a mere lad went as a cabin-boy on the Lakes. The boat on which he shipped was wrecked in a severe storm, only two beside himself being saved. About 1829 he went to Chicago, then a hamlet and military post known as Ft. Dearborn.

Mr. Byrns became a resident of Illinois in 1835, and two years later located on the south side of

the Kankakee River in what afterward became the town of Aroma. He made a settlement on section 25 and built his pioneer cabin on the eastern side of the prominent elevation subsequently known as Mt. Langhan.

On the 7th of December, 1813, Mr. Byrns was married in Aroma Township to Miss Mary A. Dille, whose parents, Samuel and Mary (Barr) Dille, were among the early pioneers of that township and brought her there when a small child in 1837. Mrs. Byrns was born in Euclid, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. Seven sons and two daughters graced the union of our subject and his estimable wife. Albert J. has been twice married, the first time to Ellen Drayer and later to Emma Drayer; he now resides in Mead County, Kan., where he holds the office of Sheriff. Samuel H. married Lena Wadley and resides in Roselawn, Ind. Charles and Edwin died in infancy. Arthur J. is the present Sheriff of Kankakee County. Thomas died in infancy. Mary E. resides in Kankakee. Susan V., wife of Marion Riggs, resides on a portion of the old homestead, as does her next younger brother, William M., who married Ellen Cahill.

Mr. Byrns began life away from home as an apprentice. He made his own way from the first and by hard work and good management accumulated a large property, having at the time of his death upwards of eight hundred acres of land and valuable city property. He was a successful farmer and grower of live-stock and was prominent in public affairs in the early days of Kankakee County. A Whig in politics, he was the second Sheriff of this county, his brother George having held that position one year previously. Mr. Byrns was Chairman of the first Board of Supervisors held at Momence upon its organization in 1853 and held that office several subsequent terms, including the years 1864, 1869 and 1873. He also served as Justice of the Peace and was Postmaster of the Mt. Langhan office. In all of his official positions he discharged the duties pertaining thereto with ability and fidelity.

Early in his married life Mr. Byrns purchased another farm, situated on the same section where his first claim was located, which was known as th

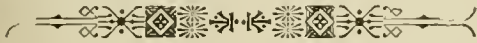
Allen Rakestraw place, where he made his home until his death, which occurred December 21, 1878. He was buried in the little cemetery on Mt. Langhan, within a few rods of his old pioneer home. His estimable wife, the partner of his joys and sorrows, and of his failures and successes for thirty-five years, still survives and resides on the old homestead. Mr. Byrns was a Whig in early life but joined the Republican party at its organization and adhered to it through life. He was the first Chairman of the Kankakee County Board and a member of the building committee which had charge of the erection of the present court house. He was a man of sterling integrity, energetic and practical, and was highly respected in this community. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which denomination his widow also belongs.

ritory, when his land consisted of one hundred and sixty acres in one body. At the time of his settlement in Otto Township, there were but few people within its limits, and most of the land was wild and unimproved. Mr. Hasker was very successful as a farmer, and overcame the difficulties and privations with fortitude well worthy of emulation.

Capt. Hasker was married in England, February 5, 1850, to Miss Amelia Smith, a native of Walton, that country, who was born October 21, 1823, and died in Chicago. The death of the Captain occurred on the 25th of July, 1876. They were both buried in Evergreen Cemetery, of Chebanse, where a suitable monument has been erected to their memory. Their families consisted of four sons: John, who resides in Kankakee; our subject, who is second in order of birth; Edwin, a farmer of Otto Township; and William, the youngest of the family, who lives in Chicago.

When a child of four years, George Hasker came with his parents to Kankakee County, and passed his boyhood days upon his father's farm. He received a fair education in the common schools during the winter season, and was early inured to the labors and cares of farm life. He met with a most unfortunate accident when about twenty years of age, by which he lost all the fingers of his left hand in a corn sheller. He remained with his father on the home farm until the latter's death, and after that, in company with his older brother, John, he took charge of the farm. About two years later, the brother married and left the homestead, and our subject took charge of the place, which he soon afterward purchased from his mother and younger brothers. Since it came into his possession, he has steadily made improvements upon it, and the well-tilled fields, which yield abundant harvests, its good barns, windpump and other modern farm appliances, all indicate that the owner is a man of progressive and practical ideas.

In Otto Township, on the 18th of May, 1882, Mr. Hasker was united in marriage with Miss Jennie L. McIntosh, who was born in this county, February 18, 1862, and is a daughter of S. H. McIntosh, whose sketch appears on another page of this work. One daughter has blessed this union,



GEORGE W. HASKER is numbered among the practical and progressive farmers of Otto Township, where he resides on section 32. He is a native of Illinois, and was born in Cook County, on the 22d of October, 1857, being a son of Capt. John Hasker, whose birth occurred in Wisbeach, England, on the 22d of August, 1819. For twenty-five years the latter was a sailor and made many voyages upon the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans. He came to the United States about 1852, making his headquarters in Chicago, and for about five years he was captain of a vessel on Lake Michigan. Then believing that thirty years spent upon the water was sufficient, he determined to turn his attention to agricultural pursuits, and accordingly settled upon a farm near Orland, Cook County, where he engaged in farming for the succeeding four years. In the year 1861, he came to Kankakee County and bought a forty-acre tract. This was unimproved property, and as soon as he was able, he purchased an adjoining eighty acres, on which he proceeded to raise crops and make various improvements. After a few years he added to his farm adjoining ter-

a bright little girl of five years, whom her parents call Sarah Amelia. Mrs. Hasker is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which her husband, though not a member, is a regular attendant.

Since casting his first vote, Mr. Hasker has supported the Republican party, and is a faithful adherent of its principles. His first ballot was cast for Hon. James A. Garfield, and in every Presidential election since that time he has supported the Republican candidates. In him the cause of education finds a warm friend, and for some time he has served as a member of the School Board. He has never desired political preferment, but has rather avoided it, giving his attention to his business interests. He has spent almost his entire life in the county, and is well known in this section, where he numbers many friends, whom he has made by his upright and honorable course in life.



ALEXIS L. GRANGER is an attorney and counselor at law in Kankakee, and is a representative of one of the pioneer families of this county. He was born in the township of Bourbonnais, his birth having occurred on the 15th of September, 1867. The family is of French descent, the earliest American ancestor having settled in Acadia, from which the people were exiled when the country passed into the hands of the English, which event has been made immortal by Longfellow in his beautiful poem of Evangeline. The ancestors of the Granger family were victims of that cruel exile. The great-grandfather of our subject was born in Massachusetts, and removed from there to Canada.

Alexis Granger is a son of Ambrose Granger, who, when but seven years of age, emigrated with his father, David Granger, from St. John's, Canada, to Kankakee County. Both the father and grandfather of our subject are still living, and are residents of Bourbonnais Township. On arriving at man's estate, Ambrose Granger wedded Marcelline Touchette, a native of Canada, and unto them

was born a family of eight children, seven sons and a daughter. Rev. Ambrose D. is pastor of Notre Dame Church of Chicago, which is located on the North Side of the city; Henry is a resident of this county; Alexis L. is the next in order of birth; Peter, George, William, Mary and Joseph complete the family.

The subject of this sketch received his primary education in the public schools of his native town, and later entered St. Viator's College at Bourbonnais Grove, from which he was graduated in the Class of '87. For the year succeeding, Mr. Granger read law in the office of the Hon. Daniel H. Paddock, of Kankakee, and in 1888 entered the Union College Law School in Chicago, and while there took an examination in the Appellate Court and was admitted to the Bar. Returning to Kankakee, Mr. Granger opened a law office in the summer of 1890. He is quite a young man, and has already given evidence of much natural ability and of liberal culture. He has received a thorough education in both the English and French languages, and large opportunities lie before him. In his political relations he is in favor of the Democracy, and in 1892 was honored by his party in being made the nominee for State Senator.



HON. AZARIAH BUCK is a merchant of Herscher, Ill., too well known to the citizens of Kankakee County to need a special introduction to the readers of this volume. He is a native of the Empire State, born May 17, 1828, in Rochester. His father, George H. Buck, was of German birth and, emigrating to the New World, first located in Pennsylvania. He was married there to Miss Elizabeth Watson, and after a residence of a few years in the Keystone State, removed to Rochester, where he reared his family.

Mr. Buck, whose name heads this sketch, received good school advantages in Rochester and there grew to manhood. He there learned the silversmith's trade, after completing which he followed the business for a number of years as an

employe of Stanton Bros., who had the most extensive trade in the city. For some time he was in charge of their business entirely. In 1850, Mr. Buck came West to Chicago, entering the employ of the American Express Company. At that time the express matter was carried by the old stage coaches from St. Louis to Chicago, and our subject was among the pioneer expressmen of Illinois, continuing as such for five years. While Mr. Buck was in the employ of this company he experienced some terrible weather, especially that of February, 1854. He was the express messenger on the Chicago & Alton Railroad when a terrible blizzard came upon them, and the company was forced to give to the passengers the provisions and supplies in its charge. They were snowbound for three days, and during that time one car was burned up to protect the passengers from the severity of the weather. The first trip out of Chicago he made to St. Louis, going as far as La Salle on the packet, and thence to Peoria, Ill., by steam boat, the next stage of the journey being made by team. He never gave a bond to his company during his time of service, which is a recommend to Mr. Buck for his integrity.

In 1855 our subject came to Kankakee County, where he pre-empted a tract of land in Pilot Township, upon which he settled and opened up a farm. He afterward purchased more land and was extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits for upwards of twenty years. He was one of the successful and enterprising farmers of the county. When he first became a settler of Pilot Township there were about four residences in the township. Deer and wolves were plentiful when they came here, and Mrs. Buck tells that she even drove the wolves from the doorway with the broom, which shows the original wildness of Kankakee County. The first team they owned was a team of cattle. When he and his wife first knew Kankakee City it was a village of scarcely one hundred and fifty inhabitants. The Illinois Central Railroad was the only railroad then in existence in the county. Mr. Buck built the second schoolhouse in Pilot Township. There were no churches nor schoolhouses when he first came to this part of the county. He has driven his cattle to Chicago

markets and his hogs to Kankakee. Many times the homes of the early settlers of Pilot Township were threatened by the terrible prairie fires, and the neighbors would collect to fight the demon, fire.

In 1872, Mr. Buck entered into partnership with his brother, J. H., and engaged in general merchandising at Pilot Centre. They also ran a blacksmith, wagon and general repair shop, and dealt exclusively in grain, live-stock, coal, and farm implements. On the completion of the Illinois Central Railroad through the township the brothers moved their store from Pilot Centre, stock and all to Herscher. While still in transit they carried on the buying and selling of goods just the same as usual. They located on the lot where they have since carried on their business. Buck Bros. had the first store and were the pioneer merchants of the town. Their stock is large and well selected and they are doing a successful business.

In Rochester, N. Y., Mr. Buck was married to Miss Catherine E. Corris, who is a native of the Isle of Man, and was born in September, 1828. Mrs. Buck is an active and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is a lady highly esteemed for her many pleasant and noble qualities.

Formerly an old-line Whig, Mr. Buck has been an active Republican since the organization of the party. In local politics he has also been active and has held numerous positions of trust and honor. He was sent as a delegate to the National Republican Convention at Cincinnati which nominated Rutherford B. Hayes, and has also been sent to various State and county conventions. He was elected the first Collector of Pilot Township, and was also the first Highway Commissioner. For twenty-four years he was Township Treasurer and served as Supervisor of Pilot Township for twenty-two years. Mr. Buck was elected to the Lower House of the Thirty-first General Assembly and during that time served on some of the most important committees, among which we mention Committee of Banks and Banking, State Buildings and Grounds, and Roads and Bridges. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, holding membership with the Kankakee Lodge. He is well

known throughout Illinois as a man of superior business capacity and exceptional ability. By his many good qualities and thorough integrity he has made many friends who give to him their complete confidence and respect.



JAMES NICHOLS was for many years a successful farmer on section 11, Ganier Township, in this county. He was born in Columbus, Ohio, on the 4th of February, 1812, and was of English and German extraction. He was the eldest child of William and Mary (Gundy) Nichols, whose family consisted of seven sons and five daughters. Our subject was self-educated almost entirely, as his educational advantages were of the most limited description. When twenty-one years of age, Mr. Nichols married Miss Melinda, daughter of Ashford and Mary Prather, the ceremony being performed in 1833, at which time he was just twenty-one years of age.

Soon after his marriage, Mr. Nichols went to Vermilion County, Ill., where he purchased Government land, which was unimproved prairie and timber. He built a log cabin at first and lived there until 1846. His journey to Vermilion County was by ox-team in 1845. After living in that county but a short time, Mr. Nichols came to Will (now Kankakee) County, where he purchased two hundred acres of Government land located in Ganier Township, on section 11. To build a house, he hauled all his lumber from Chicago by team over the primitive roads of that early day, and in this dwelling he resided until his death in the year 1857.

Eight children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Nichols. The eldest of the family, Mary A., died in 1838; William G. is a successful salesman, traveling for the drug house of Robert Stevenson, of Chicago; Angeline, who for fifteen years was a successful teacher of Kankakee County, is now living on the old homestead; Emeline is the wife of Charles Prather, an agriculturist living in Ganier Township; James S. is also a farmer of the same

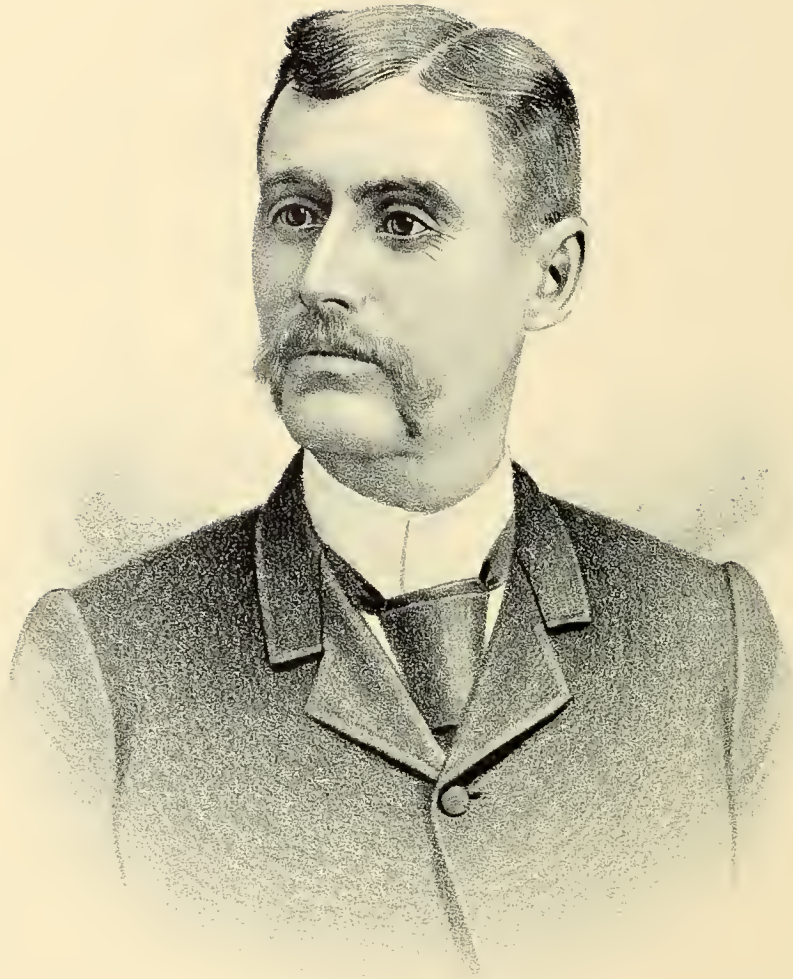
township; Joseph lives upon and operates the old home farm; and Martha A. is the wife of Melvin R. Lively, who is an attorney-at-law in Webb City, Mo.

Our subject always took an earnest interest in politics and in local affairs. He was a staunch Republican throughout life and held many township offices, discharging the duties of the same with fidelity. Mr. Nichols was a member of the Odd Fellows' society and was a truly self-made man, as he began life a poor boy without a dollar in the world, and even at the time of his marriage was absolutely without means. He departed this life on the 6th of January, 1857, and his remains lie interred in the Momence Cemetery. In disposition he was genial and pleasant, and won many friends by these characteristics. He was one of the early pioneers who paved the way for the success and prosperity which have crowned this portion of the State, and whom we can never repay in full measure for the hardships they have endured, but we can hold them sacred in memory and imitate their noble deeds.



LEMUEL BUCK, a well-known farmer, residing on section 13, Sumner Township, is a native of the Green Mountain State, his birth having occurred in Bennington County on the 1st of October, 1832. He was early innured to the duties and cares of farm life and received fair educational advantages, as good as could be obtained in those early days. When nineteen years of age he left the old homestead and worked for two years in a meat-market, learning the butcher's trade. This occupation he followed for two years, and in 1853 came to Illinois. In company with a brother, E. H. Buck, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Sumner Township, Kankakee County. On this property our subject is still living, it having been his home for over forty years. At the time of his purchase, with the exception of a few acres which were

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W. S. Patter



Nettie S. Potter

broken, no improvements had been made upon the farm. During the first years he was obliged to carry his produce and grain to Chicago by means of teams. He helped to build the first plank bridge on the road which runs between his farm and Momence.

June 30, 1867, Mr. Buck wedded Mrs. Mary E. Jewett, *nee* McKinstry, a sketch of whose family appears elsewhere in this volume. A daughter, Bertha, is their only child and makes her home with her parents. Mrs. Buck was previously married to Charles Jewett, who died in Vermont. By this marriage three children were born: Julius; Eva, who became the wife of Charlie Beers, a general merchant of Kansas; and Alice, whose death occurred in 1890.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Buck is a strong Republican. He has held the offices of Constable and Township Collector, and in him the cause of education finds an able advocate, he having for twelve years served as School Director. Both Mr. and Mrs. Buck are members of the Methodist Church, and the former holds membership with the Odd Fellows' society. At the present time he owns and carries on a fine farm of one hundred acres, which shows on every hand the care and attention bestowed upon it by its owner.



WILLIAM S. POTTER, one of the thrifty and well-to-do farmers of Norton Township, owns a farm on section 27. He has resided in this county for a quarter of a century and is a native of Illinois. He was born in La Salle County April 7, 1857, and is a son of Isaac Potter, a native of the Empire State. The latter came West to Illinois when a young man, landing in Chicago about 1835. That wonderful city was then but a swamp and gave little promise of its later prosperity and wealth. Mr. Potter made a settlement in La Salle County, near Sandwich, and is numbered among the honored first settlers of that region. The Indians were still in the county but were peaceably disposed and made little trouble.

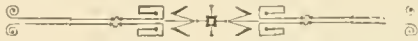
In that county he married Elizabeth Brook, who was born and reared in Ohio, and whose father, Thomas Brook, was one of the first settlers of De Kalb County. With his family, the latter spent several weeks in the fort during the Indian troubles. After his marriage, Mr. Potter pre-empted land and opened up a farm in La Salle County. He hauled his grain with ox-teams to Chicago, as that was the nearest market. His death occurred in 1863. His wife is still living and resides with a son near Aurora, Ill.

William S. Potter is one of a family comprising six sons and two daughters who are living, as follows: Mrs. J. H. Bateman, of De Kalb County; Nelson, who carries on farming in Nebraska; John, a carpenter by trade, and a resident of Missouri; Mariette, who is the widow of J. H. Druitt, and resides in Downer's Grove, Du Page County; George, who resides in Indiana; Thomas, also a resident of Downer's Grove; William S., who is next in order of birth; and Oscar, who makes his home in Downer's Grove.

When nine years of age our subject came to Kankakee County with his mother and here was reared to manhood. He had common-school privileges and remained with her until attaining his majority. In Springfield, Mass., he was united in marriage with Miss Nettie Shumway, on the 26th of January, 1880. The lady, who was born January 15, 1857, is a native of the Bay State, was reared in Belchertown, and was a successful teacher of Kankakee County before her marriage. Her mother was in her maidenhood Miss Pratt, a cousin of the Hon. D. D. Pratt, of Indiana, and a granddaughter of Capt. Pratt, who attained that rank in the War of the Revolution. Mr. and Mrs. Potter have two children, a son and daughter, Harry Shumway and Capitola Stella.

About two years after his marriage, Mr. Potter farmed the home place, when he bought out the heirs. After residing there for several years he sold the property and purchased the farm where he now resides. He owns one hundred and thirty acres adjoining the town of Buckingham and has it all under a high state of cultivation. Owing to its fertility and location this is a most valuable and desirable piece of property. In ad-

dition to his farming interests, Mr. Potter has dealt extensively in grain for the past three years and is progressive and enterprising in his business methods. He is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, casting his first Presidential ballot for Hon. James A. Garfield, since which time he has supported every nominee and the principles of the organization. For several years our subject has been a member of the School Board and is a loyal friend to our school system. Socially he is a member of the Modern Woodmen, and is the Venerable Counsel of Buckingham Lodge No. 1512. Mrs. Potter is a member of the North Congregational Church, of Springfield, Mass., whose pastor was formerly Dr. Gladden. Mr. Potter has spent his whole life in Illinois and a quarter of a century in this county, where he enjoys the well-merited regard and confidence of all.



HARRY B. STATES owns and operates a farm on section 33, Norton Township. We wish to add to the roster of the old settlers of Kankakee County the name of one of the honored pioneers, who has been a resident of this section for twenty-seven years. He is a native of the Keystone State, born in Huntingdon County on the 27th of October, 1832. He is a son of Thomas L., and a brother of William V., whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in his native county, where he received a good education in the common and high schools. Upon completing his studies, for some time he engaged in teaching, after which he learned the printer's trade. This line of occupation not being in accordance with his taste, he gave up the business and went to work upon the Pennsylvania Canal. For six years he worked at repair and construction for the company, and then leaving them, went into the employ of a railroad company. For a year he was local freight agent for the Broad Top Railroad. Resigning that position, Mr. States came West to Illinois, joining his father and brother in Kan-

kakee County. Though he had had no experience as a farmer, he concluded to turn his attention to agricultural pursuits, and accordingly settled on a farm, the one which is still his home. He has a well-improved place of sixty-six acres, about two miles from Buckingham, and as a farmer he has succeeded reasonably well.

The 8th of January, 1857, witnessed the marriage of Mr. States in Huntingdon, Pa., with Miss Mary M. Glazier, who was born in that county, in the town of the same name. She is a daughter of George W. Glazier, also a native of the Keystone State, but who is now deceased. By this union three children were born, one of whom, a son, died in infancy, and one, Charles L., died in this county when twelve years of age. A daughter, Ella Ludlow, is the wife of Asa F. Beardsley, a grain-dealer in Buckingham.

For a number of years Mr. States has given his support and influence to the Prohibition party, being a firm believer in and advocate of temperance and legislation in its behalf. He and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Buckingham, and they are held in the highest regard by their wide circle of friends and acquaintances, both in this and adjoining townships. A loyal citizen, he is not an aspirant for official honors, preferring to give his whole energy and time to his home and business.



WILLIAM J. UNZ is a member of the firm of M. F. Riley & Unz, general merchants of Reddick, Ill. He is a native of this county, and the date of his birth is September 2, 1862. His father, Wilhelm Unz, was born in Germany and emigrated to the New World when a child of eight years with his parents, who first located in Pennsylvania and later removed to Kentucky. He grew to man's estate and wedded there Mary Feller, who was also a native of the Fatherland. For a few years Mr. Unz resided in Kentucky and came to Illinois in 1856. He located in Kankakee County, being one of its hon-

ored early pioneers. He purchased two hundred acres of land, which he proceeded to develop, and was quite a successful agriculturist. He afterward added to his original purchase until at his death his farm comprised four hundred and forty acres of valuable property. At the time of his settlement, and for many years afterward, his nearest neighbor was four miles distant. After a life of industry and unremitting toil he was called from the scene of his labors by death in the summer of 1891. In local politics, he took quite an active part, but neither desired nor accepted office. His wife survives him and resides on the old homestead.

William J. is the sixth in order of birth in a family of thirteen children, but four sons and five daughters of whom grew to mature years. The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in this county, where he received a common-school education. He assisted his father in carrying on the homestead farm until he was twenty years of age, at which time he decided to leave the pursuit of agriculture, which was distasteful to him, and devote himself to merchandising. Therefore he formed a partnership with M. F. Riley and with him commenced business at Reddick. They began in a small way with limited stock and capital, but have added to both, and now carry a large and well-selected line of general merchandise, including dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes, shelf and heavy hardware. They also deal in lumber, coal and grain. They own their large store building of two stories, which is filled with merchandise on both floors. The firm has established a reputation for fair dealing, reliable goods and living prices.

In this county, on the 10th of October, 1888, Mr. Unz and Miss Carrie Myers were united in marriage. The lady, like her husband, is a native of Illinois, and is a daughter of George L. Myers, a retired farmer now residing in Dwight. To Mr. and Mrs. Unz have been born two children: Stella Elvira and Agnes Helen.

In both local and general politics, Mr. Unz is much interested and active, and has served as a delegate to the county conventions. His first ballot was cast for Hon. James G. Blaine in 1884,

since which time he has always supported the nominees of the Republican party. He is a firm believer in the efficacy and need of good schools and teachers, to secure which he gives his hearty co-operation. Mr. Unz is a man of superior business talent, as his daily increasing business gives proof. Personally, by his manly worth and honorable character, he has won and well deserves the esteem of his many friends and wide circle of acquaintances.



WILLIAM A. PICKERING, a real-estate dealer of Kankakee, became a resident here in 1876. He at that time engaged in the boot, shoe and harness trade, which occupations he followed for a number of years, but his health becoming impaired by too close confinement to business he retired from that vocation and engaged as a commercial traveler, representing a Chicago and Detroit firm of brush manufacturers.

Our subject was born in Madison County, Ind., January 31, 1844. In December, 1887, he engaged in the real-estate business, and has dealt quite extensively in both Chicago and Kankakee realty. He has erected a nice residence in Kankakee, but carries on his principal real-estate business in Chicago.

Mr. Pickering married Miss Anna M. Deebank, who was born in England and is a daughter of William A. Deebank, a well-known citizen of Kankakee. Her father was also a native of the same country. In 1852, he emigrated with his family to the United States and after his arrival at his destination, New York City, he worked at his trade for three years. He became a citizen of Kankakee in 1855. His wife's maiden name was Elizabeth Whardle, and to them have been born four children. A son, Frank, the second in order of birth, died in January, 1890, at the age of twenty-nine years. Those surviving are Mrs. Pickering, Adell and Florence.

Our subject has recently completed a very

modern home, where he now resides. He is a well-known and representative citizen of Kankakee and is in every respect worthy the confidence and esteem in which he is held. He and his estimable wife have an only child, a daughter, Glennie Belle, whose birth occurred on the 18th of September, 1879, in Monmouth, Warren County, Ill. Politically, our subject has always been a Republican. Both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

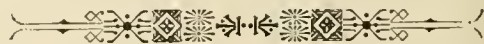


JOSEPH L. IRWIN, passenger conductor and an employe of the Illinois Central Railroad Company for the past fifteen years, has been running between Kankakee and Bloomington, Ill., for ten years of that time. He was born in Wells County, Ind., on the 22d of August, 1851, and is a son of George S. and Ruth (Stanton) Irwin. The parents were born in North Carolina, and removed to Indiana while single. Our subject's mother was a second cousin of Edwin M. Stanton, Lincoln's Secretary of War. The parents were married in Indiana, and had a family of three children, two sons and a daughter. John M. was a soldier of the late war, a member of the One Hundred and Fifty-third Indiana Infantry, and died at Russellville, Ky., in 1865, from disease contracted in the service. Joseph is next in order of birth. The daughter, Mary L., is now Mrs. Arthur Back, of Huntington County, Ind. In 1866, the family removed to Kankakee County, and settled in the township of Otto, where the father was engaged in farming until 1887, when he removed with his wife to Kankakee, where they still make their home.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood on a farm, and received his education in the public schools. He was married in Otto Township, on Christmas Day of 1870, to Miss Mary A. Devoe, daughter of Michael and Sarah (Rhodes) Devoe, the former born in the State of New York, and the latter in Ohio. They emigrated from Sandusky, Ohio, to Michigan City, Ind., and in 1855

located in Otto Township, on Christmas Day of that year, where they continued to reside, engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1879, which witnessed their removal to Red Willow County, Neb., where they now reside in the town of Lebanon. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Irwin, of whom four are now surviving. Delphina L., the eldest, died when one year of age; George W. is employed at railroad work with the Illinois Central; Lizzie, Edith and Joseph A. are still at home; and Marion died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Irwin are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the latter is one of the Woman's Relief Corps, and active in charitable work. Our subject began railroading in 1876 with the Illinois Central Railroad Company, on the Bloomington Branch of that road, helping to secure the right of way, and aiding in its construction. The following year he was employed as brakeman on its first trains, and a year later was made conductor, in which capacity he has since served. For the past five years he has been running passenger trains exclusively. He is a member of the Order of Railway Conductors, and holds membership with Howard Lodge No. 218, I. O. O. F., of Kankakee. Mr. Irwin has made his home in this city since 1879, and is widely and favorably known here and in the vicinity. His record as a railroad conductor is first-class, as he has always been known to be a prudent and capable man, whose aim has been to make travel on his trains as safe and pleasant as possible, while among the trainmen who have worked under him he is deservedly popular.



BARTON L. CORNWELL, a well-known resident of Kankakee, is one of the early and honored settlers of the town of Norton, Kankakee County. His residence covers a period of almost a third of a century, the time of his settlement here having been in the autumn of 1860. Since then he has been prominently connected with the history of the county, and has ever borne his part in its upbuilding and

advancement. He well deserves representation in this volume, and with pleasure we present to our readers this record of his life.

Mr. Cornwell is a native of the Empire State, having been born in Wayne County, N. Y., on the 28th of March, 1833, and is a son of William B. Cornwell, a native of Connecticut. The grandfather of our subject bore the name of Gilbert Cornwell, and the family was probably founded in this country during early Colonial days. The father of our subject, when but a child, removed with his parents to New York, the family settling in Columbia County. He was there reared to manhood, no event of special importance occurring during the days of his childhood. After attaining to years of maturity, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Barton, and subsequently removed from Columbia County to Wayne County, where the subject of this sketch was born. In 1865, the father and mother came to Illinois, but later removed to Michigan, locating in Battle Creek, where they spent the remainder of their days. The father was born in 1804, and died in 1886, having attained the ripe old age of eighty-two years. His wife had passed away many years previous. Her birth occurred in 1806, and she was called to her final rest in 1866. They were the parents of a family of five children, the eldest of whom, Lovira, died at the age of twenty-two years. A son, William H., died in childhood. The subject of this sketch is the eldest surviving member of the family. The next is a sister, Phoebe, now the wife of Hiram Munn, of Ames, Iowa. John J., who is a resident of Battle Creek, Mich., served in the army in the War for the Union, as a member of the One Hundred and Eleventh New York Regiment.

Barton L. Cornwell spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm, and was early inured to the labors of the field. As soon as he was old enough to handle the plow, he began work, and his summer months were thus passed. In the winter season he attended the district schools of the neighborhood, and a good school at Phelps, N. Y., thus acquiring a good practical English education. For five winters he taught school successfully, four terms in his native State and one term in Will County. At the age of

twenty-three years he left home and made his way to Lockport, Will County, Ill., but six months later, however, he returned to the State of New York.

May 19, 1858, Mr. Cornwell was united in marriage with Miss Eleanor E. Lane, a native of Wayne County, N. Y., born August 12, 1836, and a daughter of Levi and Sallie (Burnett) Lane, who were of New England ancestry. Her father was a native of Maine, and was a son of Ziba and Fannie Lane, the former of whom was a son of John Lane, and a grandson of Job Lane. Job Lane was a son of John Lane, who was a son of Job Lane, the last ancestor of whom the family has any definite knowledge. Ziba Lane was born in Bedford, Mass., July 5, 1756, and was probably a man of means, for family records show that he sold lands in Bedford to J. Lane February 11, 1791, April 4, 1791 and August 25, 1792; to S. Lane, February 2, 1793; to B. Lane, October 30, 1793; and to W. Goodwin, April 2, 1796. Ziba Lane was married April 1, 1778, by the Rev. Henry Cumming, to Lydia Danforth, of Billerica, Mass., and the children of that marriage were Hannah, who was born November 25, 1778; Josiah, who was born September 28, 1780, and died November 5, 1780, aged one month and eight days; Ziba, who was born January 31, 1782, married Frances G. Dennis, and settled in Lyons, N. Y.; John, who settled in Lockport, N. Y., and was probably named for his grandfather, John Lane; F. Bowman, who was born September 24, 1787, married Roxinda Parlin, and was probably named for his grandmother, Ruth (Bowman) Lane; and James, who married Eliza Moss. The name James is common in the Lane family.

Sallie Lane, Mrs. Cornwell's mother, was a native of the Empire State, and was a daughter of James I. and Mary Burnett. Mr. Lane is still living, and is yet a resident of Wayne County, N. Y. He was born in 1806, and hence has attained to the very advanced age of eighty-six years. The mother died in December, 1890, at the age of fourscore years. Mr. and Mrs. Lane were the parents of eleven children, of whom three died in childhood. The remaining eight grew to years of maturity, and the eldest of these were twins, Mary

and Martha. Mary died many years ago. Martha became the wife of John Everhart, and died in 1889, leaving two children. The six surviving members of the Lane family are Frances G.; Mrs. Cornwell, wife of our subject; Rodney D.; Mrs. Harriet R. Vanderbilt; Laura Jane Burnett; and Levi E. All of the survivors of this family are still residents of their native county (Wayne), with the exception of Mrs. Cornwell.

In the spring of 1859, the year following their marriage, our subject and his wife bade good-bye to their home in the East, and, emigrating Westward, took up their residence in Will County, Ill. After a year spent in Lockport, they removed to Kankakee County, where they have since made their home. Mr. Cornwell located upon a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land which he purchased of the railroad company, and subsequently extended the boundaries of this farm by an additional purchase of forty acres. The entire amount of two hundred acres was placed under a high state of cultivation. It was all prairie land, and he transformed it into rich and fertile fields, which yielded to him a comfortable income. He still owns this place, but has recently removed with his family to Kankakee.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cornwell were born four children, a son and three daughters. The eldest, Alice L., is the wife of Thomas Patterson, and they reside upon the homestead farm of her father; Henry L. is engaged in the real-estate business in North Kankakee; and Harriet L., is a shorthand reporter, being in the employ of the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railroad Company, at Kankakee. Mr. and Mrs. Cornwell recently lost their youngest child, Nora B., who died at the age of sixteen years.

Our subject has led a busy and useful life, and through his well-directed efforts, his perseverance and good management has acquired a comfortable competence. Wishing to live a retired life, he left his farm, and with his family removed to Kankakee, in June, 1892. They have a new and pleasant home, situated on the corner of Madison and Maple Streets, near the eastern terminus of Station Street, where they are resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of their former toil. This worthy cou-

ple are numbered among the well-known and highly esteemed citizens of Kankakee. In his political relations, our subject was formerly identified with the Republican party, but believing that the liquor traffic is the great evil of our land, some years ago he connected himself with the party which makes the suppression of intemperance an issue in its platform. In short, he is a pronounced Prohibitionist, and does all in his power for the growth and success of that political organization. For five years he was Assessor of Norton Township, and for eight years was Justice of the Peace. For over a quarter of a century he and his wife have been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are faithful and consistent members. Socially, he is a Master Mason.



ANTHONY GERARD, Cashier of the Bank of St. Anne, was born in that town on the 7th of June, 1865. His father, Louis Gerard was a native of New York and of English parentage. For twenty-two years he was a sailor both on the ocean and the Lakes. Over thirty years ago he came to Illinois from New York and located in Chicago. After a short residence in that city he left the Lakes and removed his family to St. Anne. When eighty-two years of age he was called from this life, on the 6th of July, 1891. The mother of our subject was in her maidenhood Miss Mary Mason. She was a native of France and of French parentage. She is still living, now well advanced in years. By her marriage she became the mother of twelve children, five sons and seven daughters. Of this number eight are now living: Elizabeth, Susan, Kittie, Rosella, Joseph, Eli, Louis and Anthony.

Our subject was reared upon a farm in St. Anne, where he received his early education. Afterwards he attended school in Muskegon, Mich. He worked for two summers in a sawmill, after which he spent seven years clerking for John Fern. For some time he worked upon a farm, and in March,

1892, took the position of cashier in the bank of St. Anne, of which J. N. Higgins is President and proprietor.

On the 19th of February, 1888, Mr. Gerard was united in marriage with Miss Hattie Martin, daughter of Legar and Eliza (Drollett) Martin. Mrs. Gerard is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of St. Anne, and stands high in social circles. In his political affiliations, our subject casts his ballot in favor of the Republican party. Socially and as a citizen he is held in the highest regard and is a young man of great promise.



CHARLES SCHNEIDER has been a resident of the city of Kankakee since 1869, and has one of the leading insurance agencies of this place. He has been engaged in the insurance business since 1875, and represents many of the principal companies of the country, including the German Insurance Company of Freeport; the Germania Insurance Company of New York; the Milwaukee Mechanics' Insurance Company, of Milwaukee, Wis.; the German Insurance Company of Peoria, Ill.; and the New Hampshire Insurance Company, of Manchester, N. H.

Mr. Schneider is of German birth. A native of the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany, he was born on the 10th of May, 1836, and is a son of Ludwig Schneider, also a native of Wurtemberg. His father never came to America, but continued to live in the locality of his birth until called to the home beyond. Of his family there are but three surviving members, including the subject of this sketch and his brother Louis, who also resides in Kankakee, and a sister, who is yet living in Germany.

We now take up the history of Mr. Schneider, whose name heads this record. The days of his boyhood and youth were passed in his native land, where he acquired his education. He also there learned the trade of engraving on steel and other metals. When a young man of eighteen years he determined to seek a home in America, of whose

advantages and privileges he had heard such favorable reports. Carrying out his resolutions, he bade good-bye to his old home, and on the 19th of June, 1851, sailed from the Fatherland to the New World. His brother Louis, of this city, came a few months later. Mr. Schneider at once landed in New York, and worked at his trade in that city, in Newark, N. J., and in other places in the East for about fourteen years. On the expiration of that period he came to Illinois.

It was on May 10, 1855, in New York City that Mr. Schneider was married to Miss Mary Hahn, also a native of Wurtemberg. By their union has been born a family of children, as follows: Albert, who was born in Newark, N. J., in 1860, and is employed by his father in business; Otto, a resident of La Salle, Ill.; William, a clerk in the office of the Concordia Insurance Company in Milwaukee; and George, now in Chicago. The younger members of the family are Charles, Mary, Frederick and Pauline, and are still under the parental roof. They have also lost five children.

Mr. Schneider is a man of good business ability, and he need never regret his emigration to America, as he has here met with success and found a pleasant home. He is now one of the public-spirited citizens of Kankakee, and takes a commendable interest in whatever tends to promote the general welfare of the community in which he resides.



ASA F. BEARDSLEY has since 1887 been proprietor of the Beardsley Elevator and a dealer in grain at Buckingham, Ill. He also handles coal and farm implements and has a large and increasing trade. He was born December 6, 1848, in La Salle County. His father, Levi C. Beardsley, was born in Connecticut in 1821, and came to Illinois just after reaching his majority. He was one of the honored pioneers of La Salle County, and there married Miss Nancy C. Fleming, who was a sister of James Fleming, whose sketch appears in this volume. Mr. Beardsley settled upon a farm and reared his family, and died

in La Salle County in 1863, being then in the prime of life, only forty-two years of age. His wife had departed this life two years previously at the age of thirty-two.

Asa Beardsley is the younger of two brothers. Ralph W. was a farmer of Norton Township, but died January 11, 1893. Our subject spent his youth in the county where he was born, and there he had good school advantages. After leaving the common schools he attended for two terms the Wheaton College. In 1869 he came to Kankakee County and purchased a tract of prairie land. He was very active, industrious and ambitious, and in addition to his agricultural pursuits branched out in business in various directions. He purchased a sheller and engaged in corn-shelling during a portion of the year. He also bought and ran a threshing machine for a number of years. For some time he was engaged in boring wells, and during the time spent upon his farm he had very good success and accumulated a nice property. In 1879, removing to Buckingham, Mr. Beardsley purchased a business and engaged in merchandising until the year 1884. His success in this line being very indifferent, he sold out the business and for two years engaged in contracting and building successfully. Since 1886 he has continued to do more or less in this line at intervals in connection with his other business. In 1885 he turned his attention toward buying and selling grain, and two years later became the owner of the Beardsley Elevator, as before mentioned.

In this county, on the 16th of December, 1875, Mr. Beardsley and Miss Ella L. States, were married. The lady was born in Pennsylvania, but was reared and educated in Norton Township, and is a daughter of H. B. States, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. A bright little girl of three summers, Irma M., graces their union. Mr. and Mrs. Beardsley at present hold membership with no church organization, but formerly united with the Wesleyan Methodist Church, to which faith they still adhere.

In his political belief, Mr. Beardsley now supports the measures and nominees of the Prohibition party. He was formerly, however, affiliated with the Republican party. Though never de-

sirous of official positions, he has been elected and served one term as Township Collector. He is a member of the Buckingham Cornet Band, and is quite a proficient performer. He is conceded to be one of the enterprising, public-spirited and successful business men of Buckingham, and is well known in this and adjoining counties. In his personal relations and business dealings with his fellow-men, he has always been found honorable and upright.



GEORGE B. McNAMEE is a merchant of Buckingham. He is a native of Ohio, having been born in Fairfield County, on the 18th of December, 1852, and is a son of Job and Catherine (Walters) McNamee. The paternal grandfather of our subject was born in Maryland, moved to Ohio and settled in Fairfield County, when it was a vast wilderness. In that county his son Job was born and grew to manhood, and there married a daughter of John Walters, who was also an honored pioneer of the county. For several years after his marriage, Mr. McNamee engaged in farming in Fairfield County, and in 1871 settled in Norton Township, Kankakee County. For a number of years he operated the farm which he then bought and opened up, but is now living retired, passing his remaining days with his son, our subject. His wife was called from this life April 19, 1889.

Our subject was one of four sons and two daughters, who are all living and are now married. William is engaged in business in Chicago; our subject is next in order of birth; Viola is the wife of R. F. Wadley, a farmer of Iroquois County; Maggie married W. J. Watson, a druggist of Braidwood, Will County; T. H. carries on the old homestead; and Perry is engaged in business in Seatonville, Ill.

George McNamee was blessed with good school advantages, and supplemented his common-school education by one term at college. At the time of his father's coming to Illinois, he removed with



Respectfully
L. B. Cobb



Respectfully
Alice M. Cobb

him and helped to open up a farm in this county, remaining with him for several years after attaining his majority.

On the 6th of September, 1883, Mr. McNamee married Miss Ada Ella Cook, the ceremony being performed in Ford County. Mrs. McNamee is a daughter of H. M. Cook, whose sketch appears on another page of this work, and was born in Kendall County. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children, Minnie, Fred and Ruba.

After his marriage, Mr. McNamee carried on a farm for a few years, but in 1889 removed to Buckingham, where he engaged in the butchering business. This occupation he has followed up to the present time, and in March, 1892, also opened a general grocery. He has built up a large trade and is doing well. The first ballot cast by our subject he deposited for Samuel J. Tilden in the Presidential election in 1876, and is a strong Democrat. He has never wished for official recognition, but has been elected to fill various positions of honor and trust. He has served as Constable of Norton Township for eight years, and was Deputy Sheriff of this county for four years. He always takes an active part in local campaigns, and for years has been a member of the County Central Committee, and has been sent as a delegate to the county, senatorial and congressional conventions. Socially, he is a member of Lodge No. 381, A. F. & A. M., at Cabery, and is Banker of Lodge No. 1512, M. W. A.



LEMI BRADLEY COBB, a well-known and representative citizen of Kankakee, has been a resident of this county since March, 1862. He is an elder brother of Emory Cobb, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this volume, and is a native of the town of Dryden, Tompkins County, N. Y., his birth occurring on the 5th of May, 1823. He is descended on the paternal side from an old New England family of English origin. His grandfather, Elisha Cobb, was an

early pioneer of Tompkins County, and continued to reside there until his death.

Our subject is the son of William and Aelsah (Bradley) Cobb, the latter also being of New England extraction. Her father, Lemi Bradley, went from New England to Herkimer County, N. Y., from there to Groton, Tompkins County, and still later to Genoa, Cayuga County, where he resided until his death. Our subject is one of a family of ten children, of whom seven grew to mature years, five being sons and two daughters. The eldest of those surviving is Mrs. T. D. Wire, of Evanston, Ill.; Lemi is next; Elisha is a resident of Cayuga County, N. Y.; Emory resides in Kankakee; and Harriet is the wife of Col. H. C. Clarke, of this city. Those deceased are Clarissa Jane, Ruth, Edward L., William N. and Cyrus B. The father of this family died April 22, 1813, and the wife and mother, who survived her husband for many years, passed away at the home of her son Emory in Kankakee, February 16, 1875.

Mr. Cobb, whose name heads this sketch, went from his birthplace to Genoa, Cayuga County, when twenty-two years of age, and two years after the death of his father. For a time he worked land on shares, but finally purchased a farm. For seventeen years he made his home in the towns of Genoa, Venice and Ledyard, N. Y., respectively, and in 1862 came to Kankakee and engaged in operating the place now known as the Graves farm, which was then owned by his brother Emory. For ten years after his arrival in this county he engaged in agricultural pursuits, and in this time purchased considerable land, including forty acres which he bought in 1869, now comprised within the city limits and a portion of which he still owns. He had previously purchased a farm of his brother, which, however, he never occupied.

In Ithaca, N. Y., on the 11th of July, 1845, Mr. Cobb wedded Miss Mary A. Emmons, whose death occurred December 27, 1855. By her marriage she became the mother of three children: Susan Alice, wife of Wesley Bonfield, of Kankakee; Ellen Aelsah, who became the wife of Theodore F. Andrews, of Chicago; and Emmons B., also of the Garden City. On the 11th of March, 1857, Mr. Cobb married Miss Alice M. Cowles, of Cortland County,

N. Y., in which county she was born November 28, 1823. She is a daughter of Judah and Polly (Gosner) Cowles, the former of whom was of English descent, and the latter of German. The parents of Mrs. Cobb were residents of Cortland County from 1810 until their deaths, the father passing away in 1856, and the mother in 1868. Their family comprised nine children, four sons and five daughters, of whom five survive: Joseph, the eldest of the family, died in 1838; Thomas B. resides at Postville, Iowa; Mrs. Mary B. Alger lives in Cortland County, N. Y.; Lucy died in 1879; Martin L. lives in Dodge County, Wis.; Mrs. Cobb is the next in order of birth; Rev. Philo resides in the State of New York and is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Alice and Lydia M. are deceased.

In October, 1869, Mr. Cobb removed to Kankakee and four years later, in company with several other gentleman, engaged in the manufacture of straw-board. This enterprise became one of the most important industries of the city, but after carrying it on for many years, the proprietors sold the plant to the American Straw Board Company. The mill stood idle for a year, and then was leased to Mr. Cobb and his son-in-law, Wesley Bonfield, who embarked in the manufacture of wrapping paper, from which business Mr. Cobb retired at the close of 1892.

For thirty years our subject has been a resident of Kankakee, and has ever been closely connected with the growth and prosperity of the city. He is especially esteemed for his generous and philanthropic traits of character, as he is ever ready to contribute liberally of his means to charitable and religious purposes. He has been a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for fifty-two years, and has loyally supported church enterprises and the preaching of the Gospel. Mrs. Cobb has been a member of the same church for fifty-four years. In his political affiliations, he is now identified with the Prohibition party, believing that the curse of the liquor traffic should be suppressed by national legislation. During the nearly fifty years since Mr. Cobb attained his majority, his political belief has been as follows: In 1841, he voted for James K. Polk; in 1848 for Martin Van Buren; in 1852 for John P.

Hale; in 1856 for John C. Fremont; for Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and 1864; in the two succeeding Presidential elections for Gen. U. S. Grant; in 1876 for R. B. Hayes; for James A. Garfield in 1880; in 1884 for John P. St. John; four years later for Clinton B. Fisk; and in 1892 for John Bidwell.



JAMES W. NULL is one of the most efficient and trusted employes of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, being stationed at Buckingham as agent and operator. His birth occurred in Zanesville, Muskingum County, Ohio, on the 16th of June, 1858. His father, John W. Null, was a native of the Old Dominion and grew to manhood in that State. When a young man, he went to Ohio, first locating in Licking County, where he was married to Miss Mary Eliza Keith, who was born in the Buckeye State. Mrs. Null died when the subject of this sketch was but an infant.

Until fourteen years of age, James lived with friends and relatives in Ohio, and in 1872 came to Illinois. He joined an uncle who owned a farm in McLean County, and with him he staid for several years, working on the farm. During the winter months, he was allowed to attend school, and before leaving Ohio had the advantages of the good public schools at Zanesville. He was of an active mind and ambitious temperament, and while still at school took up the study of telegraphy, in which he soon became quite proficient. In 1879, Mr. Null came to Kankakee County, entering the railroad office at Irwin, where he continued the study of telegraphy. After a few months, he was transferred to Kempton, Ford County, being night operator there for about four months, at the expiration of which time he was given the office at Risk, being agent and night operator at that point for one and a-half years. In October, 1882, Mr. Null was stationed at Buckingham, and has since that time been the agent and telegraph operator here. He has become iden-

tified with the business growth and development of this thriving town, and for ten years has been numbered among its worthy citizens. He is agent for the Phenix Fire Insurance Company of Brooklyn, which is one of the best companies of its kind in the United States. He is also secretary of the Inter-State Building and Loan Association of Bloomington, Ill., and has held that office for the past three years.

At Cullom, Ill., on the 8th of November, 1883, a wedding ceremony united the destinies of Mr. Null and Miss Emma F. Shearer, who is a daughter of J. J. and Catherine Shearer, of Cullom, in which town Mrs. Null passed her girlhood and grew to womanhood, though Ohio was the State of her birth. One son, Rodney E., has blessed their union.

Socially, Mr. Null is highly esteemed and respected as one of the most pleasant and obliging agents of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. Though not an aspirant for political honors, he has ever taken an interested and active part in politics, having been affiliated with the Republican party since attaining his majority. His first ballot was cast in the Presidential election of 1880 for Hon. James A. Garfield. Mr. Null is a man of superior business capacity, and is intelligent and well read. Being thrown upon his own resources when quite a young man, he has had to make his own way in the world unassisted, and is well deserving of the fair measure of success to which he has attained.



DAVID BLOOM, a pioneer of northern Illinois, was born in Burlington, Bradford County, Pa., April 1, 1800, and was of German extraction. His parents were among the first settlers of Bradford County. In the autumn of 1819 Mr. Bloom married Miss Polly A. Rutty, who was some months his senior. She was born October 10, 1799, and was of Scotch and English parentage, her people being among the pioneers of Lyeoming County, Pa.

Mr. Bloom in the fall of 1833 made a trip to

the then far West, the limit of his journey being Dorr Prairie, which he considered an earthly Eden, and where he thought of returning with his family. Almost his entire trip was made on horseback except on his return East, when he crossed Lake Erie. He was gone from home for nearly three months, and was induced by an acquaintance to finally settle in what is now Will County, Ill., July 11, 1831, just at the beginning of the wheat harvest. They moved into a house owned by J. M. Reynolds, and the next day Mr. Bloom engaged in harvesting, working with the cradle for twenty-seven days. Most of the grain was cut with a sickle that year and the following, and even cradles were scarce in the new settlement, and such a thing as a harvesting-machine was yet a thing of the future. He worked for William Gougar, grandfather of William Gougar of this city, and for Joseph S. Reynolds, grandfather of J. Reynolds, of Kankakee.

In 1835 Mr. Bloom bought one hundred and twenty acres at the land sale in Chicago. He was by trade a millwright, and built one of the first saw-mills in this county in the fall of 1835 at or near the mouth of the Sag, in Cook County, for Paddock Brothers; in 1836 he built a saw and grist mill for Cornelius Van Horn at the head of Hickory Creek timber in Van Horn's Grove. He also helped to build the dam and mill at Bourbonnais, the building being afterward removed to Kankakee. While in California he also built two other mills. During the year 1836 he sold his land and located a claim in Iowa, where the city of Cedar Rapids now stands, intending to move there the ensuing spring, but in his absence the claim was jumped, so he was forced to abandon the idea of settling there.

In December, 1836, Mr. Bloom, in partnership with Jacob Sammons, engaged in buying and driving hogs across the prairie to Chicago. It was while out on this expedition that he bargained for the claim on Rock Creek, section 23, Rockville Township, Kankakee County, where he moved in the early spring of the following year. At that time pork brought a good price, speculation of all kinds was rife, and everyone expected to become wealthy at once. As before mentioned, in Decem-

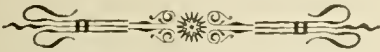
ber, 1836, Mr. Bloom and Mr. Sammons having purchased a large drove of four hundred hogs in the vicinity of Danville, Ill., were on their way Northward to dispose of them in the Chicago markets. They had proceeded as far as Sugar Creek, in what is now Iroquois County, when they were overtaken by that sudden and terrible change of weather which is still spoken of by the earliest settlers with a shudder of dread. That was the most remarkable change of weather ever recorded in the annals of this country, and the date is given as December 20, 1836. The day and night previous had been mild and foggy, part of the time with heavy rain, until about three o'clock in the afternoon, when it cleared off and the Polar blast came sweeping down across the almost barren prairie from the Northwest. The first touch of its icy fingers transformed, as by magic, the appearance of the whole face of nature. The ground had been covered with slush; north of Kankakee to Chicago the saturated snow was about one foot in depth, and the sloughs and streams were full of water. In an incredibly short space of time the whole country became a vast sheet of ice, and some of the old settlers contend that it froze sufficiently in five minutes to bear the weight of a man. Multitudes of wild animals and birds perished with the intense cold. As soon as the "norther" struck them, Mr. Bloom realized the great danger they were in and requested his partner to take the two teams with which they had to hauled corn for their stock and the men who were assisting them, and seek a place of shelter as soon as possible, which they succeeded in doing. Our subject remained with the drove until he found a partial shelter for them in a patch of tall prairie grass. By this time it had become dark, and it was evident that he must do something to save himself. He tried in vain to remount his horse, as he had become chilled and his outer clothing was frozen. Finding the attempt impossible, he led the horse to a stack of hay at no great distance, and turning him loose, began stamping around the stack to keep from freezing, at the same time revolving in his mind how he should be able to find the house, which he knew could not be far distant. Fortunately for him rescue was at hand, and right

cheerfully he answered a manly hello. The stranger and good Samaritan turned out to be a Methodist parson, who had stopped at the house for shelter, and had bravely volunteered to go out in the bitter cold to the aid of the suffering. Mr. Bloom ever afterward held him in grateful remembrance. On the following day they visited the drove, but as the cold was still very severe they could do nothing but feed them. Many had perished and some were badly frozen. Two days afterward they started with all that could travel, and then commenced a toilsome and weary march of from four to six miles per day. In crossing the streams the ice had to be covered with straw or scarified with axes. When they arrived at William Baker's place, now known as the Ohio House, they slaughtered the disabled and heaviest of the drove, which were sent to Chicago on sleighs. In those days hogs that were bought for from \$2.50 to \$3 per hundred were sold for from \$9 to \$12 per hundred. As there were no railroads, the products of the country south were mostly sent to Cincinnati, and as the demands of the northern part of the State were pressing, high prices resulted.

The principal occupation of David Bloom was farming and stock-raising. During the excitement consequent on the discovery of gold in California he became one of the honored "'49ers," residing there for about five years, engaged in mining and lumbering, and returning once to his home, in 1852 on a visit. In the summer of 1851, the people of Greenwood Valley, Cal., were obliged to execute summary justice upon a notorious desperado who had killed two or three men. The Judge Lynch method of ridding the country of such characters was popular, and Maj. Bloom, as he was called there, was asked to preside at the meeting and trial. The man was found guilty and confessed to the murders. Mr. Bloom had to pronounce sentence of death upon him, and gave the culprit one hour in which to prepare for his doom, at the expiration of which he was promptly executed by hanging from the limb of a tree. The two instances noted above show some of the difficulties with which the pioneer had to contend, and the courage necessary for frontier life.

Our subject was a man of strict integrity of

character, of strong religious convictions, and in early life a member of the Methodist Church, but on coming to Illinois was for a number of years not a member of any denomination. Late in life he joined the church of the United Brethren, of which he was a faithful member until his death, which occurred on the 24th of January, 1877. He was ever kind and charitable to the unfortunate and needy. Politically, he was a Jackson Democrat, a great admirer of Judge Douglas and Hon. John Wentworth. Of the latter he was always a warm personal friend and zealous supporter, being a member of the convention held in Joliet, in May, 1843, which gave that gentleman his first nomination for Congress.



CHARLES B. FOSTER, a self-made man, who is now engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 25, Limestone Township, is a native of New York. He was born in Parma, Monroe County, June 2, 1832, and is a son of Hiram and Permelia (Curtis) Foster. The father was born in Vermont, February 26, 1802. The paternal grandfather of our subject was also a native of the Green Mountain State, and was of English extraction. In an early day Hiram Foster removed to New York, and during his residence there met and married Miss Curtis, who was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., May 8, 1803. Her parents and her ancestors for several generations were born in the New England States. Mr. and Mrs. Foster continued their residence in New York until 1850, when they emigrated to Michigan. He was a painter by trade, but after removing to the West engaged in farming.

The subject of this sketch was the youngest child and only son in a family of five children. He remained under the parental roof until after he had attained his majority. The days of his boyhood and youth were quietly passed, and his education was acquired in the common district schools of the neighborhood. To his father he

gave the benefit of his labors until twenty-three years of age, when he started out in life for himself without a dollar. He first earned his livelihood by working as a carpenter and joiner, which occupation he followed for a period of three years in Michigan and Indiana.

An important event in the life of Mr. Foster occurred on the 11th of February, 1858, when was celebrated his marriage with Miss Clara E. Nickerson, who was born in Indiana, August 31, 1811. She is a daughter of Garret and Martha (Kenney) Nickerson. Her father was born in Queen Anne County, Md., May 1, 1802, but her mother was a native of Pennsylvania, her birth having occurred in the Keystone State, on the 8th of March, 1809. In an early day they emigrated to Indiana, and in 1860 came to this county, where they both died. Mrs. Foster received such educational advantages as the public schools afforded, and remained with her parents until her marriage. By the union of our subject and his wife were born four children, but the eldest is now deceased. George G., who was born September 6, 1859, died on the 18th of February following. Carrie E., born April 2, 1862, is now the wife of Rudolph Hawkins, a resident farmer of Kankakee County. Mary N., born September 28, 1867, and Jennie P., born January 8, 1879, are still under the parental roof.

Since his marriage Mr. Foster has engaged in farming, and he now owns and operates eighty acres of good land in Limestone Township, pleasantly situated within two and a-half miles of the city of Kankakee. For some time Mr. Foster was independent in his political views, but for the last five years he has been a supporter of the Democratic party. His fellow-townsmen, appreciating his worth and ability, have frequently called upon him to serve in public positions of honor and trust. He has held the office of Town Clerk for several years, has been School Director for his district for the long period of twenty years, and is now one of the School Trustees of his township. He was Supervisor of Limestone Township for three years, at which time the "Three C's" R. R. bonds were issued, and his name was on every bond. His frequent re-election indicates the promptness

and fidelity with which he always discharges his public duties, and his long connection with the school interests attests the fact that the cause of education finds in him a warm friend. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, and those who know him esteem him highly for his sterling worth and strict integrity.



JOHAN S. RANSOM, a retired merchant of Mومence, and a well-known citizen, was born in Selma, Ala., on the 31st of March, 1849, and is a son of Elijah and Eunicia (Stebbins) Ransom, both of Connecticut. The father was of English origin, an ancestor of his coming to America early in the eighteenth century in company with two brothers. They emigrated from Colchester, England, one of them settling in Connecticut, one in Vermont, and the other in Tennessee. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a Congregational minister in Guilford, Conn., as early as 1763, and bore the name of Stephen W. Stebbins. On the father's side our subject's great-grandfather was a farmer, and a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He built a large frame house in Salem, Conn., which is still standing in a good state of preservation.

Elijah Ransom was born in Salem, Conn., in 1816, and there was reared to manhood. His education was received in the common schools, and was supplemented by a course at Bacon Academy, in Colchester, Conn. While a boy, he clerked in a store in Salem, developing a special aptitude for business. For some time he was in the employ of J. B. Wheeler, who kept a general store, and with him he was afterward associated as partner, under the firm name of Wheeler & Ransom. They continued in company together for a number of years. Mr. Ransom then selling his interest in the store and removing to Selma, Ala. There he opened a general store and engaged in business for about seven years at that place. He then returned to Connecticut and established a new line of trade, where he remained until his death, which occurred

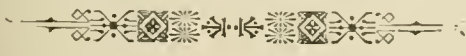
in September, 1888. He was always prominent in church work, and for many years was considered a pillar of the Congregational Church. His wife is still living, and since her husband's death has made her home in Chicago with three of her children who live there. She is also a devoted member of the Congregational Church, and is now seventy-three years of age. In her family were five sons and two daughters: Edward S., Annie S. (who died in December, 1891, at her home in Chicago), John S., Caroline W., Charles N., William S. and Elijah.

Mr. Ransom, whose name heads this sketch, imbibed from early childhood a good knowledge of business principles. He received a common-school education, and attended Bacon Academy, and afterward Williston Seminary in East Hampton, Mass., said to be one of the best preparatory institutions in the United States. After he had completed his studies, Mr. Ransom returned to Colchester, where he entered the employ of his father in his general store and remained with him for six years. He then went to Chicago, where he became an employe of Gage Bros. & Co., wholesale millinery and notion dealers, and for ten years, from 1872 until 1882, he continued with them.

On the 1st of February, 1882, occurred the wedding of Mr. Ransom and Miss Emma, daughter of Henry C. and Emline (Chapman) Ransom, of Hartford, Conn. To our subject and his wife have been born two children, the elder of whom, Adelaide Louise, died in infancy; Henry Cecil is still living. After his marriage, Mr. Ransom came to Mومence, where he purchased a-half interest in the firm of Stratton & Hamilton, general merchants. For one year the firm carried on business under the name of Stratton, Ransom & Co., and at the end of that time our subject purchased the entire business. He continued alone having an extensive trade, until in October, 1892 when he sold out to Charles Hack. Mr. Ransom commenced doing business in the stone building on River Street, which place he occupied for seven years, and then built a fine brick building on Front and Locust Streets. He has been a member of the Northwestern Traveling Men's Association for the past eleven years. He was President of the Mo

mence Hay Palace Association during its existence in 1890 and 1891, and has been President of the Momence Building and Loan Association from its organization until October, 1892, when he resigned.

Though Mr. Ransom has never desired to be an office-holder, he is a staunch Republican, and was President of the Republican Club in the campaign of 1888. He and his wife were reared in the Congregational Church, to which they formerly belonged, but there being no church of that denomination in Momence, they identified themselves with the Episcopal congregation. Our subject is a member of the Royal Arcanum, and helped to organize the Momence Council in 1886, having taken a card from the Council to which he belonged in Chicago. He was one of the charter members of the Momence Council, and was its Regent for two years. The body was organized with twenty members, but it now has sixty-three. In 1887, Mr. Ransom was sent as a delegate to the Grand Council at Chicago, a year later was chosen Grand Chaplin, in 1889 Grand Guide, and in 1890 Grand Orator, in which capacity he served for two terms. He has always taken an active interest in secret societies, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias, being Chancellor-Commander of Golden Shield Lodge No. 323, of Momence. He also belongs to the Royal League, Alpha Council No. 1, of Chicago, a fraternal organization similar to the Royal Arcanum.



RYLAND D. SHERMAN, an early settler of Kankakee, who enjoys an extended acquaintance, and who has for many years been an influential and potent factor in local and State politics, is a native of Indiana, and was born in Rushville, Rush County, of the Hoosier State, on Christmas Day of 1826. His father, Jonathan Sherman, of New England origin, was born in New Bedford, Mass., on the 1st of May, 1793, and was descended from an old New England family that dated its arrival in America

prior to the War of the Revolution. When a young man Jonathan Sherman went to Virginia, where, on the 5th of October, 1820, he married the mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Cecelia Posey. Mrs. Sherman was born near Richmond and came of an old Virginian family. Soon after their marriage they settled in Cincinnati, Ohio, where they resided until 1826, when they removed to Rushville, Rush County, Ind., where the wife and mother died September 26, 1836. Mr. Sherman continued to live in Rushville until 1866, when he came to Illinois on a visit to his children and died at Urbana, in April of that year.

Ryland D. Sherman attended the common schools in his native State and was married in Rushville, on the 5th of February, 1852, to Miss Mary F. Morrow, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Morrow. Mrs. Sherman was born in Elizaville, Ky. Three children were born to our subject and his wife, two sons and a daughter. Charles B. married Maggie Dolog and is employed in the postal mail service, making his home at Kankakee; Roger D., the second son, married Leal Nichols and resides in Kankakee; and Elizabeth, the only daughter, is the wife of Newcomb G. Halsey, Jr., a prominent grocer of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Sherman are old-time members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1856, our subject removed to Kankakee, where he spent a year in the hotel business in company with his wife's father, after which he quit that business and accepted the position of City Collector for Kankakee, and in the fall of 1857 was appointed City Marshal. He subsequently served four years as Constable and in 1862 was elected Sheriff and served the usual term of that time, which was for a period of two years. He was re-elected in 1866, and served a second term of two years. During the Garfield administration, Mr. Sherman was for four years Deputy United States Marshal under Long Jones for the Northern District of Illinois. While a resident of Indiana he was an earnest Whig in politics and served as Postmaster at Rushville under President Fillmore. He came to Illinois about the time of the disruption of the old parties

and soon after locating in Kankakee was one of the immortal nine to meet in the County Clerk's office and organize the Republican party in this county. Since that time Mr. Sherman has been active and earnest in the support of his party and for twelve years was a member of the Republican State Central Committee. He also served for several years as a member of the Kankakee County Committee, and has always been active and influential in the councils of his party. He has been a delegate to every Illinois Republican State Convention since the formation of the party until 1892. Socially, Mr. Sherman is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M.; of Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M.; and of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T.



JOHAN B. MILLANSON, a leading liveryman of Kankakee, was born in this city on the 29th of May, 1864. Little is known of his grandparents, his paternal grandfather having died when he was quite young. His maternal grandfather, Oliver Crappo, was a farmer by occupation and died in Kankakee County about the year 1880, being eighty-four years of age at the time of his death. His wife still survives him and is nearly ninety years of age. She became the mother of sixteen children.

The parents of our subject, Peter and Alice (Crappo) Millanson, are both natives of Canada, and are of French origin. They have been residents of Kankakee for over thirty years, and for a quarter of a century the father was engaged in the livery business, from which he retired in 1888. He sold his interests to Perry Lowe and Mr. Rosencrans. Mr. Millanson then went to Chicago, where he engaged in business for about a year, and then returning to this city opened a sales stable, which he still owns and manages.

Four children were born to Peter and Alice Millanson, two sons and two daughters. William C. was twice married, his first union being with

Miss Mary Koon, of Kankakee, and to them were born two daughters. He afterward married Miss Eva Diamond, of Manteno, Ill., a daughter of A. E. Diamond, of that city. They make their home in Manteno, where Mr. Millanson is engaged in the grocery business. John B. is the second in order of birth. Alice P. became the wife of Henry Raymond, who is in the transfer business in Chicago. They have one child, a daughter, Imabel. Delia, the youngest of the family, resides with her parents.

Mr. Millanson, whose name heads this record, received a common-school education in the public schools of Kankakee and then attended St. Viateur's College at Bourbonnais. He remained under the parental roof until arriving at maturity and worked for his father in the livery business. In 1889 he purchased the livery stable, which had formerly belonged to his father, of Lowe & Rosencrans, and has conducted the business alone since that time. He has one of the finest livery stables and equipments to be found in any city in Illinois. He has a large array of carriages, buggies and sleighs, and also has two hearses and five hacks. He keeps about twenty-five horses and runs what may justly be termed a model livery establishment. He has ever shown marked business ability and has managed his investments and enterprises with sagacity and wise foresight.

On the 7th of July, 1885, Mr. Millanson was married to Miss Bertha Swannell. Her parents, William G. and Laura (Bristol) Swannell, reside in Kankakee. The father is a native of England, and his wife was born in one of the Eastern States. Two children grace the union of our subject and his wife: Alice Mildred and Laura Ann. Mr. Millanson is a member of the Catholic Church, while his wife holds membership with the Episcopal Church of this city.

Our subject is not a politician in any sense of the term and has never had aspirations for office. Politically, he is a supporter of the Democratic party, which ticket he has always voted at Presidential elections. He is independent in city and local affairs, casting his ballot for the man whom he thinks best qualified to fill the position.

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G. F. Wallace



L. E. Wallace

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He is an enterprising and public-spirited man, alive to the city's best interests, and is a progressive and active business man, in all relations of life being affable and genial, thus winning many friends.



GEORGE F. WALLACE is one of the old settlers and prominent farmers residing on section 10, Yellowhead Township. He was born on the 21st of October, 1841, at Monson, Mass., and is the youngest child in a family of two sons and five daughters born to Sumner and Mary J. (Devereaux) Wallace. The father was also a native of Monson, Mass., and was of Scotch extraction. For four or five generations the Wallace family were residents of the New England States. Sumner Wallace followed agricultural pursuits in his native city until 1855, when he emigrated Westward. The mother of our subject was born at Marblehead, Mass., near Boston, and was the daughter of a sea-captain, who was drowned. Mr. Wallace located in Yellowhead Township in the spring of 1855, and proceeded to develop a farm from the raw prairie land. For thirty-five years this was his place of residence, and he was held in the highest respect by many friends in the township. His death occurred on the 8th of September, 1890. His wife had died a number of years previous, on the 4th of April, 1878.

The early boyhood days of our subject were passed in the Bay State, and at the time he was eleven years of age he came with his parents to this county, which has since been his home. He received his education in the district schools near his home, and until the death of his mother resided under the parental roof, assisting his father in managing the home farm. On the 29th of February, 1872, occurred the marriage of Mr. Wallace and Miss Lois E. Bradt, who is a daughter of Mathias and Eliza (Boutwell) Bradt, who were natives of New York State, where they spent their entire lives. Mrs. Wallace is the fifth child in a family

of six children, and the only one living. She was born in Cortland County, N. Y., February 29, 1814. A son and daughter have graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace: Minerva B., who was born on the 24th of January, 1873, and died February 1, 1893, and Charles B., born October 21, 1876.

For many years Mr. Wallace has devoted his best energies and watchful care to the improvement and cultivation of his fine farm, which comprises two hundred and forty acres, and which is located four and three-quarter miles northeast of Grant Park. This is the same property on which his father located when settling in this county. He has a beautiful country home and excellent improvements upon his place. He is recognized as one of the progressive farmers and stockmen of the county.

In his political views Mr. Wallace is an ardent Republican, ever supporting the men and measures of his party. He holds membership with Royal Arcanum Lodge No. 897, of Momence. Personally, he is very popular in this locality, where he numbers many warm friends.



HENRY EDWARD SCHLEGEL, a merchant of Buckingham, is numbered among the enterprising and substantial business men of Kankakee County, and has been actively and successfully engaged in business in this place for the past eight years.

Mr. Schlegel is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in Prussia, in June, 1811. His parents, John Henry and Matilda (Hahn) Schlegel, were both natives of the same country, and emigrated to the New World in 1819. They arrived in New Orleans in November of that year, and went by way of the Mississippi to St. Louis, where they spent the winter. In the following spring the father located in La Salle County, Ill. He was a tailor by trade, and carried on business for a number of years in Peru. Both parents are now

deceased, and were buried side by side in the Peru Cemetery.

H. E. Schlegel is the younger of two brothers. Frederick is a widower and makes his home in Buckingham, Ill., assisting our subject to carry on business. Mr. Schlegel grew to manhood in Peru and had fair school advantages both in the Fatherland and in La Salle County. After leaving school, he obtained employment as a clerk in Peru and there obtained a thorough and practical knowledge of mercantile business during the years of his clerkship. Going to Iroquois County, he clerked for Lemuel Milk, in Milk's Grove Township, for a number of years, after which he engaged in merchandising for himself at Danforth, where he carried on a successful business for about eight years, commencing in 1876. Selling to Kohl & Eden, Mr. Schlegel removed to Kankakee County, where he bought a stock of merchandise in Buckingham. Since that time he has successfully carried on a prosperous and increasing business, and has manifested creditable energy and enterprise.

Mr. Schlegel married in Macon County, Mo., Miss Jerusha Severance, the ceremony being performed November 1, 1868. Mrs. Schlegel was a native of the Empire State, but grew to womanhood in Illinois. By their union was born one child, a daughter, Minnie, who received a good education and is now keeping house for her father. In June, 1886, Mr. Schlegel was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, whose final resting-place is in the Buckingham Cemetery.

In his political affiliations our subject has always been a supporter of the Republican party since becoming a voter. His first ballot was cast in the Presidential election of 1868, for Gen. U. S. Grant. Though he has never sought or desired official position, instead preferring to give his time and attention to his business affairs, he has always taken an active part in the political campaigns, and is much concerned in the success of his party. Starting in life a poor boy, Mr. Schlegel has made his own way in the world, and to his indomitable will and enterprise owes the success he has achieved. He has erected a large brick store, and in addition has good residence property in

the village. He is the owner of the Buckingham Creamery building, and is one of the substantial merchants of Kankakee County. He was reared in the Lutheran faith, but with his daughter now attends the Buckingham Methodist Episcopal Church. He well deserves the respect and esteem in which he is held by all, because of his correct business methods and integrity in all of the vocations of life.



HARRISON LORING. Prominent among the older members of the Kankakee County Bar, stands the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He was born in the town of Bergen, Genesee County, N. Y., December 1, 1824, and is a son of Bridge and Sallie (Chipman) Loring. The father was born near Boston, Mass., in February, 1802, and died in January, 1892. He was in full vigor, physically and mentally, up to within a short time of his death. The mother was born in Stockbridge, Mass., in 1804, and was descended from the old Chipman family of Massachusetts. Her death occurred in 1853.

Harrison Loring was graduated from Brockport Collegiate Institute, and from the law school of Balston Spa, N. Y. He was admitted to the Bar at Rochester in 1850, and in the fall of that year, coming to Illinois, he established practice at Naperville, Du Page County, where he continued until May, 1855. He then removed to Kankakee, which was but a small village, and has been engaged in active practice here ever since. The ground on which his residence and office now stand was then covered with the thickest timber. Mr. Loring with his own hands cut off the timber and grubbed out the stumps. A part of Kankakee was a veritable mud-hole. He has seen teams mire down on East Avenue, now one of the best business streets in the city.

On the 20th of May, 1852, Mr. Loring was married in Bergen, N. Y., to Miss Almeda Payne, a

daughter of Stephen and Ruth (Smith) Payne. She was born in Riga, Monroe County, N. Y., and her parents were natives of Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Loring have one child, a daughter, living, and lost three children in childhood. Miss Leoni is a highly accomplished young lady, and possesses superior talent as an artist and musician. Her education in the branches of art and music has been thoroughly and successfully pursued under the best masters.

Mr. Loring has two farms, one of one hundred and sixty acres in Pilot Township, and one of one hundred and forty acres in Otto Township, both of which are worked under lease. Politically, our subject uses his right of franchise in favor of the Democratic party, but has never sought or desired public office. The Loring family, of which he is a member, is of Scotch origin, and was founded in America by two brothers, one of whom settled in Boston, Mass., and it is from that branch that Harrison Loring is descended. Reuben Loring, the grandfather of our subject, married a Miss West, who was descended from the Wests of Massachusetts. He settled in Genesee County, N. Y., prior to the War of 1812. The Chipman family, from which Mr. Loring is descended on the maternal side, is of English origin, and one of the old and distinguished families of New England.



GEORGE WHEELER, who for twenty-three years has been a resident of this county, is now engaged in farming on section 33, Pilot Township, where he owns and operates one hundred and twenty acres of land. He is a native of Mullingar, Westmeath, Ireland. His father, George Wheeler, was of English birth and became a soldier in the British army. His regiment was afterwards stationed at Mullingar, and it was during that time that the birth of our subject occurred. The father spent nearly his entire life in the army, his death occurring when George, Jr., was but a child.

Upon the war-ship "Conway" George Wheeler,

the subject of this sketch, acquired his education. He had a cadetship on that vessel, on which he first sailed from Liverpool when a lad of ten years. After completing his cadetship he followed the sea for three years as midshipman, during which time he visited Bombay and other ports of East India. During this period of his life he met with a very peculiar experience. The vessel was in mid-ocean, and in the darkness of the night the ship carpenter, whose mind had become unbalanced, rushed across the deck and plunged into the sea. The cry of "Man overboard!" rang out through the stillness. The Captain immediately threw over a life buoy and soon a boat was lowered and manned. Mr. Wheeler was one of the number sent out on the search. The little boat rode a long way from the vessel and the feeling of the men when they found themselves so far distant and upon the boundless ocean on a dark night can better be imagined than described. The rescue of the poor carpenter, however, was at length effected, and in safety the little boat load again reached the ship. In 1869, Mr. Wheeler left the sea and came to the United States, joining his mother, who had emigrated to the New World in 1865. She was then living on a farm near Herscher, the same on which our subject now resides. Mr. Wheeler at once went to her and managed the farm for her until her death, which occurred in October, 1876. This was his first experience as an agriculturist, and for several years it proved to be an uphill business, but as he became more accustomed to the work and by experience and observation gained an insight into its methods, he became a successful farmer and now has a good tract of land, well improved.

In this county, on the 4th of March, 1877, Mr. Wheeler was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Irene Ward, a most estimable and accomplished lady. She was born January 28, 1861, was reared and educated in Joliet and is a daughter of Samuel S. and Susan (Rugg) Ward, of that city. Four children have come to bless this union, three sons and a daughter, namely: George, John, Earl, and Mabel, who is a bright little maiden of two summers and the idol of the family. They lost one daughter, who died October 20, 1889, at the age of three years. Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler are

highly respected citizens, whose friends throughout the community are many.

Mr. Wheeler has won success through determined effort and good management. He possesses good business ability and his prosperity is well deserved. In politics he has generally been a supporter of the Democratic party, but his first Presidential vote was cast for Gen. U. S. Grant. He has never been an active politician in the sense of office-seeking, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests. He is regarded as a man of upright character and sterling worth, and has the respect of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



JAY ATTERSON FETTERLY, a commercial traveler and prominent citizen of Kankakee County, residing in Herscher, well deserves mention in this volume, for he is numbered among the early settlers of Pilot Township, whither he removed with his parents in 1853, when less than a year old. He was born in Branch, Branch County, Mich., on the 20th of September, 1852, and is a son of Lawrence Fetterly, whose birth occurred in Montgomery County, N. Y., March 11, 1816. The grandfather of our subject, George Fetterly, was a native of the Empire State. The family is of German descent and the ancestors are said to have been among the first settlers of the city of Albany. Later, they settled in the Mohawk Valley as far west as Utica. About 1826, George Fetterly and his family removed to Madison County, N. Y., which was then inhabited only by Indians. The grandfather made a settlement in the midst of the forest, where he cleared and developed a farm. He became one of the leading agriculturists and prominent citizens of that county.

Lawrence Fetterly grew to manhood in Madison County and after attaining mature years was united in marriage with Miss Emily Pieket. The lady was a native of Montgomery County, but was reared in Onondaga County. After his

marriage Mr. Fetterly purchased a farm in Oneida County and there carried on agricultural pursuits for a period of two years. He then returned to Madison County, where he spent the succeeding year. The year 1843 witnessed his removal Westward and saw him located in Branch, Branch County, Mich., where he engaged in clerking for six years. He then formed a partnership and built an ashery and engaged in that line of business for three years, after which he sold out and spent the following year in farming. It was in 1853 that he came to Illinois. Making his way to Kankakee County he arrived in Pilot Township April 15 of that year and pre-empted land, on which he located. This farm, which he still owns, he obtained from the Government and his deed is signed by President James Buchanan. Not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made upon the tract, but he at once began breaking it and in course of time placed the entire amount under the plow. He made it a valuable and desirable farm, whose fertility yielded him a comfortable income. There he carried on agricultural pursuits for a quarter of a century, and the farm which he operated is still in his possession.

When Lawrence Fetterly became a resident of Pilot Township the wolves were so plentiful that Jay, the son, has shot them from the doorway, and deer were so plentiful that they would run by on the premises. The prairie fires were a terror to the inhabitants in the early days, and ere they could hitch up four teams to run the fire line of furrows around their premises to save their homes and to burn the back line, the demon would be upon them. The Indians were oftentimes visitors to the Fetterly home and they would grind their knives upon the grindstone, oftentimes terrifying Jay with some of their peculiar motions, when he would scamper into the house.

When Mr. Fetterly first came to Pilot Township there was only one poor little log cabin in Pilot Grove, and when he first removed to Kankakee the wood-choppers were felling trees for building the first Court House. There were not half a dozen cabins erected on the present site of Kankakee city. There was not a church or schoolhouse in sight of their cabin home when they first settled



Lawrence Fetterly

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here. They have seen Kankakee in its primitive condition, indeed. Mr. Fetterly can remember the first caucus held in this township; it was composed of six members, and he can remember the following being present: Lawrence Fetterly, Morey Frink, Joe Carrow, Sr., Mr. Robinson and Azariah Buck.

Mr. Fetterly lost his wife in 1874. She departed this life on the 15th of May, and her remains were interred in Evergreen Cemetery of Chebanse, where a nice monument marks her resting-place. In 1881, Mr. Fetterly removed to Herscher with his youngest daughter, who, however, was married about a year later, when her father gave up housekeeping. For the last eight years he has resided with his son, the subject of this sketch. He is a hale old gentleman of seventy-six years and is an active member of the Presbyterian Church. He has the honor of being the oldest living resident of Pilot Township, and his fellow-citizens esteem him as a man of sterling worth.

Jay A. Fetterly is the only son in the family of four children and in order of birth is third. The eldest, Mary J., is now the wife of Jacob Holmes, who is engaged in the livery business in Kankakee; Liva M. is the wife of Charles W. Frith, who is engaged in farming in Cowley County, Kan.; Jay is the next younger; and Ida May is the wife of Charles Dunkelberger, a resident of Ida County, Iowa.

The subject of this sketch has spent almost his entire life in Kankakee County, the days of his youth being passed upon his father's farm. His early education, acquired in the common schools, was supplemented by two years' attendance at the Kankakee High School, after which he returned to his home and aided his father in the care and cultivation of the old homestead. In 1869, desiring to give his attention to some other pursuit, he went to Chebanse, where for three years he served an apprenticeship at the harness-maker's trade. After this, in the winter of 1872-73, he went to Michigan, where he engaged as a salesman of musical instruments and sewing-machines for George W. Wright, with headquarters at Cold Water. There he remained for two years, after which he returned home and again engaged in farm labor,

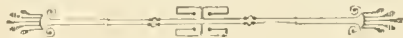
helping to operate the old homestead until 1879.

On the 3d of July of that year, Mr. Fetterly was married to Miss Sarah Yeoman, a native of Illinois, born in De Kalb, and a daughter of George S. Yeoman. Her father was born and reared in the Empire State and there married Miss Marengeline Mungler. About 1853, Mr. Yeoman removed with his family to De Kalb County, Ill., where he engaged in farming, but he spent the last years of his life in Kendall County. He died in July, 1868, and his remains were interred in the cemetery at Lisbon. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Yeoman removed to Iroquois County and is yet living with her children. Mrs. Fetterly was educated in Chebanse, in Francisville, Ind., and Onarga, Ill., and was a successful school teacher prior to her marriage. By the union of our subject and his wife were born two children, but the eldest, Lois E., died in infancy. The other is Mildred Josephine, and they have also an adopted daughter, Lyle Imogene.

After his marriage, Mr. Fetterly located in Herscher and embarked in the harness business, which he carried on successfully for a period of nine years. He then sold out, rented his store and accepted a position on the road as traveling salesman for the Garfield Manufacturing Company, of Chicago. He spent one year in the employ of that firm, after which he accepted a position with the Indiana Harness Company, of Indianapolis, with which he has now been connected for three years. In January, 1893, his salary was advanced and his duties extended, and he now has for his field as salesman and collecting agent the entire State of Illinois, and that he is successful is shown by his promotion. He is a pushing and industrious traveling salesman, for he possesses superior business ability and is energetic and progressive.

Mr. Fetterly is recognized as one of the prominent and valued citizens of Herscher. He owns a fine residence property in this place, also several business houses. He made a valuable discovery of gas on his land, striking a strong vein at the depth of forty feet, and he now has his residence heated and lighted by natural gas. This discovery on the part of Mr. Fetterly led others to search for

gas, and some have found it, although others have not as good a quality as that found at the home of our subject. The vein upon his place, however, is sufficient to heat and light the entire town. Since becoming a voter, Mr. Fetterly has been identified with the Republican party, but has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests. He is a faithful and consistent member of the Presbyterian Church and serves as one of its official board, while socially he is connected with the Cold Water Odd Fellows Lodge. Our subject and his wife rank high in the community in which they reside, their home is noted for its hospitality, and their friends are many. Mr. Fetterly is highly respected for his many excellencies of character and for the upright life which he has lived.



EDWARD F. RIETZ is the owner and proprietor of one of the most extensive and also the oldest lumber-yard of Kankakee. He is a native of Chicago, his birth having occurred in that city in 1859, when it was a place of much less importance than the thriving metropolises which we to-day find it. His early life was spent there and in Kankakee. His educational privileges were those afforded by the public schools, and his business training was received under the direction and in the employ of his father.

The name of Rietz has long been connected with the lumber interests of Kankakee. The father of our subject, E. G. W. Rietz, who is now a resident of Chicago, established a lumber-yard in this place in 1857, and continued to successfully conduct the same until 1886, when he was succeeded by his son, Edward F., the present proprietor. The office and yard are located on the corner of West Avenue and Station Street, and the premises cover an area of 157x350 feet. Suitable structures have been erected and spacious yards adjoin, so that the whole is complete. Mr. Rietz's yard is the recognized headquarters for lumber of all grades and

for everything that goes to make up a first-class lumber-yard. Private tracks have been laid from his grounds to the railroad near by, thus affording every facility for transportation. The business involves the handling of nearly three and a-half million feet of lumber per annum. A large trade was built up by the founder of this business, and the same has been retained by the present proprietor.

In Chicago, May 18, 1887, Mr. Rietz, of this sketch, was united in marriage with Miss Emily Grinner, of that city, and unto them have been born three interesting children, Elmer, Adele and Arthur. Mrs. Rietz is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Our subject and his wife are numbered among Kankakee's prominent and highly respected citizens, their home is the abode of hospitality, and they hold an enviable position in social circles where true worth and intelligence are received as the passports into good society. Mr. Rietz is one of the energetic and progressive young business men of Kankakee. He is sagacious and far-sighted, industry and strict integrity characterizing all his business dealings. He takes a commendable interest in whatever enterprises he believes are for the best interests of the community, and his aid is never withheld from any worthy object. Outside of his business relations, he has also gained many friends, having a wide acquaintance throughout both the city and the county.



EUGENE COMSTOCK, a well-known merchant of Herscher, Ill., is enrolled among the honored pioneers of Kankakee County, dating his residence in Pilot Township since 1856. He is a native of the Empire State, born in Onondaga County, on the 7th of December, 1841. His father, Samuel Comstock, was a native of the same county, while his paternal grandfather was born in one of the New England States, and was a valiant soldier in the War of 1812. On arriving at manhood, Samuel Comstock was united in marriage

with Sallie Trowbridge, who was born in New York, and was a daughter of Seth Trowbridge, who was of an old New England family. The remote ancestors on both sides originally came from England. For some years after his marriage the father of our subject carried on a farm in Onondaga County, and in 1856 removed with his family to Illinois. They suffered the almost incredible hardships and privations of life on the frontier, including sickness, fever and ague being the prevailing disease of those early days. Kankakee County, and indeed much of the surrounding country, was little better than a swamp, and therefore it is little wonder that there was so much sickness among the early settlers. Mr. Comstock operated his farm here for a number of years with good success, and spent the remaining years of his life with a son in Rock County, Wis. His death occurred in 1868, and his wife, who survived him for a number of years, departed this life at the residence of her daughter in Chebanse, Ill., in 1876. Their family consisted of three sons and one daughter, who grew to adult years. The eldest child, Seth T., died when a young man, in 1862; Sarah C. is the wife of Jonas H. Howe, of Emporia, Kan.; Eugene is the next in order of birth; and Truair, who was a soldier in the late war, contracted disease while in the service of his country, which resulted in his death in 1865.

When a lad of fourteen years our subject came from New York with his parents to Illinois, arriving in Kankakee County in 1856. He grew to manhood on the home farm in Pilot Township, and though he had had fair school advantages in the Empire State, his privileges in that direction were but limited after coming West. After attaining his majority he took charge of the homestead, and carried it on quite successfully. In February, 1865, Mr. Comstock donned the blue, joining the Ninth Illinois Cavalry in Chicago. With his regiment he was sent South to Mississippi and Alabama, and after a time was assigned on detached duty as clerk to the Provost-Marshal. While in that capacity he administered the amnesty oath to large numbers of Confederates. He received his discharge from the service in November, 1865, and at once returned to his family and home.

In the fall of 1863 Mr. Comstock was united in marriage, in Kankakee County, with Miss Luzene M. Miller, who was born in Ashtabula County, Ohio, and came to Illinois when a young lady. By their union were born two children: Arletta B., who became the wife of Lee Wadleigh, a farmer of Iroquois County; and Truair, a young man of good education, and who is his father's partner in the hardware business. The mother of these children departed this life in 1872, and in the autumn of 1873 Mr. Comstock married Miss Henrietta Sammons, a native of New York, who came West when a child, and was reared and educated in Illinois. Her father, David Sammons, is now deceased.

On his return from the army Mr. Comstock engaged in farming for two years in Pilot Township, which place he sold in 1867, and removed to Rock County, Wis., where he engaged in agricultural pursuits for a period of about one year. However, he preferred Kankakee County, and selling his farm in Wisconsin he again purchased land in Pilot Township, which he continued to operate until 1892. This property was a well-improved farm near Herscher, and as an agriculturist he was quite successful. Selling his land, he has since engaged in mercantile business in Herscher. He first purchased a half interest in a well-known hardware concern, but has since bought out his partner, and in his place has taken in his son, the firm being Eugene Comstock & Son. They have a well-equipped store, and carry a good stock of shelf and heavy hardware, and also handle farm implements. They are doing a very fair and satisfactory business, which gives good promise of rapidly increasing.

Mr. Comstock has voted for every Republican nominee in the Presidential elections since the year 1864, having cast his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln. He has held several local official positions to the satisfaction of all, being first elected Commissioner of Highways, next serving as Township Trustee, and then being appointed to fill an unexpired term as Supervisor, after which he was elected to the same office, and is now one of the Board of County Supervisors. He has been sent as a delegate to numerous county conventions in local politics and public affairs. Per-

sonally, Mr. Comstock is a man of most excellent character and habits, and one who makes friends on every hand. He is social and agreeable in manner, and his many friends are ever welcome in his hospitable and cultured home.



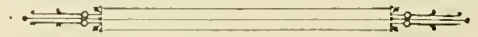
STEPHEN TART, Assessor of the city of Kankakee for 1892, and a veteran of the late war for the Union, was born in Alburgh, Grand Isle County, Vt., on the 12th of December, 1839. His parents, Peter and Rosalia (Terrien) Tart, were born near Montreal, Canada, and were of French descent. The father was a participant in the so-called Rebellion in Canada, and on its failure was obliged to abandon his native country. He crossed into the United States and settled in Grand Isle County, Vt., where he was soon followed by his wife and family. It was after that event that our subject was born with all the privileges of a native son of the United States. In 1849 Mr. Tart, Sr., with his family, emigrated to Illinois and settled in Bourbonnais Grove, Kankakee County, on the 17th of June of that year. He engaged in agricultural pursuits, and there maintained his residence until 1867, when he removed to Kankakee, where he made his home until his death, in 1880. His wife had died some two years previously.

Stephen Tart was reared on a farm and received common-school advantages in the district schools. He came to Kankakee in 1854, and was employed in a hotel until the 22d of February, 1862, when he enlisted in the defense of his country, becoming a member of Company I, First Illinois Light Artillery. He was afterward promoted to be Second Lieutenant, and was veteranized on the 17th of March, 1864. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Russell, siege of Corinth, capture of Vicksburg and the battles of Jackson, Miss., Chattanooga and Nashville, besides numerous minor engagements. He received an honorable discharge on the 25th of July, 1865, after the close of the

war. He was a faithful soldier, ever found at the post of duty, and one on whom his superior officers could rely.

On leaving the army Mr. Tart returned to Kankakee and resumed his former occupation. On the 6th of December, 1870, he married Miss Nettie Hughes, who was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., and is a daughter of Henry Hughes. Mr. and Mrs. Tart are the parents of two children, a son and a daughter, Arthur T. and Belle Augusta.

The subject of this sketch is a staunch supporter of the Republican party and principles, and has served his fellow-citizens for ten years as Alderman from the Third Ward of Kankakee. Socially, he is a member of Howard Lodge No. 218, I. O. O. F., where he passed all the chairs, and is also a member of Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R. Mrs. Tart holds membership with the Episcopal Church of this city. Our subject is a respected citizen of this section, and is well and favorably known in this vicinity, which he has made his home for a period of about forty years.



EDWARD C. LAMPORT carries on a farm situated on section 31, Momence Township. He is a native of Illinois, born in Ganier Township, Kankakee County, on the 15th of October, 1855. He was the youngest child of a family of five sons and five daughters born to Benjamin and Mary (Foree) Lamport, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this volume.

The entire life of our subject has been spent in this county, and since his boyhood days his attention has been turned to agricultural pursuits. He worked upon his father's farm during the summer season, attending school during the winter months. On arriving at maturity, he was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Alexander, their union being celebrated on the 19th of December, 1877. Mrs. Lamport is the daughter of James H. and Elizabeth (Malone) Alexander, both of whom were natives of Butler County, Ohio, and located in this county in 1857. The father died on the 24th of

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J. R. Easton



Esther Ann D. Barton

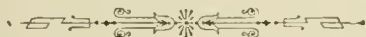


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February, 1884, at which time he was sixty-four years of age. The mother, who was born December 16, 1820, is still living at the ripe old age of seventy-one and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Lamport. Two daughters grace the union of our subject and his wife. They are Stella and Georgia, aged respectively thirteen and eleven years.

Mr. Lamport has served his fellow-citizens as Highway Commissioner of his district and uses his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party. Socially he holds membership with the Royal Arcanum Lodge No. 897, of Mومence. His farm, which consists of two hundred acres, is one of the best improved in the township of Mومence and is situated but two and a-half miles south of the city of that name. His property is a model of neatness and thrift, and shows on every hand the care and attention of its owner. As an agriculturist he has been very successful and uses the most improved methods to carry on his farm work.



JOHAN R. EASTON, a prominent resident of Buckingham, Ill., well deserves representation in this volume. J. G. Holland has said that the history of a nation is best told in the lives of its citizens, so the history of this county is best given in a record of its leading men. Mr. Easton is a native of Trumbull County, Ohio. He was born in the town of Mesopotamia, October 26, 1823, and is a son of John and Sophia (Densmore) Easton. The father was born in Hawley, Franklin County, Mass., December 8, 1790, and died December 3, 1875. He was reared to manhood in the usual manner of farmer lads, and his early training developed habits of industry and enterprise that have proved of incalculable benefit to him in his later years. His educational advantages were those afforded by the common schools. In March, 1815, he married Sophia Densmore, also of Hawley, Mass., and unto them were born five sons and four daughters, of whom six are

yet living, namely: Laura, widow of Job Griffin, who was a farmer of Bloomfield, Ohio. Sophia, wife of Joseph Wilcox, of Wisconsin. John R., whose name heads this record. Adin, a resident of Petoskey, Mich. Mary, wife of Isaac Lepper, of Bloomfield, Ohio; and Luman, also a resident of the Buckeye State.

The father of this family began life in humble circumstances, but by good management and well-directed efforts he acquired a comfortable competence, and was the owner of two hundred and twenty acres of valuable land in the township of Mesopotamia, Ohio. He was a prominent and influential citizen, and was honored with various offices of trust in this township. In politics he was a Republican, and himself and wife were both consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their two sons, Adin and Luman, were both soldiers in the Union army. The former served in many hard-fought battles, but both returned to their homes and are now respected citizens.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were spent in the Buckeye State. His education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood, which he attended during the winter season, while in the summer months he aided in the labors of the farm. He began work in the fields, and gave his father the benefit of his services until he attained his majority. The home of the Eastons was a log cabin, and the family lived in true pioneer style. Although they had to endure the hardships of the frontier, those were happy days, fraught with oldtime pleasures.

On attaining man's estate, Mr. Easton bade adieu to home and friends, and started for the West, having determined to try his fortune upon its broad prairies. It was in the fall of 1815 that he made a location upon the Onion River in Sheboygan County, Wis. The journey was made by way of the Great Lakes to Cleveland, Ohio, and from there to Milwaukee. The Badger State was then quite unsettled, and the Indians were far more numerous than the white men in most localities. Mr. Easton began life empty-handed, but though he had no capital, he possessed a strong determination to win success. He spent three years

in Wisconsin, and then returned to his native State, where he engaged in farming,

On his return to Ohio, Mr. Easton was married to Miss Esther A. Belden, a native of Farmington, Ohio. They were married about 1847, and lived happily together for five years, when death separated them. On the 30th of December, 1857, Mr. Easton was married in Lenox, Ohio, to Miss Gracia I. Southwell. A native of New York, she was born June 28, 1828. She was educated in the public schools and became a successful teacher. Her father was born in Massachusetts in 1802, and died in 1875. Her mother was a native of the Green Mountain State. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. By the union of our subject and his wife was born one son, Ransford Perrin, a resident of Herscher, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

In 1869, Mr. and Mrs. Easton left Ohio for Lockport, Will County, Ill., and there our subject engaged in the grocery business for three years. On account of ill-health, he sold out, and went to Rogers Township, Ford County, locating at Eldridgeville, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of partially improved land. The succeeding nine years of his life were spent in its cultivation, after which he removed six miles east of his old home, where he purchased a half-section of land. He also there resided for nine years, and then came to Buckingham. Here he erected a beautiful residence, and has since made it his home. He owns one hundred and sixty acres of land near Leon, Kan., together with good property in Kankakee, and some real estate in Nebraska.

In his political views, Mr. Easton was an old-line Whig from the time when he cast his first vote for Gen. Scott until the organization of the Republican party, when he joined its ranks. He has frequently been called to serve in offices of trust, but has usually declined. The few times he has done so, however, he has discharged his duties with such promptness and fidelity that he has won the commendation of all concerned. An honorable, upright man, his fair dealings in all the relations of life have won him universal confidence, and his word is considered as good as his bond. Himself and wife are held in the highest

esteem throughout the community, and their circle of friends and acquaintance is indeed large. Their home is the abode of hospitality, and its doors are ever open for the reception of their many friends.



DAVID LAVERY, who for almost his entire life has lived in Kankakee and the vicinity, was born in the city of Cork, Ireland, September 25, 1852. He is a son of Richard and Elizabeth (Barry) Lavery, both natives of the Emerald Isle. They emigrated to America in 1854, locating in Kankakee, where the father entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company as freight agent, and remained in their service for twenty-eight years. He has been a popular man in the community and has been called upon to fill various positions of trust and honor. He has served as Mayor of the city three different times and for a number of years was Alderman. He has also served many years as a member of the School Board. He has led an active and industrious life and for some years engaged in the grocery business. About the year 1888 he retired from the active cares of business life and is passing his remaining days in quiet and rest. He owns a comfortable home on the corner of Merchant and Washington Avenues. Though well advanced in life he is well preserved and active, physically and mentally. Politically, he is a Democrat, and he and his wife hold membership with the Catholic Church.

The family circle of four sons and four daughters is still unbroken. The three eldest children were born in Ireland and the others claim Kankakee as their birthplace. Richard married Miss Petie, of Vandalia, where they reside, he having been in the employ of the Illinois Central and Vandalia Railroad Companies for about eighteen years. They have five children. John married a Chicago lady, and to them have been born four children. He is engaged in the plumbing business in that city; George is the next in order of

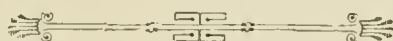
birth; Nora is the fifth child; Mary became the wife of George Carson, of Kankakee, and now resides in Chicago, where her husband is engaged in keeping books for Risser & Warden; Elizabeth and Annie complete the family.

On the 25th of October, 1877, David Lavery, the subject of this sketch, was united in marriage with Miss Loretta, daughter of Michael and Ellen (Gallaher) Mortelle, of Chicago, and to them have been born four daughters: Mary, Nellie, Clara and Bernadette.

In 1866 Mr. Lavery began working for the Illinois Central Railroad Company as messenger and errand boy, also assisting in the warehouse and in the yards as switchman. In July, 1876, he was appointed to the position of station agent at Chebanse, which he filled for six years. In 1882 he was made station agent at Kankakee, which situation he held continuously until the 27th of October, 1892. He has ever been most faithful and efficient in the discharge of his duties, and that his services have been appreciated as those of a steady and reliable man, is shown by the fact that he has been continuously employed by one company for a period of twenty-six years, in fact since his boyhood, and resigned his position on account of his health failing at that time.

Mr. and Mrs. Lavery are members of the Catholic Church. Socially, he is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters, Court No. 76, of Kankakee. He is affiliated with the Democratic party, but has never held any political office. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity, River View Lodge, of Kankakee. Mr. Lavery is a candidate for postmaster at Kankakee. It is not generally known that through his efforts Kankakee got its fame as a summer resort. It was through his influence that the General Passenger Agent consented to advertise Kankakee as a summer resort. Mr. Lavery was also first consulted in connection with the industries located at North Kankakee. The officials of the Illinois Central consulted him as to the standing and the character of the North Kankakee promoters. Mr. Lavery, having the interest of the city at heart, without much effort convinced the Illinois Central Railroad Company of the responsibility of the North Kan-

kakee Syndicate. We can say that Mr. David Lavery has done much in a quiet way to advance the prosperity of Kankakee, and these little instances will be news to many of the citizens of Kankakee City and vicinity, who may well be proud of such a citizen. Had Mr. Lavery thrown cold water on this enterprise, and said it was simply a land scheme, where would the progress of this city have been? We can say that he is entitled to more credit for the growth of Kankakee than people are aware of, as his good judgment shows in the advance of property and population, and the city of Kankakee is now one of the most progressive in the State.



hANNIBAL WORCESTER, for nearly forty years a resident of Momence, is a banker and influential citizen of this place. His birth occurred in Clarendon, Vt., on the 9th of May, 1829. His paternal grandfather was drowned many years ago, leaving a wife, who lived to be very aged and resided upon the same farm which was owned by her son for years afterwards. His maternal grandfather, Zachariah Johnson, was a farmer in Vermont in the same neighborhood with the other members of our subject's ancestors.

Hannibal is the son of John B. and Eunice (Johnson) Worcester, both of whom were natives of the Green Mountain State. The father was a farmer by occupation and made his home in Vermont until his death in 1842, being in the prime of life. His wife died in Momence, in 1872, at the age of sixty-seven years. In their family were nine children, seven sons and two daughters: Henriette, Maria, Albert, Horace, Hannibal, Horatio, Wallace, Julius, and Ezra, who died in infancy.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in the place of his birth, where he received a good common-school education. When about nineteen years of age he began learning the carpenter's trade, which occupation he followed for about four years, when he commenced clerking in a store, and from that time turned his attention

to mercantile pursuits. He had two uncles, Phillip Worcester and Rollins C. Hunter, who came to Momence in 1831, at which time it was the first town south of Chicago. In the fall of 1855 our subject joined his uncle in Momence, desiring to view the country and prospects. The same year he returned to his home, and in March, 1856, came again to Momence, where he opened a general store in partnership with his uncle, Franklin Worcester, and Dr. M. O. Clark, under the firm name of Worcester, Clark & Co. On the expiration of one year, Dr. Clark retired, and the business was continued under the firm name of H. & F. Worcester. In 1860 a new firm was formed, under the style of Worcester, Brayton & Co., which partnership consisted of F. Worcester, Lyman Wooster, Stephen Wheeler, Zeno C. Brayton and H. Worcester. They ran a distillery in connection with their mercantile business until they were forced to abandon it on account of the tax of twenty cents per gallon which was assessed. The partnership continued until January, 1863, when they sold out their entire stock of goods.

Our subject, in company with Mr. Brayton, engaged in the stock business, buying and shipping all kinds of stock for the two years succeeding. They then opened another general merchandise store and continued together until the fall of 1872, when they added banking to their business, and carried on both branches until the death of Mr. Brayton on the 25th of January, 1875. Mr. Worcester then purchased his partner's interest from the heirs and associated with him in both branches his brother-in-law, T. H. Stratton, and together they carried on the business until 1878. Mr. Worcester then sold his interest in the general store to his partner and became sole proprietor of the bank, which he has kept until the present time, it being known as the Exchange Bank.

On the 24th of January, 1859, Mr. Worcester and Miss Ellen Stratton were united in marriage. She is the daughter of William J. and Margaret E. (Patrick) Stratton, and by her marriage has become the mother of two children. Cora was married in the year 1882 to H. B. Hall, Jr., and died in 1885, leaving a daughter a year old, who bears the name of her mother, Cora E. William P. is in

the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad at Momence. Mrs. Worcester is a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, of which her husband, though not a member, is a regular attendant, and to which he gives his support.

In politics Mr. Worcester has always been identified with the Republican party since its organization. Until that time he voted the Whig ticket, casting his first ballot in 1852 for Gen. Scott. He has served as a delegate to both county and State conventions, and though he has never been an office-seeker, has been called upon to fill the office of Supervisor twice. He has ever taken an active part in all measures tending to the growth and progress of Momence and the surrounding vicinity, and has been a witness of much of its growth.



ABRAM EVERITT owns and operates a farm on section 8, Otto Township. He is a native of Illinois, and was born on the 7th of May, 1841, in Melleny County. His father, David Everitt, was born in the Empire State, his birth occurring in Steuben County in February, 1799. Upon arriving at man's estate he married Miss Wealthy Madole, a daughter of Hugh Madole, also a native of Steuben County. Mr. Everitt for a few years after his marriage engaged in farming in New York, and about the year 1839 emigrated Westward. He settled first in McHenry County, Ill., where he opened up a farm, and lived for several years. In the year 1851 he came to what is now Kankakee County, and located upon the identical farm where his son now resides. He entered a tract consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, which he proceeded to develop and improve. He went to Chicago, bought lumber and hauled it to the present site of the house, which he proceeded to erect, and where his son now dwells. For many years Mr. Everitt was actively employed as an agriculturist, and when he had secured a competency for his remaining years he retired, going to live in Chebanse

where he resided until his death in 1884. His wife had died many years previous, about the year 1872.

Abram Everitt is one of a family of twelve children who lived to maturity. His eldest brother, Walter, was a soldier in the Mexican War, and died in the service of his country. Of the large family, four brothers and two sisters are the only survivors. Our subject passed his early years engaged in the usual occupations of farmer boys. His school advantages were good, and have been supplemented by study and reading in later years. He remained with his father for several years after reaching his majority, relieving him of much of the care and labor of carrying on the home farm.

In 1872, our subject went to Kansas, where he purchased four hundred acres of land in Montgomery County. He remained there for two years, and during that time much improved that property, and among other things set out five miles of hedge. He then sold the land and returned to Illinois, soon afterwards going to Indiana, where he located upon land in Benton County, which he operated for about two years. Returning to Illinois, he bought eighty acres of unimproved prairie, and made of it a good farm. In 1878 he returned to the homestead in Kankakee County, and has since been actively engaged in its further development. He now has eighty acres of his father's original farm, which is under a high state of cultivation and is a valuable piece of property. As an agriculturist, Mr. Everitt has been eminently successful, and has overcome all discouragements with perseverance and courage.

In Watseka, Ill., on the 5th of October, 1875, Mr. Everitt married Miss Leona Ladux, who was born in Kankakee County. She died, leaving one son, Frank Melvin. Our subject was again married, in Kankakee, on the 26th of April, 1886, at which time Miss Anna Lettia Britton became his wife. Mrs. Everitt is a native of Canada, her birth occurring near the city of Montreal, and there she was reared and educated. She is a daughter of James E. Britton, of Canada.

The Republican party has always received the support of Mr. Everitt since he became a voter. His first ballot was cast for Gen. U. S. Grant.

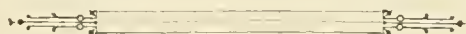
Though never desiring or aspiring to hold official positions, he has several times been prevailed upon to accept the same. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and supporter, and he has served several years as a member of the School Board. Since a child, Mrs. Everitt has been a member of the Episcopal Church, to which she still belongs. Our subject has spent almost his entire life in Otto Township, and is well and favorably known throughout this community. In his personal character he is upright and honorable, and wins the confidence and friendship of all.



JOHAN CLARENCE BURT has been business manager of the Illinois Eastern Hospital for the Insane since March, 1885, and an employe of that institution since March, 1880. His birth occurred on the 9th of September, 1856, at Lake Geneva, Wis. His parents, Roswell and Roxalana (Mathews) Burt, were both natives of Essex and Elizabethtown, N. Y., respectively, and emigrated to the Territory of Wisconsin in 1838. They were numbered among the early settlers and pioneers of Walworth County. The father was a soldier in the War of the Rebellion, and a member of Company F, Fortieth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers, and died in 1872. The mother survives, and makes her home in Lake Geneva, Wis.; she has two children living: Mary E. Burt, prominent as an author and teacher of literature, and a member of the Board of Education of Chicago; and John C. Burt, of Kankakee. The latter attended the public schools in Wisconsin, and when prepared, entered the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and graduated in the Class of '75 from the departments of science, literature and the arts, receiving the degree of Ph. C. After this he engaged in the drug business at Elgin, Ill., until September, 1879, when he married and removed to Chicago, where he attended Rush Medical College until the 6th of March, 1880, when he accepted a position at the Illinois Eastern Hospital as pharmacist and supervisor, which office he filled to the

satisfaction of the Board of Trustees, and was accordingly promoted in March, 1885, to the position of business manager, and from 1891 to 1893 had charge of construction work as building superintendent.

Mr. Burt was married in Janesville, Wis., on the 24th of September, 1879, to Miss Minnie R. Otis, who is a native of Brooklyn, N. Y. She is the daughter of Seldon E. Otis, of Janesville, Wis. Politically, Mr. Burt casts his ballot in favor of the principles of the Republican party. He is a Master Mason, holding membership with Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M. In the business management of the hospital Mr. Burt has demonstrated that public business can be managed on business principles, and has enjoyed the distinction of holding the only office of the kind in Illinois, an office demanding detailed knowledge of the care of the insane, as well as thorough information of the duties of employes of the various working departments, keeping all in harmony, and winning for himself many warm friends in the institution and in Kankakee.

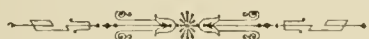


CHESTER METCALF, who carries on a farm on section 26, Ganier Township, was born on the same farm on which he now resides on the 5th of February, 1847, and is a son of Silas Metcalf, a native of Ontario County, N. Y., where his birth occurred on the 15th of February, 1813. The father was of English descent and married Sarah Irvin, who was of Irish extraction and was born on the 31st of September, 1819, in Muskingum County, Ohio. Eleven children were born of this union: Mary E., who died October 24, 1861; Irvin, a plumber by trade, who resides in Grand Island, Neb.; our subject, Chester; Almira, who departed this life March 16, 1856; Cora, the wife of Solomon Kenrich, now residing in Momence; Orris, living upon the old homestead; Jessie, the wife of Eugene Babeock, of Nebraska; Silas, who died July 29, 1859; Paul, a carpenter of Nebraska; Edwin, a resident of Ohio, Neb.; and Jen-

nie, who departed this life March 24, 1876. The father of this family was largely self-educated and began life by working as a farm hand. In the fall of 1838, he came to Illinois, making the trip Westward alone on horseback. He came in order to view the country and to make preparations for his family. He located in what was then Iroquois, but is now Kankakee County, purchasing three hundred and twenty acres in Momence Township. The land contained a few acres which were broken and a log house. About 1840, Mr. Metcalf went to Chicago and engaged in general merchandising for about eighteen months. He purchased the farm on which his son, our subject, now lives, of the Government. This tract consisted of eighty acres on section 26, Ganier Township, for which he paid \$1.25 per acre. He moved upon this farm and built a small frame house, in which he spent the most of his remaining days. The Indians had not left for their western reservation when he first located in this vicinity. Mr. Metcalf was a Republican in politics and helped to organize that party in Kankakee County. He held the offices of Supervisor, Highway Commissioner, School Director and School Trustee and was prominent in all local affairs. His death occurred on the 29th of March, 1875, and his remains are interred in the Mt. Airy Cemetery.

As before mentioned, our subject passed his boyhood days on the farm which he now operates. His educational privileges were those afforded by the district schools of the neighborhood, which he attended during the winter terms until twenty years of age. Two years later he commenced his career as a teacher, which occupation he followed for nineteen consecutive years. During this time he taught school in Iowa, Indiana and Nebraska, but most of the time in Kankakee County. In 1889, Mr. Metcalf settled down upon the old homestead and has since devoted himself to agricultural pursuits in partnership with his brother Orris. They are engaged in fruit-growing and gardening in addition to general farming. The place, which is well improved, consists of eighty acres. Our subject also own forty acres adjoining. His mother is still living and makes her home with her son Orris.

On the 16th of November, 1892, Mr. Metcalf wedded Mrs. Eva Perkins, *nee* Stoner, daughter of John Stoner, of Lake, Ind. Politically, Mr. Metcalf casts his ballot in favor of the nominees of the Republican party. He has served in various local positions of trust and honor, among them those of School Director and School Trustee. Having been so long a teacher he has always taken a lively interest in the cause of education and is a firm believer in the grand public school system of our country.



CHARLES BIGALOW, who is engaged in farming on section 26, Salina Township, and is the owner of a broom factory in this neighborhood, claims New York as the State of his birth, which occurred in Essex County, the date being August 25, 1825. His parents, Clark and Ruby (Sherman) Bigalow, had a family of thirteen children, of whom our subject is third in order of birth. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent upon his father's farm in the usual manner of farmer lads, and the public schools of his neighborhood afforded him his educational privileges. However, by reading, experience and observation he has made himself a well-informed man. He remained with his parents until twenty years of age, when he left home and learned the mason's trade. He then worked at that occupation at various times in the Empire State, where he remained until 1853. That year witnessed his emigration Westward.

Ere his removal from New York, however, Mr. Bigalow was married. It was in 1850 that he was married to Miss Mary Ann Reynolds, who survived her marriage, however, only a short time, dying in 1852, leaving one child, a daughter. The following year, Mr. Bigalow removed to Illinois, taking up his residence in Joliet, where the succeeding nine years of his life were passed. During that period he was engaged in working at the mason's trade. It was also during that interval that he was again married, in 1855, being

united with Miss Isabella Skinner. Six children have been born of this union, but three are now deceased: Osear, the eldest; Ida, the third, and Mary, the fifth child. The others are Ella; Charles, who married Miss Mary Armstrong August 5, 1891, a daughter of John and Mary (Golding) Armstrong, and a native of Illinois, who was born February 22, 1873; and Nora. One little son, Earl, has blessed the union of Charles and his wife.

On coming to Kankakee County in 1862, Mr. Bigalow located in Aroma Township, where he rented land for two years. He then removed to the farm which is still his home, having purchased forty acres of improved land on section 26, Salina Township. Here he carries on general farming with the aid of his son, and he also owns a broom factory, which is now operated by Charles. He is a man of good business ability and enterprising. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and in politics is a supporter of the Republican party, but has never been an office-seeker. In the community where he has now resided for almost a third of a century he has many friends who hold him in high esteem for his sterling worth.



JOEL B. LEWIS is one of the old settlers and prominent men of Kankakee County, and he has been one of the leading politicians and public-spirited men of this locality. For over forty years he has owned and carried on a farm on section 22, Yellowhead Township. His birth occurred June 21, 1826, in Fabius, Onondaga County, N. Y. He is a son of Milo and Emma (Merrill) Lewis, to whom were born seven children, three sons and four daughters. The father was a native of New York, and was of Welsh origin. He removed to Sheboygan County, Wis., in 1851, was a prosperous farmer, and departed this life at the age of fifty-seven years. The mother was a native of New York, and of German descent.

Our subject spent his early boyhood and youth on his father's farm in the Empire State, where he

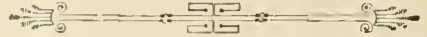
received a good education for that day. He left the parental roof on attaining his majority, and started out in the world to make his fortune. On the 6th of May, 1817, he married Miss Maria Shedd, who was also a native of the Empire State. One child, a son, was born of their union, Herbert, who is an enterprising farmer of Yellowhead Township. Mrs. Lewis died on the 8th of October, 1888, and her last resting-place is in Union Corners Cemetery.

For five years subsequent to his marriage, Mr. Lewis engaged in teaching school and also farmed some in his native State. The year 1852 witnessed his arrival in Yellowhead Township, where he purchased an eighty-acre tract of wild land. There were very few inhabitants of this locality at that time, and he was subject to the many inconveniences and hardships of pioneer life. He taught school in this district during the early days for two terms, but has since devoted himself exclusively to the improvement of his farm. He now possesses one hundred and seventy acres, making in every respect a fine farm, which is situated three miles east of Grant Park. He has a pleasant residence, and on every hand may be seen the marks of the owner's care and attention.

Mr. Lewis and Miss Carrie O., daughter of Orington and Clarissa (Blanchard) Lewis, were united in marriage on the 21st of January, 1892. The lady was born May 8, 1856, in Onondaga County, N. Y., received her education at Hamilton, N. Y., and has spent the greater portion of her life in that State. She too was a teacher for many years.

During the early years of his residence here, Mr. Lewis was Assessor of the township for five years, and at that time was acquainted with almost every one in it. For the same length of time he served as Township Supervisor, and has held most of the local offices. With Messrs. Alonzo Curtis and Reuben Richardson, he was the means of getting the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad to put their line through this county. Mr. Lewis was appointed census-taker of the township in 1880, and in all local affairs has been one of the most active and progressive. He is intelligent and well posted on the leading issues and topics of the day. He

holds membership with Grant Park Lodge No. 710, A. F. & A. M. Politically, he is a supporter of the Democratic party. Mrs. Lewis is a member of the Baptist Church.

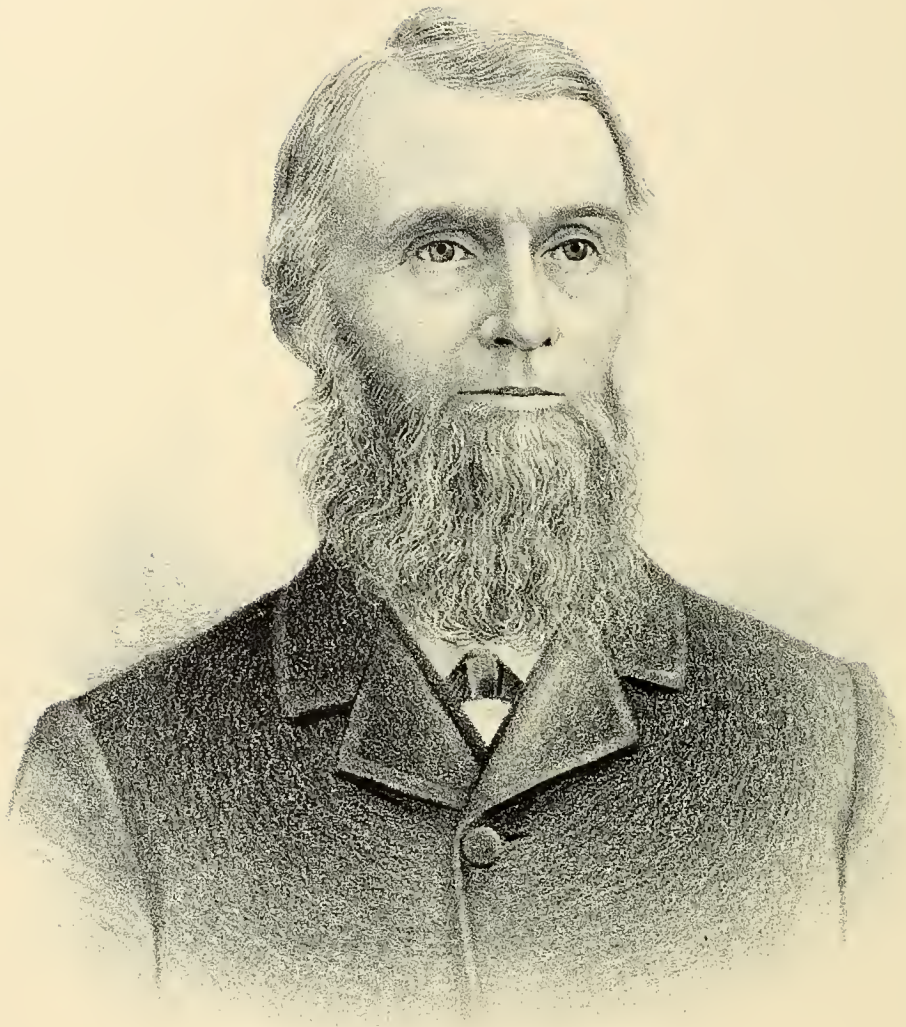


REV. JOHN T. RICHARDSON, deceased, was born on the 21st of February, 1812, in Circleville, Ohio, and was one of four children born to John and Rachel (Trigot) Richardson. His father was of English descent, while his mother was of French extraction. Ellen T., wife of Daniel T. Van Meter, is the only surviving member of the family.

The boyhood days of Mr. Richardson were passed in his native village, where he also received his education, and where, in 1834, he wedded Miss Jane B. McDougall. Her father, James McDougall, was of English origin, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812. Nine children graced the union of our subject and wife, five of whom yet survive. John Homer married Miss Sarah Glaze, and their family comprises six children: Clara J., Luna, Charles, Verner, Frank and Alfred. Ellen F. is the wife of Milo R. Peters, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this work. Joseph A. wedded Miss Mary Hazelton, and their home is Burch, S. Dak.; they have six children: Charles, Eva, Clara, Minnie, Mamie and George. Ada, wife of Joseph A. Davis, resides near Paris, in southern California. Clara A. J. married J. Howard Shingle, now of Glenmore, Pa., and to them have been born three children: Lester, Clyde and Margerie.

Mr. Richardson was a minister of the Methodist Church, and one of the pioneer circuit-riders. After his marriage he left Circleville, Ohio, and located in Noblesville, Ind., where he lived for nearly ten years, during which time he operated a bakery and preached also. In 1849 he came to Kankakee County, and after remaining a short time in Bourbonnais, settled in Rockville Township, where he bought farms, improved and then sold them. In 1869, he located in Manteno, near which he operated a small farm, and still continued

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his preaching. His services as a minister were given freely, and with the exception of a short time when he was located on a regular charge, he never received any pecuniary recompense. On the 15th of March, 1872, he was called from this life, being then about sixty years of age. His wife survived him a number of years and passed away on the 15th of November, 1884, aged seventy-two years. They were among the very early settlers of Rockville Township, and were ever held in the highest regard by many friends and fellow-citizens. Mr. Richardson was active in the cause of the Master, and was conscientious and upright to the highest degree. He bore the hardships and difficulties of pioneer life with fortitude and courage, and his entire life was an open book to all.



DANIEL W. DOLE, a dealer in hardware and agricultural implements in Manteno, is one of the honored early settlers of this county, which has been his home since 1852. He was born in Shelburne Township, Franklin County, Mass., on the 4th of April, 1829, and is one of eight children born to Orrin and Lucinda (Kemp) Dole, who were both natives of Massachusetts. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Enoch Dole, was a farmer in the Bay State, reared a large family, and lived to be quite advanced in years. He was three times married and had two children by each marriage, but only one is living, Mrs. Julia Edwards, of Wisconsin. Orrin Dole in his younger days was a cooper by trade, but soon gave up that occupation and devoted nearly all his life to farming. He left Massachusetts and removed to Ohio in 1843, where he made a settlement in Lyme Township, Huron County, which was his home during the remainder of his life. Both he and his wife are now deceased, and of their five sons and three daughters but five are living: Daniel W. is the eldest; George S. and Edwin reside in Bellevue, Ohio; Orrin lives in Elyria; and Julia is the wife of James Stocking, a Congregational minister of Colorado.

Mr. Dole, whose name heads this sketch, was reared on his father's farms in Massachusetts and Ohio, and remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-three years of age. His school privileges were as good as could be obtained in the common schools of that early day. On the 23d of February, 1851, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Samantha Smith. Her parents, who were both natives of Rutland, Vt., were Ira W. and Lois (Beckwith) Smith. Mrs. Dole was born in Lorain County, Ohio, January 1, 1836, and when seven years of age came with her parents to what is now Kankakee County. She is the second in order of birth of six children, of whom four are still living. Her mother died June 7, 1847, and later her father married again. By his second wife he had a family of nine children, though only three of them are living. Both of Mrs. Dole's parents were active workers in the Baptist Church. Mr. Smith was a prominent man in his township and among his best friends were many of the leading men of the county. As he was an extensive sheep-raiser, and as there were several Smiths in the vicinity, he was widely known as "Sheep Smith."

Four sons and three daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dole. Walter R., who follows the trade of a carpenter in Peotone, Ill., married Miss Jennie Styles, and they have an adopted daughter, May. Lois N. is the second child. Ira B. died May 28, 1888, leaving a wife, who was formerly Miss Izetta Bernard, and two children, Clarence and Ira. Lucinda resides at home. Hattie C. became the wife of William Lownes, who owns and carries on a farm in Rockville Township. Their family comprises a son and three daughters: Carrie, Elmer, Bertha and Margery. Henry D. and Frederick complete the number.

In 1852 Mr. Dole came directly West from Ohio to Illinois, where, after working for some two years, he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Rockville Township, this county. After cultivating this tract and living upon it for three years, he sold it and purchased two hundred and thirty-five acres on section 7. After thirteen years devoted to the improvement of this farm, he, in 1873, sold it to his father's estate and

held his interest as an heir to his father's property. Then removing to Manteno, he bought the hardware store of Spring Bros., which is still in his possession, and which business he has conducted for nineteen years. For a number of years he was largely engaged in raising sheep, and on one occasion during the war sold one load of wool which brought him \$1,000. He afterward, however, found that sheep-raising was unprofitable in this locality, on account of the numerous fatal diseases that from time to time carried the sheep off by the score. He therefore turned his attention strictly to farming. At the time of his settlement in this locality the Illinois Central Railroad was staked out, but no other work had been done upon it. He sometimes walked the entire distance to Chicago, because he could make better time than the slow-going stage of those early days.

Mr. Dole has never cared to hold office, but was Assessor for one year. Politically, he is a Republican. Both he and his wife hold membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is at the present time one of the Trustees, which office he has held for many years, and has also a number of times served as Steward. He is held in the highest esteem by many friends and acquaintances who know his true worth.



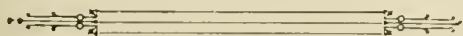
WILLIAM F. STRUNK, Justice of the Peace, is one of the early settlers of this county. He is a native of the Empire State, his birth occurring in Olean, Cattaraugus County, on the 19th of July, 1836. His paternal grandfather carried on agriculture in New York and was quite an extensive stock-raiser. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and died in 1856, at the age of eighty-one years. The maternal grandfather of our subject was a miller and millwright in the East and among the pioneer settlers of Illinois, coming to this State as early as 1837 with John Strunk, the father of our subject, both of them bringing their families and settling near Wilmington, where they purchased land and lived for a

number of years. The father ran a mill, which was swept away by floating ice in the winter of 1848-49. Our subject is a son of John and Martha (Forbes) Strunk, both natives of the State of New York, where the father for many years ran a flouring-mill at Jamestown. In their family were three children, two daughters and a son: Mary, who died when about twenty years of age; William, and Helen, who became the wife of Horatio D. Worcester, of Momence, whose death occurred in 1880. Mrs. Worcester afterward wedded Rev. George Moore, who is the present rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd of Momence. In 1849 the father came to Momence, and bought a third interest in the flouring-mill of Chatfield Todd, which business he continued in until 1855, when, on the 12th of July, he died with the dread disease, cholera.

Mr. Strunk, the subject of this sketch, in his boyhood and youth worked in his father's mills, and after the latter's death he continued to carry on the business. In July, 1861, he became a member of Company D, Forty-second Illinois Infantry, and bravely fought for the stars and stripes until October, 1864, at which time he was mustered out of service. He was wounded in the battles of Chickamanga and Stone River and participated in many of the hard-fought engagements of the war, serving all through the Atlanta campaign. After returning from the war he again went to work in the old mill in the employ of Patterson & Hamilton, and about two years later, entering into partnership with Henry Miller, he rented the mill, buying the lease of Patterson & Hamilton, and together they continued in business until 1875, when the property was sold to Gen. Cass, who tore the old mill down a few years later. On the 23d of October, 1872, Mr. Strunk was married to Miss Elizabeth Gilmore, of Momence, whose parents were natives of Canada, but came to Chicago and there died in 1854 of cholera.

Our subject owns a number of houses and lots in Momence, over which he keeps a careful supervision, but has not been actively engaged in business life since selling the mill property. In 1884, he was elected Justice of the Peace, which office he still holds, and is also now serving as one of

the City Aldermen, which position he has held almost since the incorporation of the town. For three terms he was the Mayor of Momence, and in all public capacities has proved efficient and trustworthy. While not a member of any church, Mr. Strunk contributes to the support of the various churches of Momence. His wife is a member of the Episcopal Church. Socially, our subject is a member of Momence Lodge No. 181, A. F. & A. M., with which he united about 1866, and also of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T., of Kankakee. He uses his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, of which he is a staunch adherent. He is one of the very earliest settlers of Momence, having come here forty-two years ago, when fences were not to be seen and there were not more than a dozen houses in the vicinity, two or three of them being log cabins. Wild animals and game of all kinds still roamed over the prairies, which in their barren and wild state gave little promise of what was to be in the coming years. In his personal appearance our subject is a tall, rugged looking man of modest mien and kindly disposition, and is highly respected in the community. His mother, who is now very old, is still living and makes her home with our subject on what is known as the "Island," situated near one of the main streets between the two branches of the Kankakee River.



JACOB E. WILLMAN, a leading citizen of Kankakee, has the honor of being a native of this county and is a representative of one of its pioneer families. His father, Carl Willman, is a native of Germany. Having crossed the broad Atlantic to America, he came to Illinois in 1854, and took up his residence in the city of Kankakee, where he yet makes his home. He is numbered among the early settlers of the community and has witnessed much of its growth and upbuilding. His wife, the mother of our subject, died many years ago.

The Willman family numbered seven children,

three sons and four daughters. Amelia, the eldest of the family, is now the wife of Philip Schnable, and a resident of Geneseo, Henry County, Ill. Minnie is the wife of F. Erzinger, who makes his home in Hoopetown, Ill. Julia married Christian Mire, of San Luis, Cal., where they now reside. Charles G., the eldest of the brothers, is a resident of Fillmore, Cal. Jacob E., of this sketch, is the next younger. Carrie, wife of Sigle Green, resides in Plattsmouth, Neb.; and John L., who completes the family, is now located in Idaho.

Mr. Willman, our subject, was born in Kankakee on the 3d of April, 1855, and his entire life has been passed in the city of his birth. As to his business, he has generally followed the occupation of farming, and for a period of five years, from 1883 until 1888, he held the position of Superintendent of the Kankakee County Poor Farm. His management of the county property was most satisfactory and acceptable to the people, as his long continuance in that office gives evidence.

February 8, 1876, Mr. Willman was united in marriage to Miss Mary McLane, a native of Pennsylvania. Her father, Enos McLane, emigrated to this county in 1865, accompanied by his family, but he was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, for soon after his arrival he was accidentally drowned in the Kankakee River. Mrs. McLane also passed away several years ago. Their family numbered seven children. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Willman have been born four children, all sons, as follows: Arthur Charles, Jerome E., Herman P. and Clarence Walter. All the family are members of the German Evangelical Association of Kankakee.

Mr. Willman is also numbered among the early settlers of the county, for his residence here covers a period of more than thirty-seven years. He has witnessed much of its growth and upbuilding and has borne a part in its development and advancement. He takes a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and gives his support to those enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party but has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking. In December, 1892, he assumed

the duties of the office of Coroner, which position he still holds. He is a well-known and highly respected citizen, whose sterling worth and many excellencies of character have won him universal esteem. Mr. Willman has been quite successful in his business undertakings, as starting with nothing, he has accumulated valuable property.



FREDERICK POLLMANN, of Kankakee, has been a resident of this county since 1864. At that time he settled upon a new farm in Pilot Township, on section 5. He purchased his original farm of eighty acres for \$6 per acre and afterward increased his possessions to one hundred and twenty acres. He erected good buildings and made other improvements, making of his place one of the best farms in that portion of the township.

Our subject is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred October 23, 1821, in Lippe-De-mold. His father, Henry Pollmann, was a farmer by occupation, and his family consisted of three sons and three daughters. Two of the brothers and sisters are all who ever left the Fatherland to take up their abode in America. The first to leave the parental roof was our subject, who crossed the briny deep in 1848, and upon his arrival in New York City went at once to St. Louis. There he continued for some time, when, going to Pekin, Ill., he made that city his home for a number of years.

Mr. Pollmann was united in marriage with Miss Louise Kumlehn on the 22d of February, 1852, in St. Louis, Mo. The lady was born in Brunswick, Germany, August 13, 1827, and emigrated to America about the year 1850. Her parents never left the Fatherland, but died in the State of their nativity while Mrs. Pollmann was quite a young girl. Our subject was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who passed away April 10, 1891. They had journeyed through life together for nearly forty years. Their union was blessed by two daughters, the eldest of whom, Mary, is the

wife of Jacob Goecker, of Essex Township, Kankakee County. Louise resides with her father in their pleasant home in Kankakee.

Mr. Pollmann removed with his family to Kankakee in 1881, which he has made his home up to the present time. He, however, continued to own his farm property until 1892, at which time he sold the same and, wholly retired from active business cares, now enjoys the rest he has so well earned by his years of toil and industry. Mr. Pollmann has ever been esteemed a worthy and representative citizen. Settling as he did upon a new farm which he improved and made a valuable place, he thus contributed to the material growth and development of the county. He and his daughter are attendants at St. John's Evangelical Church of Kankakee. Politically, Mr. Pollmann is a Republican, though never an aspirant for public office.



WILLIAM CLEGHORN, Secretary and Cashier of the Kankakee Stone and Lime Company, was born in Port Hope, county of Durham, Province of Ontario, Canada, August 1, 1839, and is a son of John W. and Artemisia (Burnham) Cleghorn, who were from Ogdensburgh, N. Y. The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in his native county, and in the spring of 1865 he came to Kankakee, where he was employed as agent of the American Express Company for five years. Afterward, he was engaged in the grocery business for four years, then accepting the position he now holds with the Kankakee Stone and Lime Company, which position he has filled to the satisfaction of the company since 1872, or for a period of twenty years.

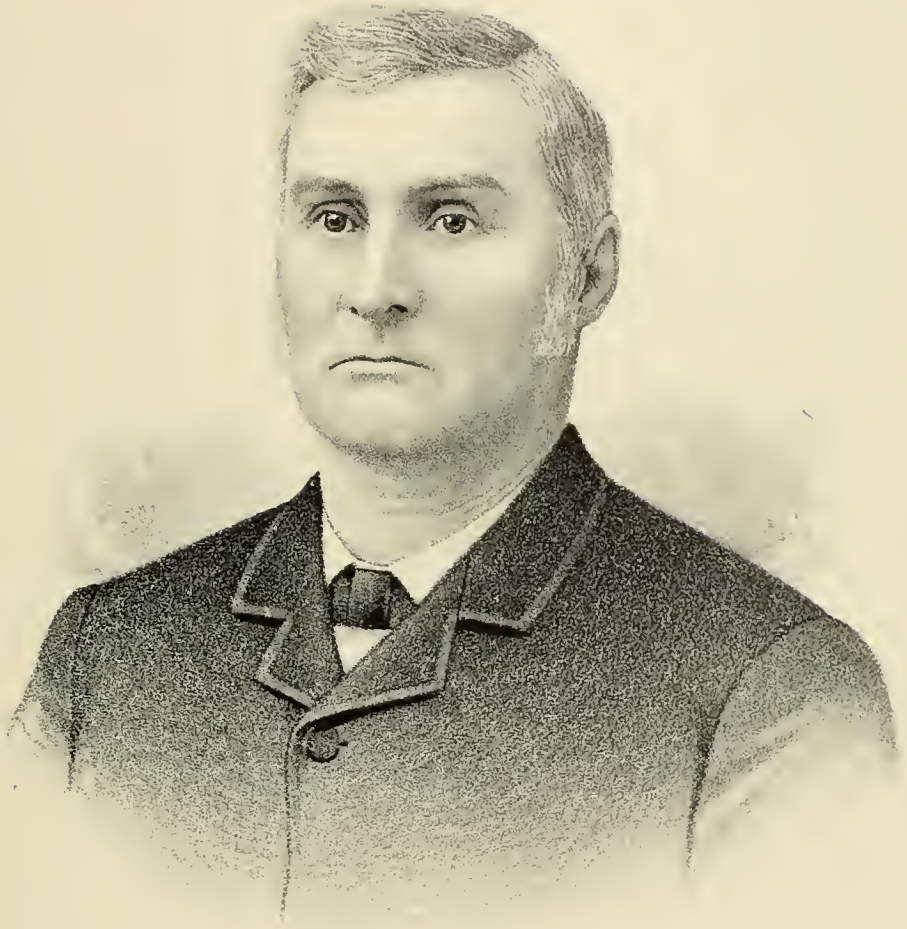
On the 30th of January, 1874, Mr. Cleghorn wedded Miss Martha J. Perry, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, and a daughter of James C. Perry. Two children, a son and daughter, grace their union: Leila Belle and Duane Perry.

Mr. Cleghorn uses his right of franchise in favor of the Democratic party. He and his family are members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church at Kanka-

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kee. Mr. Cleghorn is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M.; a charter member of Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M.; and of Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T.

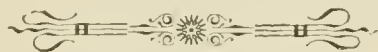


HENRY S. BLOOM, one of the few surviving pioneers of Kankakee County who came in the '30s, is now a resident of Kankakee. He was born in Bradford County, Pa., on the 5th of August, 1820, and is a son of David and Polly (Rutty) Bloom. He emigrated to Illinois with his parents in 1834, and settled on section 23, Rockville Township, Kankakee County, in 1837. There were then living in that portion of the county only Noel Le Vasseur, Dr. Todd, Wilham Rantz and Samuel Davis. The first milling was done at Green's Mills, at the mouth of the Fox River, some forty miles away, and in those days a week's journey. Supplies were obtained from Wabash County, Ind., and on one occasion Mr. Bloom was obliged to go to Bourbonnais Grove, six miles distant from his home, to borrow fire, which he brought in a brass kettle, at that time lucifer matches being unknown in that wild region.

In Wilmington, Will County, on the 11th of December, 1844, occurred the wedding of Mr. Bloom and Miss Elizabeth A. Kearns, who was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., on the Mohawk. She is a daughter of John and Margaret Kearns. To our subject and his wife were born the following children, of whom eleven are now living. Guy married Jane Noble and resides in Joliet; Edith is at home; Hilda is the wife of Joseph Monty; May is now deceased; Inez is with her parents; Ivan married Fannie Zanes; David wedded Henrietta Davis and resides in St. Louis, Mo.; Linda is the wife of Enoch Loving, of Yuma, Cal.; Victor died at Leadville, Colo., aged twenty years; Osburga is at home; Thomas D. is now in California; Maggie and Belle are at home, and Harry Lee resides in the city of Mexico, Mo.

Mr. Bloom has always engaged in agricultural

pursuits until 1876, when he removed to Kankakee, where he has since resided. In early life he was a Democrat but is now a Prohibitionist. He was one of the commissioners who organized Kankakee County in 1853, and has a number of times been honored by his fellow-citizens in the election or appointment to various local offices. He was elected Justice of the Peace at the early age of twenty-two and occupied that position for fourteen years. At some time or other he has also filled all of the township offices, with the sole exception of Collector. He was appointed Postmaster of Rockville by President Pierce. Among other responsible duties, Mr. Bloom has been serving as the efficient Secretary of the Kankakee Agricultural and Horticultural Society. In all of the responsible positions which he has filled, our subject has acquitted himself creditably. He has been associated with the Grange of Illinois, and was a member of the Rockville Grange, also of the Kankakee Grange, of which he was Master. The latter is now non-affiliated. Mr. Bloom possesses a rich fund of information and is an entertaining talker; especially pleasing is his relation of the early incidents and settlement of Kankakee County, where he has passed fifty-five years of his life. Both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church of Kankakee.



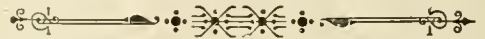
JOSEPH LEGRIS. Conspicuous among the early pioneers of Kankakee County of French-Canadian birth, who distinguished themselves by their financial success in their new homes, was the subject of this sketch. He was born in St. Leon, Province of Quebec, Canada, on the 7th of September, 1827, and was a son of Moses and Sylvia (Flageole) Legris, who were also natives of Canada and were of French extraction. They came to what is now Kankakee County, Ill., in 1843, and settled in Bourbonnais, where they were joined the following year by their son Joseph, who made his home in that town.

Our subject was married on the 10th of May, 1857, in Bourbonnais, to Miss Cleophe Sylvester, who was born on the 17th of February, 1841, at Cape St. Ignace, Province of Quebec, and came to Illinois with her parents in 1848. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Legris, as follows: Rev. Gerasime Legris, A. M., professor of philosophy of history at St. Viateur's College, Kankakee, Ill.; Frederick E., who married Miss Mary Joubert and is a resident of Kankakee, doing a brokerage business and having charge of his father's estate; Alphonso E., a law student, who died at the age of twenty-one years; Maria, deceased; Harvey J., who married Miss Louise Granger, and is engaged in the real-estate business in Kankakee; Mary, who resides with her mother in Bourbonnais; Louisa, who died when two years of age; and Thomas A., the youngest of the family, now a student at St. Viateur's College.

In 1853 Mr. Legris went to California, where he spent three and a-half years in gold-mining, and was quite successful, as he returned with about \$7,000 in gold. His father had preceded him to California on the first breaking out of the gold fever in 1849, and returned about 1852. Joseph, being the eldest of the children, remained in charge of the family during his father's absence. In 1853 the father and our subject went to California together, and the former made several journeys to and from California during several years. In the course of his travels he had various interesting adventures and experiences, as did also our subject. They made the trip to California by way of New York and the ocean route, and returned the same way.

Mr. Legris received a fair education in his native tongue, and spent nearly two years in college in Canada. At manhood he began life poor, but was possessed of indomitable energy, frugal habits and rare business sagacity. On his return from California he invested his money in land, which he made productive, and as his capital accumulated he continued to invest in real estate, mostly in good farming land, when property of that class was cheap. He bought and sold, and accumulated a large landed estate, which at his death, on the 30th of March, 1888, amounted to nearly a half-

million dollars in value. Considering the circumstances in early life, Mr. Legris made a grand success of his opportunities, and developed remarkable financial ability. At his death he left a large fortune to be divided among his family, notwithstanding he began as a day laborer, working in the harvest field for fifty cents per day. He was a Democrat in politics, and a member of the Catholic Church. His wife, who survives him, and their children are also of the same faith. The family has contributed liberally to St. Viateur's College. Mr. Legris was widely known throughout the county, and commanded the respect of all his fellow-citizens.



ZENAS STEVENS is an honored pioneer of this county, and is now living a retired life in Manteno. He was born in the township of Hamburg, near Buffalo, Erie County, N. Y., on the 5th of April, 1829, and is a son of Ansel and Marilla (Foster) Stevens. The paternal grandfather, Abner Stevens, owned and operated a farm in Vermont, in which State his death occurred in 1848. The grandfather of our subject on his mother's side bore the name of Stukely Foster, and was also a Vermont agriculturist. He participated in the War of 1812, and his father was a general under Washington in the War of the Revolution.

Ansel Stevens was born on the 30th of June, 1800, and is now in his ninety-third year. His wife died in August, 1868, at the age of sixty-four years, her birthday being on the 29th of June, the day before that of her husband, who was six years her senior. When sixteen years of age he left Vermont, having received a good education in his native town, Rutland, which was also the birthplace of his wife. From the Green Mountain State he went to New York, where he followed agriculture for some twenty-eight years. He was married October 16, 1825. In 1844 he moved Westward to Illinois and located north of Lockport, Will County, where he lived for five years, after which he came into Rockville Township, of the same

county, but now Manteno Township, Kankakee County, and in partnership with his son Zenas bought one hundred and sixty acres of Government land. On this farm they lived until 1865, when they returned to Rockville Township and there lived until March, 1888. At that time they finally retired from farming and now live in Manteno. Four sons and four daughters were born to Ansel Stevens and his wife, their first child being a daughter, the second a son, and thus alternating to the last. Only two are now living: Zenas, and Abner T., of Goodland, Ind., who is also a retired farmer.

With the exception of ten years after his marriage, our subject and his father have always lived together. At that time their homes were only about forty rods apart. The main part of the education of Mr. Stevens was acquired in New York. On the 6th of September, 1855, were married Zenas Stevens and Amanda Haughn. Her parents, who were both natives of Virginia, were John and Eliza Jane (Stewart) Haughn. A son and five daughters have been born of this union. The son died in infancy but the others are still living. In order of birth they are Marilla Jane, wife of Warren L. Mann, a farmer of Rockville Township, and their family consists of five children: Archie, Howard, Edith, Elsie and Jane. Dimmis Eliza became the wife of Edgar E. Grimes, who also operates a farm in Rockville Township. They have four children: Bernard, Laura, Claude and Hazel A. Estie Elvira wedded Joseph Gruber, an agriculturist of Rockville Township. Elsie Amelia, wife of Walter S. Grimes, has three children: Harold, Rexford and Charles. Mr. Grimes is engaged in farming in Rockville Township. Lavina Ann is the wife of Walter S. Mann, a carpenter of Rockville. Their union has been graced by three children: Beatrice, Ansel and Clayton.

When Mr. Stevens came to what is now Kankakee County in 1844, there was not a house or tree in Manteno Township, and he used to hunt all over the wilderness either on foot or horseback. The Indians had nearly all departed for their Western reservations, however, and those that remained were principally half-breeds. Wolves and wild game of all kinds abounded and Mr. Stevens has often seen as many as thirty or forty deer in a herd,

and once saw a drove of fully a hundred. He and Mr. Tubbs hauled the first two carloads of lumber into Kankakee County, having to unload it at Rock Creek as the Illinois Central Railroad had not yet been built to Kankakee. Since March, 1888, he has been a resident of Manteno, where he owns a comfortable home and carries on a livery. He owned one hundred and sixty acres of land in Rockville Township, but of this has sold sixty-five acres. The remainder he rents, having retired from farm labor.

Though not a member of any religious denomination, Mr. Stevens attends the Methodist Church, of which his wife is a member and to which he gives his support. He has filled nearly every office in the township and has also served for two years as Village Trustee. Since the organization of the Republican party he has been one of its loyal advocates and has ever voted that ticket. He helped to organize Manteno Township and as there were not enough men in the township eligible to hold the offices, some were given two offices, namely that of Constable and Collector. Mr. Stevens has witnessed the entire growth of this county, and has ever borne his part as a faithful citizen.



JAMES S. NICHOLS has one of the finest improved farms in this county and is engaged in farming and general stock-raising on section 8, Ganier Township. He has the honor of being a native of this county, his birth having occurred in Momence Township on the 3d of April, 1848. He is a son of James and Melinda (Prather) Nichols. The father was one of the old pioneers of this county and was a highly respected citizen. His family consisted of eight children, of whom all are living with the exception of the eldest. The father of this family died in 1857, but his wife is still living.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed upon the farm on which he was born. He received the privileges of the district schools, which he attended during a portion of the year until seven-

teen years of age. He remained at home with his parents, assisting his father in carrying on the farm, until the year 1871, when he married Miss Lena H. Crawford, who is a daughter of Ebenezer and Nancy V. Crawford. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nichols, a son, Albert C., seventeen years of age, now attending school in Momence.

At the present time, our subject, in partnership with his elder brother, William G., is engaged in farming and stock-raising. He operates two hundred and eighty acres of land on section 8, which is one of the finest tracts in this county. They raise mostly Hereford cattle.

Mr. Nichols uses his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party and has served his township acceptably as School Director and Road Commissioner. He always assists all public enterprises, and is a good citizen and a successful farmer. He has resided in this county during his whole life and has won the friendship and respect of the community in which he resides.



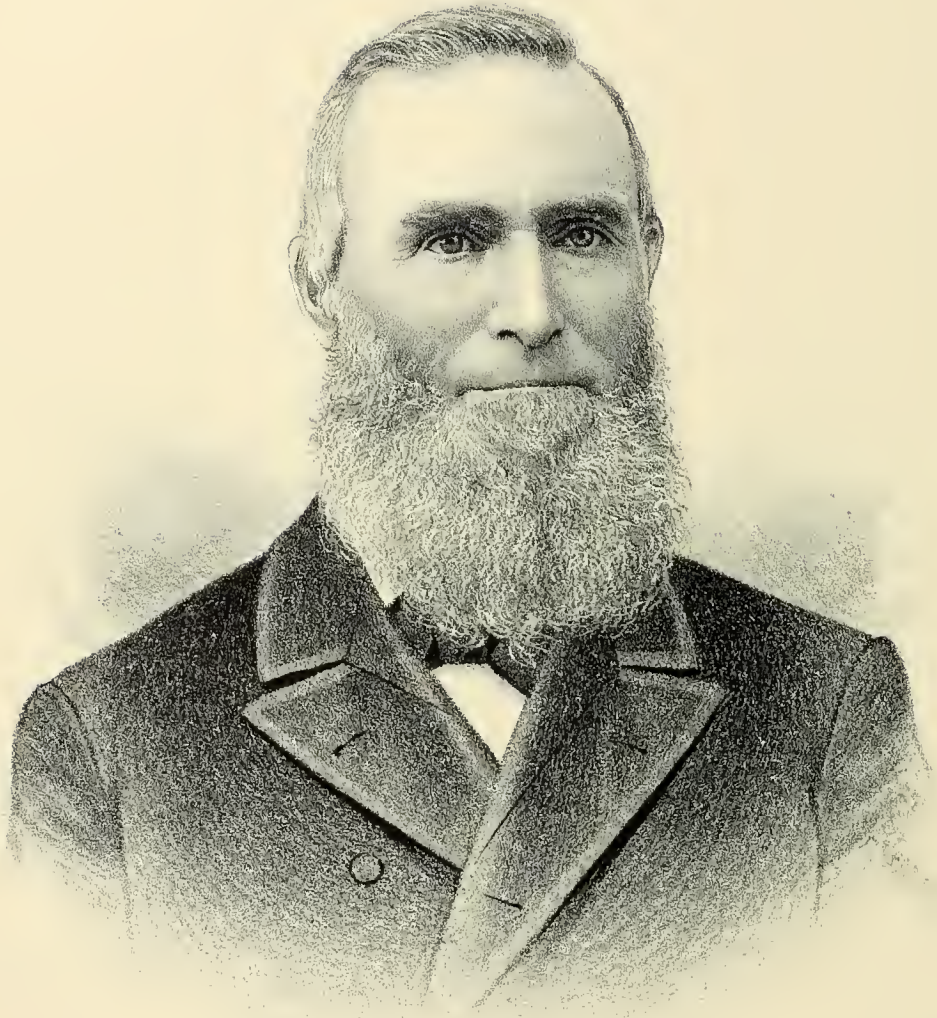
SAMUEL SHRONTZ, an honored veteran of the late war, is now carrying on agricultural pursuits on section 28, Momence Township, where he owns an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He was born on the 28th of June, 1843, in Paris, Portage County, Ohio and is a son of John Shrontz. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and was of German lineage. In his youth he went to the Buckeye State, where he became acquainted with and married Mrs. Magdalena Kenrich, who was a native of Ohio. For a number of years they continued to reside in that State, the year 1850 witnessing their arrival in Illinois. They took up their residence in this county, locating upon a farm of partially improved land, where Mr. Shrontz continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until 1889, when he returned to Ohio. In the family were five children, three sons and two daughters.

The subject of this sketch, who was the eldest of the family, spent the days of his boyhood in his parents' home, his time being passed in attendance at the common district schools, where he acquired his education, or at work in the fields. At the age of eighteen he left home to offer his services to the Government. The war had broken out and the North had found that the rebellious States were not so soon to be brought under subjection as had been anticipated. More men were needed, and, prompted by patriotic impulses, Mr. Shrontz responded to the call for troops and on the 6th of August, 1862, enlisted as a member of Company H, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. He was in the service for about three years and participated in a number of important engagements. At the battle of Ft. Blakely he was wounded, and on the 9th of April 1865, was taken to the hospital in New Orleans, where he was confined for about four weeks. The wound was a gunshot wound in his right shoulder. When he was sufficiently recovered to return home he received an honorable discharge, on the 31st of May, 1865, and made his way to the North.

When Mr. Shrontz again reached Kankakee County, he turned his attention to farming, which pursuit he has since followed. He was then only about twenty-one years of age—a young man without capital. On the 22d of February, 1866, he secured as a helpmate and companion on life's journey Miss Sarah Carpenter, who was born in New York, October 14, 1841, and is a daughter of Nicholas and Julia (Rowly) Carpenter. Her parents were also natives of the Empire State, and both came of old English families. In an early day, when Mrs. Shrontz was quite a small child, her parents emigrated Westward to this county and here spent the remainder of their lives. Unto our subject and his wife were born three children, of whom two are yet living. John, born December 11, 1866, died in infancy; Clara, who was born June 4, 1868, is a well-educated young lady; and Mack, born August 17, 1873, completes the family.

As before stated, Mr. Shrontz' farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land, which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. It is located about three miles

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southeast of Momence, and thus the advantages of city life are easily attainable. He is regarded as one of the substantial and prominent agriculturists of the community, and is also a self-made man. In his political views, he is a Republican and warmly supports the principles of that party, in whose success he manifests a deep interest, yet he has never sought or desired public office, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business, in which he has met a well-deserved success. Socially, he is a member of Worcester Post, No. 627, G. A. R., of Grant Park. In his country's hour of peril he proved one of her able defenders, and in the days of peace he is alike true as one of her faithful citizens, manifesting a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of his town and county.



LUTHER B. BRATTON is a leading and influential farmer of Limestone Township. He resides on section 27, where he has made his home for a number of years. His landed possessions now comprise five hundred and twenty acres, all situated in this township, and his home farm is one of the best improved in this locality. We there see well-tilled fields, whose great fertility indicates the care and supervision of a thrifty owner, while the many improvements on the place indicate his progressive spirit. A desirable farm is the home of our subject.

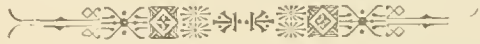
Mr. Bratton was born on the 5th of August, 1833, in Daviess County, Ind., and comes of an old New England family. His father, John L. Bratton, was born in Lexington, Ky., in 1794, but his ancestors lived in the East. He became one of the pioneer settlers of the Hoosier State, and there spent his remaining days, his death occurring in 1841, at the age of forty-seven years. His wife, Mary Bratton, was also a native of Kentucky, born of New England parentage, and died in this county at the age of about sixty-five years. Their family numbered six children, three sons and three daughters, of whom Luther was the fifth in order of birth.

We now take up our subject's personal history, knowing that it will prove of interest to many of our readers, for he is widely and favorably known in this county. Under the parental roof the days of his boyhood and youth were passed, and the educational privileges he received were those afforded by the common schools. At the age of twenty-three he left home, and since that time has been dependent upon his own resources, so that whatever success he has achieved in life is due to his own efforts. He had quite a small capital, \$1 for each year that he had lived. He first went to Minnesota and took up a homestead near Mankato, upon which he resided for about a year. He then left that place, and in 1859 came to Kankakee County, where he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of partially improved land.

On the 12th of January of the following year, when twenty-five years of age, Mr. Bratton married Miss Ursula E. Bowdle, who was then living in Kankakee County. She was born, however, in Allen County, Ohio, August 25, 1836, and was the only daughter of Henry W. and Catherine A. (Rust) Bowdle, although they had two sons. Her parents were both natives of the Buckeye State, but their ancestors had lived in New England for several generations. Mr. Bowdle came with his family to Kankakee County in an early day, and the daughter received a good education in the public schools. She is a lady of many excellencies of character, and is held in high esteem. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Bratton have been born nine children, as follows: Katie May; Jessie B., who died at the age of twenty-four years; Grace E., wife of Edgar J. Smith, a prosperous farmer of this county; Ruby; Cora E., now Mrs. Michael Falter (see Mr. George Falter's biography); Luther B., who is now attending the Normal College of Valparaiso, Ind.; Walter G., Henry Ray and Maudie E.

In his social relations, Mr. Bratton is a Mason, holding membership with Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M. In politics, he has been a Republican since the birth of that party. His first Presidential vote was cast for Millard Fillmore. For three years he filled the office of Road Com-

missioner, and for the long period of twenty-two years has been a School Director. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and he does all in his power for the schools and their advancement. He is recognized as a valued citizen of the community, for he has ever manifested a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the town and county, and his aid has never been withheld from any worthy enterprise calculated to promote the general welfare.



EDGAR EUGENE HOTCHKISS, the senior photographic artist of Kankakee, was born on the 6th of November, 1843, in Birmingham, Conn. His father, Aaron T. Hotchkiss, was a native of Bethany, Conn., and his ancestors were of Puritan stock, having located in the Connecticut colony prior to the War of the Revolution. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Harriet Cook Yale. She is a native of Yalesville, Conn., which town was named in honor of her father. Harriet Yale was descended from a brother of Gov. Yale, the noted founder of Yale College. Her grandfather was a Captain in the Revolutionary War, and her father was a man of prominence in the community in which he made his home.

Aaron T. Hotchkiss, upon his father's death, received \$1,000, with which he established himself in business as a wholesale dealer in books and periodicals in Boston. Success crowned his efforts and he became, for that day, wealthy. Subsequently, by endorsing and trusting too much to others, he was financially ruined. About 1855, he removed to New York City and there spent the remainder of his days, passing away when some sixty-eight years of age. Politically, he was a Whig and later a Republican. His widow is still living and resides with a daughter in Fairfield, Conn. Their family numbered three children, a son and two daughters, all yet living.

The subject of this sketch is the eldest. Prior to his sixteenth year he received good educational

advantages. In 1861, he began the study of photography in New York. Two years later, in 1863, having determined to try his fortune in the West, he came to Kankakee, Ill., and has since carried on business at this place continuously, with the exception of two years spent in Chicago. After having got nicely established in business, he was burned out in 1871, losing heavily.

On the 16th of November, 1866, Mr. Hotchkiss was united in marriage with Miss Tillie Wright, a native of Dearborn County, Ind. Their union has been blessed with a family of six children, as follows: Annie Lee (who is now the wife of M. L. Sheffler), Charles Stanley, Louise, Duane, Isabel and Ruth.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Hotchkiss is a Democrat. For the past twenty years he has been prominently connected with St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Kankakee and is now Vestryman and Choirmaster. Mrs. Hotchkiss is also an active worker in the same church. Our subject is an agreeable and affable gentleman, who will go as far as any man to accommodate another or do a kind act.



JAMES DEEBANK, a prominent contractor and builder of Kankakee, resides at No. 345 Rosewood Avenue. He has been a resident of this city since 1881, and in the years which have since come and gone he has built up an excellent trade, securing a liberal patronage, of which he is well deserving.

Mr. Deebank is a native of England, his birth having occurred in that country in 1860. His parents were James and Ellen (Hartland) Deebank, also natives of England. The father is now deceased, but the mother is still living and yet makes her home in the land of her birth. The Deebank family numbered eleven children, but only three are now residents of this country. James, of this sketch, was the first to come to America. George, who is now a resident of the city of New York, was the second of the family

to leave the native land, and the third to cross the briny deep was Frank Deebank, who came to the United States in 1890. An uncle of our subject, William A. Deebank, is a prominent resident of Kankakee. He was born in England in 1828, and remained in his native land until twenty-four years of age, when, in 1852, he emigrated to this country. Three years later he came to Kankakee, where he has since resided. He is a brick mason by trade, but for a number of years has been engaged in the manufacture of brick and tile, and is a leading business man of this place.

James Deebank, our subject, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native land, and acquired his education in its public schools. He also there learned the trade of carpentering, which he has made his life work. He is a wide-awake and enterprising business man, and is regarded as one of the leading contractors and builders of this city. His work is always done in a prompt and efficient manner, and his part of the contract is always faithfully fulfilled.

Mr. Deebank was united in marriage with Miss Clara Heatley, a native of England, where her parents still reside. The marriage ceremony was performed in Kankakee, and by the union of the young couple has been born one child, a son, Harry. The parents have many friends throughout this community. Mr. Deebank is a public-spirited citizen and takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community. He is esteemed for his integrity and sterling worth, and possesses the regard and confidence of his fellow-townsmen.

Lillie, H. K. Wheeler, John H. Shaffer, Lawrence Babst, H. A. Magruder, H. M. Stone and A. D. Ehrick. This bank has done a prosperous and increasing business from the day it first opened its doors to the present time, and the well-known high financial standing and responsibility of its founders and managers are a safe guarantee for its depositors and customers. It takes rank among the leading financial institutions in eastern Illinois.



FRANCIS S. CAMPBELL is a well-to-do farmer residing on section 28, Yellowhead Township. His birth occurred August 5, 1828, in Licking County, Ohio. He is a son of Chauncey and Caroline (Platt) Campbell, the former a native of Rutland County, Vt. During his entire life the father devoted himself to agriculture and kindred pursuits. In 1827 he emigrated to Ohio, where he resided for five years. He then went to Chicago and after a short time took up a claim twenty-four miles north of that city, and two miles from Buffalo Grove, Lake County, Ill. At that time there were but few settlers and after holding his land for two years he sold the claim and went to Tippecanoe County, Ind. He purchased a farm, where he remained for eight years. Coming to Kankakee County in June, 1843, he next purchased a farm in the Yellowhead Indian Reservation, now comprised in Yellowhead Township. His death occurred two years later, in June, 1845. He was of Scotch descent and an industrious and honorable man. The mother of our subject was born in Rutland County, Vt., in 1807, and though now eighty-five years of age enjoys good health. She is also of Scotch ancestry and now makes her home with her children.

From his earliest years Francis Campbell has been accustomed to farm life. He lived with his parents until coming of age and acquired his education in the district schools. His father's death occurring when he was eighteen years of age, he inherited \$1,000 from the estate, which enabled him to make a fair start in life.



THE City National Bank of Kankakee was incorporated on the 14th of June, 1890, with a capital of \$100,000 and additional liability of \$100,000. Solon Knight was made President, R. G. Risser Vice-president, and H. M. Stone Cashier. The Board of Directors is composed of the following-named responsible citizens of Kankakee: Solon Knight, R. G. Risser, James

In this county, on the 15th of September, 1853, Mr. Campbell married Miss Janet Morrison, who was born in Delaware County, N. Y., August 15, 1830, and whose parents, Archibald and Elizabeth (Ellis) Morrison, settled in this county as early as 1837. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have four children, who are all living. Mary became the wife of Edwin Gamble, the paying teller in the Merchants' National Bank, of Chicago. Horace and Lew J. are prosperous and well-known farmers of Yellowhead Township. Emma resides with her parents. They have all received good educations and are respected members of society.

Mr. Campbell is the owner of one of the best improved farms in Yellowhead Township and has a beautiful home residence. The property consists of two hundred acres, which are situated two and a-half miles southeast of Grant Park. For a number of years our subject has served in the various offices of the township and has been Supervisor for the past four years. He is a member of the Masonic order, belonging to Grant Park Lodge No. 740, A. F. & A. M. Mrs. Campbell is a consistent member of the Methodist Church, to which her husband contributes liberally. Politically he is a staunch Republican, having cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Scott while in California, and his last vote for the illustrious grandson of "Old Tippecanoe."



ENOS M. VAN KIRK, a retired farmer, is one of the respected early pioneers of Kankakee County. His birth occurred in Tyler County, Va., on the 1st of October, 1826. His parents, Joseph and Margaret (Watson) Van Kirk, were also natives of the Old Dominion. The father was of Dutch descent, and the mother was of English origin. Joseph Van Kirk followed the occupation of a farmer in Virginia, near Morgantown, and about the year 1829 removed to Ohio, where he remained but one year. Deciding to go further Westward, he emigrated with his family to Vermilion County, Ill., and spent the win-

ter with an old Virginian friend, Ackless Morgan, on a farm near Georgetown.

In the spring of 1831 Mr. Van Kirk entered eighty acres of land, situated six miles southeast of Danville, where he resided for a number of years and reared his family. In 1832 he enlisted in the Black Hawk War, and served until its close. At one time, while in the service, his horse was stolen, and he was obliged to walk all the distance to his home, carrying his saddle. He was born in 1795, served for a short time in the War of 1812, and received a grant of land from the Government. His father was from Pennsylvania, but little is definitely known of his life work. He married a Miss Jacobs, and they both lived to a ripe old age. In 1817 the father of our subject removed to Kankakee County and bought a farm of one hundred and forty-six acres about a mile east of Momence, on the old Chicago and Danville trail, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1867, when he passed away in his seventy-third year, his wife being called to the home beyond in the fall of 1865. She was a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church until her death. They were numbered among the early pioneer settlers of Kankakee County, coming here when there was scarcely a house or fence to be seen in any direction. The country was wild and barren, and the nearest neighbors lived at a long distance from them. Their family consisted of ten children, six sons and four daughters, six of whom are now living, as follow: Sarah, Rebecca, Enos M., Susanna, John and William C.

Our subject was early inured to farm life, with all the disadvantages and privations incident to living in a new country. His educational privileges were necessarily quite limited, as in the early days of Illinois they first formed select schools, and later the primitive district school was established. August 26, 1849, Mr. Van Kirk was united in marriage with Catherine, daughter of William H. and Elna (Decker) Carrithers, of Deckerville, N. J. The mother was of Dutch and the father of Scotch descent. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Van Kirk, a son and three daughters. Margaret Ann became the wife

of Thomas J. Buntain, the present postmaster of Momence, and to them have been born two children. Mary Jane married Elba Lamborn and removed to Allamakee County, Iowa, where she died in July, 1890; three children graced their union: Belle, Harry V. and Don E. Eleanor and Henry C., the younger members of the family, are at home. On the 2d of January, 1881, Mrs. Van Kirk departed this life, greatly mourned by a wide circle of friends.

The subject of this sketch came to Illinois in 1854 from Five Mile Point, Ind., which had been his home for four years, and located on a farm of two hundred and seventeen acres situated two miles to the northeast of Momence. He was quite successful as an agriculturist from the first, and soon added eighty acres more to his original purchase. He engaged in cultivating and improving his farm until 1865, when he removed to Momence, which has since been his home. Soon afterward he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, selling the same amount from his old farm. Mr. Van Kirk has since that time purchased other property, and his present possessions amount to about six hundred acres of fine farm land, in addition to his home in Momence.

Our subject has never been an office-seeker, but is a firm believer in the Democratic party. His first ballot was cast for Lewis Cass, and he has voted the Democratic ticket up to the present time. He went through this portion of the country when there were only three or four houses between old Bunkum and Chicago. Indians were numerous in this section and the country was infested by large packs of wolves. Deer and all kinds of wild game were in abundance. Mr. Van Kirk has been a witness of the county's development from a vast unimproved prairie to a thickly populated country, settled with a prosperous and highly intelligent class of people. He is to-day recognized as one of the substantial and reliable citizens of the county.

In 1882 Mr. Van Kirk became a member of the Methodist Church. Socially, he is a member of Lodge No. 481, A. F. & A. M., and was one of its charter members. In December, 1886, our subject went to California, and made a very pleasant and

profitable visit in Mexico and the Western States. He also went to Florida and traveled up the St. John's River as far as Enterprise, spending considerable time in Tallahassee in the winter of 1882-83. Like many patriotic citizens, Mr. Van Kirk was more anxious to see the beauties and wonders of his own country and continent than the Old World, and feels well repaid for the time he thus devoted to travel.



JOHAN BENNETT, now living a retired life at his home on section 21, has been for many years a prominent and prosperous farmer of Yellowhead Township. He is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred in Greenwich, Washington County, May 12, 1822. He is the seventh in order of birth in a family of eight children, six sons and two daughters, who were born to Johnson and Phœbe (Crandall) Bennett. Both parents were of German descent, and were born in New England. The father was a farmer and blacksmith by trade.

When our subject was quite young, he was left an orphan, and the family circle was broken. At the age of thirteen years he was adopted by David Barber, who was one of the prominent farmers and stock-raisers of White Creek, Washington County, N. Y. With him, Mr. Bennett lived until reaching his majority. His educational privileges were of the most limited description, as he was only allowed to attend school for two months of the year, during the winter term. He was of a studious disposition, and was determined to have a good education, and though over twenty-one years of age, and without means, he was undaunted, and for two terms attended the academy at Cambridge, N. Y., working by the month on a farm to pay his tuition. His preceptor was Lieut.-Gov. Beveridge, of Illinois. After finishing his course in the academy, Mr. Bennett taught school during the winter term, and during the summer months worked upon a farm until he was twenty-eight years old.

In 1850, our subject determined to seek his fortune in the West. Coming to what is now Kankakee County, he purchased three hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie land on easy terms and long time, and began the work of its improvement. For one term during the winter he taught school, in Momence, and on the 11th of February, 1851, wedded Miss Cordelia A. Curtis, who was a daughter of Solomon and Phoebe (Slocum) Curtis, of White Creek, N. Y., who came to Kankakee County in 1854, settling in Momence. The father was a retired farmer, and was called from this life at the age of sixty-five years in Momence, on the 24th of June, 1865. His wife died at the residence of our subject near Grant Park, February 20, 1885, when nearly eighty-four years of age. She was a native of the Empire State, and was of German descent, while her husband was of English extraction. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bennett. A daughter, born June 15, 1857, died in infancy; and George M., born May 15, 1852, carries on the old homestead, and deals quite extensively in real estate and cattle. He is one of the wide-awake and prosperous business men of the county. In 1874, he wedded Miss Lizzie Price, of Yellowhead Township, and by their union have been born three children: Nellie C., who is now about eighteen years of age, and is a student in the university at Evanston, Ill.; Coralee H., who is thirteen years of age; and Georgie J., a bright little girl of six summers.

Mr. Bennett and son are now owners of nine hundred acres of land in Yellowhead Township, all of which, except forty acres, is under a high state of cultivation. His home, which is located one mile east of Grant Park, is one of the finest residences in the county. He came to this county without a dollar, and has worked his way steadily upward to his present position of affluence and influence. He has always been possessed of ambition and a strong desire to succeed in his business undertakings, which qualities have enabled him to overcome all obstacles in his pathway. Until 1888 he advocated the principles of the Republican party, since which time he has supported the Prohibition party. He has held nearly all the township offices, and has made an efficient and trust-

worthy officer. For about eight years he has been Deacon of the Baptist Church of Grant Park, and is very active in church work. On the 10th of September, 1891, he was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who was sixty-nine years of age when called to her final rest. She was a member of the Baptist Church, and was much beloved by all who knew her.



JAMES H. DENNISON is one of the early settlers and hardy pioneers of this section, as he located in this county in the early part of the '50s. He is a native of Canada, and was born near Montreal, on the 3d of February, 1837, being a son of John and Margaret (Anderson) Dennison, who were of Scotch-Irish parentage, and settled in Canada about the year 1830. John Dennison emigrated to Illinois in 1854, and first settled on Fox River, Kane County. After residing there for a few years, he removed to this county in the spring of 1856, and became a resident of what is now Ganier Township, where he opened up a farm and spent the remaining years of his life. His death occurred in 1869, and that of his wife August 24, 1880.

Mr. Dennison, whose name heads this sketch, is the first in order of birth in a family of three sons and five daughters, who arrived at mature years. Jane married and settled in Canada, but is now deceased; Mary Ann, also deceased, was married and made her home in Canada; Eliza was married in Indiana, and has since passed away; Elmira was married and died in Michigan; Matilda is the wife of W. Harrison, and resides in Trego County, Kan.; William D. is a farmer of Ganier Township; John is engaged in farming with his brother.

Our subject came to this county when a youth of seventeen, and had received but limited advantages in education before coming here. He has largely educated himself since arriving at man's estate. He remained with his father, assisting in the work of the farm, until he had reached his majority. On the 9th of August, 1862, Mr. Denni-

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Amasa Holcomb



J. R. Holcomb

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son enlisted in the defense of the Union, becoming a member of Company K, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry. His bravery and fidelity were rewarded by his being promoted first to the rank of Corporal, and afterward to that of Sergeant. With his regiment he participated in many of the battles and engagements of the war; among these we mention Arkansas Post, the long siege and capture of Vicksburg, and Guntown, Miss., when, under the command of Gen. Sturges, he was taken prisoner, and was held for about nine months at Andersonville Prison. From there he was taken to Libby Prison, but was fortunately held there but a short time, being exchanged on the 9th of May, 1865. He received his honorable discharge from the service on the 29th of June, of that year, and at once returned to his home. Though he was never wounded, he received severe internal injuries after the battle of Guntown, while riding rapidly during an enforced march. He was valiant in the defense of his country, and as a prisoner in that blot on our modern civilization, Andersonville and Libby Prisons, he was courageous and hopeful during his long confinement.

In the fall of 1865, Mr. Dennison bought a tract of forty acres in this county, which was little improved. The following year he engaged actively in developing and cultivating his farm, and a few years later, as his means increased, he was enabled to purchase adjoining land, his farm now consisting of one hundred and twenty acres of arable and well-tilled land, which is located about five miles from Kankakee on section 29, Otto Township. He has a pleasant and substantial residence, good barns and other farm buildings, and is to-day accounted one of the thrifty and progressive farmers of this township.

Mr. Dennison was united in marriage with Miss Anna E. Harrison, a native of England, on the 9th of February, 1860. She came to the United States with her father, John Harrison, when in her early womanhood, and became a resident of this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Dennison have been born the following children, who are still living: John W., who resides at home, and helps to carry on the work of the farm; Albert E., now a student in Rush

Medical College of Chicago; and Almira B., who received a good education, and is still under the parental roof. Several children died in infancy and early childhood.

Mr. Dennison has been identified with the Republican party since becoming a voter, his first ballot being cast for Hon. Abraham Lincoln. He has voted for every nominee of his party since that time with the exception of the year 1861, when he was a prisoner in Andersonville. Mr. Dennison has held a number of local positions of responsibility, and is now serving his third year as Road Commissioner. He has also served as member of the School Board, and was one of the Township Trustees. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Dennison holds membership with Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R., at Kankakee. As one of the pioneer settlers of this section, he has assisted greatly in its present prosperity and success. Personally, he is a man who is generally liked, and has won many friends in this community by his integrity and upright walk in life.



AMASA HOLCOMB, one of Kankakee's well-known citizens, has been a resident of this place since 1869. Many years previous, however, he came to the county, being numbered among its early settlers, for the date of his arrival was the spring of 1855. Thus for thirty-seven years he has been an eye-witness of the progress and advancement of the county and has also borne his part in its growth and development, so that with its history he is prominently connected.

Amasa Holcomb, Sr., the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Connecticut, the family being early settlers of that commonwealth, in fact, the ancestors came to this country during Colonial days. The father of our subject, Bidwell Holcomb, was also born in the Nutmeg State, was there reared to manhood, and after attaining to mature years wedded Hannah Butles, daughter of

Enoch Butles. Mr. Holcomb was a farmer by occupation and followed that business throughout his entire life. He resided in his native State until called to his final rest, his death occurring in 1844. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Holcomb removed to Ohio, and subsequently she became a resident of Kankakee, Ill., but finally she returned to Connecticut and died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Barnard, in the town of Bloomfield, in her native State. She attained to the very advanced age of ninety years, having been born in 1800. Unto the parents of our subject were born nine children, three sons and six daughters, all of whom are yet living at this writing, in 1892. They are scattered, however, over various States of the Union.

Amasa Holcomb, whose name heads this record, was born in Granby, Hartford County, Conn., July 17, 1822, and spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native State, being reared to manhood under the parental roof. Connecticut has ever been celebrated for the manufacture of clocks, and in the years gone by many of her young men traveled throughout various States of the Union engaged in the sale of this most useful article, the famous Connecticut clock. Wishing to earn his own livelihood, at the age of twenty years the subject of this sketch started out in this most commendable enterprise and since that time he has been dependent upon his own resources. His field of labor was in the States of Georgia, Alabama and Florida. He was engaged in this business for six years, and the fact of his long continuance in that line of work indicates his success therein. On the expiration of that period he returned to Connecticut.

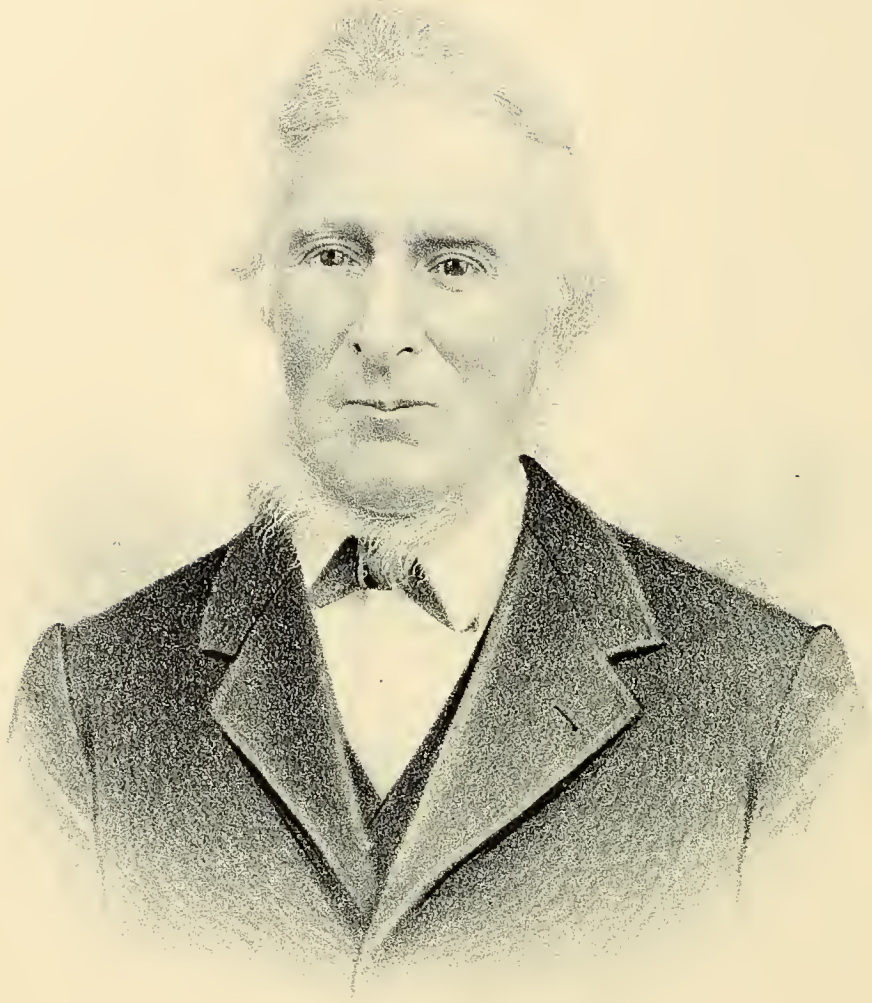
Not long after he had again arrived in his native State, Mr. Holcomb was united in marriage with Miss Janette R. Dickinson, their wedding being celebrated June 30, 1847. The lady is a daughter of Lewis and Lavilla (Case) Dickinson, who were also natives of Connecticut. Mrs. Holcomb was born in the town of Simsbury, Hartford County, Conn., February 11, 1827. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb, accompanied by Mr. Dickinson and his family, removed to Trumbull County, Ohio, locating on the famous

Western Reserve, and after a residence there of some years, all came to Kankakee County in 1855, settling in the township of Rockville. Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson passed the last years of their lives in the home of their daughter, Mrs. Holcomb, the former passing away in 1876. The mother, who was born in 1800, died in 1887, at the ripe old age of eighty-seven years. This worthy couple were the parents of a family of five children, two sons and three daughters, all of whom grew to mature years. All are residents of Illinois but the youngest sister, who is now living in Nebraska. Two members of the family died in childhood.

On coming to Kankakee County, Mr. Holcomb bought a farm in Rockville Township. It comprised a tract of wild land totally unimproved, but he at once began its development and cultivation and transformed it into rich and fertile fields. He there continued to reside until 1869, when he came to Kankakee. For many years he owned and operated the principal livery stable in the city, doing a large and lucrative business, but recently he has disposed of his stock. He still owns the stables, however, which are situated at No. 312 Schuyler Avenue. In connection with his other business Mr. Holcomb has also dealt largely in the purchase and sale of horses and this has added not a little to his income, for he is an excellent judge of horses.

Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb have never had any children of their own but have reared two from about four years of age. The elder, William, is now engaged in farming in Kankakee Township. The other, Cora, is at home. The family are now pleasantly located in Kankakee, where they have a wide acquaintance and many friends. Mr. Holcomb has been very successful in his business dealings, and by his well-directed efforts, his industry and perseverance he has acquired a good property, which numbers him among the substantial citizens of Kankakee and enables him to live a retired life, resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. In politics, he affiliates with the Democratic party, but has never been an office-seeker, and socially he is a worthy member of the Masonic fraternity of this city. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen and is respected

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John Gilkerson



Agnes Gilkerson

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and esteemed by all who know him. He and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, with which they have been connected for some thirty years.



JOHAN GILKERSON retired from farming in 1874, and has made his home for the past eighteen years in Manteno. His birth occurred in the Green Mountain State, on the 11th of July, 1809, in Barnet, Caledonia County. His father, Thomas Gilkerson, was a native of Aberdeen, Scotland, while his mother, who bore the maiden name of Marion Somers, was born in Barnet, Vt., but was also of Scotch descent. The paternal grandfather of our subject, John Gilkerson, was born in Scotland, and came to America in 1784, locating in Barnet. He was a stone-mason by trade, and brought with him from Scotland a saw, with which he sawed logs in Vermont for a number of buildings. He afterward became a farmer, and lived to be over ninety years of age. He reared a family of five children. On the maternal side, the grandfather, Bartholomew Somers, also a native of Scotland, emigrated to the United States about 1784, and for many years engaged in agricultural pursuits in Vermont. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and attained a great age.

Thomas Gilkerson, like his father, engaged in farming in the Green Mountain State, where his death occurred in 1843. He was always prominent in church work, being an Elder in the Presbyterian Church. To him and his wife were born eleven children, only five of whom yet survive. Of these our subject is the eldest. Robert and David are next. Janet is the widow of Robert Gibson, who died in June, 1890, aged seventy-six years; she now lives in Remington, Ind. Marian is the widow of James Shaw, and now resides in Missouri.

The boyhood and youth of Mr. Gilkerson, of this sketch, were passed on his father's farm. He received his education in the common district

schools, and for some time attended subscription schools in the houses of various neighbors. On arriving at mature years, he engaged in farming on his own account, and from 1833 until 1861 operated a farm in Vermont. In December of that latter year he removed Westward and made a settlement in Kankakee County. For about ten years he carried on a farm of two hundred and fifty acres, situated in the northwest portion of Manteno Township. For the past eighteen years he has been living a retired life in the village of that name, enjoying the fruits of his former labors. While he resided in Vermont he was Captain of the militia, the law requiring men to train in those days.

On the 28th of February, 1833, Mr. Gilkerson and Miss Agnes G. Warden were united in marriage. She was born in Barnet, Vt., September 28, 1815. Her parents were natives of Scotland, and were James and Elizabeth (Gibson) Warden, who resided at Barnet, Vt. Their family comprised twelve children: Isabel, William, Margaret, Elizabeth, Jane, Agnes G., Jane L., Emily, Andrew, Marion, James and Robert. To Mr. and Mrs. Gilkerson were born ten children, one of whom died in infancy. The others are Thomas G., who was a soldier in the late war, being a member of Company F, Fifteenth Vermont Infantry. He died while in the hospital at Richmond, Va., of typhoid fever, February 9, 1863. Janet E. is the second in order of birth. Milo J. married Miss Lydia Thomas, of Remington, Ind., and they now make their home on a farm near Manteno, Ill. They have three children: John, Birdie A. and Leslie H. Emma M. is the wife of Rufus Perry, who carries on a farm two and a-half miles from Manteno. Two daughters, Lizzie N. and Aggie J., have graced their union. Horace is now deceased. Isabel N. is the wife of Leonard Smith, who is engaged in farming near Manteno; their family comprises ten children: George L., Laura L., Mary I., Lizzie N., Frank E., Carrie E., Florence J., Charles H., Freddie J. and the baby. Alexander J. was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Edison, and resides in Oneida, Kan.; three children have been born to them: Arthur, Leila and Effie. Henry A., who lives in Manteno Township, married Miss Lucy Reed,

and of their union have been born three children: Cora E., Aggie J. and Elsie. Maggie J. completes the family. Mr. and Mrs. Gilkerson have a great-grandchild, Emma McEwan.

In his political views our subject was a stalwart Whig until the rise of the Republican party, with which he has since been identified. He cast his first vote for Henry Clay, and his last for the illustrious grandson of old Tippecanoe. Both he and his wife hold membership with the Presbyterian Church. They have many warm friends in this section, and have for long years occupied a high position in local circles.



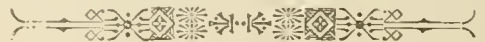
WILLIAM L. THURBER owns and operates a farm on section 26, Sumner Township. He is a native of the Empire State, his birth having occurred in Oneida County on the 24th of September, 1850. He is a son of Lyndon S. and Mary L. (Brownell) Thurber, the former a native of Franklin County, Mass., born March 21, 1821. The father was born and reared upon a farm in the Bay State and removed to New York in 1831. When about sixteen years of age he started to make his fortune, and for a short time was employed on a steamer plying the Lakes. He next worked upon a farm in New York for some time, but in 1851 started Westward. He located in Kankakee County, Ill., where, in Sumner Township, he purchased eighty acres of land, which was slightly improved. From that time forward he devoted himself to agricultural pursuits and at the time of his death was the possessor of two hundred and eighty acres. He was a very public-spirited man and held various township offices to the satisfaction of his fellow-citizens. Politically, he used his right of franchise for the Republican party, and was a consistent member of the Methodist Church. He was called to his final reward on the 22d of September, 1875, and is buried in the Union Corners Cemetery. The mother is still living and has reached the age of seventy-three years. She was born in Manlius Township, Onondaga

County, N. Y., June 6, 1819. In their family were seven children, of whom four are living.

When our subject was only four years of age his father removed to Illinois. His education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood. He remained with his father on the old homestead until the death of the latter, and then for the following two years with his brother Frank he carried on the farm. Since that time he has taken entire charge of two hundred and sixteen acres of the old homestead, of which he owns one hundred and thirty-six acres, which are very fertile and under good cultivation. Mr. Thurber has always devoted himself to the pursuits of an agriculturist and has been very successful in general farming and stock-raising.

On New Year's day of 1877 occurred the marriage of Mr. Thurber and Miss Elizabeth E. Snedeker. Six children grace their union and the family circle is still unbroken. They are as follows: Nettie V., Emma E., Luccia M., Charles W., Mary B. and Hazel I.

Mr. Thurber has never been an office-seeker in the remotest degree but instead has given his time and study to the management of his farm and its improvement. In political sentiment he is an adherent of the Republican party and casts his ballot in favor of the principles and nominees of that party. Both he and his wife have long held membership with the Methodist Church. He is known throughout the community as a man of honor, in whom it is safe to place the fullest confidence.



SIMPSON SWIHART is one of the early settlers of Sumner Township, and still owns and carries on the farm on section 9, where he first located on coming to this community. He was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, on the 4th of November, 1840. His paternal grandfather, Frederick Swihart, was of German descent, and one of the early pioneers of Ohio. Our subject is a son of David and Christina (Pollans) Swihart. The father was a farmer

throughout life in Ohio, where he was born, and was very successful as an agriculturist. Both he and his wife were members of the United Brethren Church. The death of the father occurred in 1875, and that of the mother in 1891. Their children were Elijah, who died in 1855; Caroline, the wife of J. J. Neff; Sarah, who became the wife of J. Hoopin-garner; Salome, wife of Prof. L. F. Wright; Ann, wife of Thomas Putt; Sophia, wife of Joseph Per-shing; Amanda, now the wife of Joseph Casebeer; Emma, the wife of Frank Fisher; David, Simpson and Isaac, who complete the family.

The boyhood days of Simpson Swihart were passed upon the farm where he was born, and his education was such as was afforded by the district schools, which he attended more or less until nineteen years of age. Until a year past his major-ity he remained under the parental roof, and then started forth to make his own way in the world. He rented land in Ohio for one year, but in 1863 decided to go further West, therefore, coming to Illinois, he located in Kankakee County. For about two years he rented land in Ganier Township, after which he purchased the farm on which he has resided continuously since. This consisted of one hundred and forty acres of wild prairie land in Sumner Township, and at that time wild game was very plentiful. Mr. Swihart has been quite successful as an agriculturist, and has brought his farm under a fine state of cultiva-tion.

On New Year's Day of 1862, Mr. Swihart and Miss Barbara E. Walker, a daughter of Samuel T. and Mary A. (Garber) Walker, were united in matrimony. Twelve children graced their union: Willie, who died in 1865; Lillie, who passed away in 1867; Charles E., a school teacher, who gradu-ated at Northern Indiana Normal School, at Val-paraiso; John, also a school teacher, now attending school at the same place; Mary, a successful teacher and graduate of the same school; Simpson, David, Samuel W., Martin, Myrta and Grace, who are still at home. Mrs. Swihart was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, June 12, 1814. Her parents were both natives of Ohio, where they were married, and made their home on a farm. Both were mem-bers of the Christian Church. The father died in

1881, aged fifty-seven years, but the mother still lives on the old homestead in Ohio, at the age of sixty-six years. Mrs. Swihart is the eldest of fourteen children.

For many years Mr. Swihart was a Republican, and cast his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln. His views have now changed, and he is enrolled as a supporter of the Prohibition party. He has held the office of Highway Commissioner for six years, and has always done his share in the pro-motion of all measures calculated to benefit the public. Mr. and Mrs. Swihart are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Peotone.



JOSEPH BELISLE is a well-known farmer of Ganier Township, owning property on sec-tion 18. He is of French extraction and was born in Upper Canada in 1834. His parents, Jules and Pracils Belisle, emigrated to the States in 1816 with their family of nine chil-dren. The father died while on the boat and was buried at Detroit.

Our subject on landing in the United States came directly to Kankakee County with his mother and the family. Mrs. Belisle purchased land in Bour-bonnais Township, and here Joseph commenced working for neighboring farmers by the month. In the fall of 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company E, Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, and was mustered into service at Kankakee. With his reg-iment he participated in the battle of Jackson, Miss., and took part in the siege and capture of Vicksburg. Mr. Belisle was twice taken prisoner, at one time being held at Richmond for three months. He was a prisoner in Andersonville for eight months and was there at the close of the war. When he went into prison he weighed about one hundred and forty pounds, and when he came out weighed only sixty pounds.

After his discharge from service, Mr. Belisle re-turned to his home in Bourbonnais Township and for fifteen years was under the care of different

physicians, all of whom pronounced him incurable, but he is now enjoying good health. He rented land for two years, in the year 1868 purchasing the farm which is now his home and which consisted of eighty acres on section 18 in Ganier Township. Here he has carried on general farming and stock-raising and has brought his property under a high state of cultivation. He has since added adjoining land, his farm now comprising one hundred and sixty acres, which are well improved and valuable.

Mr. Belisle was united in marriage, March 8, 1868, to Mrs. Caroline M. Fortin, daughter of Peter and Orahe Lamie, both of French descent. By this union six children were born, as follows: George L., Mattie M., Conrad L., Felix L., Cordelia M. and Lillie J. V. Mrs. Belisle, who was born in St. Leon September 11, 1840, was the widow of Moses Fortin, by whom she became the mother of two children, Edward and Lidwine M.

Mr. and Mrs. Belisle are members of the Catholic Church. Our subject affiliates with the Republican party, and both in peace and war has proved himself a loyal citizen of his adopted country. Socially, he is a member of Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R., of Kankakee. Mr. Belisle has been quite successful, as he has made all he has, aided by his estimable wife.



THOR THORSON, who carries on general farming on section 6, Pilot Township, and is one of the honored veterans of the late war, is a Norwegian by birth. His parents were both natives of that country and he was there born September 17, 1840. In 1846, when Thor was a lad of six summers, the family emigrated to America, locating first in Grundy County, Ill., where they resided for about five years. On the expiration of that period they removed to Kendall County, the mother having died in Grundy County. The father there opened up a farm and has since been actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, but he expects soon to lay aside all business

cares and live a retired life, enjoying the rest which he has so truly earned and richly deserves. He has now reached the age of seventy-eight, but he is still well preserved, his years resting lightly upon him. Among the honored pioneers of Kendall County, Mr. Thorson is numbered.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood under the parental roof and was early inured to the labors of the field. His school privileges were very limited, indeed, he is almost wholly self-educated. April 2, 1861, when it seemed that war with the South was imminent, Mr. Thorson joined the Home Guards, and in September of the same year he joined the volunteer service of his country as a member of the Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry. With the regiment he then went to St. Louis and on to the scene of action. When his term had expired he veteranized and served until the close of the war, being mustered out and honorably discharged in the spring of 1865. He participated in a number of battles, including the engagements at Pea Ridge, Corinth, Perryville, Murfreesboro, Chattanooga, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Franklin, Nashville and many others of lesser importance. He was wounded by a gunshot at Kenesaw Mountain and still carries the rebel lead. Mr. Thorson was always found at the post of duty, faithfully defending the Stars and Stripes, the honored emblem of our nation.

When the war was over and the country no longer needed his services, our subject returned to Kendall County and there engaged in farming for three years. During that time, in 1868, he was united in marriage in Chebanse, Ill., with Miss Carrie Nilson, who was born in Kendall County. Their union was celebrated on Christmas Day of 1868. The lady is a daughter of Erich Nilson, a native of Norway and one of the honored pioneers of Kendall County, who there located more than sixty years ago. He died in Chebanse in 1878, and his wife, who survived him about ten years, passed away in 1888. Both were buried in Evergreen Cemetery, of Chebanse, where a suitable monument marks their last resting-place.

Mr. and Mrs. Thorson have a family of six children, as follows: Mamie, now the wife of Oliver

James, a resident of Englewood, Ill.; George Lester, who aids his father in the operation of the home farm; Nora, at home; Della, who is attending school; and Lida and Lillian, twins. The home of the Thorson family is now located on section 6, Pilot Township, where the husband and father owns and operates a good farm, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land. The parents and children are well known throughout this community and rank high in the social circles in which they move.

Mr. Thorson came to Kankakee County in 1869 and has since been numbered among its leading agriculturists. He at first had limited means, but his methodical habits, good management and business ability have made him one of the well-to-do farmers of the community. In politics, he is a Republican, and since casting his first Presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1864, he has been one of the staunch advocates of the principles of that party. However, he has never been an aspirant for public office, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests. Socially, he is a member of Cabery Post No. 664, G. A. R. In religious belief he is a Lutheran but his wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church, of Herscher. This worthy couple are well known throughout the community, and Mr. Thorson's upright character has won him universal confidence and esteem.



ELIAS POWELL, of Kankakee, is a representative of a well-known pioneer family of the county and is a son of James Powell, who settled in this county in November, 1844. The latter was born on Long Island, N. Y., on the 10th of April, 1810, and was the son of a sea captain, and belonged to an old family of Long Island. He grew to manhood there and learned the trade of wheelwright and blacksmith. On the 5th of February, 1833, he married Miss Hannah Finger, a native of Columbia County, N. Y., born September 22, 1808. He removed with his family

in 1841 to Aurora, Ill., where he located on Government land and operated a sawmill for a time, manufacturing the lumber from which he erected a house on his land. There his family resided until November, 1844, when, removing to Kankakee County, they settled upon a farm in what is now Limestone Township. Mr. Powell did not long survive after coming to this county, but fell a victim to malarial fever, from which the early settlers suffered so much, his death occurring August 12, 1846. He was a man who was highly esteemed, and though he came to the county so early and lived here but a short time, yet he is remembered by the early pioneers as a man of industry and integrity, possessed of a genial and social disposition, and is well informed, a ready talker and valuable companion. In politics he was a Jackson Democrat. In his family were three sons and three daughters. Ellen was born May 25, 1834, and is the wife of Luman Lasher, of Philadelphia. Elias was born November 23, 1837. Laoma, who was born March 13, 1841, is the widow of Charles Moore, and lives in Kankakee. James P., who resides in Limestone Township, was born on the 15th of February, 1843. The above constitute the surviving members of the family, and those deceased are Mrs. Margaret Lasher, and Simon P., who was the youngest member of the family, his birth having occurred August 28, 1845. He entered the service of his country in the War of the Rebellion as a member of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, and died in 1865, just after the close of the war, while en route with his command from Alexandria, La., to Galveston, Tex. After the death of Mr. Powell his widow was twice married and now resides in Kankakee.

Elias Powell, whose name heads this sketch, was born in Columbia County, N. Y., on the 23d of November, 1837, and was but four years of age when his father's family emigrated Westward. He was seven when they came to this county and was not yet nine at the time of his father's death. Thus he has been a resident of Kankakee County nearly his entire life, or for a period of forty-eight years. On arriving at mature years, Mr. Powell married Marilda Ann, daughter of Benjamin and Belinda (Lamb) Hammond. The lady

was born in Broome County, N. Y., on the 25th of August, 1842, and removed with her father's family to Naperville, Du Page County, Ill., and thence to Kankakee. Mr. Hammond makes his home with our subject, but his wife has passed to her final reward. On the 21st of May, 1888, Mr. Powell was bereft by death of his wife, who had attained to nearly the age of forty-six years. She was a most worthy wife and mother and left a son, Irvin W., to mourn her loss. His birth occurred August 12, 1865, in Kankakee County. He is now one of the leading photographers of Kankakee City.

Mr. Powell is a well-known and representative citizen and has been prominently connected with the growth and prosperity of Limestone Township, where he resided until the autumn of 1887, in which year he took up his abode in Kankakee. He has since sold his fine farm in that township. He was one of the promoters and is manager of the North Kankakee Electric Light and Railway Company. Although he cast his first Presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas in 1860, he has since affiliated with the Republican party. Mr. Powell is a man of superior business ability, and as an early settler and a valued citizen has won the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. He is an active member of the First Baptist Church of Kankakee, in which he is Trustee. Mrs. Powell was also a member of the same church.



LEON HAY, who operates a farm on section 24, Otto Township, was born in Ottawa, La Salle County, Ill., on the 11th of May, 1864, and is the only son of Simon Hay, who was born on the 24th of December, 1827, in France. He grew to manhood and married in his native country Pauline Letot. In 1856, he emigrated to the New World and upon landing in the United States came immediately Westward to Illinois, locating in La Salle County, where for a number of years he engaged in gardening. In 1869, he came to Kankakee County, and buying unimproved

land settled where he now resides. He first purchased one hundred and twenty acres, and started with characteristic energy to make of his property a well-cultivated and improved farm. In the course of time success crowned his efforts, and now he has his place well improved and upon it has erected a good residence and commodious barns. To his original purchase he has added more land from time to time as his means increased and now has two hundred acres in a body. His son also has an adjoining forty acres, which was given him by his father. This place is located five miles from Kankakee and is a well cultivated and desirable farm. Mr. Hay has now retired from the active duties and labors incident to farm life and is enjoying a well-deserved rest in his declining years.

Leon Hay was reared as a farmer boy and was early accustomed to the duties incident to the life of an agriculturist. His primary education was acquired in the county schools, after which he attended the High School of Kankakee and supplemented his studies with one year at the State University. In 1889, he spent one year in traveling abroad, visiting the Exposition at Paris, and he also went through the great countries and cities of Europe. Upon his return he took the entire charge of the old homestead, thus relieving his father from all care and anxiety.

On the 7th of November, 1889, Mr. Hay was married to Miss M. J. De Lagneau, who was born July 12, 1864, and was educated and reared to womanhood in Ottawa. Mrs. Hay is a daughter of Eloi De Lagneau, of that city. Two bright little children, one about two years old, Clair Edward, and another, Simon De Lagneau, grace the union of our subject and his wife.

Since becoming a voter, Mr. Hay has used his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party, casting his first ballot for Benjamin Harrison. He takes an active part in local politics and has served his fellow-citizens in several public positions of responsibility and honor. He was elected Secretary of the Kankakee Fair Association, and also of the Ninth Congressional District Farmers' Institutes and has been very efficient and faithful in his duties as a member of these organizations. Mr. and Mrs. Hay are members of the St.

Anne Presbyterian Church. Our subject is an example of the progressive and enterprising farmer of this last decade of the nineteenth century, and though but a young man he has already achieved considerable success as the reward of his industry and well-directed efforts.



JOHAN KEYES CROSWELL, the present City Engineer of Kankakee, has been a resident of this city since 1868. He is a native of the Empire State, born in Schoharie County in 1828. His father, Archibald Croswell, was born in Connecticut and was descended from a well-known and influential Colonial family. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a sea captain, and in the War of the Revolution was granted letters of marque and reprisal by the Colonial Government, and was captured by the British while warring against English commerce by virtue of that authority, and for some time was detained a prisoner by them.

The Croswell family was prominent in the earlier and later history of Connecticut and eastern New York, and the Episcopal Church has numbered several of its members among its most able ministers. In the year 1800, when about twenty-one years of age, Archibald Croswell went to New York, where he married Hannah Winslow Paige, a daughter of the Rev. Winslow Paige, a well-known Presbyterian clergyman. She also belonged to an eminent New England family, and was descended in direct line from Edward Winslow, of "Mayflower" fame. Her brother, A. C. Paige, of Schenectady, was Judge of the Circuit Court and Court of Appeals, and another brother, Col. John Keyes Paige, served in the War of 1812, and was long a prominent citizen of Albany, N. Y., of which city he was Mayor at one time, and also filled various other important official positions. Archibald Croswell was extensively engaged in manufacturing for several years, and continued to make his home in Schoharie

County until claimed by death in 1877. The wife and mother had died many years previously, in 1852.

The subject of this sketch was one of a family of five children who grew to mature years, four sons and a daughter, one having died in infancy. Paige, the eldest of the family, died in Pennsylvania a number of years ago; Kellogg, the only surviving brother of our subject, lives in Schoharie County on one of the old farms once owned by the father; Mary became the wife of William J. Weeks, of Long Island, N. Y., and she was called from this life a number of years ago; John, who is four years the junior of the other surviving brother, is next in order of birth; Abel Brace departed this life in 1857.

Mr. Croswell, whose name heads this sketch passed the days of his boyhood and youth in his native county. His educational privileges were of the best at that time, and for seven years he was a student in the Albany Academy, where he took a thorough classical and mathematical course. Before his school days were ended he had devoted considerable attention to practical surveying, and in 1852 began railroad engineering. He was engaged on the New York Central Railroad between Utica and Schenectady when that section of the now famous New York Central Railroad was called the Utica & Schenectady. In 1853 he became connected with the Detroit & Milwaukee Railroad, in whose service he remained some four years. He then engaged in local work in Painesville, Ohio, which was his home for ten years. From 1858 to 1860 Mr. Croswell had charge of the Illinois Southern between Vincennes and Cairo. During the War of the Rebellion, and while making his home in Painesville, he was City Engineer of that place, and also made surveys in the oil regions of Pennsylvania. As stated, he came to Kankakee in 1868, and since that time has been City Engineer for the greater portion of the time. However, in 1870, he went to Iowa, and for two years was engaged on the Missouri, Iowa & Nebraska Railroad. During the years that he has served as City Engineer he has also done much railroad engineering, including the construction of the Kankakee & Seneca Railroad. He also

has been largely interested in the drainage business in Illinois, notably with the Vermillion Special Drainage District and Milk's Grove Drainage District. For twelve years Mr. Croswell has also filled the office of County Surveyor most acceptably.

In the year 1858, in Painesville, Ohio, occurred the marriage of Mr. Croswell and Martha J., daughter of Joseph Baker. Mrs. Croswell was born in the State of New York and removed with her parents to the Buckeye State when a child. Our subject and his wife have but one surviving child, a daughter, Nellie, who is the wife of J. Frank Dale, of Omaha, Neb., special agent for the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company. They have three daughters. Archibald, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Croswell, married Olive Dewitt, and they, with their infant child, were passengers on the train which was wrecked at Chatsworth, Ill., on the 11th of August, 1887. The wife and mother was instantly killed, but the babe which she held in her arms was uninjured, and is still living. The husband was but slightly injured, but was called from this life in 1889.

Mr. Croswell is one of the progressive citizens of Kankakee, and has always taken a commendable interest in the growth and prosperity of the city. In his political affiliations he has been a lifelong adherent of the principles of the Democratic party. He was made a Mason in 1849, and has taken the degrees included in the Blue Lodge, the Chapter and Commandery, and has been presiding officer of all the different bodies.



GEORGE BUTZ, a prosperous and prominent farmer, is the subject of this sketch. He resides on section 26, Limestone Township, and is a native of Germany, Baden having been the place of his birth, which occurred on the 8th of October, 1839. His parents were Michael and Elizabeth (Hech) Butz, both of whom were natives of Germany. More complete mention is made of them in the sketch of Michael

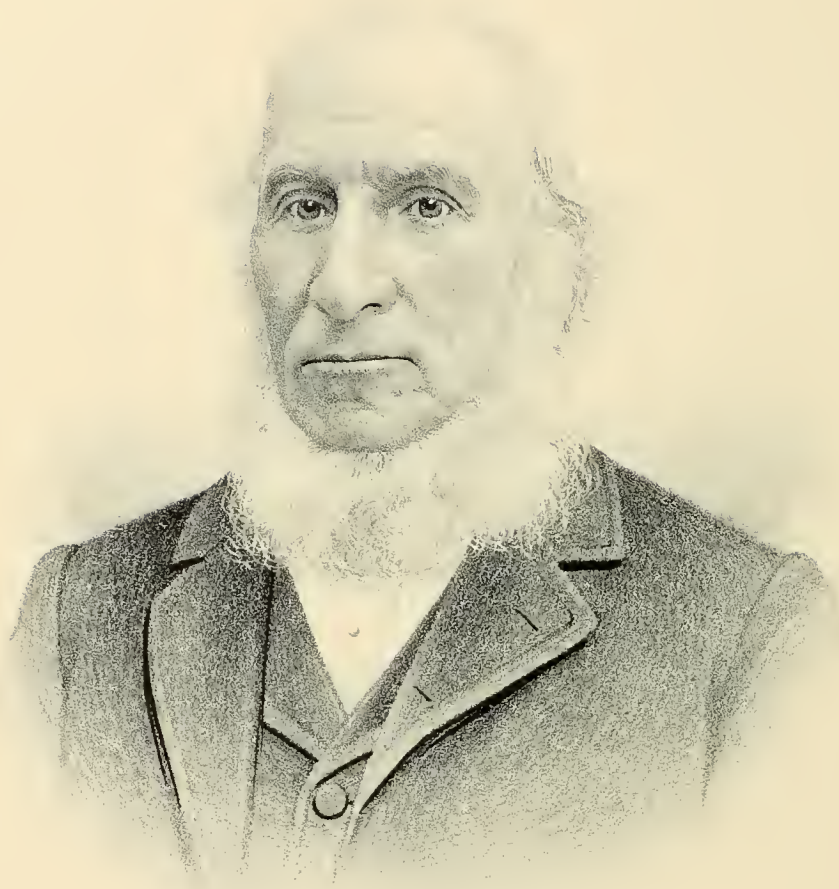
Butz, Jr., which appears on another page of this volume. In 1857 the parents determined to seek a home beyond the Atlantic and crossed the briny deep to America. They had a family of four children, two sons and two daughters.

Our subject, who was the third in order of birth, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in the Fatherland, and received a good education in its public schools. When the family came to this country Mr. Butz accompanied them. He was then a young man of eighteen years. He at once began working upon a farm with his father, and during his entire life has followed agricultural pursuits. He has been very successful in his undertakings, and good management, excellent business ability, perseverance and industry have brought him a well-deserved competence. He now owns the old family homestead, which comprises one hundred and sixty acres of rich land on section 26, under a high state of cultivation, and also two hundred acres of fine land on sections 24 and 25. It is regarded as the best improved farm in the township and its neat appearance indicates the supervision of a careful manager. There are good buildings, the fields are well tilled, and the stock which he raises is of good grades. The latest improved machinery is there found and none of the accessories of a model farm are wanting.

When twenty-nine years of age, Mr. Butz was married to Miss Catherine Heil. Her parents were both natives of Germany, and Mrs. Butz was born in Ohio March 7, 1845, but at the time of her marriage was a resident of this county. Their union was celebrated February 23, 1869, and has been blessed with a family of four children, three sons and a daughter: Charles, Amelia, John and William. They are aged respectively twenty-two, twenty-one, twenty and eighteen years. The family circle yet remains unbroken and the children are still under the parental roof. They have been provided with good educational advantages, thus being fitted for the practical and responsible duties of life.

Mr. Butz exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, having been a warm advocate of its principles since he cast his first

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Yours Truly

R. S. Gilkerson



Agnes W. Gilkerson

Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. His fellow-townsmen, appreciating his worth and ability, have honored him by repeated elections to the office of Road Commissioner of his district, and he has also represented his township as Supervisor for the past ten years, discharging his duties with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents, which fact is attested by his long term. Himself and family are all members of the German Lutheran Church. He is a man of sterling worth and strict integrity and by a large circle of friends and acquaintances is held in the highest regard.



ROBERT S. GILKERSON has for about forty years resided on section 8, in Manteno Township. His parents were Thomas and Marian (Somers) Gilkerson, and he was born in Barnet, Caledonia County, Vt., on the 18th of February, 1821. His parents are more fully spoken of in connection with the sketch of John Gilkerson.

The education of Robert Gilkerson was received in the district schools of Barnet Township, where he was born, and under the tutorship of the Scotch minister who preached in the neighborhood. In December, 1854, he came to Illinois from Vermont, where he had engaged in farming for a number of years, and upon his arrival in Kankakee County located on section 8, in Manteno Township. His farm consisted of eighty acres, upon which he built a house and then sent for his family. In the following February they arrived safely, and this original house was their home for thirty-one years, during which time it was enlarged and otherwise improved. In 1885 he built another house near by for his son, Robert C., and into this home they moved three years later, their son having removed to Kankakee. Another son, Frank, now resides on the old homestead, which he rents of his father. Our subject was a thrifty farmer, and as his resources permitted added more land to his first purchase until he was the possessor of five hundred and forty acres, which were well improved

and under good cultivation. A portion of this he has since divided among his children, but he reserves two hundred and eighty acres, which, as before mentioned, are rented and carried on by his son.

On the 19th of February, 1846, Mr. Gilkerson married, at Bath, N. H., Miss Agnes N. Batchelder, who was born in Bath October 28, 1823. Her father, Nathan Batchelder, who was of English descent, died in May, 1892, in Barnet, Vt., aged ninety-four years. James Batchelder, the grandfather of Mrs. Gilkerson, entered the Revolutionary army as a soldier boy, served through the entire war and came out with the rank of Captain. Mrs. Gilkerson's brother, David Batchelder, enlisted in the late war, sailed with Gen. Banks to open up the Mississippi River, was shot at Port Hudson and died from the effects of his wound. Her mother was of Scotch descent.

Six sons and three daughters were born to our worthy subject and his estimable wife, as follows: Nathan B., who lives at Peotone, married Miss Belle McKercher. They have an adopted son, Chester Arthur. Luther married Miss Catherine Morris, of Monmouth, Ill., who became the mother of seven children, all of whom are living. They are Laura Belle, Mary A., Scott, Bertha, Ella, Helen and Robert Sterling. The mother died in August, 1890. Charles and James A. are both deceased. Frank married Miss Eva Cowen, and to them have been born six children, Wilbert W., Grace, Frank R., Horace, James Otis and the baby. Robert C. keeps a meat-market in Kankakee. He married Harriet Wright, of Manteno, and they have one child, Elnathan W. Laura J. is the wife of Rev. A. W. Morris, a minister of the United Presbyterian Church, who is now located in Greenwich, N. Y. They have six children, Agnes, Mary A., Robert, Bernice, Frank G. and Janet. Mary E. is the widow of Philip P. Nelson, formerly of Lyman, N. H. They had five children, Nathan, Annie, Hugh, Norman N. and Robert S. His death occurred in February, 1892, in Kankakee. Emma J. is deceased.

Although seventy-one years of age, Mr. Gilkerson is hale and hearty, bidding fair to live for many years to come. He is strictly temperate in

his habits, as he has not used a glass of intoxicating liquors for forty years. He and his wife are members of the United Presbyterian Church, in which he has occupied the office of Elder for thirty-seven years. Politically, he is a Republican, and has held the office of Road Commissioner and that of Supervisor for one year. He has been a witness of vast changes in this locality, and well remembers when wolves and deer were very plentiful, and when the prairie for miles in every direction was covered with rank grass as tall as his horse.



WALTER B. CHIPMAN, a representative farmer and stock-raiser of Momence Township, who resides on section 7, where he owns and operates a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres, claims Canada as the land of his birth. He comes, however, of an old New England family of English origin, which was probably founded in America during Colonial days. His parents, Truman and Sarah (Cowdry) Chipman, were both natives of Vermont. The father was a farmer of the Green Mountain State, from where in an early day he removed to Canada. Desiring to better his financial condition, he resolved at length to seek a home in Illinois, and in consequence emigrated to this State, locating in Momence Township, Kankakee County. The year 1845 witnessed his arrival, and the Chipmans became one of the pioneer families of this community.

The subject of this record, Walter B., was born on the 9th of July, 1830, and was the sixth in order of birth in their family of ten children, numbering six sons and four daughters. His early boyhood days were passed in his native land and at the age of fifteen years he came with his parents to Illinois. His education was acquired in the common schools of Canada and Kankakee County, Ill., and he was reared under the parental roof. After attaining to years of maturity he chose as a com-

panion and helpmate on life's journey Miss Caroline Davidson, daughter of Daniel and Elmira Davidson, who were pioneers of Kankakee County. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Chipman was celebrated in 1855, but after three short years of happy wedded life the young wife was called to her final rest, passing away in 1858. One child had been born of that union, a daughter, Alice, who is now the wife of Henry Davis, a thrifty and enterprising farmer residing in Fillmore County, Neb.

January 25, 1862, Mr. Chipman was again married, his second union being with Miss Mary L. Wagoner, daughter of Daniel and Lavina Wagoner, of Momence, who were also early settlers of Kankakee County, coming in 1845. Mrs. Chipman was born near Syracuse, N. Y., May 17, 1812. A family of six children has been born of this second marriage, namely: Charley B., a prosperous and progressive farmer of Momence Township, who married Miss Lida Hurley, of this county, by whom he has four children; Nellie V., a well-educated young lady, and a teacher of recognized ability in the public schools of this county; Cora B., who died when four years of age; Fannie May, the next younger; and Edward E. and William W., who complete the family. The latter are twins and were born August 20, 1882. The elder children have received good educational privileges which will also in due time be afforded the younger members of the family.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Chipman is a staunch Republican, who warmly advocates the principles of that party and does what he can for its growth and success. He keeps himself well informed on all issues of the day, both political and otherwise, and has proved himself a valued citizen. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend and for the long period of about twenty years he has served as School Director in his district, during which time he has done effective service in their interest by securing competent teachers. His wife and daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Mr. Chipman, though not holding membership, aids in its support. His help is never withheld from any worthy enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit or from any worthy chari-

table or benevolent interest. The community recognizes him as one of its best citizens. From a financial standpoint, also, Mr. Chipman's life has been one of success and he owns an excellent farm comprising two hundred and forty acres of well-improved and highly cultivated land. It is pleasantly situated two miles north of Momence. His fields are well cultivated and in addition to the work of general farming he successfully carries on stock-raising. Honorable, upright dealings have marked his business career, and the good wishes and confidence of the community he has gained thereby.



WILLIAM P. WATSON, of the firm of Watson & Cleary, general merchants of Momence, was born in Edgar County, Ill., near the town of Paris, on the 16th of October, 1842. His ancestors on the paternal side were English, and his grandfather Watson and a brother came to America at a very early day. The former was a merchant and shipper of all kinds of produce by boats from Cincinnati to New Orleans and intervening points. In his family were two children, our subject's father and one daughter. His death occurred when he was comparatively a young man.

Our subject is a son of John F. and Sarah Jane (Patterson) Watson, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Ohio, of Irish descent. The father was born in 1822, and married when quite young. He followed the life of a farmer in Kentucky, living at a place called Flemingsburg, which was named after his grandfather. He removed to Edgar County, Ill., about 1840, and settled on a farm near Paris. In 1844, with his wife and son, he came to what is now Kankakee County and located on a farm nine miles from Momence. The country was wild and unfenced, and the Government land was not yet in the market. He took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres, which he improved and made his home until 1858. He then purchased a farm near Wilmington, Ill.,

which he cultivated for a number of years. His present residence is in the city of Wilmington, where he lives retired from active life. Their children are all living and married and reside in widely scattered States. They are as follows: William P., Margaret J., Caroline E., Washington W., Edward L., Charles, Emeline, John T., Merritt E. and George M.

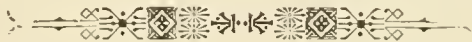
The boyhood days of William P. Watson were passed upon a farm in this State. He is one of the oldest settlers of Kankakee County, having lived here for forty-eight years, or ever since he was two years of age. He remained on his father's farm until the breaking out of the war, when, on the 10th of August, 1861, though not nineteen years of age, he enlisted in Company D, Forty-second Illinois Infantry, and was in the service for three years, being mustered out the 1st of September, 1864. He was in the battle of Stone River, where he was slightly wounded, and also took part in the battle of Chickamauga, in which he received three wounds, one of which broke his right fore-arm, disabling it for life, another broke a rib in his right side, while the third wound was a buck-shot in his right shoulder, which he still carries. He also participated in many skirmishes and smaller engagements, and was ever found faithful at the post of duty.

On the 24th of April, 1866, Mr. Watson was united in marriage with Hortense E. Shedd, whose parents, John and Sylvia (Dunham) Shedd, were from Cortland County, N. Y. One child was born to our subject and his wife, a son, who died in infancy.

After returning from the war, Mr. Watson clerked in the grocery store of his uncle, W. H. Patterson, until the spring of 1870, at which time he started in business for himself, establishing a small grocery store on River Street, which he carried on for a couple of years. He then associated with him Hiram Wilber and moved into larger quarters on Front Street, also considerably increasing his stock. They carried on business under the firm name of Wilber & Watson for three years, after which our subject purchased his partner's interest, and then took into partnership his brother, Washington W., and the firm assumed the style

of Watson Bros. At the end of four years our subject purchased his brother's interest and continued alone until 1885, when Patrick J. Cleary, who had been in his employ for seven years, bought an interest in the business, which has since been carried on under the firm name of Watson & Cleary. From a small beginning our subject has seen a steady increase until now his business has assumed large proportions, and his sales extend in all directions in the vicinity of Momence. His business is recognized as one of the substantial enterprises of the county.

Though not a member of any church organization, Mr. Watson contributes of his means to the support of the Episcopal Church, of which his wife is a member. Socially, he is a Knight Templar, holding membership with Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, of Kankakee. He is a charter member of Momence Lodge No. 181, A. F. & A. M., which was organized in 1866. He is at present Supervisor of Momence Township, and has held various other offices of honor and trust. He is a thorough business man and is public-spirited, always being alive to the welfare of the city and county. In politics he is a Republican and has always voted that ticket, having cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln.



WILLIAM P. BARBER, who is engaged in farming on section 4, Limestone Township, where he owns a comfortable home, pleasantly situated within five miles of Kankakee, is a native of Illinois. He was born on the 15th of April, 1857, in De Kalb, De Kalb County, Ill., and is the youngest child and the only son in a family of three children. His father, Rosswell Barber, was a native of Massachusetts, born May 25, 1819, and his parents were also natives of New England. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Mary A. Franklin. She too was born in the old Bay State, the date being September 14, 1828, and was of English extraction. It was in 1857 that the parents of our subject emigrated Westward to

Illinois, becoming residents of De Kalb County, where Mr. Barber purchased a farm. He there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1871, when with his family he removed to Chicago, where he engaged in the real-estate business. He was in that city at the time of the big fire which broke out on the 9th of October, 1871. Buildings were destroyed to within half a block of him, but at that place they at length gained control over the fire and Mr. Barber's property was thus saved. He remained in Chicago, carrying on business, for a period of eight years and then came to Kankakee County, purchasing a farm in Limestone Township. Locating thereon, the remainder of his days were there passed and his death occurred February 13, 1892. He was a member of the Methodist Church and a man of sterling worth and strict integrity. Though he had resided in this county for only about thirteen years, he had made many friends and his death was deeply regretted.

Under the parental roof the subject of this sketch was reared to manhood, and being the only son of the family he remained at home and when he had attained his majority was taken into partnership with his father. He had received a good education in the common schools and was thus fitted for a practical business life. As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, Mr. Barber chose Miss Ulista Hawkins, who has the honor of being a native of Kankakee. She was born in that city on the 15th of November, 1862, and is a daughter of Alanson and Abia (Vaughn) Hawkins. Her father was one of the very first settlers in the county, the date of his arrival here being 1832. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Barber was celebrated November 25, 1890, and unto them has been born one child, a son, William H., born September 2, 1891. The parents of Mrs. Barber are both dead. Her father died October 22, 1869, and her mother died November 10, 1886.

Our subject continued to engage in business with his father until the latter's death. He now owns and operates a good farm, comprising forty acres of well-improved land. It is all under a high state of cultivation and the neat appearance of the place indicates the owner to be a man of practical and progressive ideas.

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Timothy Horton

In his political affiliations, Mr. Barber is a Republican and cast his first Presidential vote for James A. Garfield; he has never sought or desired the honors or emoluments of public office, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests. In religious belief, he is a Congregationalist and holds membership with the church of that denomination in Chicago, and Mrs. Barber is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a wide-awake, enterprising young farmer, a man of good business ability and a valued citizen, who has won the high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



TIMOTHY FORTIN, an early settler of Kankakee County, was born in Henryville Province of Quebec, Canada, on the 22d of January, 1833. His parents, Jaque Timothee and Eliza (Cloutier) Fortin, were of Canadian birth, and of French descent. Jaque Fortin was a prosperous farmer and a man of energy and enterprise. In the summer of 1847, he made a trip to Kane County, Ill., to see the country, being the first from his vicinity to visit this section. Pleased with the country, he returned to Canada and made preparations to move. Being a man of influence and of known business ability, a number of his neighbors decided to cast their lot with him in the then new State of Illinois. Fourteen families from the same neighborhood joined in the Westward emigration.

During that winter Mr. Fortin left his family at Aurora, and came to what is now Kankakee County, securing two hundred acres of land in Bourbonnais Township. To this place he removed his family the following spring. By industry and perseverance he added to his possessions until he became quite an extensive land-holder. He was a man of strict integrity, and his name signed to an obligation made it as good as the gold. Many times he helped his countrymen who settled here over financial troubles. Politically, he was a warm

advocate of the principles of Democracy, but never sought office for himself. He died much lamented by his fellow-townsmen in April, 1861, at the age of fifty-two years. In his allegiance to his adopted country, he was unswerving. During the late war many native Americans were fleeing to Canada to escape the draft. Mr. Fortin called his boys to him, and on his deathbed urged them if drafted not to run from duty, but to fight like men for their country. Though he did not see the close of the war, he did live long enough to see that the union of the States would be maintained. His widow, who makes her home in Chicago, has reached the age of seventy-eight years. Mr. Fortin was an active worker in and a liberal contributor to the Catholic Church, with which all of his family hold membership. His children numbered seven, as follows: Timothy, of this sketch; Julius, who is a farmer of Bourbonnais Township; Alexis and George, live-stock commission men of Chicago, and owners of farm lands; Alfred, a retired farmer, of Chicago; Henriette, wife of P. Maynard, of Kankakee; and Mary, wife of George Richards, a farmer of Bourbonnais Township.

We now take up the personal history of Timothy Fortin, who accompanied his parents on their removal to this county. He received a common-school education, and was engaged in farm work until twenty years of age, when, on the 23d of January, 1853, he set out with his brother Alexis, for the gold fields of California, going by way of New York and the ocean route. They both had the fever at Panama, and on the way from that place to San Francisco they lost thirteen of their fellow-passengers with the Isthmus fever. On reaching their destination, they engaged in mining in Nevada County, on the Middle Yuba. They also spent three months on Feather River, and later operated on New Orleans Flat. In their various ventures they made considerable money, but lost it again through prospecting, and in the fall of 1859 returned to their home.

In the spring of 1860, Mr. Fortin commenced farming on land in Pilot Township, which he had bought before going to California, and which his father had entered from the Government. He made a success of agricultural pursuits, and raised and

dealt in live stock. He continued to reside on this farm until 1874, when he removed to Kankakee, but still operates his land.

On the 26th of January, 1872, in Pilot Township, Mr. Fortin married Miss Philomene Anctil, who was born June 20, 1847, in St. Ann Lapocattier, being a daughter of Jean Marie and Mathilde (Hudon) Anctil. Mrs. Fortin's parents were natives of Quebec, Canada, where they spent their entire lives, reaching an advanced age. Both were Catholics in religious belief. Mr. Anctil was a man of ample means, farming being his chief vocation. Of his seven children, four sons and three daughters, but two have come to the United States: Mrs. Timothy Fortin; and Elmira, wife of Alexis Fortin. Unto our subject and his wife were born three children, two of whom died in infancy. Rachel is their only surviving child.

In their religious belief, Mr. and Mrs. Fortin are Catholics, and in politics, Mr. Fortin is a Democrat. By industry, perseverance and good business judgment, he has worked his way upward until he is accounted one of the substantial citizens of Kankakee County. He has never been a speculator, but through the legitimate channels of business has received a just reward for his efforts.



MICHAEL OBRECHT, who follows farming on section 33, Salina Township, is one of the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to Kankakee County. He was born in that part of Germany which then belonged to France, on the 29th of September, 1802, and is a son of Martin and Paulina (Hegg) Obrecht. His father was twice married, and by his first union he had a daughter, Mary. Eight children were born of the second marriage, the eldest of whom is our subject, the others being Catherine, Sallie, Magdalena, Jacob, Barbara, George and Ursula.

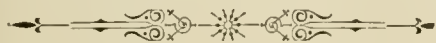
As our subject was the eldest of the family, the privileges afforded him were very meagre, for he had to work in order to help support his younger

brothers and sisters. When he began to work for himself he embarked in farming, which pursuit he followed until his emigration to America. Desiring to try his fortune in the New World, he crossed the broad Atlantic in 1842, in a sailing-vessel, which dropped anchor in the harbor of New York after fifty-five days. He then went to Buffalo, where he remained during the summer, while in the autumn he made his way by water to Chicago. Soon afterward he located near Wheeling, Cook County, Ill., where he purchased a farm of one hundred and thirteen acres. The only improvement upon the place was a small log cabin, into which he moved, and then gave his attention to the development of his land, which he operated for eleven years. On the expiration of that period, he came to Kankakee County, in 1853, and purchased the farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 33, Salina Township, which has since been his home. The whole county was then but sparsely settled, there being only one house between his home and Hickory Grove. The land which he purchased was a tract of wild prairie, unadorned by any improvements, but he at once began its development, and as time passed the work of transformation was carried forward, until the barren tract was made to bloom and blossom as the rose.

In his native land, Mr. Obrecht commenced life for himself, and was married in 1830 to Miss Magdclene Fielweber, and unto them have been born the following children: Lena, who died in Germany, at the age of six years; Jacob, who resides in Kankakee County, and was Sheriff of the county from 1861 until 1865; Mary, wife of Jacob Schreiber, who is living in Butler County, Iowa, where he carries on farming; John M., a farmer of Henry County, Ill.; John, a retired farmer, residing in Du Page County; Martin, who died in 1875; Emeline, wife of Amos Hertz, an agriculturist of Salina Township; David, who operates the old homestead on which his father first located; Sarah, wife of George M. Wagner, a farmer of Salina Township; Frederick W., who carries on agricultural pursuits in Iroquois County; and George W., a stockman and dealer in agricultural implements in South Dakota. Martin was a sol-

dier of the late war. He enlisted in 1861, and was mustered into the service at Springfield, Ill., as a Sergeant of Company I, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. He participated in many important engagements, including the siege of Vicksburg. He was never wounded or taken prisoner, but was always found at his post of duty, and faithfully served until honorably discharged in 1865. The mother of this family was called to her final rest May 28, 1879, and her remains were interred in the cemetery of the German Evangelical Church.

Mr. Obrecht is a member of that church, as was also his wife. In politics he is a stalwart advocate of the principles of the Republican party, but has never been an office-seeker. He is now one of the oldest residents of the county. He has always enjoyed good health, and his age yet rests lightly upon him. During his long residence in the county he has become widely known, and by all his many friends and acquaintances he is held in the highest regard as a man of sterling worth and upright character. His life has been such as to win him universal confidence and esteem. From a financial standpoint, his success has all been achieved through his own efforts, for he came to this country empty-handed, and by his own exertions has worked his way upward from an humble position to one of affluence. Mr. Obrecht has resided with his son David and wife for fourteen years. David has exercised that love and care for his father in his declining years which becomes a loving and dutiful son.



DE WITT CLINTON RIKER, clothing merchant of Momence, was born in Montpelier, Vt., on the 30th of May, 1846.

His paternal grandfather, Isaac Riker, was a Captain in the United States Army in the War of 1812; he was in the battle of Tippecanoe, and surrendered at Detroit, Mich., from which place he proceeded on foot to his home in Vermont. His death occurred when he was still in the prime of life. The maternal grandfather,

Elihu Atherton, was also a soldier in the War of 1812. He followed agricultural pursuits throughout life, and reared a large family. In 1875 he came to Momence to spend the remainder of his days, and departed this life in 1886, at the extreme old age of ninety-four years.

The parents of our subject, Francis R. and Luzan A. (Atherton) Riker, were both natives of Vermont, the former being of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and the latter of English origin. The father followed merchandising nearly all his life, and during his last years assisted his son-in-law in the clothing trade until his death, which occurred October 17, 1890, when he was seventy-two years of age. The mother of our subject is still living, and makes her home with her son-in-law, Mr. Nichols, in Montpelier, Vt., and has now attained her seventy-fifth year. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Riker, three sons and a daughter, three of whom grew to maturity, one son having died in infancy. Martha became the wife of George Nichols, of Montpelier, reared a family of four children, and died there a number of years ago. Our subject is next in order of birth. Henry completes the family.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in his native State, where he received a good common-school education. When twenty years old he left home, coming directly to Momence. After remaining here a short time he went to Chicago, where he clerked in a wholesale clothing-house for two and a-half years. He then went to Sterling, Ill., where he embarked for himself in the clothing business and remained there until the fall of 1870, at which time he returned to Momence, located permanently and has made this his home to the present time. Mr. Riker entered the employ of his uncle, M. A. Atherton, in his general store in this city, and about three years later was given an interest in the business. He remained with Mr. Atherton for a period of sixteen or seventeen years, the firm name being Atherton & Riker. In 1887 our subject sold his interest to Mr. Atherton, and established a clothing and gents' furnishing goods store, in which line he has been very successful, being regarded as one of the substantial and reliable merchants of Momence.

On the 3d of November, 1869, Mr. Riker married Miss Sarah L. Wilcox, whose parents, Joel J. and Laura (Walter) Wilcox, of Sterling, were natives of Massachusetts. Two sons and a daughter were born to Mr. and Mrs. Riker: Walter A., who died on the 27th of September, 1877, aged seven years and one month; Florence E. and Francis J.

Our subject and his wife hold membership with the Episcopal Church, with which they have been connected for many years. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Royal Arcanum, being a charter member of both orders in Momence. Personally, he is of quiet and unpretentious manners, and is highly esteemed in the community as a man of honor and integrity.



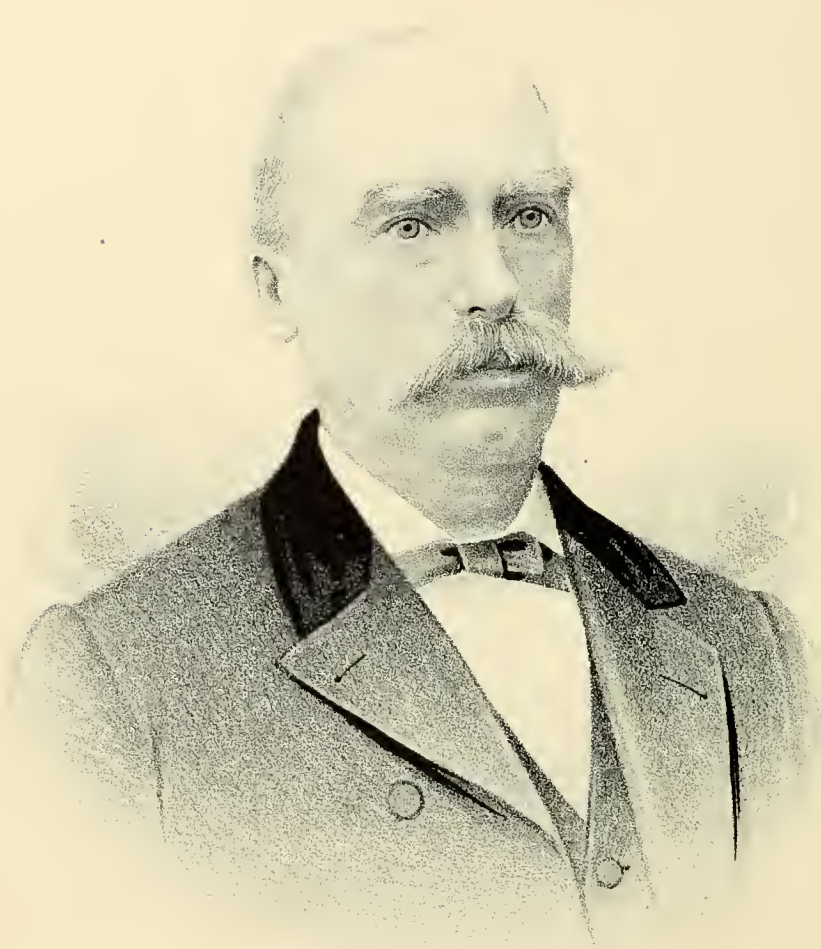
WILLIAM WILLIAMSON, one of the prominent business men of Kankakee, and the present Street Commissioner of this city, is numbered among the pioneers of Kankakee County, to which he came almost forty years ago. Mr. Williamson was born in Oneida County, N. Y., on the 8th of November, 1832. His father, William B. Williamson, was born and reared in Steuben County, of the same State, and was a wheelwright by occupation. The family is of Scotch-English ancestry, and in the early days of the Colonial history three brothers, Garet, James and John Williamson, emigrated to New England, where they located, and their descendants have now become numerous throughout the country. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Mary Ney. She is said to have been descended from Marshal Ney, one of Napoleon Bonaparte's most famous generals. Her father, Jonathan Ney, removed from Connecticut to Oneida County, N. Y., where he was a pioneer. In early life, William B. Williamson removed from Steuben to Oneida County, and was there married. In 1845, going to Sandusky, Ohio, he engaged in the building of mills, and throughout his life followed the occupation of a millwright. He returned to the Empire State, his death occurring in Bath, Steuben County.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch is one of a family of nine children, four sons and five daughters. The family circle is still unbroken. Charles is a resident of Bad Axe, Mich.; William is the second in order of birth; Sylvanus and Henry are the other two brothers. The latter resides at Pueblo, Colo., and is a conductor on the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad. The eldest sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Webster, resides in Cleveland, Ohio. Asenath is the wife of John Hoover, of Urbana, Ohio. Jane and Janet are twins; the former is now Mrs. Anderson, of Clinton, Iowa, and the latter, Mrs. Austin, of Lyons, the same State. The youngest sister, Mrs. Mary Sibley, resides in Chicago.

When thirteen years of age, Mr. Williamson went to live in Sandusky, Ohio, in the home of his mother's brother, and there he resided for a number of years. Several years before he located here permanently he traveled in the State in the interest of Messrs. Woolworth & Gale, stove dealers. In those early days, stoves were sold by men who went from house to house taking orders from the people for that necessary article of housekeeping. Mr. Williamson was engaged in that business for some time, and then returned to Sandusky, and brought his family, who were then making their home at that place, here. They came to this county, and located upon a farm near the present city of Kankakee, the date of their arrival being 1853.

For a time, Mr. Williamson remained upon the farm, and then entered the hotel business. He opened a hotel which became known as the Williamson House. This hotel, which is one of the old landmarks of the city, is still standing, and on its facade may be seen the name in large letters, The Williamson House. After operating the hotel for some time, he engaged in railroading, which occupation he followed in the capacity of engineer for nearly twenty years. Two years of that time, during the war, he was on the Memphis & Little Rock Railroad. The service was full of danger, as they never knew when their train would be ditched. He carried dispatches between Banks and Steele from Little Rock to Duvall's Bluff. In 1886 he engaged in the coal trade in Kankakee.

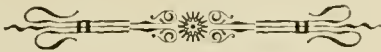
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S. Haight

Mrs. Williamson was Miss Marian Myers, of Kankakee. Four children, one son and three daughters, have blessed the union of our subject and his wife. They are Gertrude, Eva Belle, George H. and Alta M. In 1865 Mr. Williamson and wife joined the First Baptist Church of Kankakee and have been consistent members since. Much of the time, he has filled official positions, serving as Trustee some fifteen years and Treasurer about eight years, besides other positions. He has always taken an active part in all church work. Politically, he has always been a Democrat, having cast his first vote for Buchanan, and the last one for Grover Cleveland.

Mr. Williamson is numbered among the enterprising and progressive citizens of Kankakee. Coming here when the present city was in its earliest infancy, and just at the opening of its first railroad, he has been identified with the growth and prosperity of the place since its birth. He was elected as a member of the Board of Aldermen in 1889, and three years later was made Street Commissioner of Kankakee. In this position he has proved most efficient and acceptable, and in all things that relate to the city's growth and welfare he takes a deep interest. Both in business and social relations, he has won the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and is accounted a man of active and energetic qualities.



SOLON KNIGHT, one of the earliest pioneers of what is now Kankakee County, and now President of the City National Bank of Kankakee and of the Kankakee County Savings Bank, and also President of the Kankakee Stone and Lime Company, is a native of the Empire State, born in Lodi, Cattaraugus County, on the 15th of March, 1832. He is a son of Samuel Lee and Lueina Lambert (Parker) Knight. (See sketch of the parents elsewhere in this work.) When the subject of this sketch was an infant his parents removed to Onondaga County and in

1843 he accompanied them to Illinois. His father was a farmer by occupation and settled on land in Plainfield, Will County. In 1845 he removed to Joliet, where he was engaged in the butchering business until the spring of 1851, when he came to what is now Kankakee County and located at Bourbonnais, where he engaged in the hotel business.

Mr. Knight accompanied his parents in their various changes of location and became a resident of what is now Kankakee in the spring of 1851. Two years later, when the Illinois Central Railroad Company extended their line to the Kankakee River and established the station of Kankakee, he and his father were among the first to engage in business at that point. They established the first lumber-yard and unloaded the first carload of freight ever shipped to that point, which was their first consignment of lumber. The cars were unloaded at a place considerably north of the present station in July, 1853, but they were not run to the depot until November following. Our subject continued in the lumber business until the close of 1857, when he sold out and engaged with his father in the stone and lime trade. From a small beginning their sales have continually increased, until to-day they have an important and commanding trade. On the 23d of February, 1867, the present Kankakee Stone and Lime Company was incorporated, the original quarries and lime-making plant of our subject constituting the principal stock. Of the new company Mr. Knight was elected President, and Mr. Cleghorn, Secretary, and those respective offices they have held continually to the present time. This concern employs an average of seventy-five men and has an annual output of about two thousand carloads of stone and twenty thousand barrels of lime.

On the 31st of December, 1857, Mr. Knight was united in marriage with Miss Matilda K. R. West. The lady was born in Allegan County, Mich., on the 18th of October, 1839, and is a daughter of Albert and Melvina West. One child, a son, Edward N., was born of their union, the date of his birth being the 5th of October, 1858. He married Miss Elizabeth N. Norton and is engaged in business with his father.

Mr. Knight has sixty acres of land in the city of Kankakee, forty of which are a valuable stone quarry. This stone is what is known as the Niagara limestone, the best in the State for heavy piers, and capable of sustaining heavy pressure. The company's facilities for the manufacture of lime are extensive and complete in their appointments and this industry is one of the oldest and most important in the county.

Mr. Knight is a Democrat in politics and has always taken an active interest in local and general affairs. He has been three times elected Mayor of Kankakee, in 1880, 1889 and 1890, and proved a faithful and efficient officer. He also was for three years a member of the County Board of Supervisors. Mr. Knight was one of the organizers of the City National Bank of Kankakee, of which he has been President since its formation, and of which notice is given elsewhere in this work. For several years our subject has made it a practice to travel with his family during the winter season in the Southern States of his own country, and has also traveled in Mexico, South America and in the countries of Central America. From these tours he has derived much pleasure and information. While at home he is an indefatigable worker and gives his personal supervision to the details of his extensive business, in which he has been so successful. He is a plain, unassuming man, well read and an interesting conversationalist. His life since boyhood has been an open book to his neighbors and fellow-citizens, and the kindly tone and respectful manner in which all speak of him can not fail to impress the casual observer most favorably as to his personal character and public life.



HON. DANIEL HOLMES PADDOCK is a well-known and successful lawyer, now serving his third term in the Illinois Legislature as Representative from the Sixteenth Senatorial District, which comprises the counties of Kankakee and Iroquois. His birth occurred in Lockport, Ill., on the 10th of April, 1852.

He is a son of Col. John Williams and Helen (Harvey) Paddock. The father was an eminent lawyer and a distinguished military man of Eastern Illinois (of whom see sketch elsewhere in this volume).

Mr. Paddock came to Kankakee with his parents in 1853, while an infant, and has made that city his home since that time. At the early age of eleven years he was called upon to mourn the loss of his father. His primary education was received in the public schools, and when twelve years of age he commenced learning the printer's trade in the office of the *Kankakee Gazette*, where he spent one year. The succeeding six years were passed upon a farm during the summer and in attendance upon the schools of the district during the winter season. He next took a year's course at the Soldiers' College at Fulton, Ill., after which he accepted the position of Deputy Postmaster at Kankakee, where he served faithfully for two years. For the two years following this he served as Deputy County Clerk of Kankakee County. During the time of his official service he had been also directing his attention toward the study of law, under the preceptorship of Thomas P. Bonfield, and in 1873 he entered the law department of Union University, of Albany, N. Y., from which he was graduated in the spring of 1874. In May, 1874, he was admitted to the Bar at Albany, N. Y. In September of that year he was admitted to the Bar at Mount Vernon, Ill., and at once entered upon the practice of his profession at Kankakee, in partnership with T. P. Bonfield, which connection was continued until October, 1875, since which time our subject has been in practice alone.

On the 18th of July, 1876, Mr. Paddock was united in marriage with Miss Katie Almira Barton, of Kankakee. The lady was born in the town of Marshall, Oneida County, N. Y., on the 5th of February, 1854, and is a daughter of William L. and Sarah (Lumbard) Barton, who were also natives of Oneida County. They removed to Kankakee in 1870, where they still reside. Mr. and Mrs. Paddock are the parents of six children: Helen Barton, Shirley Barton, Emma Barton, Bessie B., Evelyn B. and Catherine B.

In politics Mr. Paddock has always been a Re-

publican since old enough to form political opinions, and while but a youth took an active interest in politics. In 1876 he was elected States Attorney for Kankakee County and was re-elected in 1880. He was City Attorney for Kankakee from 1878 to 1880. In 1883, he was made a Master in Chancery, which office he resigned on being again elected to the Legislature. In 1885 he was chosen to that office for the special purpose of defending the city in several long contested and important suits. Three years later he was elected on the Republican ticket to the Illinois Legislature, was re-elected in 1890 and again in 1892. He is the present attorney for the Illinois State Board World's Fair Commissioners.

Mr. and Mrs. Paddock are members of the Protestant Episcopal Church, of which the latter is a Vestryman. He is a Knight Templar Mason, holding membership with Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M.; with Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M.; and with Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T., of which he has been Commander. He is an active member of Lieut.-Col. Paddock Camp, S. of V, which he was instrumental in organizing and of which he has been Commander. In political campaigns, Mr. Paddock has long been a potent factor in support of Republican principles, and, being a popular public speaker, his services have been much in demand on the stump. His first political work was in the support of Hayes in 1876, and in the support of Garfield and Arthur in the Presidential campaign of 1880, when he made a vigorous canvass and was greeted by large and appreciative audiences wherever he spoke. Since that time he has taken an active part in succeeding campaigns and has ripened into a finished and eloquent orator.

In the practice of his profession, Mr. Paddock has been eminently successful and has won a foremost place in the Bar of Kankakee County. As a trial lawyer, he has shown unusual force and has developed great strength, as well in the systematic and careful preparation of his cases and the shrewd and thorough examination of witnesses, as in the eloquent, logical and convincing manner of their presentation before court and jury. He possesses many of the traits that distinguish his illustrious

father as a brilliant speaker, sound advocate and able lawyer. Mr. Paddock has one of the finest libraries to be found in Kankakee and has ever been a thorough student. Socially, he is deservedly popular, as he is affable and courteous in manner and possesses that essential qualification to success in public life, that of making friends readily and of strengthening the ties as time advances.



ASA BEEBE is an extensive farmer and a pioneer of what is now Kankakee County. He was born in Winhall, Bennington County, Vt., on the 29th of May, 1827, and is a son of Dudley and Dolly (Stearns) Beebe. His father was born in Litchfield, Conn., and was of Welsh descent. The mother of our subject was also of New England birth. In the autumn of 1838, Asa Beebe accompanied his parents to Illinois, traveling with teams across the country. Their family consisted of seven children. Laura became the wife of Eber Gleason, and died at the age of fifty-seven years; Lomira is the wife of James M. Perry, of Chicago; Orrille was the wife of Ezra Wetmore and died in December, 1890; Lydia departed this life when seventeen years of age; Asa is the subject of this sketch and next in order of birth; William married Miss Mary F. Legg and lives in Aroma Township, Kankakee County; and Joanna died in January, 1880. The father of these children entered land upon what is now Aroma Township on his arrival in Illinois and engaged in agricultural pursuits on his land, which consisted of about two hundred acres, until his death, which occurred on the 7th of March, 1853. His wife had passed away previously, on the 1st of September, 1840.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in the usual manner of farmer lads. He received common-school advantages, and on the 9th of January, 1851, married Miss Henrietta Mellen. She was a native of the Green Mountain State, her birth having occurred in Winhall, Bennington County, on the 21st of February, 1831. Her par-

ents, Nathaniel and Achsah (Wheeler) Mellen, emigrated to Illinois, in 1838, that being the same year which witnessed the arrival of our subject's parents. They went by team to Buffalo and thence by boat to Detroit and later came by wagon to Aroma Township, this county, where the father engaged in farming for many years. He died on the 27th of March, 1866, and the mother surviving him for several years, departed this life on the 27th of October, 1875. In their family were eight children, of whom one died in Vermont, the others coming to Illinois with their parents. Emily is the widow of Seth Taylor and still makes her home in Bennington County, Vt.; Elmira, the wife of George Van Dusen, lives in New Lenox, Will County, Ill.; Nancy is the wife of Daniel Beebe, of Kankakee; Alphonso married Gertrude Brinkerhoff and resides in the same city; Cordelia passed away in Iowa when eighteen years of age; Sarah Ann is the wife of Newell Beebe, of Momence; Henrietta, the honored wife of our subject; Henry her twin brother, died in infancy. In politics, Mr. Mellen was a Whig, and he and his wife held membership with the Congregational Church.

For many years Mr. Beebe engaged in agricultural pursuits and the raising of stock on his extensive farm in Aroma Township. In the spring of 1892, he removed with his family to Kankakee, which he now makes his home. He still owns his farm in Aroma, which is highly improved and consists of three hundred and fifteen acres. He is one of the few surviving settlers who made their homes in the valley of the Kankakee before the footprints of the Indians were effaced from the surface of the country in this vicinity. The life of our subject has been one of usefulness and he has done his share toward converting a wild and almost valueless region into a highly improved and wealthy section of one of the richest agricultural States of the Union.

Mr. and Mrs. Beebe became the parents of seven children, of whom three are now living. Dudley M. died at the age of seventeen and a-half months; Lydia Ella became the wife of Alfred Styles, of Ganier Township; Ada L. died at the age of six years; Alma May is the wife of Edgar

Legg, of Aroma Township; Lyle Asa and Lura (twins) died in childhood; and Mart M. wedded Mary Lewis and resides on the old homestead in Aroma Township.

Politically, Mr. Beebe is a Republican but has never desired official recognition. A resident here for fifty-four years he has lived an upright, unassuming life and enjoys, as he well deserves, the good opinion and respect of his fellow-citizens in a marked degree.



JACOB REINHART, one of the early settlers of Kankakee County, whose residence here covers a period of thirty-eight years, is now engaged in farming on section 8, Pilot Township. He is a Frenchman by birth, having first opened his eyes to the light of day in Alsace, France, on the 8th of July, 1850. His father, Jacob Reinhart, Sr., was born and reared in the same locality, and after arriving at man's estate married Salome Birkle. Mr. Reinhart was a shoemaker by trade, but also engaged to some extent in farming. Thinking to better his financial condition by emigrating to the New World, in 1856 he took passage on a sailing-vessel at Havre, which after a voyage of forty-nine days dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. After landing on the shores of America he came direct to Illinois, joining a brother who was then living in Kankakee County. Mr. Reinhart located upon the prairie in Pilot Township, becoming one of its first settlers. For a few years he rented land, and in connection with its operation he worked at his trade. When he had accumulated a sufficient capital he purchased a tract of wild prairie and began the development of a farm. During the first few years after their arrival the family suffered many hardships and privations, such as are incident to pioneer life when one is in limited circumstances, but their condition gradually improved from year to year, and in course of time Mr. Reinhart had a good farm and pleasant little

home, in which he spent the last days of his life. His death occurred in September, 1882. He had long survived his wife, who passed away in 1860, only a few years after coming to this country.

Jacob Reinhart, of this sketch, was the eldest child and only son in a family of four children; Salome, the second of the family, became the wife of Louis Strablow, but is now deceased; Mary, the widow of Frank Sueie, resides in Salina Township; and Caroline is the wife of August Weise, of Franklin County, Neb.

Jacob Reinhart was only six years of age when his parents crossed the broad Atlantic. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent upon his father's farm in Pilot Township, and in the summer months he aided in the labors of the farm, while in the winter season he attended the public schools of the neighborhood. On arriving at years of maturity he took charge of the home farm, which he still operates. From time to time, however, he has extended its boundaries by additional purchase until he now owns a valuable farm comprising two hundred and forty acres of rich land. Almost the entire amount is under a high state of cultivation. The place is improved with a large barn and other outbuildings, which are models of convenience, and a commodious and substantial residence. The owner is recognized as one of the progressive and practical farmers in the community.

Mr. Reinhart exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, with which he has affiliated since casting his first Presidential vote for Gen. U. S. Grant. He takes quite an active part in local politics and has been called upon to serve in a number of official positions of honor and trust. He was elected and re-elected to the office of Collector of Pilot Township until he had filled that position for five consecutive terms. He also served as Supervisor, and the prompt and able manner in which he has discharged all his public duties has won him high commendation. He was also a member of the School Board for a number of years and has ever used his influence to secure good educational advantages in this community.

In May, 1874, in Pilot Township, Mr. Reinhart

wedded Miss Salome Wickersheim, a native of Alsace, France. Her father, Michael Wickersheim, was also born in the same country and there spent his entire life. Mrs. Reinhart was reared in Alsace and educated in her native land. Her education in the English tongue has been acquired through her own efforts. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born five children who are yet living, namely: Bertha M., Anna R., Luey C., Raymond J. and Walter T. They also lost an infant.

Mr. Reinhart and his family are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. He has spent nearly his entire life in this county, where he has a wide acquaintance. His friends are many, and those who have known him from boyhood are among his warmest admirers, a fact which indicates an upright and honorable life. He is a man of good business ability, and through his industry, enterprise and good management has won a handsome property. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen, who manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and his life is in many respects well worthy of emulation. In coming generations his descendants will have no occasion to feel ashamed of their worthy ancestor who was the founder of the Reinhart family in America.



STEPHEN GRAY was born in Albany County, N. Y., near Four Corners, on the 20th of September, 1834, and on his father's side is of Dutch and Scotch extraction, while on his mother's side he is of German lineage. His parents were Christian and Barbara (Ostrander) Gray, both of whom were natives of the Empire State. Unto them was born a family of eight children, of whom Stephen is the third in order of birth; Samuel, the second in order of birth, is now a resident of Kankakee, where he is engaged in the real-estate business; Peter is now living in Limestone Township; Amelia, who became the wife of Aaron Schreffler,

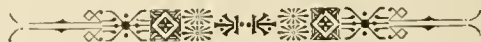
died in 1873; Christian now carries on agricultural pursuits in Salina Township; Joshua makes his home in Pilot Township, where he carries on farming; Mary is the wife of Myron Webster, a resident of Salina Township. The father of this family departed this life on the 5th of April, 1860. His widow still survives him, and is now living in Salina Township at the advanced age of eighty-two years.

In recording a sketch of the life of our subject, we present to our readers the history of one of the former well-known farmers of this community. Glancing backward to his boyhood days, we see that they were spent in much the same manner as those of other farmer lads. Under the parental roof he was reared to manhood, and during the summer months he worked in the fields, becoming familiar with all phases of farm labor. In the winter season he attended the district schools, where he acquired a limited education, which has been largely supplemented by reading and observation in later life. On attaining the age of twenty years he bade good-bye to the East and in 1851 came to Kankakee County, Ill., where he remained for two years. He then returned to New York, on account of ill health, and continued to remain in the State of his nativity for four years, when he again came to this county. In order to provide for his maintenance he began working as a farm hand by the month, and was thus employed until 1872. Having worked industriously and earnestly, he had in the meantime acquired some capital, and now purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land located in Salina Township. There he made his home for a period of twelve years, when, in 1882, he purchased two hundred and seventeen acres of land on section 3, in Aroma Township. He has recently disposed of this property, receiving \$100 per acre for it, and will now live a retired life in Kankakee, where he expects to erect a beautiful home.

On the 6th of May, 1873, Mr. Gray was married to Miss Lucy, daughter of Fred C. and Lucy (Smith) Bird. Her father was a native of Oswego County, N. Y. In the Bird family were seven children, the eldest of whom, Owen, is now

a farmer of Jasper County, Mo.; Morris B., who enlisted for the late war in 1861, and became a Corporal of Company H, One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, was killed on the battlefield during the siege of Vicksburg, and his remains were brought back to the North and interred in the Limestone Cemetery; Mrs. Gray is the next younger; Friend D. is a resident of Fremont, Neb.; Worth, Emma E. and Rush are all residents of Kankakee. The father of this family died on the 28th of December, 1855, but the mother still survives him and is now living in Kankakee at the age of seventy-eight years.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gray has been born one child, Earl D., whose birth occurred on the 8th of July, 1874. The parents are people of sterling worth, their friends throughout the community being many, and in social circles they hold an enviable position. In his political affiliations Mr. Gray is a Democrat, and, as every true American citizen should do, feels an interest in political affairs, although he has never been an office-seeker. He may truly be called a self-made man, for he started out in life empty-handed and unaided has steadily worked his way upward. The difficulties in his path have not impeded his progress, but have rather served as an impetus to renewed effort, and he well deserves the success he has achieved.



REV. GEORGE VETTER, pastor of the first church of the Evangelical Association of Kankakee, was one of the early ministers of this city. The society of this church was organized in April, 1855, by Rev. Elias Musselmann and Rev. George Vetter, its present pastor, with about forty members. The society was what was then called the Kankakee Mission, now Kankakee Station. Services were held for about a year after its organization at the residence of Christain Boeboel. The first church building, a small affair, was erected in 1856, and the first resident pastor was Rev. Henry Eitermann, who came

in 1860, and remained for one year. The second resident pastor was Rev. George Vetter, who, after being in charge for one year, was succeeded by Rev. B. C. Wagner. The other ministers in order of their coming were Rev. G. P. Mohr, Rev. C. Ott, Rev. W. Lechler and Rev. M. Heil. Then came Rev. B. C. Wagner for a second time, who was followed by Rev. H. Schumaker, then Rev. T. E. Fehl, after whom Rev. George Vetter was again pastor, coming in 1877 and remaining for three years. Rev. E. Freden was his successor, and he was followed by Rev. W. F. Walker, Rev. P. H. Sabu, Rev. C. Schuster, Rev. J. Wellner, and then again the present pastor, Rev. George Vetter, who is serving this people for the fourth time. The Evangelical Association adopt the itinerant practice in regard to their ministers, which system is quite similar to that of the Methodists, and which accounts for their frequent changes of pastors.

Rev. George Vetter was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, August 27, 1829, and in his native land he resided until twenty years of age, at which time he emigrated to the United States. After remaining a few weeks in New York upon his arrival in the New World, he went to Canada, but soon after came to Chicago, Ill. In 1854 he engaged in the ministry, and almost immediately thereafter came to Kankakee, being placed on this station, and is still on it.

Rev. Mr. Vetter was united in marriage with Miss Ursula Knecht, a sister of John G. and Jacob Knecht, prominent merchants of Kankakee. The father of Mrs. Vetter was Thomas Knecht, and her mother bore the maiden name of Walpurga Nagle. To our subject and his wife have been born two sons and a daughter. George is a farmer of South Dakota; John is at present Clerk of the Court in Aberdeen, the county seat of Brown County, S. Dak.; and the only daughter, Julia, is the wife of Henry Miller, also of the same State.

The church of which our subject is the present pastor erected a substantial brick building in 1887, at a cost of about \$14,000. They also have a comfortable residence for their pastor. Rev. Mr. Vetter, as has been shown, is one of the veteran ministers of his denomination in Illinois. He is a faithful worker in his Master's vineyard, and is untiring

in his efforts to advance the cause of Christianity. By his noble qualities and zeal he has won the respect and love of those under his charge, and of the citizens in general.



ANDREW GREENWOOD is a respected and enterprising farmer, who operates his farm on section 34, Kankakee Township. He was born in Holland on the 12th of June, 1837, and his parents, John and Henrietta (De Gues) Greenwood, were also native of that country. The father was a farmer by occupation, and reared his family, spent his entire life and died in Holland, where Mrs. Greenwood still resides.

Our subject's parents had five children, who grew to adult years. The eldest, Cornelius G., now makes his home in Holland, but was for four years a resident of Kankakee; our subject is the second in order of birth; Peter lives in Holland; John died in the land of his birth; and Cornelia is the wife of Naakt Geberen and resides in Holland.

The boyhood and youth of Andrew Greenwood were spent on his father's farm in his native land, and there he received a fair education. When about eighteen years of age he determined to seek his fortune in the New World, and in 1856 took passage at Rotterdam in the "Ocean Home," a sailing-vessel. They were upon the broad Atlantic for fifty days, and arrived at their destination, New Orleans, on the 1st of May, of that year. Thence Mr. Greenwood proceeded up the Mississippi River, first to St. Louis and then to Keokuk, Iowa. He secured work upon a farm, and was in the employ of one man for about three years. The farmer, Mr. Van Houlinger, also a Hollander, proved a good friend to our subject. Mr. Greenwood feeling the disadvantage he labored under in being so little conversant with the English language, with commendable zeal determined to become proficient in this line, and, therefore, returning to Keokuk attended an English school during a winter season, working as a gardener during

the summer for Alibu Cooley, whom he also remembers as a kind friend. In the year 1859 Mr. Greenwood again went to New Orleans, and worked at gardening there until the breaking out of the late war. Not desiring to remain in the South during the inevitable conflict which he saw must ensue, he turned his face Northward once more. For about one year he worked on a farm in Iowa, and in the spring of 1862, going to Chicago, engaged as a coachman in the service of ex-Mayor Haynes, for whom he worked for about a year and a-half. He afterward went to Cairo, Ill., in 1863, and engaged in vegetable gardening for the succeeding four years. In the fall of 1868, Mr. Greenwood returned to Chicago and engaged in fancy and special gardening up to the year 1875, when he sold his property, and in September, 1876, came to Kankakee County and located on the place where he now resides. This farm had some improvements upon it and consisted of one hundred and twenty acres. He has since erected a good and substantial residence and has good barns and other outbuildings. He has a fine orchard, and the place is well tiled. It is located about a mile and a-half from Kankakee, and is a valuable and well-kept farm. Since coming here, Mr. Greenwood has largely engaged in gardening, and is one of the most enterprising and successful farmers of Kankakee Township.

In Cairo, Ill., Mr. Greenwood married Henderika Gerretson, the ceremony being performed October 25, 1861. Mrs. Greenwood was born in Holland, and was reared and educated there. She is the daughter of Henry J. Gerretson, who emigrated to this country and settled in Iowa in 1856. Four children have graced the union of our subject and his wife. John C. has been for many years a clerk in the mercantile business in Kankakee; Henderika is the wife of Henry Holly, a farmer of this county; Henry J. assists his father in carrying on the home farm; and Maggie C. is still at home.

In 1878 Mr. Greenwood became a voter, and is identified with the Republican party. During and previous to the war his sympathies were with the Union cause. He has always given his hearty support to the cause of education, and is a firm be-

liever in the efficacy of good schools. For seventeen years he has served as a member of the School Board, and has held a number of local official positions, having been one of the Drainage Commissioners six years. Mr. Greenwood was reared in the Presbyterian Church, in which he still believes, though not a member of any church organization. He has lived in this county for seventeen years, and is well known in the city of Kankakee as well as in the adjoining country. He has ever been industrious and frugal, and by his own labor and industry has accumulated a large and valuable farm and home. He possesses good business ability, diligence and industry, and fair dealing has always characterized his transactions. He is a devoted citizen of his adopted country, and endeavors to promote her welfare.



MYRON F. BAKER, proprietor of one of the largest livery stables in Kankakee, has the honor of being a native of this county, his birth having occurred two and a-half miles east of Kankakee, on the 2d of October, 1864. He is a son of Austin and Aurelia (Fairbanks) Baker, both natives of Indiana. They removed to Illinois many years ago, and were numbered among the earliest settlers of Kankakee County. On their arrival they found the country a wilderness and but few houses or fences were to be found in this section. Deer, wolves and other wild game abounded in this region. Mr. Baker settled on a farm about three miles from the present site of Kankakee, but at that time there was no town or city even commenced. He still owns his original farm of eighty acres in Aroma Township, to which, year by year, he added adjoining land until his present possessions are between seven and eight hundred acres of land. He still resides on the old homestead, where he has lived for forty-seven years, but is now retired from the active duties of farm life.

The parental family consisted of nine children,

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six sons and three daughters. Charles A. is the eldest of the family. Henry F. married Miss Lillian Andrews, whose parents are residents of Chicago. He lives in Kankakee, where he is engaged in the agricultural implement business. Frank S. married Miss Anna Stire, of Kankakee, where they now reside; Monroe S. is the next in order of birth; Myron E. is the fifth child of the family; Joseph A. married Miss Maud Shores, of this city; Elizabeth married Nathaniel Fran, who operates a farm six miles northwest of Kankakee; Ida May died when about two years of age; and Ethel M. completes the family.

The early days of our subject were spent upon his father's farm, where he assisted in the work during the summer and attended the district schools during the winter months. He then took a business course in Valparaiso College, of Indiana, completing the course when eighteen years of age. In 1885, going to western Kansas, Mr. Baker pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in Scott County. Returning, he entered the employ of the American Express Company, for whom he worked for the succeeding two years. On the 24th of August, 1888, Mr. Baker formed a partnership with his brothers, Joseph A. and Frank S., and purchased the livery stable of A. Holcomb. After carrying on the business together for eighteen months, our subject bought out his two brothers and has continued the business alone ever since. He has the largest livery stable in Kankakee and keeps the largest number of horses. His stable is well equipped with fine carriages and buggies, and has an extensive patronage. Though a young man, he has already given evidence of marked business ability, and is pushing his way to the front among the leading business men of this city.

On the 2d of October, 1889, a marriage ceremony united the fortunes of Mr. Baker and Miss Mary L. Lowe, of Kankakee. Her parents, David and Martha J. (Pruitt) Lowe, were both natives of Indiana and were among the early settlers of Illinois, having settled in Iroquois County, just across the line from this county. The father met death as the result of a disastrous accident which occurred in November, 1887. He was accompany-

ing four carloads of cattle to Chicago, when the train broke in two. He was at the time asleep in the caboose. An engine and train following crashed into the detached section, demolishing it and causing the cars to burst into flames, in which Mr. Lowe and another stockman were entirely consumed. Two daughters, Cora Dot and Gladys, have graced the union of our subject and his wife.

In politics Mr. Baker is independent, reserving the right to cast his ballot in favor of the man who, in his estimation, is best fitted to fill the position and advance the best interests of the public. Mrs. Baker owns the home in which they reside, and also a farm of two hundred acres, which is well improved and situated eight miles south of Kankakee. While our subject is not a member of any church, he contributes to its support and attends the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife is a member. He is a public-spirited and loyal citizen, and takes an active interest in the welfare of Kankakee.



REUBEN C. MUNGER, a retired farmer residing in Herscher, is a native of the Empire State. He was born in the town of Hobart, Delaware County, on the 15th of September, 1836, and is a son of the Rev. O. W. Munger, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who was also born in New York, July 9, 1804, and died September 9, 1852. The latter received his education in his native State, and in Delaware County was united in marriage with Miss Esther C. Bathrick, a daughter of John Bathrick. She also was reared and educated in Delaware County. The grandfather of our subject, John W. Munger, was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1774, while the great-grandfather, Benjamin Munger, was a native of England, born in 1742; the latter, emigrating with his father, settled upon a tract of land in Boston, Mass., granted him by the King of England. He served his country as one of the heroes of the Revolutionary War, and his son John, the grandfather of our subject, was a soldier

in the War of 1812. The great-grandfather removed to New York when Delaware County was almost an unbroken wilderness, and there he developed a good farm, being one of the honored pioneers of that locality.

Rev. Mr. Munger, the father of our subject, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in that county, and after attaining to mature years he entered the work of the ministry, being ordained a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church in New York. In 1842 he emigrated Westward with his family to Illinois and joined the Rock River Conference. He was one of the pioneer preachers of this State and traveled a six weeks' circuit, and becoming widely known, was one of the highly-respected citizens of the community where he made his home. He continued as a preacher of the Gospel until his death, which occurred in 1852. When he came to Illinois Mr. Munger located in Roseoe, Winnebago County, but after a year removed to Belvidere, where he spent the two succeeding years of his life. He then located in Kendall County, upon a farm near the present town of Plano, after which he removed to the southern part of the county and located his family on a farm. There he left them while he traveled his circuit. The mother of our subject died in 1814, after which Rev. Mr. Munger was again married. His second wife still survives him. Our subject was the third in order of birth in a family of three sons and two daughters, of whom two sons and one daughter are yet living. He also had two half-brothers and two half-sisters, but the latter are now deceased.

Reuben C. Munger was brought to Illinois by his parents when a lad of six summers, and in Kendall County he grew to manhood. His educational privileges were quite limited, being those afforded by the common schools. After the age of sixteen years he lived with an older brother, John W. Munger, who afterward went to California, but the vessel in which he returned, the "Central America," was lost at sea on the 12th of September, 1857. Reuben remained with his brother until he had arrived at years of maturity. He began life for himself as a farm hand, in which capacity he was employed for a few years, when he began farming

for himself. He bought teams and rented land until he had acquired sufficient capital to make a purchase, when he became the owner of a farm in Kendall County. There he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1869, when he sold out and removed to Iroquois County, purchasing a farm in Milk's Grove Township, an improved place, a part of which he owns at this writing. This place is located eight miles west of Chebanse, and is a valuable and highly improved farm. Our subject was a prosperous farmer, and successfully carried on his chosen occupation in Iroquois County for twenty-three years. He owned two hundred and fifty acres, and in connection with this operated other lands amounting to almost a section.

On the 30th of December, 1858, in Kendall County, Mr. Munger was united in marriage with Miss Lydia A. Jacobs, a native of Pennsylvania, who was born March 22, 1837. In her native county, Perry, the days of her girlhood were passed, and with some acquaintances she came to the West. Her parents, William and Elizabeth (Ziegler) Jacobs, were both natives of the Keystone State, and were of German descent. Mr. and Mrs. Munger have two children, William Wesley and Catherine A. The former is a farmer residing upon the old homestead in Iroquois County, and the latter is the wife of R. P. Easton, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Munger cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and has since voted for each candidate of the Republican party. He is a staunch advocate of that party, and takes an active interest in its growth and success, having served as delegate to both district and county conventions. He had the honor of being elected the first Supervisor of Milk's Grove Township, in which position he served for two terms. He also served as Commissioner of Highways, and afterward was again elected Supervisor. He has always been a staunch supporter of public schools, and for twenty-two years faithfully served as School Trustee. The cause of education found in him a warm friend, and he did much for its interests in this community. Socially, he is a member of Lodge No. 79, R. A. M., of Kankakee, and of Chebanse Lodge No. 429, A. F. & A. M. Himself and wife

are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are earnest workers in the Master's vineyard.

In the spring of 1892 Mr. Munger left his farm and removed to the village of Herscher, where he bought lots and erected a fine large residence which is now his home. He is a man of superior business ability, and the enterprise and industry which have characterized his life have won for him a handsome competence. He is now living retired, resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. Nearly his entire life has been spent in this locality, and he is widely known throughout Iroquois, Ford, Kendall and Kankakee Counties as a man of sterling worth and upright character. He certainly deserves representation in the history of his adopted county.



GEORGE A. SEARLS has been for twenty-two years a resident of Ganier Township, where he carries on general farming, his property being situated on sections 10 and 15. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on the 26th of January, 1842, and is a son of Albert G. Searls, a native of the Empire State and of English descent. The mother of our subject bore in her maidenhood the name of Jane C. Cary, and by her marriage became the mother of four children, of whom our subject is the only survivor and the second in order of birth. Martha J., the eldest of the family, died October 12, 1864; Jennie died on the 7th of March, 1872; Franklin died in infancy. The father, who was a carpenter by trade, carried on a large machine shop in Cleveland, Ohio, but the panic of 1857 ruined him financially. He was called to his final rest on the 26th of July, 1877. His wife survived him many years and passed away in 1891.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed in Forest City, the place of his birth. His educational privileges were good, as the public schools of that city have been justly celebrated for half a century. When seventeen years of age, Mr.

Searls embarked in business for himself. Going to New York City about 1857, he joined the navy on the Paraguay expedition and was in the naval service about a year. This trip stimulated his love of adventure and travel and he embarked on a vessel bound for China, being gone over two years. He followed the life of a sailor until the year 1863 and at that time returned to his native city on a visit to his friends and relatives. From there he went to Buffalo, where for over two years he engaged in roofing with corrugated iron. In 1870, Mr. Searls came to Kankakee County and became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Ganier Township, situated on sections 10 and 15. On this farm he has lived ever since, and has proved a successful agriculturist.

On the 8th of November, 1865, Mr. Searls was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Henry, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Anderson) Henry. Four children have been born of this union. Edward C., who was educated at Racine College, is a salesman for a wholesale house of Chicago, but is preparing for the legal profession; Martha J., wife of John Fedde, resides in Momence; Frances E., a twin sister of Martha J., died in infancy; the youngest of the family, Moses A., lives at home with his parents and assists his father in the care of the farm.

Mr. Searls is a good citizen of this community and has served as School Director for fifteen years, the cause of education finding in him a true friend. Socially he is a member of the Masonic order, belonging to Momence Lodge No. 481, and in religious faith all the family hold membership with the Episcopal Church.



JOHIN NICHOLS is the owner of a fine farm and one of the most beautiful country homes in Kankakee County. It is pleasantly situated on section 8, Momence Township, about two miles from the city of Momence. Within the boundaries of his farm are comprised one hundred and fifty-six acres of arable land, which

his untiring labor has placed under a high state of cultivation. The fields are well tilled, and give evidence of the thrift and enterprise of the owner. He has also made many improvements upon his land, which stand as monuments to his progressive spirit. The place is complete in all its appointments, and altogether it is one of the county's fine farms.

The owner of this desirable place claims Indiana as the State of his nativity. He was born near Terre Haute, January 1, 1831, and is a son of William and Maria (Gundy) Nichols, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume. His parents had a large family, numbering twelve children, including seven sons and five daughters, of whom John is the tenth in order of birth. They emigrated Westward in an early day, and are numbered among the first settlers of Kankakee County. Our subject was only a lad of six summers at the time of his parents' removal from Indiana to Illinois. The public schools of the neighborhood furnished him his educational privileges, but his advantages in that direction or in any other were not very extensive. His training at farm labor was not meagre, for as soon as he could handle the plow he began work in the fields, and aided in the arduous task of developing a new farm. With the family he shared in all the experiences and hardships of pioneer life, for he came here when this part of Kankakee County belonged to Will County. Under the parental roof he remained until he had attained his majority, when he bade good-bye to his home and started out in life for himself. Purchasing eighty acres of land in Yellowhead Township, he began the development and improvement of the same, continuing its cultivation for a term of three years. At the expiration of that period he sold out and rented land in Momence Township, where for a time he engaged in farming, and also dealt quite extensively in cattle.

On the 14th of February, 1852, Mr. Nichols married Miss Sarah Jane Marshall. The lady was then a resident of Momence, but was a native of Ohio, born April 25, 1835. By their union they became the parents of four children, the eldest of whom, James L., married Miss Estella Libhart, a resident of Del Rey, Ill., and is now a prominent

farmer of Newton County, Ind. Ella Jane, the second child, died when only three years of age. Martha A. is at home. Florence A. died in infancy. The mother of this family was called to her final rest on the 10th of May, 1861, and some years later Mr. Nichols was again married, his second union being with Miss Malinda McKenney, their wedding being celebrated January 26, 1867. The lady is a native of Indiana, born in La Fayette, April 2, 1846, and is a daughter of James and Melinda (Hentron) McKenney. Her father was a native of Ireland, and when a small boy he left the Emerald Isle and crossed the briny deep to the United States. He followed farming as his life work. His wife was born in Lexington, Ky., and her family was of English extraction.

In August, 1862, Mr. Nichols entered the service of his country. Prompted by patriotic impulses, he responded to the President's call for volunteers, and joined the boys in blue of the Seventy-sixth Regiment of Illinois Infantry. He was assigned to Company H, in which he served for a period of three years, during which time he participated in a number of important battles and skirmishes. He took part in the hotly contested siege of Vicksburg, and was present at the surrender of that city on the 4th of July, 1863. He took part in the battle of Champion Hills, Miss., in February, 1864; the engagement at Benton, Miss., in the following May; the battle of Jackson Cross Roads, Miss., July 7, 1864; the skirmish at Clinton, La., in August, 1864; and the siege and capture of Ft. Blakely, Ala., in April, 1865. Mr. Nichols was in active service for three years. He was very fortunate, in that he escaped all injury, nor was he ever taken prisoner. On the contrary, he was always found at his post, faithfully discharging every duty devolving upon him, and as a valiant soldier, ably defending the old flag which now floats so proudly over the united Nation. When the war was over and the country no longer needed his services he was honorably discharged and returned to his home.

Mr. Nichols at once resumed the occupation of farming, which he has since followed with excellent success. He is not only regarded as one of the progressive, but is also one of the substantial

farmers of Momence Township. In his political affiliations he is a Republican, and although he has never been an active politician, he served his township as Supervisor for two terms, during which his duties were promptly and faithfully performed. Socially, he is a member of Worcester Post No. 627, G. A. R., of Momence. Public-spirited and progressive, he is a valued citizen who takes an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding. He contributes to the support of churches, and to charitable and benevolent works. His own honorable, upright life has won him high regard, and himself and family hold an enviable position in social circles.



KILBERN CLAPSADDLE, who resides on section 28, Ganier Township, where he has made his home for the long period of nearly a quarter of a century, claims New York as the State of his nativity. He was born on the 7th of September, 1832, and is a son of Jacob Clapsaddle. His father was also a native of New York and was of German descent. His mother bore the maiden name of Sallie Terpening. They became the parents of a family of eight children, who in order of birth were as follows: Kilbern, of this sketch; Jerome; Harriet, who died in 1889; Sophia; Jacob P.; George; Mary; and Elva. The father of that family was a farmer by occupation and has followed that profession throughout his entire life. He cleared two heavily timbered farms in his native State and afterward left the East, emigrating to Illinois. This was in 1845. He located in Du Page County, where he purchased a tract of land from the Government. His labor and cultivation transformed it into a good farm, upon which he continued to make his home until 1882. In that year he removed to O'Brien County, Iowa, where he is still living, at the ripe old age of eighty-four years. In politics, he is a supporter of the Republican party, and religiously is a member of the Congre-

gational Church. His wife, who yet survives at the age of seventy-eight years, is a member of the same church.

We now take up the personal history of our subject, who throughout his entire life has been connected with agricultural pursuits. He was born and reared upon his father's farm and was early inured to the labors connected with its cultivation. He is mostly self-educated, his school privileges having been limited to a short attendance at the district schools. He was about twelve years of age when the family emigrated to Illinois. Under the parental roof he remained, aiding his father in the labors of the home farm, until attaining his majority, when he started out in life for himself. He began working by the day and labored at any occupation which would bring him in an honest dollar. He has received as low wages as fifty cents per day and worked as hard as one would now for \$2. He rented land for about eight years and then engaged in farming for himself.

On the expiration of that period, in 1853, he removed to Iowa, taking up his residence in Jones County, where he spent the succeeding seven years of his life. He then returned to Du Page County, Ill., where he engaged in farming for a year, after which he removed to Will County, locating near the town of Beecher. In that county he purchased a farm of eighty acres and engaged in its care and cultivation until 1868, when he came to Kankakee County, where he has since resided. He immediately purchased one hundred and eight acres of land on section 28, Ganier Township, and has here since made his home. He now carries on general farming and stock-raising and in his business undertakings meets with good success. He has extended the boundaries of his farm until it now comprises one hundred and eighty acres of well-improved and valuable land.

An important event in the life of Mr. Clapsaddle occurred January 27, 1853, when was celebrated his marriage with Miss Harriet A. Morton, who was born in Du Page County, November 19, 1834, in which year her parents, Luther and Rhoda (Boynton) Morton, emigrated from Cortland, N. Y. By this union were born three children: Andrew, who is now engaged in farming in Iowa; Plumer,

a resident farmer of this county; and Rosetta, the only daughter, who died in October, 1861.

Mr. Clapsaddle is a progressive and public-spirited citizen, who gives his support to all enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit or for the promotion of the general welfare. The cause of temperance finds in him a warm friend, and his views on that subject find expression at the ballot box in voting for the Prohibition party. He has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking, but has served his fellow-townsmen as School Trustee and School Director. Our subject began life empty-handed and his success represents his own hard labor, enterprise and industry, combined with the assistance of his estimable wife. His prosperity is certainly well deserved. Mrs. Clapsaddle is a member of the Baptist Church.



HIRAM BAILEY, now retired, has been for years one of the representative business men of Kankakee and is numbered among the worthy pioneers of this county. His birth occurred in Delaware County, N. Y., on the 23d of November, 1825. His paternal grandfather, David Bailey, removed from Connecticut to Schoharie County, N. Y., when his son, Alfred, the father of our subject, was but an infant. His ancestors were among the first members of the Massachusetts Colony. Alfred Bailey was reared to manhood in the Empire State, and on arriving at maturity married Betsy Reynolds, a native of the same State. Soon after his marriage he removed to Delaware County, which was then an almost unbroken wilderness. In 1837 he sold his farm, and returning to Schoharie County, there died in 1843. He was a farmer by occupation, and was about fifty years of age at the time of his death. His wife survived him for many years, passing away at the advanced age of eighty-two years.

Their family consisted of six sons and two daughters, and it is a remarkable fact that though their ages range between fifty and seventy years, the circle is still unbroken. Charles, the eldest of

the family, was born in 1820, and resides on the old homestead in Schoharie County; Elisha lives in Florida; the subject of this sketch is next in order of birth; Nelson is also a resident of Florida; Maria became the wife of Calvin Kniskern, and makes her home in New York; Rachel, now Mrs. Nicholas Kniskern, resides in the same State; Isaac makes his home in Evanston, Ill.; and Alfred, the youngest of the family, was born in 1843, and now lives in Florida.

Hiram Bailey received a thorough academic education in his youth. After leaving school he engaged as a clerk for a period of five years, for a portion of that time being employed in the city of Albany. In 1849, Mr. Bailey himself embarked in merchandising in that city. He came to Kankakee in 1855, but again returned to New York, where he sold out his business. The spring of the following year saw Mr. Bailey permanently settled in Kankakee. He engaged in business in this city, but in 1863 established a lumber yard in Chicago. From that business he retired in 1866, and in the following year, his health having become somewhat impaired, he resolved to make a tour through Europe, and accordingly accompanied by his wife crossed the Atlantic, visited the Paris Exposition and returned with restored health. In February of the following year, Mr. Bailey purchased an interest in the linseed oil mills of Kankakee. Three years later he became their sole proprietor and operated the mills alone for about a year. In 1872 he took into partnership with him John R. McKinney. The latter died in 1876, and in his place Thomas G. McCullough became the partner of our subject. They continued in business together until 1884, when the mills were closed and Mr. Bailey practically retired from business.

Our subject was married to Miss Olivia M. Chapman, a native of Otsego, N. Y., their wedding being celebrated in Albany, of the same State, in the year 1850. Three children graced their union. Carlton H. died in 1866, in his fourth year; Leslie passed away at the age of seven months, in April, 1872; and Bird O., the only surviving child and only daughter, was born in 1870. She is a graduate of the famous Ogontz School,

near Philadelphia. On the 4th of January, 1876, Mr. Bailey was called upon to mourn the death of his wife. On the 21th of October, 1876, he married Miss Elizabeth B. Leavitt.

Mr. Bailey owns an elegant home in Kankakee, where with his family he spends the summers. They also have a beautiful home and orange grove in Florida, where since 1871 they have passed a portion of each year. As has been previously stated, several of our subject's brothers have been for many years residents of San Mateo, in the land of flowers, one of the most beautiful locations in sunny and lovely Florida, and there is situated the home of our subject. Mr. Bailey has ever been one of the progressive and enterprising citizens of Kankakee, in whose development and growth he has taken an active and interested part. Politically, he has been a Republican since the organization of the party, but has never sought official recognition in any form.



FOSTER SCHMELTZER, who is a well-to-do farmer residing on section 8, Manteno Township, was born in Elk County, Pa., twelve miles from Ridgeway, the county seat, June 11, 1847. His parents were Jacob and Louisa F. (Brockway) Schmeltzer. His paternal grandfather, whose Christian name was Conrad, was a native of Germany and very soon after his marriage emigrated to America. He located in Berks County, Pa., where he worked at his trade of making wagon tires, all of which work was then done by the use of a hammer. He reared a family of four children, and died in Pennsylvania when in his eighty-seventh year. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Chauncey Brockway, was a native of the Empire State, and on arriving at manhood removed to Pennsylvania, where he was a lumberman for many years. In 1854, he settled on a farm of two hundred acres in Manteno Township, two and a-half miles northwest of the village. He was quite a prominent man in Elk County, Pa.,

where for many years he was County Commissioner. For five years after his arrival in Illinois, he followed his former occupation of lumbering, and then settled down to farm duties. He fought in the War of 1812 on the American side. He departed this life December 16, 1886, when he had reached the extreme old age of ninety-three years and twelve days.

Jacob Schmeltzer was born in Berks County, Pa., and, like his father, was a lumberman by occupation. In 1850, he removed to Muscatine, Iowa, near which city he engaged in farming for sixteen years. Coming to Illinois, he settled on section 8, Manteno Township, afterward buying eighty acres adjoining on the north. The last three years of his life he lived in the home of his son Foster. His death occurred in 1881, he being then in his eightieth year. While in Pennsylvania he was elected Sheriff of Elk County, and also held many other offices of honor and trust during his lifetime. He was twice married, his first wife being Miss Esther Oyster. They were married December 3, 1825. To them were born the following children: Wilhelmina; Eliza, who died aged thirty-two, leaving a family; Caroline; Conrad, who belonged to Company B, Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry, serving for three years during the late war; Daniel; Catherine Ann; John; George, who also served during the late war and was a prisoner some eight months in Danville, Va.; and Salinda. The mother of these children died May 25, 1844, during an epidemic of erysipelas which raged in the neighborhood. The second union of Mr. Schmeltzer was celebrated on the 29th of August, 1846, when Miss Louisa F. Brockway, the mother of our subject, became his wife. Six children were born to them, of whom only Foster is living. Those deceased are Jonathan M., Esther Jane, Anna, Charles Norman and Willis. The mother still survives, being seventy-five years of age, and makes her home with her son Foster.

Our subject was reared on a farm and his education was received in the district schools of Muscatine County, Iowa. He afterward attended the Industrial University at Champaign, Ill. On the 11th of January, 1871, he married Miss L. Augusta Elyea, daughter of Humphrey and Sarah

(Williams) Elyea, of Manteno Township. By their union were born four children: Sarah Louisa, who died in infancy; Jonathan Lewis; Jacob Merton, and Mary Esther. Their mother died October 28, 1883. Mr. Schmeltzer and Miss Anna Van Neste were married April 20, 1886. The lady is a daughter of George H. and Emily (Shottenkirk) Van Neste, who were natives of Gloversville, N. Y., and were of German and Dutch descent. A son and daughter grace this second union, Paul Foster and Emily Louisa.

Mr. Schmeltzer lives on the old homestead known as the Brockway place and has been a resident of Manteno Township for twenty-six years. He is successful as an agriculturist and carries on a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, all of which, with the exception of eighty acres on section 7, is located on section 8. This is all under cultivation and is one of the best farms of the township. Our subject is at present Supervisor, in which office he is now serving his sixth year. He has also held the office of Highway Commissioner for twelve years, and to him is due much of the credit for the good roads leading to Manteno. He has ever shown a progressive spirit and warmly supports all public improvements. Politically, he is a Republican, having cast his first Presidential ballot for Ulysses S. Grant. He thoroughly understands surveying in all branches and levels much of the land for the tile drains in his neighborhood. Mrs. Schmeltzer is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



HENRY N. PETERS was one of the earliest settlers of Manteno, to which he came in 1856. He was a native of Vermont, his birth having occurred in Ryegate Township, Caledonia County, on the 18th of July, 1829, and was a son of Samuel and Margaret Peters. (See the sketch of Milo R. Peters for a history of his ancestors.)

Henry Peters passed his early years in the usual manner of farmer boys, and attended the neigh-

boring schools. He remained with his parents until coming of age, and on the 4th of January, 1854, was married to Miss Charlotte E. Davis. Her father, Joseph Davis, was born at Falmouth, Mass., on the 25th of February, 1799, and lived on a small farm in New Hampshire, where his death occurred November 19, 1861. His father, Joseph Davis, owned extensive salt works at Falmouth, which required his entire attention for many years. Mrs. Peters' mother bore the maiden name of Priscilla Merrill, and was born in Lyman, N. H., July 19, 1802. She was a daughter of Annis Merrill, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and who had many times had the privilege of seeing Gens. Washington, La Fayette and other noted men. He followed the occupation of a farmer, and died in Lyman when he had attained the advanced age of ninety-six years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Peters were born four children, all sons, who are yet living. They are Fred H., whose birth occurred October 6, 1854; Charles J., born on the 31st of May, 1861; Frank M., November 10, 1866; and Arthur N., on the 27th of September, 1873.

In the spring of 1856, Mr. Peters came from Bath, N. H., to Illinois, settling in Manteno. On the 21st of September, 1861, he entered the list of the Union's defenders, becoming a member of Company K, Fourth Illinois Cavalry, under Capt. Philip Worcester. He was in the service for one year, during which time he participated in the battles of Ft. Donelson and Shiloh, besides a number of lesser engagements and skirmishes. He was discharged on account of poor health, and returned to Manteno under the care of his brother. His life was despaired of, but though many times given up by the physicians, he lived and partially recovered his health. In 1863 he purchased a house and two and a-half acres of land in Manteno. Two years later he bought a farm of forty acres, located on section 16, which he sold in 1873, and soon afterward bought eighty acres on section 15. In March, 1882, he sold this property and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 12, which he owned at the time of his death.

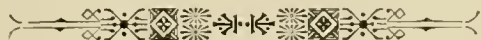
Mr. Peters was Constable for fourteen years, and served for eight years as Deputy Sheriff. He was

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Yours Truly G. F. Kenagel

a member of the Masonic fraternity, and both he and his wife held membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which her people were early associated. Mr. Peters departed this life June 30, 1892, in Warrenville, Ill., where he had lived for a period of four years. At the time of his death he was in his sixty-third year, and his wife still survives him. Three of their sons, Fred, Charlie and Frank, the youngest not yet of age, are civil engineers. In the time of war Mr. Peters was patriotic, zealous and faithful, and in the times of peace was a loyal citizen. He is justly numbered among the worthy and honored pioneers of this county, and his memory is cherished by many friends.



WILLIAM F. KENAGA, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the County Court of Kankakee County, Ill., was born in Salem Township, Champaign County, Ohio, on the 6th of December, 1836, and is a son of Benjamin B. and Minerva S. (Hitt) Kenaga. The father was born in Lancaster County, Pa., in 1809, and died in Janesville, Wis., in August, 1855. The mother was a native of Kentucky, and died in Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio, in the year 1842.

The subject of this sketch received a good common-school education, and in the spring of 1855 with his father's family went to Janesville, Wis., near which place he engaged in farming for a time. Later he removed to Sextonville, Richland County, in the same State, and in October, 1856, came to this county and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits on a farm near Kankakee. Subsequently he was employed in a drug store for a short time, but soon, in company with his brother Samuel, engaged in the grain business.

On the 7th of July, 1862, Mr. Kenaga enlisted as a member of Company I, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, under Capt. Walter Todd, and was made Sergeant on leaving for the front. In February, 1864, he was commissioned Second Lieutenant and participated in all the battles and engagements in which his regiment took part, ex-

cept the siege of Vicksburg, up to the close of the war, during which time it saw much hard service. The Seventy-sixth was mustered into the service of the United States on the 22d of August, 1862, and was at once assigned to active duty at Columbus, Ky. About the 1st of November he was transferred to La Grange, Tenn., and on the 28th of that month joined Grant in his campaign in Mississippi against the Confederates under Johnston. The regiment was attached to the Fourth Division of the Thirteenth Army Corps, and took part in the engagement at Holly Springs and Waterford, on the 29th and 30th of November. On the 11th of December they succeeded in extricating themselves from the thick mud near Waterford and began the march Southward. When at Water Valley they learned of the capture of Holly Springs by the rebel general, Van Dorn. The entire command was then faced about and proceeded Northward. This was at the time the President was negotiating with the border States, hoping to have such States accept a stipulated price for their slaves and withdraw their support from the Confederacy, hence no foraging was permitted and half and quarter rations were the result. They returned and occupied Holly Springs until January 10, 1863. They made various marches through mud and storm and finally rested at La Fayette until the 10th of March, when they proceeded to Memphis, and in April embarked upon the Mississippi River. During the trip they sustained a galling fire from rebel guns and lost a number in killed and wounded. Landing at Young's Point the regiment marched to Chickasaw Bayou, on the Yazoo River, where it was engaged in closing the line to the rear of Vicksburg. After the charge it was placed on the left of the besieging lines, and bravely held its place close under the rebel guns until the surrender of the celebrated stronghold on the 4th of July, 1863. On the day following the Seventy-sixth joined Sherman in his attack on Jackson, Miss., and took part in the skirmish at Big Black River and the battle of Champion Hills, and was engaged at Jackson on the 12th and 16th of that month. On the 21st the regiment returned to Vicksburg, where it was stationed until August 11, at which time it went into camp at Natchez, remaining there until November

following. Returning to Vicksburg it was at Camp Cowan, near the city, until February, 1864, when it started with Gen. Sherman on his Meridian campaign. About April 5, they encamped near Vicksburg, where they were on duty May 1. They next joined the Yazoo expedition under the leadership of Gen. McArthur and took an active part in the battles of Benton, Vaughn Station and Deasonville and drove the enemy from Yazoo City. On the 28th of June, they once more set their faces toward Vicksburg and on the 1st of July, 1864, joined the Jackson expedition under Gen. Slocum. They were engaged in battle on the 5th and 6th of July at a point between Jackson and Clinton. The Seventy-sixth Regiment lost heavily in that engagement, one hundred and two men being killed and wounded. At one time it was cut off from the balance of the command but managed to make its way back to the main body. The 9th of July again saw the regiment in Vicksburg but they were allowed only a brief respite from their labors. On the 29th of that month they were sent to Morganza and Port Hudson. Later they went up the Mississippi to White River and to Memphis, Tenn., and returning October 28, took part in the battle. They next took part in the battle of Duvall's Bluff, Ark., on the 7th of November, and returned to Memphis November 30. They started for New Orleans on the 4th of January, 1865, and on the 12th of February embarked on Gulf steamers for Ft. Barrancas. The transport encountered a terrible storm on the Gulf of Mexico and barely escaped shipwreck. Horses, mules and wagons were thrown overboard during the gale and the vessel as soon as possible returned to New Orleans. The regiment then set out by way of the Lake and Gulf for Ft. Barrancas, near Pensacola, Fla., March 11. There it joined Gen. Steele's expedition, marching through the quicksands and pines via Pollard, Ala., against Spanish Fort and Ft. Blakely, near Mobile. The Seventy-sixth Regiment distinguished itself in the siege, storming and capture of those forts. The former surrendered on the 8th of April, and the latter on April 9, 1865, which also was the date of Lee's surrender at Appomattox and the end of the war. On that eventful day Mr. Kenaga, who up to that time had escaped any serious in-

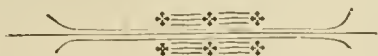
jury, was during his command of Company K severely wounded, while making an assault on Ft. Blakely. He was shot in both legs, in the right below the knee and in the left near the ankle. The latter wound made necessary three amputations, the first being made above the knee on May 2. He returned home and received his discharge from the service on the 15th of May. A year later, the condition of the amputated limb being unfavorable, it was decided that a second amputation was necessary. After the lapse of eighteen months the limb was the third time amputated, the last being near the body. For six weeks after the first operation Mr. Kenaga remained unconscious and from May until the latter part of August was not able to sit up. His sufferings were severe in the extreme, and his general health was sadly wrecked. From the beginning until the close of his service, our subject took part actively with his regiment in all battles and skirmishes, with the exception of the siege of Vicksburg, at which time he was detailed in charge of a railroad station at La Fayette, Tenn.

In the fall of 1865, while still an invalid, Mr. Kenaga was elected on the Republican ticket to the office he now fills, and entered upon the discharge of his duties on the 1st of December of that year. He has been re-elected several times and with the exception of four years, from 1874 until 1878, has held the office continuously. His present term will expire December 1, 1894, and if he serves until its close he will have filled that office for a period of twenty-five years.

On the 5th of November, 1866, Mr. Kenaga married Miss Annie Sinclair, in York, Livingston County, N. Y. The lady was born in that city and was a daughter of John and Margaret Sinclair. She died May 16, 1879, leaving three children, two sons and a daughter: William C., Katharine J. and Arthur S. On the 26th of October, 1882, our subject was married in Kankakee to Miss Nettie M. Sinclair, who was born in York, Livingston County, N. Y., and to them have been born two children: Mary Louise and Annie Margaret.

The Republican party has found in our subject an earnest supporter. He assisted in the organization of that party in the West and has supported it ever since its existence. Socially, he is a mem-

ber of Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M., and of the Royal Arcanum, Modern Woodmen, and of Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R. He was in 1892 elected Senior Vice-Commander of the Department of the Illinois G. A. R. Mr. and Mrs. Kenaga are consistent members of the Presbyterian Church. If long continuance in an office of honor is any criterion as to the esteem and confidence felt in a public servant, the subject of this sketch has reason to feel that his efforts to discharge his duties with zeal and fidelity have been warmly appreciated. In all these long years he has demonstrated his capability and trustworthiness and the people whom he has so faithfully served have well-grounded faith in his competency and integrity. He is genial and courteous to all and has an especially warm corner in his heart for those who wore the blue in the late unpleasantness, and to them he is always ready to do a kindness.



FARMON SCRAMLIN is a retired farmer and hardware merchant who makes his home in Momence. He was born in Charleston, Kalamazoo County, Mich., on the 11th of May, 1841, and is a son of Henry and Mary (Judson) Scramlin, both natives of New York. The father after residing in Michigan for a number of years emigrated to Illinois in 1850, and was a farmer by occupation. His family consisted of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters. (See the sketch of one of the sons, J. H. Scramlin, on another page of this work.)

Our subject was reared on a farm and received the most of his schooling in Momence Township, this county. He remained at home until 1860. In August, 1861, his twin brother, Harmon, enlisted as a member of Company D, Forty-second Illinois Infantry. He was a prisoner for fourteen months, two months of which were passed at Belle Isle, two months in Libby, and the remainder of the time in Andersonville prison. In the battle of Stone River he was seriously wounded, being

shot in the head. In June, 1862, Farmon also entered the army, enlisting in Company H, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. With his regiment he participated in a number of battles and engagements. He was in the siege of Vicksburg, which lasted for forty-seven days, and took part in the battles of Jackson, Champion Hills and others. On the 9th of April, 1865, while charging Ft. Blakely, he was wounded in the right arm. After remaining in active service for about three years he was honorably discharged. When peace was restored, Mr. Scramlin returned to Momence, where he obtained employment as a clerk in the hardware store of W. H. Patterson. He also learned the tinsmith's trade, remaining in one place for a number of years. In 1871, he formed a partnership with William Astle, and together they carried on the hardware business. Later, the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Scramlin engaged in the same line in Grant Park for seven years, after which he sold out, and for two years traveled on the road for J. F. Temple & Sons, selling pumps. He then purchased his father's farm of one hundred and twenty acres, situated three miles northwest of Momence, and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits for the following seven years, in this time adding forty acres to the original property and raising considerable stock, including horses, cattle and hogs. On account of poor health he retired from active business in 1888 and removed to Momence, which is still his home.

Mr. Scramlin and Miss Mary Lampion were united in marriage on the 3d of October, 1872. She is a daughter of Benjamin and Mary Lampion, and by her marriage has become the mother of one child, a daughter, Lura M. Mrs. Scramlin is a native of Momence Township, born February 4, 1849, and has resided here all her life.

For many years our subject has been a Mason, and was one of the charter members of the Grant Park Lodge. He is also a member of Worcester Post No. 627, G. A. R., of which he is Quartermaster. For some time he has held the office of Commissioner of Highways and that of School Director. He cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and has always been a staunch Republican. When Mr. Scramlin came to Mo-

mence there were perhaps not more than two hundred inhabitants, and he has since seen it develop to its present population of two thousand. He located here before the Illinois Central Railroad was built, and even after its construction often hauled grain to Manteno. He was early inured to hard work and owes his present possessions to his habits of industry and economy. He still owns his farm property, which consists of one hundred and sixty acres on sections 2 and 11, Momence Township, and also his pleasant residence in the city. His father sat on the first petit jury in the county, being the first panel of jurors after Kankakee County was organized.



HENRY J. BEEDY owns and operates a farm on section 17, and is an extensive stock-raiser and dealer in live-stock. He was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., on the 23d of March, 1840, and is a son of Daniel and Sarah (Johnson) Beedy. His paternal grandfather was a farmer of New Hampshire, in which State his birth occurred. He lived to a good old age and died in Vermont. Joshua Johnson, the maternal grandfather, followed the seas for many years, but afterward became a farmer of Vermont.

Daniel Beedy was a native of New Hampshire, and was of Irish descent. When quite young he went to the Green Mountain State, where he was afterward married. For some years he engaged in teaming and contracting. Later he removed to New York, where he lived for a number of years, after which, going to Canada, he remained in that country for five years. In the fall of 1849 he came to Illinois, locating near Lockport, in Homer Township, where he purchased land, which he cultivated for a year and a-half. His family came from Canada in the spring of 1850 to this State, and in the following year he made a settlement on Rock Creek, on the old Kellogg farm, in Rockville Township, this county. This farm comprised two hundred acres, and this he rented for

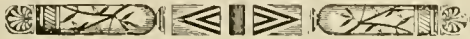
three years. The Illinois Central Railroad was built through here in 1853, and, desiring to get nearer the same, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Manteno Township, on section 17, on which he constructed a house, which is believed to have been the frame for the first school-house ever erected in Rockville Township. This building he purchased and removed to his farm, adding to it other rooms until he had a comfortable home, in which he lived until 1877, when he died, being then seventy-eight years of age. For nine years he held the office of Justice of the Peace, was School Trustee and the first Supervisor of Manteno Township. He was one of the earliest settlers to organize the county, and served as Postmaster of Manteno under Buchanan's administration. Five sons and five daughters were born to Daniel and Sarah Beedy, all of whom were married and had children of their own before the death of their parents. They are as follows: Peninah J., Mercy Ann, Austin D., Langdon J., Sarah L., Wesley C., Nathan S., Aurelia M., Henry J. and Fannie E.

Henry J. Beedy, our subject, was the youngest boy in his father's family, and remained at home until reaching mature years. He received his education in the district schools. When he was about twenty years of age his father assisted him to make a start in business life, but until the death of the latter he continued to superintend the old homestead. On the 18th of October, 1865, he was united in marriage with Miss Emily E. Hatch. Her father, Charles P. Hatch, is of English descent, and her mother, who was in her maidenhood Lydia Taylor, is of Scotch origin. Two daughters and three sons have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Beedy. Cora I. is the wife of Harvey A. Lockie, who is engaged in farming two and a-half miles north of Manteno; they have one child, a son, Lloyd B. The other members of the family are Clarence H., Angie E., Vennis G. and Verner E. (twins).

Mr. Beedy is now engaged in running a stock farm, and buys and raises both horses and cattle. He has at present one hundred head of cattle, all of which he has raised, and some of which are of the Red Polled variety. Mr. Beedy has just

finished the erection of a large new residence, built in modern style, and which is one of the finest farmhouses in the county.

Our subject is not a member of any church or secret society, but his wife has a brother who is a Baptist minister, and her sister's husband is a minister of the Congregational Church. For many years Mr. Beedy has been School Director, and has also held the office of Highway Commissioner. He is generous and public-spirited, and has been quite active in securing for Manteno Township some of the best country roads to be found in the State. Politically, he is a Democrat, having cast his first Presidential vote for Douglas and his last for Grover Cleveland. He owns a fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres, the most of which has been acquired by his own industry and good management.



MICHAEL B. LAWRENCE, who is engaged in farming on sections 14 and 23, Manteno Township, was born in Dearborn County, Ind., just north of Lawrenceburgh, which is the county seat, and which was named after his grandfather, who was the first settler there. He was a farmer, and his death occurred in Dearborn County. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Michael Bottenberg, was a minister in the United Brethren Church, and was quite a musician. He reared a family of seven children, and died at the age of eighty-six years.

The parents of our subject were James and Mary C. (Bottenberg) Lawrence. The father was born in Beaver County, Pa., in 1803, while the mother, a native of Maryland, was born in 1812. When a lad of about fifteen years James Lawrence went with his parents to Indiana. He was reared upon a farm, and thus his attention was early turned to agricultural pursuits. He was made Tax Collector of Dearborn County, Ind., when quite a young man. In September, 1862, he bought a farm about eight miles northeast of Ottawa, in La Salle County, Ill., where he lived for four years. He was smitten by

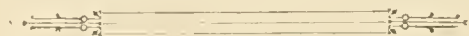
the hand of death February 28, 1858, at which time he was fifty-four years and six months of age. In December of that year his faithful wife and companion was also called to her final rest. Their family comprised seven sons and two daughters, of whom but four are living: Elizabeth, who resides with her sister Rosanna, wife of Samuel J. Lawrence, of Neoga, Cumberland County, Ill.; Michael B.; and Philip, who is engaged in the poultry business in Douglass, Kan.

Mr. Lawrence of this sketch was born January 23, 1837, and passed his boyhood days on a farm. His schooling was obtained in both the Indiana and Illinois district and common schools. On the 28th of May, 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Tritley. Her father, John P. Tritley, was born in Switzerland, October 1, 1808, and when about eight years of age accompanied his parents to the United States. At St. Peter's, St. Charles County, Mo., he married, May 22, 1832, Miss Margaret Bernard, who was born in St. Peter's January 30, 1802. Her father, who was one of the very first settlers in that section, was an Indian trader. He came into possession of a tract of land which now lies in the heart of Peoria, Ill., and which rightfully belongs to his heirs. In 1849 Mr. Tritley emigrated to La Salle County, Ill., and in 1866 came to Manteno. He still lives at the age of eighty-five years and is quite rugged, his home being with Mrs. Lawrence. His wife died December 13, 1868. Of their seven children, three live. Mary L., wife of J. S. Eddy, resides at Fairbury, Ill. Alvina is the wife of Philip B. Lawrence, of Douglass, Kan. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence have six children. Vernon W. is engaged in the dairy and stock business with his father; George R., who married Alice Herendien, is in the crayon portrait business at Englewood, Ill., with the National Art Company; Nellie J. is a dressmaker of Manteno; Emma C. is at home; Laura M. is a successful teacher in the Manteno schools; Clara L. is also at home.

In September, 1868, Mr. Lawrence came to Kankakee County, settling upon the farm which belonged to his father-in-law, John P. Tritley. This tract consisted of eighty acres, which our subject purchased in 1875, and to which he has since

added an adjoining eighty acres. The farm is well improved with a good house, barn and farm buildings. It is located about a mile and a-half east of Manteno, and is well tiled. In addition to general farming Mr. Lawrence both feeds and raises stock extensively.

For the past seventeen years our subject has held the office of School Director, and for two years served as Collector of Taxes for the township. He is a thorough Republican, and has voted that ticket continuously since casting his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln until the present time. He is not a member of any church organization, but his wife belongs to the Catholic Church. The family is held in high esteem in the surrounding neighborhood.



JOHAN CROZIER, formerly an extensive farmer of Ganier Township, is now a resident of Kankakee. He is a native of the Keystone State, his birth occurring in Harrisburg on the 16th of May, 1825. His parents were James and Mary (Woods) Crozier, both natives of the Emerald Isle. They emigrated to America about 1824, locating in Harrisburg, Pa. His life occupation was that of a weaver, and his death occurred in 1874. The mother of our subject was called to her final home in 1858. By her marriage she had become the mother of four children, of whom our subject is the eldest; James is a contractor of Topeka, Kan.; Margaret became the wife of John McElroy, and died in 1876; and Mary L., the wife of John Hood, makes her home in Monmouth, Ill.

When ten years of age, John Crozier went with his parents from Pennsylvania to Jefferson County, Ind., in 1835. He assisted his father in opening up a farm in the woods, which meant much hard work. He attended the district schools but is largely self-educated. He remained in that county about eighteen years and then accompanied his father to La Porte County, Ind., where they rented land. In 1855, they came to Kankakee County and bought

one hundred and sixty acres of land in Bourbonnais Township, upon which he lived and to which he devoted his energies until 1881, at which time he sold the farm and purchased the one in Ganier Township. His property consisted of five hundred acres on section 30 and there he carried on general farming and stock-raising, being an extensive dealer in horses and cattle. Having sold his farm, Mr. Crozier removed in 1893 to the city of Kankakee, where he owns a comfortable home. He is an example of America's self-made men and has achieved his fortune by strict application and correct business methods.

On the 4th of September, 1855, a wedding ceremony was performed which united the destinies of Mr. Crozier and Miss Mary Jane Ritchie, who was born February 27, 1830, in Jefferson County, Ind., and is a daughter of John and Sophia (Brown) Ritchie. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Crozier has been blessed with eight children, two of whom died in infancy. The others are George, who is a carpenter of Kankakee; Edward, Charley, Emory and James, who are at home; and Annie, who is the wife of Lincoln Worrel, a member of the police force in Kankakee.

Mr. and Mrs. Crozier and their family are members of the Methodist Church. In politics, our subject is a Democrat, and though he takes an active interest in the welfare of his party he has never aspired to official positions. He possesses those qualities so essential to success—industry, frugality and perseverance, which have enabled him to overcome the obstacles in his pathway.



RUFUS A. PERRY is engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 20, Manteno Township. He is a native of Massachusetts, his birth having occurred the 19th of October, 1831, in Berkshire County. His parents, Isaac and Nancy (Carpenter) Perry, were both of English descent and also natives of the Bay State. The Perry family to which our subject belongs

was founded in America in 1648, by Anthony and Elizabeth Perry, who came from England. The great-grandfather of Rufus A. Perry bore the name Ichabod. He married Ruth Fisher, and their son, Isaac Perry, Sr., who was born in Attleborough, Mass., August 20, 1757, married Philena Lincoln. She was born in Taunton, Mass., February 1, 1760. Isaac Perry, Jr., the father of our subject, was one of six children, and was born in Attleborough, Mass., October 27, 1780. His wife, Nancy Carpenter, was born at Savoy, Mass., March 12, 1794. Her great-grandfather, Daniel Carpenter, served in the French and Indian War. His son, Elisha, who was a gunsmith by trade, married Esther Greenwood, and of this union Benjamin, the father of Nancy Carpenter, was born, September 11, 1768. He married Nancy Fisher, of Williamsburgh, Mass., who was born March 31, 1770.

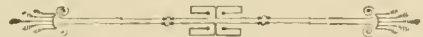
Both grandfathers of our subject were farmers by occupation in Massachusetts, and Benjamin Carpenter reared a family of fourteen children, none of whom now survive. Five children, three sons and two daughters, were born to Isaac Perry and his wife. Philena married John Edgerton, whose death occurred in Tioga County, Ohio, about the year 1884. Their family comprised six children: Mary, George, Wayland, Lucy, Almon and Carrie. Linus married Miss Achsah Thayer, who died in Massachusetts. They had a son and daughter, Benjamin and Eva. Benjamin died at the age of eleven years. Rufus A. is the subject of this sketch. Elizabeth completes the family. The father of these children died in Massachusetts, at the age of fifty-four years, in February, 1835.

Until about sixteen years of age Rufus Perry resided with his mother. He then started out in life for himself, and for several years worked for neighboring farmers by the month. His school privileges were quite limited and his education was mainly acquired in the district schools. In the fall of 1856 he emigrated to Ohio, and lived there for about three years. In the spring of 1859 he came West to Illinois, and carried on a farm while living in the village of Manteno for some years. In 1863 he purchased two hundred acres of land two and a-half miles southwest of Manteno, and since that time he has devoted his entire time and atten-

tion to its improvement and cultivation. His principal occupation is that of general farming, but he also raises and deals in cattle and hogs.

On the 19th of January, 1869, the destinies of Mr. Perry and Miss Emma Gilkerson were united by a marriage ceremony. Mrs. Perry is a daughter of John and Agnes G. (Warden) Gilkerson, residents of this county. By her marriage she has become the mother of two daughters. Lizzie N. is the wife of David McEwan, a Presbyterian minister, now located in Winfield, Iowa. Mr. McEwan had a son, David, by a former marriage, and to himself and present wife has been born a daughter, Emma. Agnes, our subject's other daughter, lives at home with her parents.

For over thirty years, Mr. Perry has been a resident of Manteno Township, and has been a witness of vast changes in this vicinity. With his good wife's assistance and his own energy and economy, he has accumulated a good property and a comfortable competence. In his political preference he is a Republican and uses his right of franchise in favor of the nominees and measures of that party. All the family are members of the Presbyterian Church.



ANTOINE CHEFFRE is a retired farmer residing in St. Anne. He is a native of Montreal, Canada, in which city his birth occurred on the 15th of June, 1828. His parents, who were also natives of Canada, were Joseph and Argette (La Vine) Cheffre. The father of the former, also named Joseph, was born in France, and afterwards emigrated to Canada, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits. The maternal grandfather of our subject was born in Canada, and was also a farmer by occupation. He lived to be seventy-two years of age.

The father was a stone-cutter, as were also all of his sons. He came to Illinois in 1851, and settled upon a farm one mile east of St. Anne, which he cultivated for twenty years. He then sold this

property and located in Kankakee, where for four years he engaged in buying and selling wood and stone. Returning to St. Anne, he made his home with his son Joseph until his death, which occurred a number of years ago, when he had reached the age of seventy-four years. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. The death of his wife occurred about five years subsequent to that of her husband. Their family consisted of twelve children, ten sons and two daughters, of whom seven sons are still living.

Antoine Cheffre passed his boyhood and youth in Canada, where he learned the trade of a stonemason. With his family he went to Syracuse, N.Y., in 1811, where he lived for seven years. With them he returned to Canada, and after remaining there two years came west to Illinois with his brother Joseph. They landed in Chicago in 1850, where they stayed until the following year. Coming to St. Anne, they together purchased the farm for their father, upon which he afterwards lived for a score of years. They then sent for him to come with his family from Montreal, which he did, arriving the same year.

In October, 1853, Mr. Cheffre was married to Miss Margaret, daughter of Francis and Margaret (Bouche) Morsett, both natives of Canada. Their union has been blessed with five sons and two daughters, three of whom are now deceased. Those living are Joseph, who married Miss Isadore, daughter of Max St. Peter. They have six children: Eddie, Emma, Walter, Ruby and an infant, and reside a mile and a-half northwest of St. Anne. Edward married Miss Nena St. Peter, and they have one son, Meddy. Their home is in St. Anne. Frederick wedded Miss Leona Dumantil, and two sons, Harry and Elmer, have blessed their union. Francis wedded Miss Rosalie Varboncaque, and to them have been born Max and Dora. The three younger children, Dennis, Mary and Olive, are deceased.

When Mr. Cheffre settled in this vicinity, the country was wild and but little inhabited. Wild game of all kinds abounded, and even in the city limits of Chicago wild fowl were often shot. Our subject owns one hundred and fifty acres of land in Iroquois County, three miles south of St.

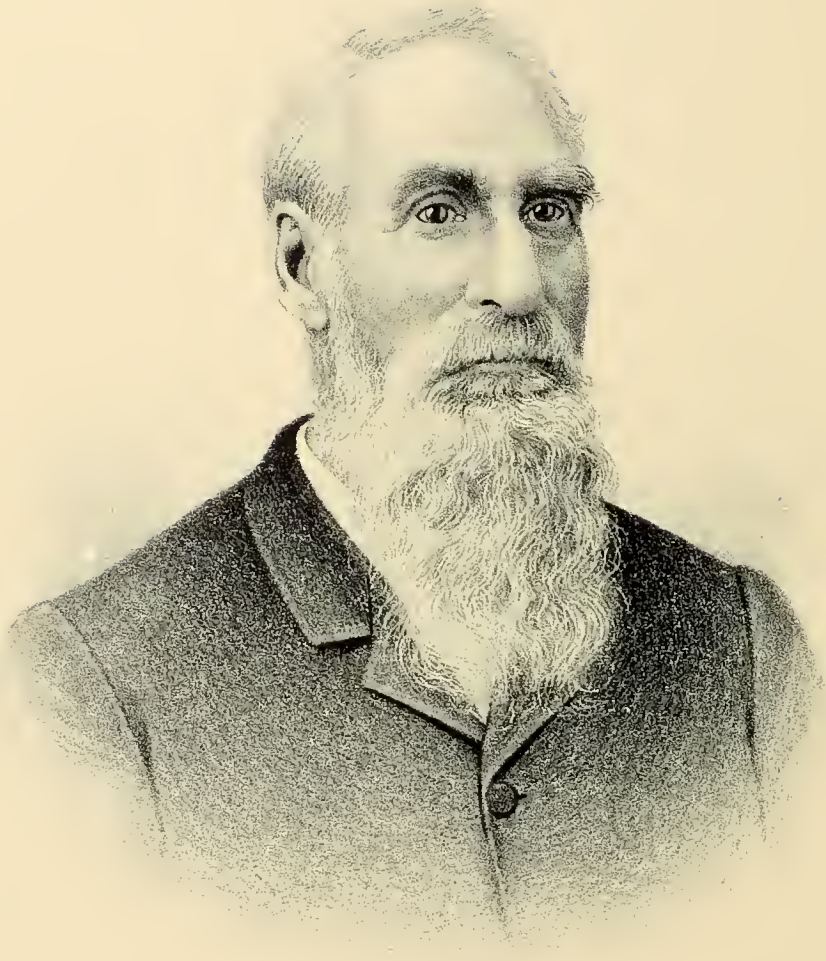
Anne, and also owns his pleasant and comfortable residence in that village. He and his wife are members of the French Presbyterian Church, and in regard to politics, he is a stalwart Republican.



JACOB OBRECHT, Deputy Sheriff of Kankakee County, now residing in the city of Kankakee, is one of the 1853 pioneers of this county. He was born in Alsace, France, now Germany, on the 12th of December, 1832, and is a son of Michael and Magdalena (Filweber) Obrecht, who were also natives of that country. The father was born on the 29th of September, St. Michael's day, (hence his name), 1802. He married in his native country, and emigrated to America with his family, leaving Alsace on Easter Monday, 1842. They traveled by their own conveyance to Havre, and took passage on a sailing-vessel for New York, where they landed after a voyage of fifty-five days. They reached Chicago in October of that year, going by canal from New York to Buffalo, and from there by the Lakes on a steamer to Chicago. The father had purchased a tract of land in Northfield Township, Cook County. They spent eleven years on that farm, and then, removing to Kankakee County, settled in Salina Township, where the father still resides, now past ninety years of age. The wife and mother died in May, 1878. There were ten children in the family, seven sons and three daughters, all of whom are living with the exception of one son, who was a member of Company I, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, and died from wounds received in the war.

The subject of this sketch attended public schools and was brought up on a farm. He was married in Kankakee County, in September, 1854, to Miss Susanna Hertz, a daughter of John and Mary (McWay) Hertz. Mrs. Obrecht was born in Berks County, Pa., and by her marriage became the mother of five children, of whom three only are living. Annie died at the age of nine years; Hannah is now Mrs. George Buehler, and lives in

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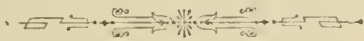


ADELINE NOBLE

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Le Mars, Iowa; Frank M. died at the age of seven years; Ellen V. is the wife of George Oberlin, of Pilot Township, Kankakee County; and Mary Alice became the wife of George F. Keller, and resides in Willow Springs, Cook County, Ill. Mrs. Obrecht, who was a consistent member of the German Evangelical Church, died in February, 1879.

Mr. Obrecht has been engaged in farming since his arrival in Kankakee County, except while engaged in his official duties, and now has a farm of eighty acres in Salma Township. He is a Republican in politics, and has held various township offices, besides being Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff of the county for several years. He served in the latter capacity for one year under H. K. Durham, and for two years under J. W. Burgess, beginning in 1859. In 1862, Mr. Obrecht was elected Sheriff, and served for two years, after which he returned to his farm, but again accepted the position of Deputy Sheriff, and has served under Sheriff A. J. Byrns since he entered upon the duties of that office, on the 1st of December, 1890. Mr. Obrecht makes a capable and faithful officer, and is experienced in his duties. He and his family are members of the German Evangelical Church.



GAD NOBLE, one of the honored pioneers of this county residing on section 22, Rockville Township, is a native of Massachusetts. He was born in Hamlin County, June 20, 1811, and is a son of Elisha and Emily (Lewis) Noble. His father was a native of the old Bay State, and was of English descent. He was a farmer by occupation and followed that business throughout his entire life. Himself and wife were both members of the Baptist Church; both died many years ago. Their family numbered five children. Catherine, the eldest, became the wife of William Hike, and died in 1880. Augustus died in 1882. Elisha, a mason by trade and now a retired farmer, is living in Joliet, Ill. Nathan is engaged in farming in the old Bay State; and Charles is also deceased.

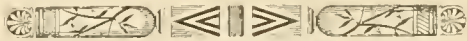
We now take up the personal history of our subject, who was born and reared upon his father's farm, spending his childhood days in the usual manner of farmer lads. He received a good business education, attending school at intervals until he had attained his majority. From the age of eighteen he has earned his own livelihood. He commenced life for himself by working as a farm hand for \$9 per month, and was thus employed for two seasons. He then turned his attention to other pursuits. Securing a position in an axe factory he was there employed for about three years, after which he purchased a farm near the old home. There he resided until 1841.

The scene of our subject's labors then changed. That year witnessed his arrival in what is now Kankakee, but was then a part of Will County. He made the journey by way of the Lakes, and at length reached his destination. At that time the land in this section had not yet come into market. However, it was placed on sale the same year, and Mr. Noble purchased a wild tract of one hundred and eighty acres, comprising the farm on which he yet resides. In those early days he endured all the hardships and privations of frontier life. He hauled grain to market in Chicago, for there were no near markets, and the cities of Kankakee and Manteno were then unknown. Wild game of all kinds was very plentiful, including deer, of which he has seen as many as eighty in one herd. Mr. Noble at once began the development of his land, and acre after acre was placed under the plow until the whole amount was under a high state of cultivation. He also made many improvements upon the place until his farm became one of the best in the community. He carried on farming successfully for many years, but though he still lives on the old homestead, is now living a retired life.

Mr. Noble was married on the 4th of April, 1836, to Miss Adeline Noble, and by their union were born five children, but three are now deceased: Mary A. died April 7, 1867; Wesley, April 6, 1868; and Lewis G., August 8, 1865, in the service of his country. Charles is now engaged in farming in Rockville Township; and Henry is living in Florida. The mother of this family was called to the home beyond on the 17th of January,

1889. She was a member of the Methodist Church, and was a lady whose many excellencies of character won for her the high esteem of her friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Noble is also a member of the Methodist Church and a faithful worker in the Master's vineyard. He takes quite an active interest in political affairs, and is now a supporter of the Prohibition party. His residence in this county covers a period of more than half a century. He is one of its oldest settlers, and has watched its growth and upbuilding from the days of its early infancy. But he has not only been an eye-witness of its advancement, for in all possible ways he has aided in its development, and in the promotion of its leading enterprises he has ever borne his part.



MAJ. WALTER W. TODD, a veteran of the late war and a representative of one of the pioneer families of Kankakee County, a family which located here nearly twenty years before the county was organized, is one of the oldest native citizens residing within its borders. He was born on February 27, 1840, in what is now Rockville Township, Kankakee County, but at that time was a part of Will County. An extended sketch of his father, Dr. Hiram Todd, who settled in the Kankakee Valley in 1835, is given on another page of this work.

Maj. Todd was reared upon a farm, where he laid the foundation of a strong physical manhood, which was destined not only to serve personal interests, but was to be a support to his country in her hour of direst need. The scholastic training of young Walter was superior for those early days, when most boys completed their education in the district schools. After attending there, he spent a year in Racine College, of Racine, Wis. His literary education was completed in Aurora, Ill., where he began the study of law, preparatory to entering the Albany (N. Y.) Law School. Subsequently he attended a commercial college in Chicago. About this time the great Rebellion broke out, and

business, professional and commercial, became a secondary consideration. Our national existence was imperilled; who would go to its support?

Full of youth and enthusiasm, young Todd, having just reached his majority, enlisted in the fall of 1861 in the Fourth Illinois Cavalry. Returning home, he raised a company in his old neighborhood, of which he was chosen captain by acclamation in July, 1862. On the 22d of August following, this company was mustered into the United States service as Company I, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. In all the marches of the Seventy-sixth Regiment, until some time after the siege of Vicksburg, Capt. Todd led his company. He was in command of the regiment for three days on the Trinity raid, across the river from Natchez, in July, 1863, by special order of Maj.-Gen. Crocker, who was in command. At that city, Capt. Todd was elected by the officers of his regiment Major, and his commission, signed by Gov. Yates, took rank June 27, 1863. With his regiment he served in the Meridian campaign, the expedition into Arkansas, and the expedition up the Yazoo River. In the summer of 1864, he was appointed Inspector-General and Chief of Infantry of the Second Division, Nineteenth Army Corps, by Gen. Reynolds, and subsequently Inspector-General of the Second Brigade, Mississippi Reserve Corps, from which he was relieved by his own request at Ft. Gaines, Ala., in the spring of 1865. Thereupon he joined his regiment at Ft. Barraneas. At Pensacola, Maj. Todd was detailed to report to Gen. Granger at Ft. Morgan, at the mouth of Mobile Bay, as Inspector-General of the Thirteenth Army Corps. The distance around an arm of the bay, in going from Pensacola to Ft. Barraneas where he was to embark, was about twelve miles. Not willing that Maj. Todd should go that distance alone, Gen. Andrews sent as escort from his body-guard a sergeant and nine men with him, being a part of the Second Maine Cavalry. One of the men suggested that they ride across on a sand bar, as the water was not very deep, and thus, for some six miles, they traveled through the water, sometimes mid-high to the horses, which feat gave them the appearance, to one on shore, of going to sea on horseback. Maj. Todd remained on Gen. Granger's staff until after

the fall of Mobile, when he was relieved to command his regiment, the Colonel having been wounded, and the Lieutenant-Colonel being sick. Though the war was practically over, the Seventy-sixth was sent for a time to Selma, then to Mobile, and finally to Galveston, Tex., where they were mustered for discharge, but were finally discharged and paid off at Chicago August 4, 1865. The chief conflicts in which Maj. Todd took part were the northern Mississippi campaign, the siege and capture of Vicksburg and Jackson (Miss.), Trinity and Clinton (La.), second raid on Jackson in 1864, siege of Ft. Blakely, Spanish Fort and the capture of Mobile.

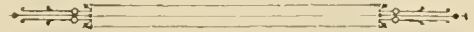
With the soldier's true reward—consciousness of duty well performed—Maj. Todd returned home, and until 1873 devoted his energies to farming. Politically he has always been a Republican, and has taken an active interest and part in the affairs of his county. For two terms he served as Supervisor from Rockville Township. In 1873 he was elected County Clerk, holding the office for one term, and in 1880 was elected County Treasurer, which position he held six years. From 1886 until 1891 he was engaged in the hardware business, but is now looking after his farms and dealing in real estate. Socially he belongs to Whipple Post No. 414, G. A. R., Department of Illinois, of Kankakee; Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M.; Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M.; Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T., of Kankakee; Grove City Council, R. A.; and King's Forest Camp, M. W. A.

In Westchester, Ohio, November 19, 1868, Maj. Todd and Miss Sena Gerard were united in marriage. The lady, who is the daughter of Isaac and Maria Gerard, is a native of Newtown, Hamilton County, Ohio. At the time of her marriage she was a teacher, having come to Kankakee County in 1867. Of this union were born three children: Laura, a graduate of the Kankakee High School; Church Gerard, who is in the Chicago National Bank of Chicago; and Hiram Eugene, who is also a graduate of the Kankakee High School.

Maj. Todd and his wife and children are members of the Presbyterian Church. He has ever been public-spirited and progressive, ready at all times to bear his part in whatever tends to benefit the

community. For five years he served as Treasurer of the Kankakee County Agricultural Society; he has also served on the School Board of Kankakee, and for four years was a member of the Board of Trustees for the Eastern Illinois Hospital for the Insane, his term closing with the change of administration in 1893. As a soldier, citizen and official, Maj. Todd has ever been found faithful to the duties and obligations devolving upon him, and while he doubtless has enemies, as every man called into public life must have, they are remarkably few, and are such from political, rather than personal reasons. For over fifty-three years Mr. Todd has been a resident of Kankakee County, and there are few men better known or more generally liked than he.

When the first militia company was organized at Kankakee in 1883, Company H, Fourth Illinois National Guards, now Company L, Third Illinois National Guards, he generously waived his rank, worthily earned in active service in the war, and accepted a commission as captain of this company, taking it to the State encampment at Springfield, and remaining with it until quartered in the armory built for it, when he resigned.



JOHIN F. CAMPBELL is an extensive farmer residing on section 20, Sumner Township. In addition to four hundred and forty acres in his home farm, he owns about sixteen hundred and fifty acres in Iowa, Kansas and Illinois, and raises and deals extensively in horses and cattle.

Our subject was born in Fountain County, Ind., on the 20th of October, 1810, and is a son of James Campbell, who was of Scotch extraction and a native of Ohio. His mother, who was Priscilla Mick in her maidenhood, was of German descent, and born in Kentucky. Mr. Campbell was an active and extensive farmer, and for half a century was a Methodist minister, taking up that calling when but twenty-three years of age. About 1826

he removed from Ohio to Fountain County, Ind., where he was among the early settlers, and where, in addition to carrying on a farm, he was a local preacher. His marriage was celebrated in 1836, and for twenty years his home was in Indiana. About 1846 Mr. Campbell went to Crete, Ill., which was his place of residence for four years, after which he removed to what is now Yellowhead Township, this county, but which was not then organized. He purchased a tract of land of three hundred and sixty acres from speculators, and here he lived for twenty-one years. This was unimproved, and at the time when he sold it, in 1867, he had it placed under a good state of cultivation. He next bought a tract of land in Sumner Township, and resided there until 1885, when he removed to Grant Park and retired from all business pursuits. He was called from this life on the 6th of January, 1888, and to his memory has been erected a beautiful monument in the Grant Park Cemetery, where by his side reposes the wife and mother, whose death occurred August 7, 1886. They were both faithful and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which faith they had continued nearly a lifetime. Mr. Campbell was an old-line Whig, and later became a Republican. He was a strong anti-slavery man, and fought in defense of his country, being a member of Company H, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. He served his country honorably and faithfully until the close of the war, being Postmaster of the regiment. He was with Gen. Grant on his Mississippi campaign, and was also actively engaged in the siege of Vicksburg and Ft. Blakely. He was a valiant soldier, as was also his father, who fought in the War of 1812, and his grandfather, who served as a soldier during the Revolution.

John Campbell is the third in order of birth in his father's family, which consisted of eleven children, the eldest of whom is Clinton C., a business man of Chicago, residing at Grant Park; Elizabeth is the wife of Alonzo Curtis, a general merchant and banker of the same place; William H. is a stock-dealer and farmer near Great Bend, Kan.; Melville C. is a commission merchant at the stock-yards, and carries on a ranch near that city; Winfield S. is a prominent stockman and lawyer liv-

ing in Sumner Township; Mary A. became the wife of O. B. Campbell, a practicing physician of Cleveland, Ohio; Margaret A. is the wife of Benjamin Garland, a stockman, who makes his home in Caldwell, Kan.; James P. is a prominent stock-raiser of Clark County, Kan.; and two who died in infancy complete the family.

Mr. Campbell of this sketch received a good common-school education, and was but six years of age when his parents with their family removed to Illinois. He has always made the most of his educational advantages, and when twenty years of age began the study of law. He has been engaged in the practice of that profession since 1861, and with his brother W. S. has an office in Manteno. Much of his attention has been devoted to agricultural pursuits and the raising of live-stock. When eighteen years of age he left home, and for four years rented land, much of his time being spent in breaking prairie during that period. In 1864, Mr. Campbell purchased the farm which he now owns on section 20, it at that time comprising only eighty acres. He has been exceptionally successful in his farming and business operations, and, as stated at the beginning of this sketch, now owns over two thousand acres of land in Illinois, Iowa and Kansas.

Mr. Campbell was married on the 4th of October, 1860, to Miss Emily S., daughter of Luman and Lucy Hewes. Mr. Hewes was born in Connecticut, being of Welsh origin. In Vermont he married Lucy Elwell, a native of that State, and of Welsh origin. About 1836 they came to Will County, where they spent the rest of their lives. Mrs. Campbell was born in Will County, September 15, 1839, and is the youngest of thirteen children, of whom twelve grew to maturity. By the marriage of our subject and his wife one child was born, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have an adopted son and daughter, who are brother and sister: Will E. lives at Gilmore City, Iowa, and Frances is the wife of Delbert Rice, who is an artist and painter by trade, residing in Crete, Ill. Mrs. Campbell is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Campbell is much interested in the welfare of the party with which he affiliates, and through-

out this section he is well known as a staunch Republican. Almost his entire life has been spent in this county, in whose success and development he has been an important factor.



DR. GEORGE C. MERRICK, residing on section 15, Manteno Township, is a retired physician and merchant. He is a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., having been born December 11, 1824. He is a son of Sylvester and Mercy (Loveland) Merrick, the former born in Massachusetts, and the latter in Connecticut. About two centuries ago, one Thomas Merrick emigrated to America from Wales, and from him have descended the Merrick families in this country. Both of the grandparents of our subject lived to a good old age, one being over eighty and the other being past ninety years at the time of their deaths.

Sylvester Merrick followed the occupation of a farmer, and was also a singing-teacher and bandmaster for many years. His early life was spent in Delaware County, N. Y., and from there he went to Chautauqua County, his home being near Chautauqua Lake, where our subject was born. In 1824, going West, he located at Fremont, Ohio, following agricultural pursuits in that vicinity for fifteen years. He died there in 1851, aged sixty-one years. He was an honorable and upright man, and was for years an Elder in the Presbyterian Church. To himself and wife were born five sons and a daughter: James; Williston; Sarah, now deceased, as is also the next younger, Frederick; George C. and Lyman. James is now past eighty years and Lyman is over sixty-three.

Until reaching man's estate Dr. Merrick resided with his parents on the home farm. Early in life he manifested a great love for books, and was of a studious disposition. His primary education was received in Fremont, Ohio, in the common schools. In his youth he attended Starling Medical College, of Columbus, Ohio, and afterward entered Rush

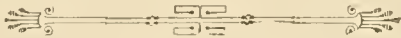
Medical College, at Chicago, from which institution he was graduated in 1851. On the 17th of July of that year Dr. Merrick and Miss Mary Elizabeth Peck were united in marriage. She is a daughter of Joel M. and Amanda (Purdy) Peck, both natives of Norwich, N. Y. Mrs. Merrick was born in Plymouth, N. Y., November 3, 1828, and started for her future home in Troy, Wis., June 12, 1849. It is a singular coincidence that on the same day our subject left Fremont, Ohio, going to Troy, where they afterwards met and were married.

To the Doctor and his wife have been born four sons and one daughter. Charles, who is engaged in the clothing and furnishing-goods business in El Paso, Tex., married Miss Laura Shidler, of Fowler, Benton County, Ind. They have four children, Mary C., Lawrence, Ross and Sylvester. The last-named was born just one hundred years after the birth of his grandfather, Sylvester Merrick. Frederick W. married Miss Grace Frisbee, of Kankakee. They make their home in Tacoma, Wash., on Puget Sound, where he is engaged in merchandising. They have one son, Oscar. Mary Helen is the wife of John Barnard, of Fowler, Ind., where he is engaged in running an elevator and tile factory, and also is the owner of a number of farms. Their family comprises four children, Mary Elizabeth, George O., Ruth and Fred Merrick. George Peck married Miss Grace Thompson, of Evanston, Ill., which place is now their home. He is a practicing lawyer of Chicago, his office being at 108 Dearborn Street. Their one child, a son, is named George Clinton. The Doctor's youngest son, Oscar, is engaged in business with his brother Frederick, in Tacoma.

In the fall of 1851, about three months after his marriage, Dr. Merrick removed to Kankakee County, where he commenced the practice of his profession. With the exception of three years spent in Ottumwa, Iowa, he has since made this county his home. He began his career in business with nothing except his knowledge of medicine and a span of horses. By his energy and economy he has accumulated a snug fortune and a comfortable home, located on the northern edge of Manteno. He also owns three farms, and has shown that he is a man of business ability. In the early part of

his residence in this county he served as Supervisor of Rockville Township. His first purchase of farm land was a tract of eighty acres in that township, which he bought at the rate of \$1.25 per acre. Three years later he sold the farm for \$25 per acre. At that time wild game was plentiful, and once a herd of forty deer was seen in their dooryard. After selling his farms the Doctor moved to the village of Manteno with his family, and there built a business house and a residence. He engaged in the hardware and drug business, to which he afterward added general merchandise.

In 1880 our subject sold out his business, and after giving his sons a start in life made Kankakee his place of residence for ten years. He has recently settled on a farm of three hundred acres just north of Manteno, of which he became the owner about 1880. He is now a member of the Congregational Church, while his wife is an Episcopalian in faith. He is independent in politics, having been a Whig in early life, afterward a Republican, and at the last election casting his ballot for the Democracy. He is not in any sense partisan, believing one should be an American first and a politician afterward. The Doctor was the prime mover in organizing the first Presbyterian Church in Rockville, which has since been removed to Manteno. Though modest and retiring in manner, Dr. Merrick is a man of strong character, and whatever he does is based upon convictions of right.



ELNATHAN WRIGHT, deceased, was for twenty-four years a resident of Manteno. He was born in Conway, Mass., June 20, 1831, and was a son of Phineas M. and Abigail (Howes) Wright, the former a native of Westhampton, Mass., and the latter of Ashfield. They were both of English descent. The father was a farmer in the Bay State, and removed to Illinois in 1864, locating in the village of Manteno. He purchased a small farm just west of the corporate limits of the town, and afterwards made addi-

tions of adjoining land to his original purchase. He departed this life in January, 1888, at the age of seventy-nine years. His wife, who is still living, is now eighty-two. Their family consisted of five children, one of whom died in infancy. The others who grew to manhood were Elnathan, Albinus, Howes, Ephraim and Charles.

Elnathan Wright was reared to farm life, and remained under the parental roof until arriving at mature years. He obtained a good common-school education, and after his marriage, in 1856, he at once removed to Ohio. For some three years he cultivated a farm near Bellevue. In March, 1859, he emigrated to Illinois, and for two years rented a farm near Manteno, after which he purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 20, about a mile southwest of the village, where he lived for four or five years, and in the meantime kept making additions to his property until he possessed over one thousand acres of land. Desiring to live nearer the town, he next moved to a farm on section 21, which was his home for a number of years.

On the 5th of March, 1856, Mr. Wright was united in marriage with Miss Harriet Prince, daughter of Clark and Priscilla (Allen) Prince, both natives of Windsor, Mass. Mrs. Prince died in Hinsdale, that State, June 17, 1870, and four years later her husband came West and purchased a farm adjoining that of Phineas Wright, to the west of Manteno. His death occurred October 6, 1879. He was a consistent member of the Congregational Church while in the East, and became a member of the Presbyterian denomination after coming to Illinois. For many years he was a Deacon in the former church.

Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wright, four sons and four daughters. Edwin C. died on the 7th of March, 1875, when nearly eighteen years of age. The other members of the family are all living. Abigail H. is the wife of George L. Cooley, who is engaged in farming near Amherst, Mass. Frank M., who married Miss Eva Houck, of Princeton, is one of the leading merchants of Manteno, and also has extensive creamery and dairy interests. They have three children, Clark F., Ruth P. and Dorothy. Harriet

M. is the wife of Robert C. Gilkerson, who carries on a market in Kankakee. They have a son who is named for his grandfather, Elnathan Wright. George L. wedded Miss Elizabeth Seager, the adopted daughter of Nelson Seager, and to them has been born a daughter, Helen. Carrie P., who has been a successful teacher for several years, was for three years in the Chicago schools, and is now a teacher in the Western Female Seminary of Oxford, Ohio. Luther E. and Mary B. make their home with their mother.

For some years after landing in Kankakee County, Mr. Wright engaged in sheep-raising on a large scale in connection with his farming. He afterwards embarked in the dairy line, and at one time owned three large dairy farms and had in his employ a large number of persons. He furnished means of obtaining a livelihood for from ten to twenty families, and interested so many in the dairy business, that now most of the farms in this township are dairy farms, and Manteno is the leading town in this portion of the State in the export of dairy products. Mr. Wright principally shipped to the New Orleans markets, where the best prices could be obtained.

In April, 1883, Mr. Wright with his family removed to their fine and comfortable new home in Manteno. On the 25th of July of that year, the whole community was shocked at the sad and painful intelligence of the drowning of their esteemed fellow-citizen, Elnathan Wright. He was as usual superintending the work on his home farm during the morning of that day. At about eleven o'clock he started for his large pasture on what is known as his "stone house" farm, in order to look after some valuable stock. He was obliged to cross Rock Creek, which was then very much swollen by recent heavy rains. Before reaching the bridge for some eight or ten rods, the water was nearly waist deep and running quite swiftly. How he met his death has never been known, as no one was with him. He was last seen a little after eleven o'clock by the young son of ex-Sheriff Brousseau, who was working in a hayfield near. It is supposed that in returning, as the day was very sultry and the bridge was half a mile out of his way, he concluded to remove his cloth-

ing and wade across the stream. The current was very rapid, and the water was some nine feet deep in places, and as he could not swim, he was swept away, it is supposed, and thus met his death. He was a kind husband and an affectionate father, and the community has deeply deplored his loss as a friend and citizen. He was a man of great energy and ambition, and was just preparing to retire from his more active business life in the enjoyment of his large new home, which had been completed but three months.

Mr. Wright was a member of the Presbyterian Church, with which he had been connected for seventeen years. He was a member of the Board of Education at the time of his death, and was active in all public improvements. He has done as much for Manteno as any other one man. His friends knew him but to love him, and no death in Manteno has been more sincerely mourned.



OLIVER W. BARNARD is a farmer and stock man, residing on section 26, Manteno Township. He was born in the village of Economy, Wayne County, Ind., on the 4th of August, 1828, and is one of eleven children born to William and Sallie (Williams) Barnard. His paternal grandfather, Uriah Barnard, was a native of Nantucket Island and followed the occupation of a farmer. He was the father of nine children and lived to be over four-score years. Richard Williams, our subject's maternal grandfather, was born in North Carolina, and was the son of a Quaker preacher. He himself belonged to that faith and was an elder in the church.

William Barnard was born in Surry County, N. C., and was of English origin. When fourteen years of age he removed to Ohio, and two years later to Wayne County, Ind. In his early life he followed the trade of a carpenter and joiner, but afterward became a farmer. In 1835 he located in La Porte County, Ind., which was his home during the remainder of his life. He was not a public man but was of a quiet and unassuming dispo-

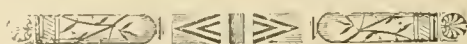
sition. He was a strong Abolitionist, and like his ancestors, belonged to the Society of Friends, who were active in anti-slavery movements. To himself and wife were born seven sons and four daughters, nine of whom are yet living: Oliver W.; Nelson; Milo, who is deceased; Polly Ann, widow of Wiley P. Maulsby, who was killed by the explosion of a boiler at Dexter, Iowa, in 1887; Clinton; Rhoda, the widow of Amos St. Clair, and who first became the wife of Josiah Welch, who lost his life in the siege of Vicksburg and by whom she had two children; Uriah W.; Job; Elizabeth, wife of John Park, of Oswego, Kan., by whom she has three children; Rachel, now deceased; and Milton C. The sons are all married and have families.

The boyhood and youth of Oliver W. Barnard were spent on his father's farm. His education was received in the common schools of La Porte and Porter Counties, Ind. He has always been a student and has pursued a wide and varied course of reading. He learned the carpenter's trade, and from time to time has done considerable work in that line. On the 22d of May, 1856, he came to Kankakee County and located upon section 26, in Manteno Township. With the exception of three years spent in Kankakee for the purpose of giving his children better educational advantages, he has made his home on section 26 since first settling there. His original farm consisted of one hundred and sixty acres, and to this, as his means afforded, he has added additional land until he now has in his possession three hundred and twenty acres, which is one of the best improved farms in the township. He has expended a large amount in tiling and drainage and has a comfortable house, barns and other farm buildings upon it.

On the 4th of March, 1850, Mr. Barnard and Miss Mary Jane Williams were united in marriage. The lady is a daughter of Jonathan and Jane (Harrington) Williams, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Pennsylvania. Two sons and two daughters graced the union of our subject and his wife. Francena Loretta married Alexander Baird, a farmer living near Dennis, Kan. They have seven children, two sons and five daughters: Mary, Kate, Florence, Elsie, Eunice, Vernon and Alexander Warren. Delonson

Elroy wedded Miss Katie L. Bordwell, and is general superintendent of a large windmill factory in Chicago. They have three living children: Rudy, Lela and Glen. Landon Elmer died when about two years of age. Amelia Izetta is the widow of Ira Burton Dole, whose death occurred in Chicago in May, 1888. He was a salesman for Kennedy & Co., bakers. They had three children, two of whom survive: Clarence Arthur and Ira Burton.

Though not an office-seeker, Mr. Barnard for the sake of upholding the principles which he espoused in the Greenback platform, ran for Congress in the Ninth Congressional District in 1882, and was complimented with the largest vote of any candidate in the party for that office. He was a strong anti-slavery man and voted for the Republican candidates and principles until Grant's last election. He supported Peter Cooper and then adopted the principles of the Greenback party. He now affiliates with the People's party. Since the organization as a company of the County Fair Association, Mr. Barnard has served as one of its directors. He is an author and poet of considerable ability, and many of his poems have been published in standard literary works.



MILO R. PETERS, who owns a farm of one hundred and ten acres in the corporate limits of the village of Manteno, and on which he makes his home, is also a dealer in hardware, lumber and farm implements there. His birth occurred on the 20th of March, 1832, in Ryegate Township, Caledonia County, Vt. He is a son of Samuel and Margaret (Nelson) Peters, the former a native of the Green Mountain State, and the latter of New Hampshire. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Andrew B. Peters, was of English descent. His parents emigrated to America about 1765, settling in Bradford, Vt. That town was his home until 1846, when he died at the age of eighty-seven years. During his entire life he was a public man, and in one township occupied the office of Justice of the Peace

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Elder W. H. Van Doren

for forty-seven years, during that time also holding various positions of honor and responsibility. On the maternal side, the grandfather, Robert Nelson, was of Scotch parentage, his birth having occurred in Aberdeen, Scotland. He settled in New Hampshire with his parents in a Scotch community, and one of his sons, Nathan, still resides on the old homestead. When over eighty years of age he departed this life, in 1846.

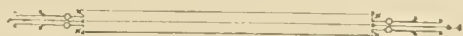
Samuel Peters was a tanner and shoemaker for many years in the East. In March, 1812, he removed from Vermont to New Hampshire, locating on a farm near Haverhill, where he lived for thirty-six years. His death occurred in 1878, at which time he was over eighty years of age. He was prominent in public and local affairs, and occupied at different times a number of township offices. His family comprised nine children, of whom six yet survive: Eliza A., wife of Myron Bailey, residing in Littleton, N. H.; Lydia B., now the wife of Andrew Warden, of Barnet, Vt.; Milo R.; Margaret F., wife of James B. Trucworthy, of Lowell, Mass.; Helen M., who married Paul Seager, of Otto Township, this county; and Chastine, now Mrs. Frank Smith, living near Portland, Me.

The education of Mr. Peters, of this sketch, was acquired in the common schools of those early days in Vermont. He was reared upon a farm, and remained with his parents until arriving at his majority. On the 26th of October, 1857, he was married to Miss Ella F., daughter of the Rev. John T. and Jane B. (McDougall) Richardson. The former was of English descent, the latter of Scotch parentage, and both were natives of Circleville, Ohio. Of their family of nine children, five are yet living: John Homer, Ellen F., Joseph A., Ada A. and Clara J. To our subject and his estimable wife two sons and four daughters have been born: Nellie May; Margerie J., who is the wife of William M. Harvey, telegraph operator and station agent at Manteno; George M., Mamie A., Ernest W. and Florence E.

On the 17th of February, 1855, Mr. Peters landed in Kankakee County and located in Manteno, where he worked at carpentering for several years. In 1860 he bought one hundred and

sixty acres of railroad land, located on section 18, Manteno Township, where he lived for seven years. He again engaged in carpentering, contracting and building in Manteno from 1868 to 1878. During that time he added to his original farm, which he still owns, one hundred and sixty acres, making three hundred and twenty acres in all. In 1878 he opened a lumber yard and the hardware business, which he is still engaged in carrying on. A year previously he purchased a farm of one hundred and ten acres located within the corporate limits of Manteno, and upon this is situated his residence. He also is the owner of four hundred acres of timber land near De Soto, Clarke County, Miss.

With one exception, Mr. Peters has longer resided in Manteno than any other person. When he located here in 1855, the country was a wilderness and there were but six houses in the village. He and his wife are respected members of the Presbyterian Church, with which they have been connected for a number of years. Politically, he is a staunch Republican.



ELDER WILLIAM H. VAN DOREN is a substantial and well-known farmer who makes his home on section 26, Norton Township. He is a minister in the Wesleyan Methodist Church, with which he has been connected since 1857, and to Christian work he has devoted thirty of the best years of his life, during that time establishing a number of churches. He is numbered among the honored pioneers of Illinois, dating his residence in this State from 1839. He was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., near the city of Troy, on the 1st of December, 1823. His paternal grandfather, Christian Van Doren, was a native of New Jersey and served throughout the War of the Revolution. At its close he purchased land in Montgomery County, N. Y., buying it for twelve and a-half cents per acre. He reared his family and spent his remaining days in that locality. The Van Doren family came from Holland

and were among the pioneers of New Jersey. Our subject's father, Abraham Van Doren, was born on the 10th of September, 1783, in Montgomery County, N. Y. On arriving at his majority he married Persis Brigham, who was born in Vermont and reared in Massachusetts. Mr. Van Doren was a mechanic and located near Troy, afterward moving to Sloanville, of the same State. After a residence there of several years he went to Charleston, in Montgomery County. The year 1839 witnessed his arrival in Illinois. He located at Farmington, a place twenty-four miles west of Peoria, where he resided until his death in 1852. After surviving her husband for several years, Mrs. Van Doren departed this life on the 22d of November, 1865, and was buried near Farmridge Cemetery, in La Salle County. Abraham Van Doren was a soldier in the War of 1812, and was a man of noble character.

The gentleman whose name heads this sketch is the youngest of a family of two sons and a daughter, who grew to mature years. Abram, who is now retired, lives near Chicago. The sister, Sarah Catherine, became the wife of Isaac T. Van Doren, but is now deceased. Her husband is at the present time Postmaster of Grand Ridge, La Salle County.

Until fifteen years of age William H. Van Doren lived in New York, and in 1838, with his sister, went to Indiana. The following year he joined his father in Fulton County, Ill., and there grew to manhood. In addition to a good common-school education he attended for one term the Galesburg Academy, from which he returned to his home on account of his father's poor health. He learned the blacksmith's trade, at which he worked for several years. In 1857, he moved to Knox County, working as a blacksmith for seven years. He next went to La Salle County, which was his home for the four years following, and in 1867 became a resident of Kankakee County, where he purchased land in Norton Township. On this farm he still resides. It consists of one hundred and sixty acres, and is now well-improved and desirable property, but which at the time of his purchase was wild prairie.

On the 6th of August, 1815, a marriage cere-

mony united the destinies of Mr. Van Doren and Miss Rhoda R. Barrett, who was born, reared and educated in Knox County. The wife departed this life on the 27th of August, 1855. By her marriage were born four children. On the 16th of May, 1856, in Fulton County, Mr. Van Doren wedded Miss Hannah Chapman, who was born in England and emigrated to Illinois when a child of seven years with her father, Joseph Chapman, who was one of the honored pioneers of Fulton County. By his first wife Mr. Van Doren had four children: Ruth, who died in 1872; Albert Henry, a farmer of Norton Township; Silas H., M. D., a graduate of the Bennett Medical College of Chicago, and now engaged in the practice of his profession in Saybrook, McLean County, Ill.; and Mary C., wife of Robert Hunter, a farmer of this county. By the last union were born Charles L., M. D., also a graduate of the Bennett Medical College, and a practicing physician of Vermilion County, Ill.; Frank E., also a physician, in Herscher, Ill.; George C., a man of good education and editor of the *Buckingham News*, who died on the 27th of March, 1883; Rhoda E., who departed this life when but nineteen years of age, on the 5th of April, 1883; Walter F., a pharmacist residing at Saunemin, Livingston County, and a successful business man there; Clara B., a successful teacher; Henry, residing at home; and Jennie M., who died in May, 1881, aged three years.

Dr. Frank E. Van Doren, mentioned above, a physician and surgeon, who has practiced in and around Herscher, Ill., for almost ten years most successfully, is a man possessed of great energy and determination. He made a great success of his profession. During February, 1893, his most estimable wife was taken ill; the best of medical aid and kind assistance by their many friends availed nothing, and she died the same month. She was a devout Christian, being an active member of the Presbyterian Church and a teacher in the Sunday-school. Dr. Van Doren, after his wife's death, disposed of his business to Dr. Emmet Enos, who now is the resident physician of Herscher. At the present writing Dr. Van Doren is in California.

Mr. Van Doren is a man of unblemished character and is in every respect worthy of the confi-

dence and high regard in which he is held by all who have come in contact with him. His ministerial work in various portions of the State has made him well known, and his labors in the cause of Christianity have been untiring.

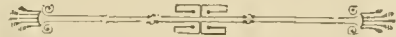


SAMUEL L. KNIGHT was numbered among the honored pioneers of Kankakee County and was one of the prominent citizens of the county seat, where he located in an early day. He was a native of Massachusetts, his birth having occurred in Norwich on the 19th of April, 1802. His boyhood days were quietly passed, and on attaining his majority he embarked in business for himself, taking up the occupation of farming, which he followed in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., being thus employed for several years.

On the 14th of April, 1829, Mr. Knight was united in marriage with Miss Lucena L. Parker, and unto them were born three children, two sons and a daughter: Camden, Solon, and Helen, who is the wife of George V. Huling. After his marriage Mr. Knight engaged in mercantile business, which he continued in the East for a number of years. At length he determined to try his fortune on the prairies of the West, and in the summer of 1843 emigrated to Illinois, locating in Plainfield, Will County, where he spent about two years. In 1845 he removed to Joliet, where he engaged in various kinds of business during a period of six years. In 1851, he became a resident of Kankakee County, settling in Bourbonnais Grove. After Kankakee had been chosen as the county seat he removed to this city in July, 1853, embarking in the lumbering business in connection with his son Solon, who remained for the greater part of that summer in Chicago buying lumber, which he shipped to his father at this place.

Mr. Knight was prominently connected with the early history of this community, and was the first Postmaster here, the name of the office then being

Clarksville. It is said that the mails were so small at that time that he could and did frequently deliver them in a dinner pail. He was honored with a number of public offices of trust and responsibility, the duties of which were ever faithfully and promptly performed. In 1857 he was elected President of the Board of Trustees, and at different times served in the offices of Trustee, Town Supervisor, City Clerk, etc. He continued his business as a dealer in lumber, stone and lime, and led an active and useful life. Indolence and idleness were utterly foreign to his nature. On the contrary energy, enterprise and perseverance were numbered among his chief characteristics. His honorable, upright dealings won him universal confidence and the esteem of all with whom he was brought in contact. He was a public-spirited and progressive citizen and took an active interest in all that pertained to the welfare of the community, in the upbuilding of which he bore so prominent a part. His death occurred at his home in Kankakee on the 15th of March, 1879, and was mourned by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, who ever held him in the highest regard.



MICHAEL F. RILEY, senior member of the firm of M. F. Riley & Co., is an extensive general merchant of Reddick, Ill. He is a representative, enterprising and public-spirited citizen, and has been successfully engaged as a merchant in Reddick for the past twelve years. At the time when he started in this line his capital comprised but \$1,800, with which he purchased stock. He now carries \$16,000 worth of stock, and his business is constantly increasing.

Mr. Riley was born in the city of New York, on the 12th of May, 1854, and is a son of Francis and Mary (Bradley) Riley, both natives of Ireland, who came to the United States in childhood. Our subject was reared to manhood in Illinois, and is well educated. He is the eldest of a family of two sons and five daughters, all of whom grew to maturity, and all, with one exception,

are now married. After his marriage the father resided in New York for about seven years, when he came West, landing in Will County in 1856, where he opened up a farm, on which he still resides, now retired from the active duties and labors incident to farm life, and enjoying the rest he has so well earned and truly deserves. He has been very successful as a farmer, and owns several well-improved farms both in Will and Kankakee Counties.

Michael Riley completed his common-school education by a course of study in commercial lines in the Joliet Academy. He returned to the farm in this county, and took charge of it for his father until twenty-five years of age. In December, 1880, he came to Reddick, and until the following April engaged in buying grain for other parties. He purchased two lots on a good business street, on which he erected a store building, 22x10 feet, and one story in height. Here he engaged in the general mercantile business, still continuing to buy grain for his former employers. In May, 1882, the present partnership was formed, the building enlarged and their stock of goods increased. From time to time they have added to their storeroom fresh supplies of goods, and now carry an immense stock of general merchandise, in addition to which they deal largely in lumber, grain, coal and agricultural implements. The firm has also built and is running a large creamery in Reddick. Through long years of honest dealing and fair prices they have established a reputation which has brought them a fine and increasing trade.

On the 11th of December, 1881, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Riley and Miss Margaret Riley in Livingston County, which was the birthplace of the lady. Her father, Bernard Riley, is a prominent farmer of that county. He is now erecting a fine residence in Kankakee, in which he will make his home in the future. Five children have been born to our subject and his wife: Frank, Mary, Alice (who died in infancy), Alice May and Edward.

Mr. Riley has taken quite an active part in local politics and was elected Township Clerk in Will County, in which capacity he served for

three consecutive terms. His first Presidential ballot was cast for Gen. Hancock, and for every nominee of the Democratic party for President he has given his support. He has served as a delegate to both county and State conventions, and has been a resident of Illinois nearly his whole lifetime and of this county for fifteen years.



JOSEPH L. CLARK, ex-County Surveyor, residing in Momence, was born in Naples, N. Y., on the 6th of May, 1832. Col. William Clark, the grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and was the leader of a party of twelve men who purchased the township of Naples, Ontario County, N. Y., where he removed with his family, and assisted materially in the clearing and development of that section.

The parents of our subject, Lorenzo and Laura (Turner) Clark, resided for many years in New York. The father was a native of Binghamton, Mass., and removed to Naples, N. Y., with his parents when he was but three years of age. He was the youngest son in his father's family, and throughout life followed the occupation of farming. After his father's death he carried on the old homestead, where he resided until his death, when sixty-nine years of age. He was a popular and prominent man and held many official positions, from Justice of the Peace to Assemblyman, having been elected to the General Assembly in the fall of 1841. He was a Whig and a great admirer of Henry Clay, and was in favor of a high protective tariff. He occupied the rank of Major in the State militia. His wife was of Welsh descent, and lived to be eighty-one years of age, dying at the old homestead in Naples, on the 1st of March, 1874.

In the family were twelve children, nine of whom grew to maturity: Milan O., Noah T., Bela T., Cynthia M., William W., H. Amanda, Laura A., Joseph L. and Edmund C. Six are now living, are married and have families. Milan, Bela

and Cynthia are now deceased. Bela was the first Surveyor of Kankakee County. He was a soldier in the same company and regiment to which our subject belonged and served for about a year and a-half, being mustered out on account of failing health. In 1873 he died at his home in Ganier Township.

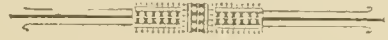
The boyhood days of our subject were passed on the farm, which was his birthplace and where he received a good common-school education, which he supplemented by a course of study in the High School of Naples, and later attended Medina Academy. When he was about sixteen years of age he started in life for himself. In 1851 he first came to Illinois and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Aroma Township, Kankakee County, to which he has added, until his present possessions now amount to five hundred and thirty-one acres. For a time he rented his land, teaching school in the winter and working at his trade of carpentering in the summer season.

On the breaking out of the late war, Mr. Clark enlisted in Company D, Forty-second Illinois Infantry, and was in the service of his country for three years. He participated with his regiment in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, and nearly all of the engagements of the Atlanta campaign. He was once struck with a piece of spent shell, but although he was knocked down, would not acknowledge himself wounded. He was mustered out immediately after the close of the Atlanta campaign.

On the 2d of May, 1865, Mr. Clark married Miss Mary L., daughter of Col. Lyman and Mary C. (McNeill) Wooster, of Ganier Township, who were of Scotch descent. Five children were born to our subject and his wife: Mary L., Mabel C., Charles E. (who died in infancy), Elwin and Carrie.

In 1884, Joseph L. Clark was elected County Surveyor, which office he held till 1893, when he refused to serve longer. He has also held numerous other local positions, and has been Justice of the Peace for many years. When he first came to Illinois the country was very wild and but little inhabited, there being but three hundred residents

in Momence. He has witnessed the marvelous development of the county, which now ranks among the foremost of the State, and which is settled with a highly intelligent and thrifty class of good citizens. Mr. Clark casts his vote in favor of the nominees of the Republican party, and is a member of Worcester Post No. 627, G. A. R. He is not a member of any church or secret society, but is one of the substantial and highly respected citizens of the county and community in which he dwells, and whose history would be sadly incomplete were his name omitted from its records.



JOHN D. PETERSON, a farmer residing on section 24, Norton Township, Kankakee County, and whose postoffice is Buckingham, Ill., came here and settled on the prairie eighteen years ago. He is a native of Norway, born July 8, 1842. His father, John Peterson, emigrated with his family to the New World in 1857, taking passage in a sailing-vessel, and landing in Quebec, in June of that year. They went directly to La Salle County, whence, after living some five years, they removed to Livingston County. The father was a farmer by occupation, and carried on a farm in that county until his death, which occurred in 1873.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed in his native land, and at the time of the family's emigration to the United States he was a lad of fifteen years. He received good common-school advantages both in Norway and Illinois. Until he arrived at his majority he worked upon a farm during the summer season, attending school in the winter. With his father he rented land in Livingston County, and farmed there for several years. Removing then to Kankakee County, Mr. Peterson purchased one hundred and twenty acres of prairie land, where he still resides. For many years past he has been considered one of the enterprising and successful agriculturists of the community. He has ever been industrious and frugal,

and now has a valuable and well-improved farm of two hundred acres, situated midway between Herscher and Buckingham. On his place he erected a large and substantial residence, commodious barns, sheds and outbuildings.

In Livingston County, on the 27th of February, 1875, Mr. Peterson and Miss Carrie Dyvig were united in marriage. The lady is also a native of Norway, and is a daughter of John Dyvig, who settled in Livingston County. By the union of our subject and his wife have been born five children, as follows: Joseph, Clara, Amelia, John and Josephine.

Since becoming a voter, Mr. Peterson has been identified with the Republican party, his first ballot being cast in 1868 for Gen. U. S. Grant. He has never been a politician or wished for public office. His whole time and attention he has devoted strictly to his farming interests and household affairs. During the nearly twenty years of his residence in this locality, Mr. Peterson has won the respect and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact. He has made his own way in the world, and good success has crowned the labor of years.



DR. HIRAM TODD, deceased, was prominently identified with the history of the territory now called Kankakee County from its first settlement until his death. He was probably the first physician in the county, and his business relations made him known far and near. A native of Vermont, he was born in Poultney, November, 18, 1795, and was a son of Thomas Todd, who was born and reared in Rowley, Mass., where had lived his direct ancestors since 1664. One of them, John Todd, represented that place in General Court from 1664 until 1686, and represented Charlestown in the same body as early as 1637. He was a native of England.

In 1783 Thomas Todd married Betsy Dagget, a native of Sutton, Mass., where they lived for sev-

eral years. Their next home was in Douglass, Mass., and in March, 1795, they went to Poultney, Vt., where the mother's death occurred July 28, 1829, at the age of sixty-eight years. The father passed away November 20, 1848, when eighty-eight years of age.

Hiram Todd attended school in Schenectady, N. Y., and by his own exertions earned enough to pay for his board and tuition. From an early age he was dependent upon his own resources. In 1817 he went to Kingston, Canada, and in 1820 to Lebanon, Ohio, where he began the study of medicine. Three years later he began practice in Henderson, Ky., and on the 25th of January, 1826, was graduated from the Ohio Medical College of Cincinnati. Returning to Lebanon, Ohio, he opened an office. On the 22d of June following, he was appointed Surgeon of the First Regiment of Infantry, Second Brigade and First Division, Ohio Militia, by its Commander, Col. W. A. Cannon.

In Franklin, Ohio, May 21, 1828, the Doctor married Lydia Church, a native of Vermont, and soon afterward went to Ft. Wayne, Ind. Subsequently he made his home in Logansport, where he carried on practice and engaged in merchandising as a partner of Jordan Vigus. Logansport was then an Indian trading-post, and the Doctor was implored by the Indian agent to try to check the ravages of smallpox among the red men. Other physicians had refused, but he undertook the work and was remarkably successful, in so much that the Indians ever afterward welcomed him as a friend. At this time he also made judicious investments in real estate. In connection with capitalists of Indiana, he bought large tracts of land both in Indiana and Illinois upon the conclusion of the Camp Tippecanoe Treaty. In 1834, in connection with Messrs. Clark and Andrews, he laid out La Porte, Ind., and took up his residence there. In the fall of 1835 he came to Illinois to look after his landed interests, for he owned the greater part of eight thousand acres along the Kankakee and Iroquois Rivers. From that time he was a prominent figure in this community. He made a location about a mile below Waldron, and July 16, 1836, was appointed Postmaster of the

first postoffice within the limits of what is now Kankakee County. The name of Kankakee was given to the office.

After about two years, the Doctor and his wife returned to La Fayette for a brief period, but again came to their Illinois home in the fall of 1839. He was also the first Postmaster of Rockville, his commission bearing date 1842, and for thirty years the office was held by some member of his family. Upon the bank of the beautiful Kankakee their home was located. The Doctor's first deed for land within the present limits of this county included five sections reserved to Shaw-waw-nas-see, whose deed to Hiram Todd, Cyrus Tabor, of Logansport, Ind., and Allen Hamilton, of Ft. Wayne, Ind., was dated March 22, 1833, and was filed for record three days later in Cook County, from the fact that the land then lay in that county. Dr. Todd found that the hardships and privations of pioneer life were injuring his health, but there were few physicians in the locality, and his services were so constantly in demand that he felt he must minister to his suffering fellow-mortals. The exposure and hard work continued to prey upon him until the 11th of July, 1849, when he was called to his final rest.

The life of Dr. Todd was one of rich experience. He was reared and educated in New England, but much of his later life was spent on the frontier, where he not only bore the hardships of the pioneer himself, but aided others in carrying their burdens. He was of a very genial and social disposition, a man of broad charity and kindness of heart, and in the esteem and confidence of all who knew him, he held an enviable position. His home was the abode of that old-time hospitality, which always afforded a guest a warm welcome. In politics he was a lifelong Whig. Few men will be more kindly remembered than Dr. Todd, and the history of Kankakee County would be incomplete without the record of this honored pioneer. His wife was truly his companion and helpmate. She shared with him the adversity and prosperity of life, its sorrows and its joys, and by her sympathy and helpfulness aided him greatly in his lifework. She died December 26, 1871, at the age of three-score years and ten, and her remains

and those of her husband were laid side by side in Mt. Grove Cemetery. This worthy couple had a family of six children, three of whom are living: Frances T., widow of Maj. Rodney S. Bowen, of Wilmington; Hiram Church; and Walter Wilson Todd.

Dr. Todd has the honor of having laid out several towns in this section. He owned the land and laid out the villages of Momence and Rockville, and also owned the land on which Waldron was laid out.



ALLEN S. WALTON, who owns and operates a good farm of one hundred and eighty acres of land on section 21, Rockville Township, has the honor of being numbered among the pioneer settlers of this county. Almost his entire life has here been passed, for his parents removed to this county in 1846, when he was but two years of age. His birth occurred in La Porte, Ind., May 22, 1844. His father, Ralph Walton, was a native of Durham, England. In 1792, he accompanied his parents on their emigration to America, the voyage being made in a sailing-vessel. The family located in Essex County, N. Y., where Mr. Walton grew to manhood and was married. He wedded Miss Catherine Culver, a native of New York. In 1830 they emigrated Westward, locating in Lorain County, Ohio, among its early settlers. Four years later Mr. Walton removed with his family to La Porte, Ind., where he purchased a tract of raw land and began farming. His property he improved and cultivated and thereon made his home until 1846, when he again resumed his Westward journey. This time he located in what is now Kankakee County, but was then a part of Will County, settling upon the farm which is still the home of our subject. Here he purchased ninety acres of land from the Government at the usual price of \$1.25 per acre, erected thereon a log cabin of one room and in true pioneer style began life in the West. In that cabin home he lived many years, until he

erected the residence in which his son Allen now lives. When he first located here Chicago was the nearest market and he hauled his grain to that place with an ox-team. There were still some Indians living in the neighborhood and wild game of all kinds was plentiful.

Ralph Walton had served as a soldier in the War of 1812. He was quite a well-educated man and a prominent citizen. In politics he was a Whig in early life, but on the dissolution of that party, joined the ranks of the new Republican party. In religious belief he was a Methodist. His death occurred in August, 1862, and his remains were interred in Deselm Cemetery. His wife survived him for about twenty years and passed away in 1883. She too was a member of the Methodist Church, and both were highly respected people. They had a family of eleven children, as follows: Calvin L., Jane A., Seymour L., Celia C., Alfred A., Adam Clarke, Louisa S., Ralph L., Ellen and Allen S. (twins), and Martha A. Of these seven are living and six have families.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood upon his father's farm amid the wild scenes of frontier life. He was early inured to the arduous labors of the field, and after his father's death he remained upon the old homestead and operated the farm for his mother for a number of years. March 31, 1871, he was united in marriage with Miss Celia Hedges, daughter of Joseph and Jane P. (Diamond) Hedges. After his marriage he purchased the old homestead and thereon the young couple began their domestic life. Their union was blessed with a family of seven children, but three are now deceased. Ray, the first-born, died January 24, 1881; Daisy, the fourth in order of birth, died February 26, 1883; and one child died in infancy. The other children are Harry D., Oscar B., Fred J. and Albert L. The Walton household is the abode of hospitality and its members rank high in social circles.

In his political views Mr. Walton is a Republican. He has held a number of minor offices but has never been an aspirant in that direction. He is a public-spirited and progressive citizen who manifests a commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and aids in

the promotion of all worthy enterprises. Throughout his entire life he has followed agricultural pursuits, and since coming to the county has lived upon the farm which is still his home. He carries on general farming and stock-raising and does a good business. As before stated, he now owns one hundred and eighty acres of land, comprising a well-improved and valuable farm. He has been connected with the development of this tract many long years and the greater part of its improvements stands as a monument to his thrift and enterprise.



GEORGE DAY was a native of England, his birth having occurred in Henstridge, Somersetshire, on the 9th of June, 1822. His parents, James and Fannie (Belling) Day, were also born in England, as were their ancestors for many generations. Their family consisted of five children, three sons and two daughters, only one of whom is now living, John, who resides in Millborneport, England.

Our subject was reared to manhood on a farm, and about the year 1840 was married to Miss Fannie, daughter of Robert and Martha (Mogg) Jenkins, who were also natives of England. Mrs. Day was born June 11, 1820, in Dorsetshire, England. In 1857, Mr. Day came to America, leaving his family in England for three years. He made a settlement in Huron County, near Bellevue, Ohio, where he followed agricultural pursuits for ten years. He then removed to Illinois, buying a farm of one hundred and twenty-three acres in Manteno Township, which was his place of residence for seventeen years. He then sold the homestead and located in the village, where he lived a retired life for eight years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Day were born six children. Louisa was twice married, her first husband being John Cooper, a farmer of Ohio. He was also born in England, and by their marriage were born two children: William H. and Mary Louisa. Mr.

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Samuel Taylor



Mrs. Maria E. Taylor

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Cooper died May 17, 1877, aged forty-one years. Louisa then became the wife of Joseph Gruber, and by her second union had one child, a daughter, who is now deceased. Jane is the wife of Joshua Piper, who is engaged in farming near Peotone, Ill. They have six living children: James H., George E., Roy, Arthur, Alvin and Rosa. Anna D. became the wife of William Curl, who owns and operates a farm near Manteno. Their family comprises four children: Mary J., Anna, Myrtilla, Albert W. and George N. Martha G. died when two years of age. Alice E. is at home with her mother. Henry G., who married Ellen, daughter of James Piper, is engaged in the transfer business in Chicago. They have a family of three children: Matie, Emily and George.

Mr. Day was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as is also his wife, who still survives him. He was called to his final reward on the 24th of February, 1892, at which time he had reached the age of sixty-nine years, eight months and twenty-three days. He was an industrious, hard-working man, much respected for his uprightness and true worth. In his political views he was a stalwart Republican and took great interest in the welfare and development of this region.



SAMUEL TAYLOR, a wealthy citizen and one of the extensive land-owners of Rockville Township, resides on section 20. He was born in Devonshire, England, in 1827, and is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth Taylor. There were only two children in this family. The younger brother, Alexander, died in 1886. The father was a farmer and made that work his business throughout his entire life. Emigrating to America, he spent the last years of his life in Canada, where he died in 1882.

The mother of our subject died when Samuel was about two years of age, and he then went to live in the home of his uncle, Alexander Taylor, with whom he came to America when a lad of ten summers. They crossed the Atlantic in a sailing-

vessel, which after a voyage of seven weeks and three days dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. Landing in that city, Alexander Taylor and his nephew made their way at once to Ohio, locating in Huron County. Soon after reaching the Buckeye State our subject started out in life for himself. He was then only about eleven years of age—quite young to enter upon life's battle. During the first year he worked out as a farm hand for nine months, receiving \$4 per month for his labors, and during the three months of the winter season he attended school. For six years he was thus employed, after which he commenced farming for himself. Having by his industry, economy and good management acquired a small capital, he purchased a farm, not very large in extent it is true, but still it gave him a start in life.

Hoping to better his financial condition, Mr. Taylor emigrated from Ohio to Illinois in 1853. He and D. W. Dole started on the journey by team, but the roads were so bad that they returned, left the team and came to Chicago by rail. From Chicago to Momence they walked, and then came down the river to J. W. Smith's in Bourbonnais Township. Purchasing one hundred and fifty acres of partially improved land on section 3, Rockville Township, he gave his time and attention to its cultivation until about 1862, when he removed to the farm on which he now resides, and which has been his home continuously since, with the exception of about two years, a part of which period was spent in California. The old homestead now comprises three hundred and twenty acres of land. Mr. Taylor carries on general farming and stock-raising and does a good business. He has labored earnestly and success has rewarded his well-directed efforts. As his financial resources have increased he has made additional purchases from time to time, until his landed possessions now aggregate some twelve hundred acres of land, all of which is situated in Rockville Township, and is well-improved and valuable property.

Mr. Taylor has been twice married. In 1856, he wedded Miss Fidelia J. Dole, sister of D. W. Dole, and unto them were born six children: Ella, who died in 1888; Wilbur, who died in 1885; Julia and Jennie, both deceased; Minnie, now the

wife of Oliver Schreffler, a general merchant of Rockville; and Edwin, who is engaged in farming in Rockville Township. The mother of this family died in November, 1876, and her remains were interred in Deselm Cemetery. Mr. Taylor was again married, August 19, 1879, his second union being with Mrs. Maria E. (Harter) Reed, widow of Emanuel Reed, who died June 16, 1877. By her former marriage she had three children: Eldon M., in business in Kankakee; Hiram H., cashier in a business house in Chicago; and Ina F., wife of Edwin Taylor, youngest son of our subject.

Mr. Taylor exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party. He has never been a politician in the sense of office-seeking, yet has served in the position of Road Commissioner. A public-spirited and progressive citizen, he manifests an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and always aids in the support of public enterprises calculated to benefit the town or county. Among the pioneer settlers Mr. Taylor is numbered, for his residence in this community covers the long period of forty years. He was a member of the first jury ever impaneled in Kankakee. He has witnessed almost the entire growth and development of the county and has aided in making it what it is to-day, one of the leading counties in this great commonwealth. As for his success in life, Mr. Taylor deserves all credit; starting out for himself at the early age of eleven years he has steadily worked his way upward from an humble position to one of wealth. Mrs. Taylor is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



JOHAN M. LIVINGSTON for over thirty years has been engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 9, Manteno Township. He is a native of the Empire State, born in Harrisburgh, Lewis County, on the 1st of July, 1836. He is the only son of Richard and Annis (Humphrey) Livingston, who were the parents of two daughters, Sarah and Mary, both of whom are

now deceased. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Richard Livingston, was a farmer in New York during the most of his life and died in that State at the advanced age of ninety-two years. His father was one of three brothers who emigrated to America from Scotland and who were all officers in the War of the Revolution. The maternal grandfather, Ashball Humphrey, came from Massachusetts to New York, where he followed agricultural pursuits as a means of livelihood and where he lived until eighty-four years of age.

Richard Livingston for many years was also a farmer in the Empire State, but in 1859 came West to Illinois to make his home with his son, our subject, who had located here two years previously. The father returned to New York, but after remaining there for a short time only, became a permanent resident of this State. He departed this life in 1885, having then attained the age of seventy-nine years. His wife, who is still surviving, is now eighty-three, and lives with her son. Both she and her husband were members of the Baptist Church in New York, but never identified themselves with any church organization in the West, as there is no Baptist Church in the neighborhood.

Mr. Livingston of this sketch was reared to the life of a farmer from his early boyhood, and has followed that calling up to the present time. He remained under the parental roof until reaching mature years and attended both the district and high schools in his native State. On the 28th of December, 1859, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah, daughter of Minorris and Dorothy (Barrett) Beebe, who were both born near Rochester, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Livingston have three children, Frank, Minnie and Burton, who have been given good educational advantages.

In 1858, our subject first located in Illinois, at which time he purchased a farm of eighty acres near Crete, Will County, where he lived until 1861. He then sold that property and became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres on section 9, Manteno Township, to the cultivation of which he has since devoted his energies. When he purchased this place there had been scarcely any improvements upon it and the house was very small

and uncomfortable. This is all now changed, for he has erected a large and pleasant home, good barns and a number of other buildings, the farm being considered one of the best in the township. It is located a mile and a-quarter from Manteno.

Mr. Livingston is held in the highest regard in this community and has taken an important part in its welfare. He has held the office of School Director for a number of years and is active in the cause of education. Politically he is a staunch Republican, and though not himself a member of any religious denomination, contributes liberally to the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife is a member.



PETER GRANGER, of Manteno Township, is a representative of one of the pioneer families of Kankakee County. His father is David Granger, who, emigrating from Canada, settled in this county, where he still lives, in 1818. He was born in Canada, on the 18th of January, 1808, and has consequently attained the good old age of eighty-five years. On arriving at manhood he wedded Elizabeth Roy, whose death occurred at the age of seventy-eight years, August 19, 1883. They were the parents of eleven children, eight of whom, two sons and six daughters, are living at this writing, in 1892. The father and his son Ambrose reside together in the village of Bourbonnais and the latter still owns the old homestead.

The subject of this sketch was born in Canada on the 19th of September, 1811, and was about four years of age when his parents emigrated to Kankakee County, and he well remembers the wild appearance of the country in the early days of its history. When the family took up their residence in this portion of the State there was no settlement north of them nearer than Chicago.

On the 17th of September, 1867, Mr. Granger was united in marriage with Miss Olive, daughter of Joseph Dupuies, of Kankakee, who settled at

Bourbonnais in 1851. Mrs. Granger's mother departed this life in 1881. Her family comprised eight children, five of whom are now residents of Kankakee County. Mr. Granger and his wife have a pleasant home in Kankakee, which was recently erected. Though they have no children of their own they took to their hearts and home Emma Trudell, who is now their adopted daughter and goes by the name of Emma Granger.

Mr. Granger owns a good farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Manteno Township and eighty acres elsewhere. For many years he engaged in the cultivation and improvement of his farm and then removed to Kankakee. He will re-occupy the farm for a time, as he contemplates making some valuable improvements in tillage and drainage upon his place, but he expects eventually to return to his home in Kankakee. Mr. and Mrs. Granger are numbered among the intelligent and respected citizens of the community in which they dwell. Both he and wife are members of the Catholic Church.



WILLIAM RAUWORTH is one of the extensive farmers and a large stock-dealer of Rockville Township. He now resides on section 5, where he owns a valuable farm of four hundred acres. He is a native of England, his birth having occurred in the town of Sheffield, Yorkshire, on the 29th of December, 1837. His parents, Benjamin and Martha (Armstead) Rauworth, were natives of the same locality. The father carried on a wholesale and retail butcher-shop in Sheffield. In 1862 the family came to America and located at Wilton Center, Will County, Ill., where the father bought a farm of two hundred and forty acres. In the fall of 1863 he returned to England to settle up business, and while there sickened and died, in June, 1864. His wife spent her last days in Illinois, where she died in 1884. The parents of our subject were members respectively of the Baptist and Episcopal Churches while in England, but after com-

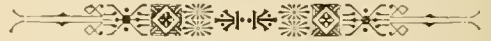
ing to this country. Mrs. Rauworth was identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. The family numbered seven children: John, a farmer and stock-dealer, residing in Will County; William, of this sketch; Joseph, who died in infancy; Samuel, who died in 1878; Thomas, who died in infancy; Alice, wife of William Robinson, living in Will County; and Sarah, wife of Alexander Armstrong, a resident farmer of Iowa.

In the public schools of his native land William Rauworth acquired a business education. At the age of eighteen he was apprenticed to a druggist and learned that trade, which he followed until his emigration to the New World. The last two years of his stay in England were spent as a druggist in the city of London. In April, 1862, he bade adieu to his old home and crossed the briny deep. He first located near Wilton Center, Will County, Ill., on the farm purchased by his father, as given above, which was his home until 1875, when he removed to Rockville Township and purchased two hundred and eighty acres of land on section 5. This farm he has since made his home, and he has added by purchase till he owns four hundred acres all in a body. It is one of the desirable places of the community. His land is well cultivated, but he devotes his principal time and attention to stock-raising. He is doing an extensive and successful business in this line, and always keeps on hand an excellent grade of horses, cattle and hogs.

On the 1st of January, 1867, Mr. Rauworth was married to Miriam Sollitt. Mrs. Rauworth was born in Sheffield, England, September 4, 1845, and in 1850 came with her parents, John B. and Anna (Dodds) Sollitt, to the United States. After a short time spent in Chicago, they moved to a farm in Will Township, Will County, Ill. The father died in Grant Park, Kankakee County, July 21, 1888. His wife now lives in Peru, Ind. Seven children have been born of our subject's union: Charles E., Clara A., Edith E., Jesse S., Sidney H., Oliver W. and Mary.

In his political affiliations Mr. Rauworth is now a Prohibitionist. He was for many years an ardent supporter of the Republican party, but on account of his views on the temperance question,

he has recently joined the ranks of the Prohibition party. A public-spirited and progressive citizen, he manifests an active and commendable interest in all that pertains to the welfare of the community and its upbuilding. He is truly American in sentiment and principle. It was a fortunate day for him when he decided to seek a home in the New World, for here he has met with prosperity, has secured a pleasant home, and made many warm friends, by whom he is held in high regard. Mrs. Rauworth and the children belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church.



SEYMOUR J. ALLEN, who is engaged in farming on section 15, Rockville Township, is numbered among the honored pioneers of the county, having here made his home since 1847, or for forty-six consecutive years. He was born in Erie County, N. Y., on the 29th of January, 1831, and comes of a family of English origin. His parents, George W. and Saphrona (Bessey) Allen, were both natives of the Empire State. They had a family of five children, but two are now deceased. Albert B. died in 1888, and Sarah A. departed this life in 1859. The other members of the family are Seymour; Mandane, widow of Milton Bloom; and Francis M., a farmer now residing in Whiteside County, Ill. The father of our subject followed farming throughout his entire life. His last years were spent in Whiteside County, where his death occurred in 1886. His wife passed away long previous, being called to her final rest in 1848.

No important event occurred during the boyhood of our subject, which was spent in the usual manner of farmer lads. He acquired a good English education, attending the public schools at intervals until twenty years of age. He was a lad of thirteen years when, in 1844, with his parents, he left the East and took up his residence in Du Page County, Ill. Much of the trip West was made by teams and they were upon the road for five weeks. After two years spent in Du Page

County the family came to what is now Kankakee County, but was then a part of Will County, locating in Rockville Township, where the father rented land for two years.

Our subject remained under the parental roof and assisted his father in the cultivation of the home farm until twenty-one years of age, when he began business for himself. Purchasing an ox-team, he engaged in breaking prairie, carried on farming to some extent, and also operated a threshing-machine for twelve seasons. At length he left Illinois and went to Iowa, purchasing two hundred and sixty acres of land in Shelby County. For thirteen years he retained possession of that tract, but in 1868 sold out and bought the farm on which he now resides on section 15, Rockville Township. It comprises one hundred and sixty acres of land, all of which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He has made many of the improvements upon the place himself and they stand as a monument to his thrift and industry. He now carries on general farming and stock-raising and is doing a successful business.

On New Year's Day of 1856, Mr. Allen was joined in marriage with Miss Sarah J. Grimes, daughter of Willard and Sarah Grimes. Three children were born of this union: Eva C., wife of Henry Hartzog, a farmer residing in Rockville Township; Sarah A., wife of John G. Bray, who carries on agricultural pursuits in Kansas; and Elden, now deceased. In February, 1879, Mrs. Allen passed from among the living, being much beloved and lamented. November 8, 1882, Mr. Allen wedded Charlotte M., daughter of George W. and Lois Evans. Mrs. Allen by a former marriage has two children, Emily E. and Robert L. Fisher.

In his political views Mr. Allen is a Republican and warmly advocates the principles of that party, having cast his first vote for Gen. Scott. He has served his township as Road Commissioner and Supervisor for eight years. A public-spirited and progressive citizen, he is interested in all that pertains to the welfare of the community, and ever does his part toward supporting public enterprises calculated to benefit town and county. He has witnessed almost the entire growth of Kankakee

County. He has experienced the hardships of pioneer life when this community was a frontier settlement, and he has seen the development of this region from a wild, unsettled place until it has become one of the leading counties of the State. He well deserves mention among its worthy citizens and honored pioneers.



JOHN W. RAYMOND, who carries on general farming and stock-raising on section 30, Rockville Township, was born in Oswego County, N. Y., October 23, 1826. The family is of English descent. His parents were Nathan and Maria (Williamson) Raymond, and unto them were born eight children, the eldest of whom is our subject. Aaron, the second in order of birth, is now engaged in farming in Van Buren County, Mich.; Eliza, wife of Silas Vanbenschoten, died in 1868; Hannah died at the age of two years; Maria, who died in 1865, was the wife of Austin Raymond; Mary, widow of Joseph Harmon, is living in the Empire State; Delia, wife of Erastus Dickens, died in 1870; Henry, who enlisted as a private in the late war in 1861, and was killed in an engagement at Sabine Pass, in Texas, was the youngest of the family. The father of our subject was a tanner by trade, but carried on farming the greater part of his life. He died in 1889, at the very advanced age of eighty-seven years and eight days. The mother passed away some years previous, being called to the eternal home in 1864.

The subject of this sketch was born and reared upon a farm, and in the public schools received a good business education that fitted him for the practical duties of life. In his parents' home he remained until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself. He had little but a young man's bright hope of the future and a pair of willing hands, for his capital consisted of only forty cents. He worked as a farm hand during the summer season, and in the winter

months engaged in teaching school. He taught his first term of school at the age of nineteen and his last at the age of fifty, so his experience in that profession covers quite a range of years.

Mr. Raymond was married in the Empire State, December 18, 1856, to Miss Mary, daughter of Edward and Mary Bulger. Four children have been born of their union, as follows: Clara B., wife of Myron Kahler, a farmer of Rockville Township; Nellie, wife of Rev. B. P. Millar, a resident of Chicago; Jennie, wife of Nelson Hazelton, a farmer of Will County; and Nettie, wife of B. M. Schrefler, who is engaged in the butchering business in Kankakee.

The year after his marriage Mr. Raymond left the State of his nativity and, with his wife, emigrated Westward to Illinois. He took up his residence in Rockville Township, Kankakee County, and rented land for a period of nine years, after which he purchased the farm on which he is now living. It comprises one hundred and seventy acres on section 30, and is a beautifully improved tract under a high state of cultivation. In connection with the cultivation of his land, he carried on stock-raising. As he had no capital when he came to the West, he has gained his entire property in the years of his residence here. The obstacles in his path he overcame by determined effort, and his good management, business ability and fair dealing have won him prosperity.

Mr. Raymond and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, to the support of which he contributes liberally. He also gives his aid for the advancement of any enterprise or interest calculated to prove of public benefit. The community recognize in him a valued citizen and a man of sterling worth. Mr. Raymond cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Scott, and since that time has voted with the Republican party, of whose principles he is a staunch advocate. His fellow-citizens, appreciating his worth and ability, have frequently called upon him to serve in positions of public trust. He held the office of School Treasurer, and has also served as Road Commissioner and School Trustee. He held the office of School Director for nearly twenty-one years, and did effective service for the cause of education by

his earnest efforts in its behalf. For ten years Mr. Raymond also served as Postmaster of Rockville. His public duties have ever been discharged in a prompt and faithful manner, with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents. His career has been an honorable one, and has gained him universal confidence and esteem.



GEORGE N. GUILFORD, who owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 17, Rockville Township, claims Michigan as the State of his nativity. His birth occurred on Prairie Ronde, in Kalamazoo County, March 16, 1838. The father, Erastus Guilford, was born in Massachusetts in 1802, and was of Puritan descent. After attaining to years of maturity, he married Elizabeth McElvain, a lady of Scotch descent. Mr. Guilford was a well-educated man. On leaving the old Bay State in 1824, he removed to Ohio, where he engaged in the distilling business until 1827. He then went to Ypsilanti, Mich., but soon afterward returned to Ohio, where he remained until 1829. In that year, in company with two others, he walked from the Buckeye State to Kalamazoo County, Mich., where he arrived with only \$1 in his pocket. He then staked out a claim about fifteen miles southwest of the city of Kalamazoo, upon which he built a small log cabin. Not long afterward he organized a colony of about twelve young men (only three couple married) and returned to Michigan. The following year, 1830, he plowed the first furrow ever turned in Kalamazoo County, for previous to that time the few settlers who were living there had subsisted on what they could make by hunting and fishing. Mr. Guilford purchased his farm from the Government at \$1.25 per acre, and engaged in its cultivation and improvement throughout the remainder of his life. He was married in 1831, and reared his family on the old homestead.

The death of Mr. Guilford occurred on the 12th of January, 1852. He had helped to organize Kalamazoo County, and was one of its honored

pioneers and prominent citizens. He held a number of township offices, and in his political sentiment was a Whig. In religious belief he was a Methodist. The mother spent the last years of her life at the home of our subject, her death occurring in 1882. They had a family of five sons: James, a farmer residing in Branch County, Mich.; John, who follows farming in Lake County, Ind.; George, of this sketch; Albert, who died at his home in South Dakota, in 1890; and Austin, a ranchman living in Denver, Colo.

We now take up the personal history of Mr. Guilford, whose name heads this record. He was only thirteen years of age when his father died. Upon the home farm he remained during his boyhood and youth, and in the summer months he aided in the labors of the farm, while in the winter season he attended the public schools. He began to earn his own livelihood at the age of nineteen, by teaching school. In the fall of 1862, he left Michigan and came to Kankakee County, Ill., where during the winter he engaged in teaching school at \$20 per month, boarding himself. He had a school of fifty-seven pupils. In the spring he returned to his old home, where he remained until the year 1865, when he again came to this county. During his previous residence here he had purchased a farm of eighty acres on section 17, Rockville Township, the same upon which he now resides. Its boundaries, however, have since been extended by additional purchase, until it now comprises a quarter-section of valuable land under a high state of cultivation, and well improved with all the accessories of a model farm.

November 20, 1870, was celebrated the marriage of George N. Guilford and Miss Ellen M., daughter of William and Ann (Brevorte) Gay. Her parents were of Dutch descent. Three children have been born of the union of our subject and his wife: Lora M., Edna A. and Orra L. The family is one of prominence in the community. Its members rank high in social circles, and the Guilford household is the abode of hospitality.

In politics, Mr. Guilford is a staunch Republican. He joined that party on its organization and has since been one of its warm advocates. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace for the long

period of twelve years, was also School Director, Tax Collector and Postmaster of Deselm. His public and private life are alike above reproach. Whatever offices he has been called upon to fill, he has discharged his duties with a promptness and fidelity that have won him the commendation of all concerned. He is a man of sterling worth and strict integrity, held in high regard for his many excellencies of character, and is well known throughout the community.



FRED S. BREEN, the editor and publisher of the *Manteno Independent*, was born on the 20th of March, 1869, in Manteno, and is a son of John D. and Lidora M. (Gilmore) Breen. His paternal grandfather was the owner of an extensive cotton plantation near Shelbyville, Ky., where his death occurred many years ago. On the maternal side his grandfather, James Gilmore, emigrated to Illinois from Ohio in the year 1850. He located in Rockville Township, Kankakee County, where he carried on a farm and also did considerable contracting and building until recently. In 1889, he retired from active duties and has since been a resident of Kankakee. He is a native of New York and is now in his seventy-fourth year. His family comprised three sons and two daughters. Two sons, Joseph and John, were soldiers in the Civil War, having enlisted in Ohio. The former died on his way home from Andersonville prison and John died while a prisoner in Libby.

John D. Breen was a native of Louisville, Ky., where he was reared to manhood, after which he clerked on a steamboat on the Mississippi River for a number of years. About the year 1855, going to Chicago, he served as book-keeper for some time in that city. In 1858, he arrived in Manteno, where he taught school for some fourteen years. During his residence here he held a number of offices of trust and responsibility, and served as Postmaster for four years, receiving his appointment from President Garfield. He was also an

efficient Police Magistrate and a popular auctioneer. His death occurred on the 30th of March, 1890. His wife, who survives him, is now making her home in Manteno with her children. She was born in Seneca County, Ohio, and is of Irish and Pennsylvania Dutch extraction. By her marriage she became the mother of eight children, seven of whom are yet living: Myron W. and Cassius C. are married and the others in order of birth are James W., Fred S., Frank (who died at the age of four years), Eva A., Sadie A. and Jennie N.

The early years of Fred S. Breen were passed in Manteno and his education was obtained in the public schools. When only twelve years of age his tastes and inclination led him in the direction of the printing and publishing business. He therefore learned the printer's trade, and while his father was Postmaster was his assistant in the office. In 1889, he purchased the Manteno *Independent* of the former owner and proprietor, W. R. De Veling, and at once assumed the management and control of the paper. He has proved himself able as an editor and is carrying on the paper very successfully. Mr. Breen is a Republican in politics, but edits the *Independent* on the independent basis. He is a rising and promising young man, full of the enterprise and public spirit of the times. He is at present serving as Town Clerk and is also a Notary Public.



WILLIAM McELVAIN, who resides on section 28, Rockville Township, belongs to a well-known family of Kankakee County, one that has long been identified with its upbuilding and progress. He well deserves representation in this volume, and we feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers.

Mr. McElvain was born in Kalamazoo County, Mich., July 6, 1837. His father, Greer McElvain, was a native of Pennsylvania, and was of Scotch descent. In early life he left the Keystone State and removed to Ross County, Ohio, where he made

his home until his emigration to Michigan. With four companions he started to Kalamazoo County. They had only three horses among them, so they had to take turns in walking. In the meantime Mr. McElvain was married to Miss Mahala Hanson. In 1847, accompanied by his family, he left Michigan and came to Illinois, settling in what is now Kankakee County, but was then a part of Will County. He made a location in Rockville Township, purchasing a partially improved farm of two hundred acres on sections 21 and 28. Some of the land had been broken and a double log house had been erected. That cabin was the home of the family for seven years. In true pioneer style they began life in this community, and the family experienced many of the hardships of the frontier. Occasionally bands of Indians would visit the neighborhood, and wild game of all kinds was plentiful. The cities of Manteno and Kankakee had not then sprung into existence; Wilmington was their regular trading-post, and they hauled their grain to Chicago, from where they also brought with teams the lumber used in building the home of our subject. Greer McElvain was a member of the United Brethren Church, and in politics was a Republican. He died February 4, 1871, and his remains were interred in the Deselm Cemetery. The mother survived him about two years, passing away in 1873. She, too, was a member of the United Brethren Church, and both were people of sterling worth, held in high esteem by their many friends.

Mr. and Mrs. McElvain had the following children: David, a retired farmer residing in Kankakee; John, of Chicago; Mary J., wife of Calvin Walton, who resides in Englewood; William, of this sketch; Ann E., wife of John Guilford, who lives near Lake Village, Ind.; Elizabeth, wife of Matthew Harris, of this county; Maggie S., wife of Fred Hartzberg, of Kankakee; Greer, who died in 1872; Ellen, wife of Charles Putnam, who resides in Chicago; and Janet, who died in 1890, and was the wife of Eber Forbes.

No event of special importance occurred during the childhood days of our subject, which were passed in the usual manner of farmer lads, in attendance at the common schools during the winter

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COL. JOHN W. PADDOCK

season and in working upon the farm during the summer months. He remained upon the old homestead with his parents until after they had passed away, and yet resides at that place. Indeed it has been his home ever since he came to Illinois. Much of his childhood was there passed, and the work of his manhood has there been performed. In 1876 Mr. McElvain was married to Mrs. Rhoda (Noble) Stanton, widow of Richard Stanton. By her former marriage she had one daughter, Flora E. Four children have been born of the union of our subject and his wife, all daughters, namely: Mahala J., Susie M., Agnes R. and Hattie P. The family is widely known in this community, the McElvain household being the abode of hospitality, and its members rank high in social circles. Mrs. McElvain holds membership with the Methodist Church.

In his political affiliations, Mr. McElvain is a Republican. He has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests. He now owns a valuable tract of land, and carries on general farming and stock-raising with success. Mr. McElvain is possessed of more than ordinary musical talent, being quite an expert performer on the violin.



JOHAN W. PADDOCK was born in Camillus, Onondaga County, N. Y., February 14, 1815. His parents were James and Ann Paddock, his father being a miller and a farmer. The Paddock family is one of the oldest in this country, their first settlements being made in the Plymouth Colony as early as 1630. The Plymouth Colony records show that Robert Paddock was at that time a member of the colony, and subsequently recite the fact of the allotment of lands to him, and record that he was the Constable of Duxbury about 1643, and show the date of his death and the record of the members of his family. His descendants afterward emigrated to Yarmouth, and from there to Dutchess County, N. Y.; thence

to Washington County, from there to Onondaga, N. Y., and then to Illinois.

David Paddock, the grandfather of John W. of this article, lived near West Point at the time of the Revolutionary War, was a soldier in Capt. Watterbury's company, Seventh New York Continental Volunteers, and was engaged in the campaigns up and down the Hudson, and in the battle of Saratoga. The father of John W., James, was a soldier in the War of 1812; the mother of John W., Ann McClaury, was of Scotch-Irish descent. Her parents emigrated to New York from the North of Ireland with the Clintons, of Revolutionary fame, and were related to that family. The David Williams who was the captor of Maj. Andre was related to the wife of David Paddock above spoken of, and the name of the subject of this article was John Williams Paddock, the Williams being in recognition of the relationship to the Williams family. The origin of the Paddock family was Welsh. Windsor, in his history of Duxbury, states the fact that there was a tradition that Robert, one of the ancestors, was one of the minors who came over in the "Mayflower." Be that so or not, it is certain that by blood and tradition the subject of this article was descended from a line of men who were thoroughly endowed with the spirit of liberty, and whose convictions of what was right had all through the years that have gone impelled them to brave every hardship and danger to maintain their principles. They were Puritans, Pilgrims, Federalists, Whigs and Nationalists.

Col. Paddock's preliminary education was acquired in the schools of his native place, whence he removed to Syracuse, N. Y., where he completed his academic course of studies. In the office of J. R. Hickox he studied law; from there in 1836, with his father, he removed to Lockport, Will County, Ill., being the teacher of the first school in that village. He was admitted to the Bar of this State, and commenced the practice of his profession in 1837. In June, 1853, he located in the city of Kankakee, then but a prospective town, and in the fall of that year he removed his family to this place. Previous to his settlement in this county he traveled and practiced at Middleport, Ottawa, Joliet and Chicago. After his establish-

ment at Kankakee, he was connected with all the important cases in both Kankakee and Iroquois Counties. Perhaps the most celebrated cases with which his name was connected were those of the *Chiquity* trials. He was occupied in the vigorous prosecution of his professional duties until 1862, when he was elected to the Constitutional Convention as a Union man, and on the Union ticket. He refused to sign the new Constitution and contributed largely to its defeat by the people. In the fall of that year he entered the United States army. In early life he was an old-line Whig, but upon the dissolution of that party became an ardent supporter of Douglas, was an ardent and eloquent speaker, and an effective and valuable ally of that great Democratic leader. When the tocsin of war was sounded and the question arose of loyalty or disloyalty, he forsook a remunerative practice, and at his own expense traveled his Congressional District, delivering stirring speeches in favor of the vigorous prosecution of the war for the Union.

He greatly aided Capt. Vaughn in the organization of the company of volunteers afterward assigned to the Fifty-third Illinois Infantry, and projected the organization of the Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry. With this regiment he proposed entering the service, but six companies still remained after the Seventy-sixth was filled. He remained with them and subsequently went with them to Chicago, where they were incorporated with the four companies of the then organizing Third Board of Trade Regiment, and in October, 1862, he was commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel of the One Hundred and Thirteenth Illinois Infantry. Before leaving for the seat of war he was, in presence of the regiment at Camp Hancock, presented with a superb sword by his fellow-townsmen, James W. Perry, of Kankakee. The One Hundred and Thirteenth joined Sherman in his expedition against Vicksburg in the fall of 1862, and witnessed that terrible but unsuccessful struggle. Col. Paddock participated actively in the battles of Chickasaw Bayou and of Arkansas Post, after which the regiment was divided, part going to Springfield, Ill., the remainder being assigned to Young's Point, La.

They were also engaged in the movements which

resulted in the capture of Vicksburg, July 4, 1863, Col. Paddock being in command at the time. He was with Gen. Sherman on the Rolling Fork expedition, and during the greater portion of the time consumed in the siege of Vicksburg commanded the force assigned to the protection of the landing of the Yazoo, whence Grant drew his supplies. In August, 1863, Col. Paddock was ordered to report to Gen. Hurlbut, at Memphis, an order which he at once prepared to obey in company with his regiment, then badly stricken with disease. He reached Memphis, but owing to the return of that dreaded fever, contracted while on the field, he was sent to the officer's hospital located in that city. There, after lingering in great pain, he died Sunday evening, August 16, 1863, attended by the chaplain of his regiment.

His remains were brought home and interred on the 24th of August at Kankakee, followed to the grave by one of the largest funeral corteges in the history of the county. Col. Paddock was a man of commanding presence; he stood six feet high, was well proportioned in his body, had long flowing black hair, large blue eyes and full round face, and was of light and buoyant spirits. To him all men were equal and every man was to be treated as a man. He felt no condescension in listening to the complaints of the poor and lowly, and to assert and defend their rights was always a gratification to him; nor did he feel any elevation in being associated with the wealthy or the great. He was actuated throughout life with a broad spirit of charity and was imbued with an intense love of his country and its institutions. The principles of the Declaration of Independence he exemplified in his life and his death. His funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. C. B. Thomas, of the Unitarian Church, at Chicago, from which we take the following extracts:

"We have met to do honor to the noble dead; we have come here to the home which was so dear to him to pay to his memory this last tribute of respect and love. A generous, manly, honorable man has passed suddenly away from us, and gone out into solemn mystery. Another great heart, which beat with an intelligent, wise, determined love of his country, is stilled forever. I could

not now recount the story of his noble life here among his neighbors and friends, who knew it so much better than I, and who loved it, too. I need not remind you, I am sure, while his silent form is before us, of the great heart, more thoughtful of others than of himself, which our brother carried in his bosom; of the sterling qualities which made him the good citizen, the earnest patriot, the firm friend, the hater of all meanness, the lover of all that was honorable, true and brave.

"Nor need I remind you how he labored for his country; how he went out all unused to such labor, with a holy purpose in his soul; how bravely he shared the perils of war; how finally he was smitten with disease; how the other day the tidings came of his decline, and how of the next intelligence he came wrapped in the folds of the holy flag for which he had fought so manfully; came in silence and in gloom, with no word of greeting on his lips, no joy of a wanderer returning to the dear old home flashing from his eyes. You will not forget that manhood, you will not cease to be influenced by that intelligence, nor to cherish the thought of that devoted and self-sacrificing friendship which was his. I am told how thoughtfully he cared to the last for those under his command. I am told how the boys loved him, finding in him the same nobility and generosity which won the affection and respect of his neighbors; I am told how he robbed himself of his blankets to put them beneath a sick soldier; how he drove miles, weak and ill himself, to obtain something which could alleviate the sufferings of a dying youth."

His last letter, written on the field of Vicksburg, contains this sentiment, speaking of the assault about to be made: "I may fall; I hope not, but if I do, may God protect you and the children. I hope to survive and see you all again, but should this be my last, let the clustering recollections of the past assure you that my last prayer was for you and our children. Tell my boys to stand by their country's cause at all times, love and obey their mother, and, though I never come back, God will prosper them."

The following from the pen of Col. Lord, who was a young officer in the regiment of Col. Pad-

dock, is a fair estimate of his relation to the service: "Lieut.-Col. Paddock, of the One Hundred and Thirteenth Regiment of Illinois Infantry, was a conspicuous and pleasing figure in the personnel of that regiment, and the remembrance of his face and form and character must always awaken feelings of friendly admiration and regret in the minds of those who knew him and served with him.

"A Democrat in his political affiliations and a politician of influence; a lawyer by profession; a man in middle life with a large family to whom he was devoted; having apparently no taste for military life in itself, and but little of the physical hardness required of the campaigner, it was naturally a matter of some surprise among those who met him for the first time in the regiment that he should be in the service at all. Longer acquaintance, however, made it sufficiently clear why he was, and emphasized both the integrity of his motives and the degree of his personal sacrifice. His more conspicuous traits as they became unfolded to his regimental associates were a broad and general impulse of kindness to everyone, a ready and genial humor, and an intense form of patriotic zeal. He had but a small opinion of tactics, and was impatient of the petty regulations and restraints of military routine. The caste distinctions, also, of rank in the army, which others gradually come to accept and recognize, made little impression upon him. The men and officers whom he had known in civil life were just as much his neighbors in the service as before, whether in commission or in the ranks, with the distinction that he felt a more personal responsibility for the well-being of the latter. He could assert himself and his right on occasions of duty or emergency, but his ruling sentiment was one of comradeship with all men who had undertaken with him to resent and redress the evil which threatened the country. On this common ground all men were equal with him, and the military organization was nothing save a means to an end which all equally sought. That end was the overwhelming of the enemy and the restoration of the Union—not in some remote future, but at once. He would have massed an irresistible column with

which to cut the Confederacy in two in a single campaign. He seemed to suffer a sense of personal indignity that his late political allies should have betrayed him as well as his country, and his resentment and his patriotism intensified each other. He was in a service which was distasteful to him, at a sacrifice of everything most cherished and desired, but he could not do less, or look back, until the end. So beneath his genial good-nature there was always a restless impatience of delay, an impetuous instinct to go on to the speedy deliverance of the country, and then to his own deliverance from his self-imposed task. His hour of triumph at the surrender of Vicksburg, after his regiment had devoted more than half a year and sacrificed many lives to accomplish it, was all too brief. The fatigue and exposure which the campaign had made necessary, and the miasma of the region in which his regiment was encamped, proved too much for a constitution wholly unfitted for the field, and, almost before his men knew of his serious illness, his eager, hopeful spirit had fled."

Col. Paddock was a devoted husband, a kind father, a faithful brother, an honorable and enterprising citizen, a genial and generous companion, an eloquent advocate, a safe counselor, an earnest, patriotic soldier and a brave, gallant and vigilant, yet kind and humane, officer. Equally as a lawyer, soldier and citizen, he left a record to which his descendants may point with just pride.

Our subject was twice married, his first wife being Frances Birch, by whom he had two children, Henry C. and Emma J. Henry C. was afterward a Lieutenant in the Twenty-fifth Illinois Regiment, and was desperately wounded at the battle of Ft. Blakely. Subsequently he was for five years Superintendent of the public schools of Kankakee County, and now resides in Page County, Iowa, with his sister Emma. Our subject's second wife was Helen Tiffany, who was a descendant of the Ransome family, of Erie County, N. Y., pioneers of that county from Massachusetts in the latter part of the last century. By this marriage he had ten children, two dying in infancy. The surviving children were James H., of Spring-

field, Ill.; Daniel H., of Kankakee; Helen F., now married to D. F. Sherman, of Portland, Ore.; John W., of Portland, Ore.; Mary R., now married to George F. Lovell, of Kankakee, Ill.; Portia S., principal of the Lincoln School, of Kankakee; Lucia, now married to W. W. Cobb, of Kankakee; and Catherine A., who was drowned in 1884 in a pleasure excursion on the Kankakee River.



JOHAN MANN, who carries on general farming and stock-raising on section 26, Rockville Township, is numbered among the honored pioneers of Kankakee County. He located here in 1842, and his residence therefore covers a period of more than half a century. He is familiar with the history and the hardships of its pioneer days and has been an eye-witness of almost its entire development. To its early settlers the county owes a debt of gratitude which can never be repaid for what they have done in its behalf. They were its founders, and upon the foundation they laid has been built a county among the best in the State. Mr. Mann aided in its progress and development and well deserves recognition in its history.

His life record is as follows: Born on the 30th of March, 1824, he is a native of Richland County, Ohio, and a son of Alexander and Maria (Bumpus) Mann. The father was a native of Pennsylvania. About 1802, he removed to Richland County, Ohio, becoming one of its earliest settlers. He was a farmer throughout his entire life and in that county carried on his chosen occupation until 1842, when he removed to Illinois, locating in Will County, and three years later moved to the part of that county now included in Kankakee County. Here he spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring June 25, 1867. His remains were interred in Bloom Cemetery. His wife survived him for a number of years. She passed away on the 3d of May, 1889, and was laid to rest by the side of her husband. This worthy couple had a large family of children, as follows: John, of this sketch; Frederick

W., a farmer residing in Rockville Township; Ann Maria, wife of A. B. Allen; William A., who died in 1852; Isabella, wife of James Sterling, who is living in Kankakee; Jane E., wife of James Dunderdale; Melvina, wife of F. M. Allen; Catherine, who died in 1889; Samuel J., a farmer of Rockville Township; Addison, who is living in the same township; and Celesta, wife of John McIntosh, of Nebraska.

We now take up the personal history of John Mann, who is so widely and favorably known in this community. In the usual manner of farmer lads the days of his boyhood and youth were quietly passed, and in the common schools he acquired his education. With the family he came to the West in 1842. They made their journey by teams and located first in Joliet, where they spent the winter. In the spring they located upon a tract of land just across the line from Rockville Township, in Will County, where they made their home until 1845. The father then pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of Government land in Rockville Township, the farm on which our subject now resides. A small log house was erected, which was the home of the family for a number of years. They endured many of the trials and privations incident to pioneer life. Their nearest market was Chicago. All kinds of wild game were plentiful in those days and Mr. Mann has hunted deer upon the site of the present city of Kankakee. He remained upon the home farm until twenty-seven years of age, when an important event in his life was celebrated.

It was then, on the 1st of January, 1851, that he was united in marriage with Miss Eliza M. Bloom, who was born in Pennsylvania January 7, 1829, and is a daughter of David and Polly A. Bloom. Ten children were born unto them: Florence, wife of W. S. Rowe, a farmer of Benton County, Ind.; Alexander, an engineer residing in Manteno; Warren L., a resident farmer of Rockville Township; Frederick, a carpenter of Kankakee; Walter S., an agriculturist of Rockville Township; John, who died in infancy; Herman, D. James, Elvena, and Maria M., who are still under the parental roof.

Mr. and Mrs. Mann began their domestic life upon a small farm of forty acres, which previous

to his marriage our subject had purchased from the Government. He now owns one hundred and thirty acres of valuable land, where he carries on general farming and stock-raising. In his business he has met with good success and now has one of the desirable farms of the community. His land is under a high state of cultivation and is well improved with all the accessories of a model farm. His possessions stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. Mr. Mann has led a busy and useful life, yet has found time to devote to public interests. He has served his township as Treasurer seven years, and Road Commissioner, and was one of the Committee that divided Kankakee from Will County, and sat on the first jury empaneled in the new county. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party and takes quite an active interest in public affairs, keeping himself well informed on the issues of the day. He has ever borne his part in the work of advancement and progress in the county and is recognized as a public-spirited and progressive citizen.



DANIEL SHREFFLER, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 4, Rockville Township, is one of the pioneer settlers of the county, dating his residence in this community from 1844. He was born upon his father's farm in Union County, Pa., July 30, 1831, and is one of a family of twelve children, whose parents were Peter and Regina (Fulmer) Shreffler. Both were natives of the Keystone State, and the father was of German descent. He was a weaver by trade, but in his later life followed farming in connection with that business. In 1833 he removed from Pennsylvania to Sandusky, Ohio, and purchased a farm, on which he located. During the summer months he operated his land, while in the winter season he engaged in weaving. For eleven years he made his home in Ohio, and then came to Illinois, making the trip Westward by team. He first located in Limestone Township, Kankakee County, and purchased three hundred

and twenty acres of Government land, upon which he resided until his death. He passed away May 26, 1871, and was laid to rest on the old homestead. In politics, Mr. Shreffler was a Democrat, and was a member of the Evangelical Church. His wife, who was also a member of the same church, survived her husband for about four years, and died September 27, 1875.

Our subject was one of the following children: Leo, who died May 8, 1888; Jacob, a retired farmer residing in Kankakee; Michael, who died March 10, 1884; Aaron, a farmer of Alma, Ill.; Moses, who died September 20, 1883; Enos, who died June 9, 1878; Elizabeth, widow of David Briggs, and a resident of Salina Township; Mary A., who died July 6, 1885; Peter, who died August 13, 1863; Daniel, our subject; Sarah E., wife of Andrew Yates, a farmer of Limestone Township; and Joseph E., also a farmer of that township.

The education of Daniel Shreffler was all acquired in a log schoolhouse. He was reared to manhood amid the wild scenes of frontier life, and was early inured to the hard labor of developing a farm. He came to this county with his parents when thirteen years of age, and made his home under the parental roof until twenty-four years of age, although on attaining his majority he began to earn his own livelihood. He rented a part of his father's farm, and afterward purchased a portion of the old homestead, upon which he lived until 1868. He then bought eighty acres of land on section 4, Rockville Township, his present home, where he has now carried on farming and stock-raising for about a quarter of a century.

Mr. Shreffler was married August 30, 1855, to Miss Harriet Deselms, who was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, April 15, 1839, and is a daughter of Jacob and Harriet (Atkins) Deselms, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Maryland. They had a family of six children, of whom Mrs. Shreffler is the eldest; Jennie died February 30, 1882; Rhoda is the wife of Jacob Harsh; Mary is the wife of William Myers, of Joliet; Phoebe died in 1853; John is a postal clerk on the Illinois Central Railroad, and resides in Kankakee. The Deselms family came to this county in 1853, locating in Rockville Township, where the husband

and father purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on the section where the town of Deselm now stands. The postoffice at that place was named in his honor. He resided there until his death, which occurred in 1876. The mother died in 1882, and they were both laid to rest in Deselm Cemetery. Both were members of the United Brethren Church, and were highly respected people.

Five children grace the union of Mr. and Mrs. Shreffler: Sophrona, wife of Albert McGruder, a merchant of Kankakee; Clark W., a farmer of Rockville Township; Jesse H., who is living in Kankakee; Irvin R., who graduated from the Valparaiso Normal College of Indiana in 1892; and Alta, who completes the family. This family has a pleasant home in Rockville Township, and the members of the household rank high in the social circles in which they move.

Mr. Shreffler's residence in this county covers a period of almost half a century. When he came here Chicago was the trading-post, and all lumber for building purposes was hauled by team from that place. The city of Kankakee had not yet sprung into existence. Indians were still seen in the neighborhood. In the work of improvement and development, our subject has ever borne his part, and has aided materially in the progress and advancement of this county. He gives his support to all public enterprises, and is recognized throughout the community as a valued citizen, as well as one of the substantial farmers of Rockville Township, and an honored pioneer of Kankakee County. In politics, he is a Republican, and himself and wife are members of the United Brethren Church.



JAMES FLEMING, a retired farmer residing on section 36, Norton Township, has been a resident of Illinois for fifty years, and of this county for a quarter of a century. He is a native of the Emerald Isle, born in County Derry on the 31st of May, 1819. His parents,

Nathaniel and Nancy (Disart) Fleming, were also natives of Ireland, and spent their entire lives in that country.

Our subject is largely self-educated, as in his native land he had but limited school advantages. In 1841 he decided to seek another country in which to make his way. He accordingly went to Londonderry, where he took passage on a sailing-vessel, whose destination was Philadelphia, at which port he arrived in due time, in June of that year. He spent a little over a year in Pittsburgh, Pa., where he was employed in a rolling mill. In the fall of 1842, he started Westward and located on Fox River, in La Salle County. He purchased a piece of wild prairie, and proceeded to open up a farm. He afterward added to his original purchase, and owned one hundred and twenty acres in all, which he brought under good cultivation, and upon which he made many improvements.

On the 28th of June, 1845, occurred a notable event in his history, as on that day he married Sarah L. Thompson, who was born in Jefferson County, Ohio. She came to Illinois with her father, John Thompson, a native of Ireland, who settled in Illinois about 1838 and was placed on the roll of honored pioneers of La Salle County. Mr. and Mrs. Fleming have reared a family of three sons and three daughters: Margaret Ann, the wife of Albert Van Dorn, a farmer of this county; Mary E., wife of John D. Brown, of Kansas; James D., who is well and favorably known in this community, and carries on the home farm; Emma, who died at the age of twenty-one years; John C., who is married, and operates a farm in Nebraska; and Joseph W., who is a farmer of this county, and is also married.

Mr. Fleming devoted his whole energies and attention to the cultivation of his farm in La Salle County for twenty-five years. This property he sold in 1867, and removing to Kankakee County he purchased a tract of three hundred and sixty acres of unimproved prairie land. This farm he has developed to its present condition of cultivation, and on every hand the care and attention devoted to it by the owner can be plainly seen. Year by year abundant harvests have yielded a golden tribute to Mr. Fleming, which is only his

just reward. He commenced life in Illinois entirely without capital, but possessed of two willing hands, a good constitution and an abundant supply of determination and energy. By his own industry and enterprise, aided by his estimable wife, he has accumulated a valuable property, and to-day is one of the thrifty and substantial agriculturists of the county.

Mr. Fleming uses his right of franchise in favor of the Republican party, to which he has given his support since its organization. He was an original Abolitionist, and cast his first vote for Hon. James G. Birney, of Ohio, in 1811. He is well and favorably known throughout this section of the State, and has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances who hold him in the highest regard.



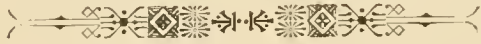
SIDNEY SMITH THOMAS, M. D., one of the prominent and well-known physicians of Kankakee County, residing in St. Anne, comes of an old English family that at an early day was founded in Canada. His father was a learned man, but from choice always followed the occupation of farming, rather than a professional career. The mother of our subject was the youngest daughter of Col. William Shaw, who was a soldier in the British army. In the Thomas household were five sons, namely: S. J., S. S., Peter, Amos B. and N. Thomas. Of these, four are yet living. The two youngest own and reside upon the old homestead, on which they were reared. S. J., the eldest son, is now engaged in business in Bothwell. Peter died from small-pox when twenty-six years of age.

The Doctor is the second son of the family. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent upon a farm in Kent County, Ontario. He attended the common schools until he had acquired all the attainments there possible, and during his vacations aided in the labors of the farm. On leaving the district schools, he went to the nearest village and became the pupil of John P. Peter Davies, a learned mechanic and draughtsman, un-

der whose instructions he pursued his studies until nineteen years of age. He then took a course of study in the High School in the old town of Niagara, and at the completion of his course he passed an examination for entrance into Victoria College.

It was in that institution that Dr. Thomas began fitting himself for his life work. He took up the study of medicine under the direction of the venerable Dr. Ralph, who was at that time Dean of the college. After four years spent in that school, in order to perfect himself in his chosen profession and become as proficient as possible, Dr. Thomas went to New York, entering Bellevue Hospital Medical College of that city, to finish his medical studies.

After his graduation, the Doctor practiced a short time in Canada, and then removed to Michigan, where he practiced several years. His next location was in Toledo, Ohio, but he did not like the place, and from there came to St. Anne, Ill., where he is now enjoying a large and lucrative practice. Our subject has been twice married. His first wife died of consumption in 1880, and two years after her death, he married his present wife.



ALBERT ALEXIS AYRES. For over a quarter of a century the subject of this sketch has been a resident of Illinois. Since 1884 he has made his home on section 7, Pilot Township. Mr. Ayres is a native of Troy, N. Y., born October 16, 1848, but when a year old he removed with his parents to Newark, N. J. His education was commenced in the public schools of that city, but on account of ill health he was forced to leave school. He is largely self-educated and has thus become the practical business man which we find him to-day.

The Ayres family is of English descent. The grandfather of our subject was born in New Jersey August 10, 1786, and died in April, 1829. He gave the following account of the family: About 1630, three brothers, Isaac, Daniel and John Ayres,

came from England. Isaac located in New Jersey, John in Virginia, and Daniel in Massachusetts. Isaac Ayres was born in Woodbridge, N. J., in 1738, and had twelve children by his first wife and five by his second wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Denman. Daniel Ayres was a son of Isaac and Elizabeth Ayres.

Mr. Ayres is the eldest child in a family of five sons born to Alexis and Harriet Adelia (Risley) Ayres. Of the children only two are now living, the subject of this sketch and Isaac D., who is represented elsewhere in this volume. The father of this family was born in New Jersey May 9, 1821, and died February 23, 1861. He was a printer by trade and was a typo under Horace Greeley, who then edited the New York *Tribune*. In 1856, Mr. Ayres established the Newark *Daily Mercury*, which paper became a staunch advocate of Abolition and in fact was one of the first published in the interests of that movement. Mr. Ayres was a man of indomitable energy and good business ability. He was firm in his convictions and in his political sentiments was a staunch Republican, voting for the first candidates of that party. In his social relations he was connected with Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The mother of our subject was a native of Oneida County, N. Y. She was born March 20, 1823, and is yet living in the Empire State. Although she has reached the age of seventy, her three-score years and ten rest lightly upon her. She and her husband were members of the Congregational Church.

The subject of this sketch began life for himself at the age of twelve as a clerk in a paper store and received the munificent salary of \$1 per week. After a short time he went to work for a jeweler by the name of Fields, and his last experience was in an art gallery. As will have been seen, he started out in life with no capital but his willing hands and industrious disposition to make his life a success. Coming to Illinois with his mother, he located in Kendall County and rented a small piece of land, which he operated for about five years. In 1869, he came to Kankakee County and settled in Pilot Township. The country was then very new and a rolling prairie was about all that could be seen from his door. Cabery, Bucking-

ham and Herscher were not then known. Wolves were plentiful when he first knew Pilot Township, and in 1871 the terrible prairie fire came very nearly destroying their homes. Mr. Ayres can truly be said to be one of the early settlers of this part of the county. The year before he and his mother came to Pilot Township a cyclone entirely destroyed the house which was to be theirs, but it was rudely repaired and they moved into it. His first purchase was eighty acres of new land, only seven of which had been broken. Our subject has spent twenty-four years of his life in Kankakee County, and has witnessed the remarkable growth and development of what is now one of the leading counties in the State.

Mr. Ayres was married October 16, 1873, in Pilot Township, to Miss Sarah Elizabeth Atkins, who was born in Tioga County, N. Y., on the 11th of January, 1851. By their union were born four sons and a daughter: Charles A.; William H., who died October 21, 1881, at the age of six and a-half years; Hattie Maud, Daniel I. and Albert Ray. Mrs. Ayres was the third in a family of four children. Her parents, William H. and Sarah (Goodrich) Atkins, are represented elsewhere in this work. She was educated in the country schools and in the Morris Seminary, of Morris, Grundy County, Ill. Before her marriage she engaged in teaching and followed that profession successfully both in Kendall and Kankakee Counties. To her husband she has proved a valuable and worthy helpmate during the journey of life.

When our country was in peril and needed help to preserve the Union, Mr. Ayres nobly responded to the call and went to enlist in the Twenty-sixth New Jersey Infantry, but when he made his wants known the recruiting officer said: "Young man go home and get a permit from your mother and we will take you." But when he went home and told his mother of his proposed enlistment she replied, "Albert are you going to leave your mother and Isaac?" The tears came into the boy's eyes and he gave up the notion. Mr. Ayres was formerly a Republican in politics and cast his first vote for Gen. U. S. Grant, but in later years, since 1880, he has been a firm believer in the issues of the Prohibition party. He has been officially con-

nected with the municipal issues of his township ever since he located here, a fact which shows that his townsmen value him as a sterling citizen. His wife is a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Hersher, and is Secretary of the society. Mr. and Mrs. Ayres are classed among the prominent citizens of Pilot Township. They have a good farm, well improved, and have recently erected a beautiful home thereon, which is always open for the reception of their many friends, as the Ayres household is noted for its hospitality.



ALBERT W. COTTON owns and operates a farm on section 31, Norton Township. He is a native of Will County, Ill., his birth having occurred on the 9th of November, 1855, and is a son of John S. and Emeline (Jeffers) Cotton. They were both natives of New York, and the former came to Illinois in 1835. In 1861, having been engaged in farming up to that time in Will County, he enlisted in defense of the Union, becoming a member of Company H, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry, and serving as a loyal patriot and a faithful soldier. He was taken prisoner by the Confederates, and placed in Andersonville Prison, where his death occurred in August, 1863. His wife is still living, and makes her home with our subject, who is the only surviving member of his father's family. One sister, Rosella, died at the age of nineteen years.

The boyhood and youth of Albert W. Cotton were passed on his father's farm in Will County, and his education was such as he could obtain in the district schools. On arriving at man's estate, he married in Will County, on the 8th of January, 1879, Miss Clara E., a daughter of Amos Eib, one of the pioneers of that section. Five children grace this union: Cora, George, Clarence, Bertha and Amos, who are still under the parental roof.

After his marriage, Mr. Cotton carried on agricultural pursuits in Will County until 1885, when

he sold his property and located on his present farm. His place consists of eighty acres of good and arable land, upon which is a substantial residence, barns and other farm buildings. To its improvement and increasing value our subject is now devoting himself with good success.

Mr. Cotton has always taken quite an active part in local politics. Since becoming a voter he has been identified with the Democratic party, his first ballot being cast in the Presidential election of 1876 for Samuel J. Tilden. He was elected Township Clerk in Will County, and made an efficient Supervisor of Norton Township, to which position he was elected by his fellow-citizens. For four years previous, he served as Township Commissioner. By his honorable course in life, and his long residence in Will and Kankakee Counties, he has made many friends and acquaintances, who esteem him highly as a man of sterling worth.



NOEL CYRIER is engaged in general farming and stock-raising on section 2, Aroma Township, where he owns four hundred and forty acres of arable land. He claims Canada as the land of his nativity, having been born there February 12, 1831. He was the second in a family of twelve children born unto Noel and Louise (Toupin) Cyrier. The parents were both natives of Canada, and were of French descent. The mother died in 1862, but the father survived her many years, and was called to the home beyond in 1880. In order of birth their children are as follows: Elizabeth, Noel, John B., Mary, Matilda, Victoria, Oliver, Malvina, Ledger, Valeria, Adell and Charlie E.

The subject of this sketch spent the days of his childhood in the usual manner of farmer lads. His school privileges were quite limited, in fact, he is largely self-educated. He started out in life for himself when a young man of twenty-five years. In 1850 he came to the United States, and at once made his way to Illinois, locating in Bourbonnais Township, Kankakee County, where he began

working on a farm by the month. He was thus employed for about five years. On the expiration of that period he went to Iroquois County and began farming for himself in Papineau Township, purchasing forty acres of wild prairie land, upon which not a furrow had been turned or an improvement made. He at once began its development and acre after acre was placed under the plow until the whole amount yielded to him bounteous harvests.

It was in 1856 that Mr. Cyrier was married to Miss Emerencie Paradis, and by their union was born a family of thirteen children, the eldest of whom, Charles, died in 1878; Archille is the second in order of birth; Victoria is the wife of Morris Darais; Philip and Emile are married and work for themselves; Leonie is at home; Virginia and George died in infancy; Arcelia, Joseph, Alexine, Arthur and Josephine are at home. The girls have all attended school at St. Anne's Academy. The mother of this family died at her home in this county in July, 1885, and her remains were laid to rest in St. Anne's Catholic Cemetery. She was a faithful Christian lady, a devoted member of the Catholic Church, and her friends throughout the community were many. The lady who now bears the name of Mrs. Cyrier was formerly Miss Herlin Gagnon, and their marriage was celebrated in 1888.

Mr. Cyrier continued his residence in Iroquois County until 1875, when he again came to Kankakee County and made purchase of one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 2, Aroma Township. Since that time the boundaries of his farm have been extended until it now comprises four hundred and forty acres of valuable land, all highly cultivated and well improved with good buildings and the accessories of a model farm. He carries on general farming and stock-raising with excellent success, and holds rank among the practical and progressive agriculturists of the community. He is also numbered among the substantial citizens, a position to which he has attained by steadily working his way upward, undaunted by the obstacles and difficulties which would have impeded his progress had he been of a less determined and energetic nature. Mr. Cyrier

votes with the Democratic party, and is a stalwart advocate of the Democracy. He has served as Assessor one term, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests. In religious belief he is a Roman Catholic, and holds membership with the church in St. Anne.



DR. JOHN F. SHRONT'S was born in Paris, Trumbull County, Ohio, on the 3d of April, 1817, and is the son of John and Magdalena (Doseman) Shronts, both natives of Pennsylvania, where they lived near Youngstown. The father was a farmer until after middle life, since which time he has followed the business of keeping a hotel. About 1838 he emigrated to Ohio, where he lived until 1850, when he came to Illinois and located about two and a-half miles southeast of Momence, on a farm of two hundred and eighty acres, to which he added one hundred acres about two years later. There he lived for ten years. In 1860 he removed to Momence, and engaged in the hotel business for some fifteen years.

The mother of our subject was previously married, in 1829, at which time she became the wife of Isaac Kenrich, and by that union were born three children, a son and two daughters: Solomon; Catherine, the wife of Dr. I. L. Smington, living at Ashland, Neb.; and Ann, who married John Fender. Mr. Kenrich departed this life in 1835. In the spring of 1837, Mrs. Kenrich became the wife of John Shronts, Sr., and to them were born five children. Samuel is represented on another page of this work. John F., our subject, is the second of the family. Isaac Leroy lives in Kankakee. Julia A. married Matthew Campbell, who was a soldier in the late war, and served in a Michigan regiment during the entire service. He was a prisoner in Andersonville for many months, and there received permanent injury; in the spring of 1890 he was drowned in the Kankakee River. Maria is now Mrs. Richard Randall, of Englewood, Ill.

Dr. Shronts was reared on his father's farm near Momence, and is one of the old settlers of this township. He received a common-school education in the public schools of this place, after which he clerked for about two years in the drug store of Dr. J. C. Lane. He then went to Chicago, completed a course at Bryant & Stratton's Business College, and then again entered the employ of Dr. Lane, remaining with him for two years longer, after which he entered the medical department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. For three years afterward he compounded prescriptions in a drug store in Kendall County, Ill. From there he took a course in Rush Medical College, of Chicago, from which institution he was graduated in 1868. He commenced the practice of his profession in Newton County, Ind., where he remained for three years. Locating in Momence in 1871, he has here built up a large and lucrative practice. For seventeen years he has been a pension surgeon, having received the appointment when Grant was President. He is also surgeon for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company, which position he has held for fifteen years. He ranks high in his profession and is a respected and honored citizen of Momence.

On the 21st of December, 1866, Dr. Shronts married Miss Mariette, daughter of Henry T. and Mary (Fritz) Smith, who were natives of New York. One son has blessed their union, Claud F., who was recently graduated from the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill., taking the degree of Bachelor of Science. On the 12th of July, 1885, Mrs. Shronts was called to the home beyond, and her funeral was largely attended. The Momence Council No. 897, R. A., of which the Doctor is a member, and for which he is the medical examiner, attended in a body and contributed beautiful floral decorations in testimony of her character and worth and in order to show their respect and fraternal regard for their honored brother in his great bereavement.

Dr. Shronts was united in marriage with Miss Ida A. Wickes, on the 28th of December, 1886. She is a daughter of John B. and Lois (Spring) Wickes, of Momence, who were both natives of the Empire State. Mr. Wickes, who was born in Ni-

agara County, N. Y., in 1825, was one of the early settlers of Kankakee County, to which he came in 1848. In 1852 he was married to Miss Spring at Lockport, N. Y., and four children blessed their union: Elbridge G., Frank H., Ida A. and Flora Lillian. Mr. Wickes followed the occupation of a farmer, and was also a merchant, hotel-keeper and liveryman. In the early history of this county he also ran a stage line. He was the owner of several fine farms in Momence and Ganier Townships, comprising about one thousand acres, and in addition to operating his land he was engaged in the boot and shoe business at Danville, Ill., for some years prior to his death. He passed away on the 28th of December, 1886, and his wife after surviving him for five years departed this life, January 25, 1891.

Dr. Shronts is a member of Momence Lodge No. 181, A. F. & A. M.; belongs to Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M.; and Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T. He served his fellow-citizens as Alderman of the Second Ward of Momence. He has been a resident of this city for over forty years, and is one of the prominent and substantial citizens of the place.



MARQUIS D. L. HUNTER is engaged in farming on section 19, and for the past three years has been engaged in raising fine road horses. He is a native of Illinois, and was born in Edgar County, near Paris, on the 22d of November, 1836, being a son of Andrew and Charlotte E. (Stratton) Hunter. The father was a native of Pennsylvania and of Scotch descent. In their family were two children, our subject being the elder. His sister, Mary J., was the wife of Smith B. Buntain, and in December, 1871, she was called to her final rest. The father of our subject removed to St. Joseph, Mo., in the spring of 1839, near which city he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. In the following summer, 1840, occurred his death, and in July of the same year his wife also departed this life. Their re-

mains were interred in the family burying-ground on the farm near St. Joseph. The father was a Whig politically and was quite successful as an agriculturist.

Our subject was not yet three years of age when he was deprived by death of both parents. He was taken by an uncle, who brought him back to his birthplace. Until he was about fourteen years of age he lived with that uncle and his grandfather and then began working on a farm by the month during the summer season, attending the district schools during the winter. In 1844, Mr. Hunter, then eight years of age, came with his uncle to Kankakee County. In 1850 he returned to Paris, Ill., where he became a student in the Paris Seminary for two years and was graduated in 1853 from a private college of that city. He then returned to Kankakee County and for a year worked for his uncle, W. J. Stratton, on his farm. Next he went into partnership with that gentleman in breaking prairie and threshing, which they continued until 1856. Mr. Hunter the following year purchased one hundred and sixty acres of partly improved farm land in Sumner Township, upon which he lived until 1861, when he purchased property in Momence and removed to that city.

August 22, 1862, Mr. Hunter entered the service of his country in the defense of the Union, enlisting as a private in Company H, Seventy-sixth Illinois Infantry, being mustered into service in Kankakee. He took part in many battles and engagements of the war, the first being at Coldwater, Miss. Among the other important battles in which he participated was that of Natchez, the siege and capture of Vicksburg, Duvall's Bluff, and Morganza Bend, from which latter place he was sent back to Vicksburg and then to New Orleans. He next went with his regiment to Florida, and was at Pensacola and later assisted in the capture of Ft. Blakely, Spanish Fort and Selma, Ala. From there he went on a steamer to Galveston, Tex., where he was stationed on guard duty until August, 1865, at which time he bore the rank of Second Lieutenant. Mr. Hunter was taken prisoner at Alexandria, was held for three days and then paroled. Though he took part in so many

battles and engagements and was many times stationed in the front of the battle, he was fortunate, as he was never wounded in any engagement.

After receiving his discharge from the service, Mr. Hunter returned to Momence, soon afterward purchasing the farm of one hundred and sixteen acres on section 19, Ganier Township, where he now lives, and which he has made his home until the present time. In 1882 he built a steam elevator and hay barn at Exline and engaged in handling grain, hay and coal extensively until 1888, when he sold an interest in his business, but he still deals extensively in hay.

In 1857 occurred the marriage of Mr. Hunter and Miss Amanda Graham and to them has been born one child, a son, William A., who married Mattie Hyde, and has one child, Myrtle H. He assists his father in operating the homestead.

Our subject is a Republican in politics and has been Justice of the Peace for twelve years, and was School Director and Highway Commissioner for a number of years. He is interested in civic societies and is a Knight Templar, belonging to Kankakee Lodge No. 389, A. F. & A. M.; Kankakee Chapter No. 78, R. A. M., and Ivanhoe Commandery No. 33, K. T. He is also a member of Whipple Post No. 114, G. A. R.



SAMUEL G. SALTZGABER, now deceased, was for a number of years a well-known resident of Rockville Township. He was a native of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in that State on Christmas Day of 1825. His father, Samuel Saltzgaber, Sr., is still living at the advanced age of more than ninety years. Both he and his wife are of German descent. They had a family of seven children, namely: Catherine, Henry, Samuel, Frank, John, and two who are now deceased.

The subject of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth upon a farm. He was well edu-

cated in the German language and also attended the English schools to some extent. When fourteen years of age he started out in life for himself to make his own way in the world. For three years he served an apprenticeship to the blacksmith's trade in Mansfield, Ohio, and when his term of service had expired he followed that business in Sandusky and Ottawa Counties of the Buckeye State. Thus his time was employed until the breaking out of the late war.

Mr. Saltzgaber noticed the growing signs of uneasiness in the South, saw that rebellion was threatened and determined that if the South attempted to secede he would strike a blow in defense of the Union. It was in August, 1861, that he enrolled his name as a private with the boys in blue of Company L, Third Ohio Cavalry. He served under Gen. Kilpatrick and participated in the battles of Franklin, Chattanooga, Kenesaw Mountain, Lookout Mountain, Dalton, Resaca and many other engagements. He was wounded near Atlanta in the neck by a minie-ball but was never taken prisoner. Indeed he was always found at his post of duty, faithfully defending the stars and stripes, under which he had enlisted. He served until October, 1864, when, his term having expired, he returned home.

The succeeding year, Mr. Saltzgaber spent in Ohio. He then came to Kankakee County, in 1865, and located in Rockville Township. Previous to his removal he had purchased eighty-three and a-half acres of land on section 19, and settling thereon he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, which he followed until his death. He also carried on a blacksmith shop which was located upon his farm.

On the 20th of May, 1849, Mr. Saltzgaber was united in marriage with Miss Sarah, daughter of John B. and Nancy (Allen) Smith. Twelve children were born of their union: Charles N., Byron A., Cabaska (deceased), Alice and Benson (twins, both deceased); William A., Frank, Oscar (deceased), Samuel D. and George (twins), Archer T. and Della. Frank acquired his education in Valparaiso, Ind., and was graduated from the Normal School of that city in the Class of '88. Since that time he has engaged in teaching, and for the

past three years has been Principal of the Buckingham schools. He is a man of excellent ability, and in his profession has a high reputation, which is well deserved. Samuel was also educated at Valparaiso, and has been a successful teacher in the public schools of Illinois for eleven years.

Mr. Saltzgeber was a man of sterling worth and by his own labor he became well-to-do. He always took an active part in political affairs and manifested a commendable interest in every enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit. Socially, he was a member of Whipple Post No. 411, G. A. R., of Kankakee, and was the first member of that post called away by death. He died October 6, 1887, and his remains were interred in Deselm Cemetery. In his death his family lost a loving husband and father, and the community one of its valued citizens.



WILLIAM J. MANN is a substantial farmer of Rockville Township, residing on the Shaw-waw-nas-see Reservation. He comes of a well-known family in Kankakee County, one that has been identified with its growth and development since an early day. His father, Samuel Mann, was born in Pennsylvania, and was of Scotch descent. He married Rebecca King, a lady of Irish lineage, their union being celebrated in 1816, two years after Mr. Mann had removed from the Keystone State to Ohio. He located near Mansfield, Richland County, and became one of the early settlers of that community. He was a hatter by trade, but in Ohio secured a tract of Government land and engaged in farming. His death occurred in the Buckeye State August 12, 1867. Throughout the community he was held in the highest regard, he being a highly educated man, well fitted to be a leader among men. With the Christian Church he held membership. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and was three times wounded on the Huron River, near

where the city of Sandusky now stands. His wife was also a member of the Christian Church. Her death occurred November 9, 1875, and her remains were interred by the side of her husband in the Shelby Cemetery, of Shelby, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Mann had a family of eight children, namely: Alexander, who died in 1875; Samuel, who died in 1891; Polly A., widow of John Studebaker and a resident of Cleveland, Ohio; Jane, widow of William Hiles and also a resident of Ohio; Rebecca, wife of George Brown, of Baltimore, Ohio; James D., who died in 1879; William, of this sketch; and Charles, of Baltimore, Ohio.

Our subject acquired a good practical education in the common schools and at the age of fourteen he started out in life for himself. Going to Shelby, Ohio, he served an apprenticeship of almost four years to the blacksmith's trade, after which he followed that business in the Buckeye State until the spring of 1855, when he emigrated to Kankakee County, Ill. In company with his brother, Dr. James Mann, he established a drug store in Manteno and engaged in that line of business for two years. He then went to Joliet, where he worked at his trade for a year, after which he returned to Manteno, and in connection with work at his trade also followed farming. In 1859, he opened a blacksmith shop in Rockville, which he carried on for three years. He then sold out and again took up his residence in Manteno, where he started a blacksmith shop and did business for a period of fourteen years.

On the 15th of December, 1858, Mr. Mann wedded Miss Marcia S. Robinson, who was born in Will County, Ill., September 25, 1836, and is a daughter of Lucius R. and Olive (Spafford) Robinson. Her parents were both natives of Connecticut and were of English descent. They came to Illinois in 1835, locating near Joliet, which at that time was a village, containing only three houses. After seven years spent in that locality they came to the portion of Will County now embraced in Kankakee County in 1842, where Mr. Robinson purchased one hundred and sixty acres of Government land on section 23, Rockville Township. It was a wild and unimproved tract.

He built a log cabin 22x30 feet and in it made his home for ten years. He did his trading in Joliet and Chicago, hauling all of his grain with ox-teams to the latter place, requiring six or seven days to make the trip. The death of Mr. Robinson occurred July 11, 1850, and he was laid to rest on the old homestead. His wife passed away August 21, 1882. The Robinson family numbered ten children: Elias, who died in 1811; Lois, who died September 21, 1888; Vine, who died at the same time as Elias, they being drowned in Rock Creek; Amy, wife of William Hoag; Francis, who died June 22, 1873; Mrs. Mann; Jane, wife of William Temple, of Nebraska; Lucius R., of Kankakee; Delia, widow of Elisha Waterman; and Jason A., a farmer of Rockville Township.

By the union of Mr. and Mrs. Mann have been born seven children, as follows: Nellie, wife of Lyden Turner, a farmer residing in Cabery, Ill.; Clara, wife of Wilber Hayden, a farmer of Yellowhead Township; Luella, wife of H. H. Nelson, a general merchant of Cabery; Charlie, at home; Jessie, wife of George Canney; and Leon and Leslie, twins.

On selling out his blacksmith shop in Manteno in 1876, Mr. Mann established a shop in Kankakee, and also a carriage and plow factory. He there did a good business until 1881, when he sold out and purchased his present home in Rockville Township, where he has since carried on general farming. His life has been a busy and useful one and the success that has come to him is but the just reward of his own labors.

In politics, Mr. Mann takes quite an active interest and by his ballot supports the Republican party. His fellow-townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have called upon him to serve as Collector, Justice of the Peace and Constable. His public duties he has ever discharged with promptness and fidelity, thus winning the commendation of all concerned. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and himself and wife are members of the Methodist Church. They are people of sterling worth and throughout the community in which they reside are held in high esteem for their many excellencies of character. Our subject is a self-made man, who started out in life for himself

at the early age of fourteen years. His career has been an honorable and upright one as well as successful, and in many respects is worthy of emulation.



JONATHAN WARNER, who resides on section 5, Rockville Township, where he owns and operates a farm of eighty acres of land, is a native of the Keystone State. He was born in Clearfield County, October 1, 1819, and is one of a family of eight children. His father, Hezekiah Warner, was born in the Empire State, and was of Welsh extraction. He married Sarah Nichols, and they became parents of the following children: Jonathan; Hannah, now the wife of Leonard Morey; Lucy, wife of Ervin Strong; Hezekiah, who died in 1885; Delbert, who died in 1888; Jerome, who died in 1870; Hortense, wife of Oscar Hall; and Adeline, wife of J. Fuller. The father of this family died in Wilmington, Ill., in 1862, and the mother, who survived him for a number of years, passed away on the 4th of February, 1886.

Our subject was born and reared upon his father's farm. His advantages, educational and otherwise, were not very great in his youth. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself by working a farm on shares. He remained in the State of his nativity until the autumn of 1847, when, hoping to benefit his financial condition by emigrating Westward, he came to Illinois, making the trip by team and by water. He first located in Wilmington, Will County, where he rented land for two or three years. He then purchased forty acres in that locality and continued to make his home in Will County until 1863, when he removed to Grundy County, where the two succeeding years of his life were passed.

February 16, 1840, Mr. Warner was joined in marriage with Miss Julia A. Mead, daughter of John and Elizabeth Mead. Seven children have been born of this union. Byron G. is in the First National Bank of Wilmington, Ill.; Foster, who

enlisted as a soldier in the late war, died in the service at Louisville, Ky., in the year 1863; the next in order of birth is Jacob; Charles is a farmer of Rockville Township; John makes his home in Joliet; Ada died in infancy; and Adeline died April 17, 1890. The mother of this family was called to her final rest in 1855, and her remains were interred in Starr's Grove Cemetery. Mr. Warner was again married, January 12, 1860, his second union being with Miss Lucy, daughter of Jacob and Chloe Palmer. Four children grace this marriage, the eldest of whom is Lura, who is at home; Julia is the wife of Walter Reed, a resident of Kankakee; Della is the wife of Henry Knight, and they live in Rockville Township; and Jerome is still under the parental roof.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Warner is a Democrat, and socially, he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, with which he has been connected for nearly forty years. His fellow-townsmen recognize in him a man of sterling worth, and the community numbers him among its valued citizens. The year of his arrival in Kankakee County was 1865. At that time he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 5, Rockville Township, and began its development. There he has since made his home. He now carries on general farming and stock-raising, and is doing a good business. His land is all under a high state of cultivation, and upon his place he has made many good improvements, which stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.



HUGH LANCASTER, one of the early settlers of the county, now owns and operates a good farm on section 34, Rockville Township. He was born in Kentucky, November 27, 1820, and is one of a family of six children whose parents were William and Nancy Lancaster. The father was also a native of Kentucky, and there resided until our subject was three years of age, when he removed to Franklin County, Ind., becoming one of its earliest settlers. By occupa-

tion he was a farmer, and followed that business throughout the greater part of his life. Hugh was early inured to the labors of the farm, and gave his father the benefit of his services in the fields until he attained his majority. He then left home, and began working in his own interests, being employed as a farm hand by the day or by the month. He first worked in the harvest fields for fifty cents per day, and then worked by the month for about three years. On the expiration of that period, he was married, and rented land in Indiana for two years, when he came to Illinois. This was in 1817. Locating in what is now Kankakee County, he took up his residence in Bourbonnais Township, where he rented a farm for about five years. He then removed to Rockville Township, and purchased eighty-four acres of land on section 34, it being a part of the Indian reserve. The only improvement upon the place was a small log cabin, and the tract was almost entirely covered with a heavy growth of timber, but with characteristic energy he began clearing it, and in the course of time had the entire amount under the plow. His fields are now well tilled and yield to him a golden tribute in return for his care and labor. In connection with general farming, Mr. Lancaster also carries on stock-raising and does a good business in this line.

During the earlier years of his residence here, our subject experienced the hardships of life on the frontier, undergoing many trials and privations of pioneer life. For several years he had to haul his grain all the way to Chicago, for there were no near markets. The unsettled condition of the county is shown by the fact that he has killed many a deer on the site of the present city of Kankakee. He has witnessed almost the entire growth of the county, has seen its wild lands transformed into beautiful homes and farms, while towns and villages have sprung up, and the work of civilization has been carried forward so rapidly, that one would scarcely recognize in the Kankakee County of to-day that of forty years ago.

July 4, 1844, Mr. Lancaster married Miss Elizabeth A. McGruder. Their union was blessed with seven children, but four are now deceased: William, Laura, Julia and John K. Those still liv-

ing are Henrietta, Obadiah and Amanda J. The family is widely and favorably known in this community. Mr. Lancaster is a leading citizen of Rockville Township. In politics he has been a life-long supporter of the Democratic party, and has served in the offices of School Director and Road Commissioner. All the family hold membership with the United Brethren Church. He is an upright man, who has the high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact.



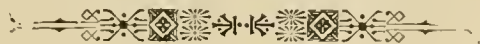
ANTHONY CANAVAN was a native of Ireland, his birth occurring in County Mayo in 1822. He was one of a family of eleven children born to Anthony and Kittie (Kirby) Canavan. The boyhood days of our subject were passed in his native land, where he received the advantages of a fine education. He resolved to seek his fortune in America while still a youth, and in pursuance of that plan bade adieu to the friends and scenes of his youth, and in 1840 took passage on a sailing-vessel, his destination being Philadelphia. For nine weeks and three days he was upon the broad Atlantic, and upon his arrival in the Quaker City he obtained employment in a wholesale grocery. With one firm he remained for nine years, and was ever faithful to their interests.

In 1849, Mr. Canavan concluded he would leave mercantile life and devote himself to agriculture. Coming to Illinois, he decided to locate in Kankakee County, and worked a rented farm in Ganier Township. After living upon this farm for four years, Mr. Canavan purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Sumner Township, situated on section 19. This property he improved, and there carried on general farming and stock-raising. He was possessed of the necessary attributes for success—industry and economy—and in addition exercised wise judgment in the investment of his money. By degrees he added to his original purchase adjoining property, until his possessions amounted to four hundred and eighty-two and a half acres of valuable land.

In 1841, Mr. Canavan was married to Miss Ann Hughes, who is a daughter of James and Mary (Carney) Hughes. Mrs. Canavan was born in 1822, and is living, still in the enjoyment of good health, although now seventy years of age. Eleven children were born of this union, ten of whom are still living. The four eldest children were born in Ireland, and are as follows: James, John, Tony and Mary. The others, who were born in the United States, are Austin, Patrick, Thomas (who died in infancy) and Thomas, all of whom were born in Philadelphia; Kate and Nellie, who were born in Ganier Township; and Maggie, who was born in Sumner Township. The latter is the only one still residing under the parental roof.

Mr. Canavan served his township in various offices requiring ability and fidelity, among which we mention Treasurer, which he held a number of years, Supervisor about twelve years, Trustee, Assessor and Collector. He was a strong politician, and was ever interested in the success of his party, being a staunch Democrat. Mr. Canavan lived and died in the faith of the Catholic Church. He was called to his final rest on the 6th of March, 1890, and his remains lie buried in the Sumner Cemetery.

His family have erected a beautiful monument to mark his last resting-place. As one of the early pioneers he deserves special notice, for he assisted materially in opening up and making habitable this now prosperous county. He struggled manfully through the hardships and privations common to a new and sparsely settled region, and well deserved the prosperity which he enjoyed during his last years.



LEVI C. RICE, who is now deceased, was a well-known citizen of Kankakee County of an early day, and as an honored pioneer and a soldier of the late war, he well deserves representation in this volume. The record of his life is as follows: He was born in St. Clair, Mich., on the 17th of December, 1819, and was a son of Peter and Sallie (Swift) Rice, who had a family of five

children. He lost his mother when he was about seven years of age, and when quite young he was bound out by his father to a farmer. Thus the privileges and advantages of his youth were quite limited, but he possessed enterprise and industry, and throughout his life always made the best of his opportunities.

The year 1810 witnessed the emigration of Mr. Rice Westward. He had determined to make a home in Illinois, and located first in Cook County, where he remained for about twelve years. In 1853 he came to Kankakee County, settling in Rockville Township. Previous to his arrival he had here purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. The tract was in its primitive condition, not a furrow having been turned or an improvement made, but he at once began its development, and placed it under a high state of cultivation, so that it yielded him a good return for the care and cultivation he bestowed upon it.

On the 27th of September, 1850, Mr. Rice was married to Miss Mary B. Murbaeh. By their union was born a family of seven children, six of whom are yet living, namely: Mary B., John S., Emma J., Rhoda A., Sallie A. and Lizzie A. The family is widely and favorably known in the community, its members ranking high in the circles of society in which they move.

On the organization of the Republican party, Mr. Rice joined its ranks, for it was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery, and he held strong abolition principles. Anxiously he watched the growing discontent in the South, and though he dreaded the war he resolved that if secession was attempted he would strike a blow in defense of the Union. In consequence, in 1863, he responded to his country's call for troops, and as a private joined the boys in blue of Company I, One Hundredth Illinois Infantry. Bidding a fond, and, as it proved, a last, adieu to his family, he left his home and marched to the front. He was at once engaged in active service, and in the battle of Chattanooga received a wound from which he never recovered. He was taken to Nashville and placed in the hospital, but all efforts to save his life were futile, and he passed away in November, 1861. His remains were laid to rest in

the South. Mr. Rice was a member of the Methodist Church, and lived an upright, honorable life, in harmony with his professions. He had many warm friends, and his death was widely mourned, not only by his immediate family, but by a large circle of acquaintances as well. Mrs. Rice and three of the children, John, Lizzie and Sallie, still reside on the old homestead, provided by the husband and father prior to his enlisting in the service of his country.



JOHN B. GAY, a well-known farmer of Rockville Township, residing on section 7, claims Vermont as the State of his nativity. He was born in Windsor County, on the 6th of August, 1827, and is one of ten children born of the union of William and Ann (Brevort) Gay. The members of this family were Eliza, Cordelia, John, Jerome, Harriet, Harvey, Mary E., William P., Romain and Ellen. In 1836, when our subject was a lad of nine years, William Gay removed with his family to Washington County, N. Y., where they resided until 1840. That year witnessed their emigration Westward, and saw them located in Michigan, where they remained until the following spring, when they removed to Joliet, Ill., making the journey by team. After a short time spent at that place they took up their residence in Cook County, where they remained until 1849, when they came to what is now Kankakee County. The father purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land from the Government, and began the development and improvement of a farm, on which he made his home until his death. He passed away March 8, 1889, at the very advanced age of ninety-three years. The wife and mother was called to her final home the same year. Her death occurred just five weeks before that of her husband, she having reached the age of eighty-nine years. They were highly respected people, and were numbered among the honored pioneers of this county.

The subject of this sketch is one of the well-known citizens of Rockville Township. He left

his native State at the age of nine years, and accompanied his parents on their various removals until they reached this county, where he has since made his home. Between the ages of nine and thirteen years he was a canal driver on the Champlain Canal, and in compensation for his services received only the meagre sum of \$7 or \$8 per month. After coming to the West he assisted his father in the labors of the farm, and remained under the parental roof until twenty-one years of age. On attaining his majority he began earning his own livelihood by working as a farm hand by the month, and thus his time was spent for about five years. When he had accumulated enough capital through his industry, economy and good management, he purchased eighty acres of land on section 7, Rockville Township, the farm on which he now resides.

As a companion and helpmate on life's journey, he chose Miss Emma Taylor, a daughter of Thomas and Mary Taylor. Their union was celebrated July 30, 1855, and was blessed with a family of four children, but Stella, the eldest, died August 30, 1861, two days before reaching her fifth birthday. Byrilda L. is now the wife of A. D. Mann; Julia is the wife of J. Shroffler; and Hattie married George Rowe.

In his political affiliations Mr. Gay is a Prohibitionist, but has never sought or desired the honors or emoluments of public office. He devotes his entire time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with success. He started out in life at the very early age of nine years. Energy and enterprise have characterized his business career and in consequence his efforts have been crowned with prosperity, so that now he is one of the well-to-do agriculturists of the community, as well as one of the early settlers and valued citizens of his adopted county.



GEORGE EXLINE, a respected farmer, who owns and operates a good farm on sections 5 and 6, Aroma Township, was born near Covington, Fountain County, Ind., January 4, 1836. His father, Samuel Exline, was a native of

Ohio, his birth having occurred in the Buckeye State January 17, 1811. When a young man he removed with his parents to Fountain County, Ind., where he acquired his education. His school privileges, however, were quite limited. After attaining his majority he was married, in 1833, to Miss Mary Ann Lowe, daughter of Peter and Julia A. (Taylor) Lowe. The young couple began their domestic life upon a rented farm, where they lived until 1836, when they came to Illinois.

The previous year Mr. Exline had made the trip with an ox-team, secured a claim, built a log cabin and made a few other improvements, after which he returned to Indiana. The following spring he brought his wife and family to the home which he had prepared. The farm was located in what is now Aroma Township, Kankakee County, but was then a part of Will County. When the land came into market, Mr. Exline purchased the farm upon which he had first settled, containing one hundred and fifty acres of land, on sections 5 and 6. In those early days, all kinds of wild game were found in abundance. Indians still lived in the neighborhood, and the work of progress and civilization seemed scarcely to have begun. The father of our subject remained upon his first farm until his death, which occurred in 1849. His remains were interred on the old homestead. In politics, he was a Whig, and was a highly respected citizen.

There were five children in the Exline family, the eldest of whom was George; Mahlon was the second in order of birth; Leander J. is living in Kankakee; Albert F. makes his home in Galveston, Tex.; and Alonzo A. is a resident of Chicago.

George Exline, whose name heads this record, was only about a month old when he came with his parents to this county. He was reared amid the wild scenes of frontier life, and endured all the hardships of the pioneer. The nearest market in those days was Chicago, and to the city they hauled all their grain. George conned his lessons in a log schoolhouse, but is mostly self-educated, and through experience and observation he has become a well-informed man.

After his father's death, Mr. Exline took charge of the old homestead, where he has since lived. He has added to it from time to time, until now

within the boundaries of the farm are comprised five hundred and thirty acres of good land, all well improved, and he now rents the greater part of it. His success has been achieved through his well-directed efforts, good management, enterprise and untiring industry. In politics, he is a supporter of the Republican party, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests. His entire life has been passed in this county, and he well deserves representation among its honored pioneers.



JOSEPH GUERTIN, who for many years was a prominent citizen of St. Anne, and one of its leading business men, well deserves representation in the history of Kankakee County. He was born at St. Hyacinthe, Province of Quebec, Canada, June 24, 1833, and was one of ten children, eight sons and two daughters, all of whom grew to mature years. One of the sons now lives in Vermont and two in Massachusetts. The father, Pierre Guertin, was a native of Canada and was of French descent. He carried on farming extensively in his native land, where he spent his entire life. He died in middle age, but his wife reached the age of seventy years. In the Patriot War of 1832 he served as a Captain.

Joseph Guertin, our subject, was reared on a farm, remaining at home with his parents until seventeen years of age, when he began clerking in a general merchandise store in St. Hyacinthe. After three years spent in that way, he came to the United States and pursued a business course of study in Ticonderoga, N. Y., after which he returned home and again entered the store of his old employer. It was in 1855 that he came to Illinois, locating in Kankakee, where he clerked for Mr. Sibley. In 1860, he came to St. Anne, and opened a general store in what is now called the "old village," where he did business until the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad was built.

The town then began to grow toward the railroad, and moving with the tide he erected a store in the center of the business locality.

On the 19th of May, 1862, Mr. Guertin was married to Miss Virginia Chiniquy, daughter of Achille and Luce (Fraser) Chiniquy, of St. Anne. Her parents were natives of Canada, and her father was a brother of the Rev. C. Chiniquy. He died February 5, 1882, at the age of sixty-seven, and his wife passed away fourteen months later, in April, 1883, when sixty-two years of age. There were nine children born unto Mr. and Mrs. Chiniquy, eight of whom are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Guertin had a family of four sons and two daughters, the eldest of whom is Corinne; Edwin married Miss Blanche Hall, daughter of Newton B. Hall, of Decatur, Ala., and with his wife and daughter, Lucile, he resides in Benton Harbor, Mich., but travels for a wholesale grocery house of Chicago; Walter, who makes his home in St. Anne, married Miss Lillie, daughter of Henry Lowe, of Waldron, Ill., by whom he has one son, Percy; Joseph, Blanche and Alphonse are the younger members of the family.

From the time he located in St. Anne until his death, Mr. Guertin was constantly engaged in mercantile pursuits. Since his death, his sons Walter and Joseph, under the old firm name of Guertin & Sons, have carried on the business. Their store, which is the largest in the place, is conducted on the department system, the stock consisting of dry goods, groceries, crockery, boots and shoes, gents' clothing and furnishing goods, hardware, furniture and, in fact, everything kept in a first-class general store. Our subject not only built up a large store, but a large trade as well, and did a flourishing business. He also accumulated considerable land, owning at the time of his death two farms near St. Anne, one of three hundred acres, and the other of two hundred acres. On the latter, which adjoins the corporation lines, is a beautiful park, used in the summer season for pleasure, and in it is a good race track. Besides this he owned his beautiful home property and a number of other houses and lots in town.

In politics, Mr. Guertin was a staunch Democrat, and during President Cleveland's first administra-

tion he served as Postmaster of St. Anne. He was also Supervisor of his township for three years, and was the prime mover in the recovery of \$30,000 worth of bonds illegally issued to the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, then known as the Chicago, Danville & Vincennes Railroad. He served as Village Trustee and also held other town offices with a promptness and fidelity which won him the commendation of all. He was a member of the Catholic Church, to which his wife and family also belong. A public-spirited and progressive citizen, he always took an active interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community and he did much for its upbuilding and development. He was called to his final rest August, 15, 1891, and in his death the family mourned a faithful husband and father and his county a valued citizen.



WILLIAM H. BURCHARD, a grain and hay merchant of Momence, was born in Madison County, N. Y., near Hamilton, August 17, 1851. He is a son of Patrick Henry and Mary (Mosley) Burchard, both natives of the Empire State. This worthy couple had only two children, William, and Mary, who is now the wife of Warren E. Wallace, a farmer of Grant Park. The mother died in 1855, and a few years later Mr. Burchard married Mrs. Celestia Buell, by whom he has a daughter, Lettie, now the wife of Thomas Wheeler, a dealer in lumber and coal, of Grant Park. In his early life Patrick Burchard followed farming in the State of his nativity, and when a young man went to California, where he engaged in the hotel business, which he followed for ten years. He was in partnership with his brother, who afterward went to Honduras, where he married a Spanish lady, and has since lived.

After a period of ten years, Mr. Burchard, father

of our subject, returned to New York, was married and then resumed farming. About 1860 he came to Illinois, and located on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres near Grant Park, to which he afterward added another tract of one hundred and sixty acres. There he resided until 1871, when he sold one of his farms and removed to Momence. In this city he engaged in the manufacture of cheese, devoting his energies to that enterprise until 1875, when his cheese factory was destroyed by fire, and he returned to the old farm. The following year, however, he again engaged in the manufacture of cheese, but his factory was again burned, causing a loss of about \$8,000. Engaged in agricultural pursuits, Mr. Burchard then spent his remaining years upon the farm.

William H. Burchard, whose name heads this record, passed the days of his boyhood under the parental roof. No event of special importance occurred during his childhood. He received a common-school education in the public schools of Hamilton, N. Y., and afterwards supplemented the knowledge thus gained by a course of study in the University at Ann Arbor, Mich., and was graduated from the law department in 1876. He had come with his parents to the West in 1860, and has since made his home in Illinois.

On the 14th of October, 1879, Mr. Burchard was united in marriage with Miss Luella F. Campbell, daughter of Clinton C. and Olive (Curtis) Campbell, of Grant Park. Three children were born unto them, but one died in infancy. The daughters, Olive M. and Maud C., are still with their parents.

From the time of his marriage until 1885, Mr. Burchard engaged in the grain and hay business in Grant Park, but in the autumn of that year he sold out and came to Momence, where he has carried on the same line of business continuously since. He has succeeded in building up an excellent trade, and as the result of his good management and well-directed efforts, he has acquired a comfortable competence. He exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party. He served for three years as Village Trustee, and for six years has held the office of School Director. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend,

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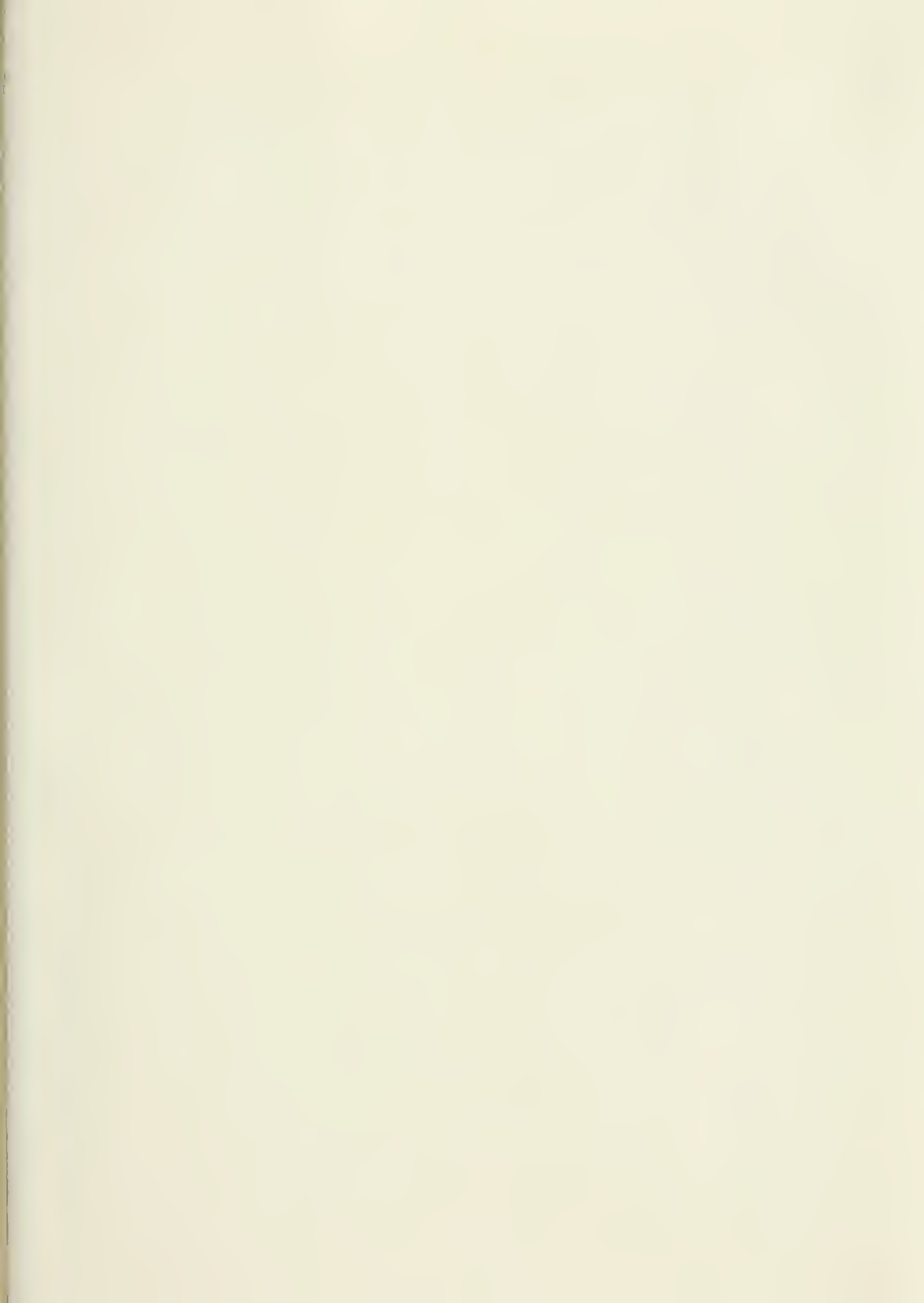
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